

# Nova Southeastern University NSUWorks

The Avenger

3-2014

## The Avenger - March 2014

Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum

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Educating . Preserving . Honoring the Heroes

Newsletter of the NAS Fort Lauderdale Museum

March 2014

Allan McElhiney President, Deborah Hamilton and Minerva Bloom, Editors

Website: <a href="mailto:nasflmuseum@yahoo.com">nasflmuseum@yahoo.com</a> By Appointment: (754) 300-9259

### FLIGHT 19: NEW ARTIFACTS EXHIBIT

"Sixty-eight years after five Navy torpedo bombers took off from Fort Lauderdale and vanished without a trace, artifacts have surfaced that bring one of aviation's greatest mysteries into sharper focus. Among them are an aviator's flight logbook, a citation personally signed by President Harry Truman, family correspondence, and never-before seen photos of crew members. All had been sitting unnoticed in an envelope for about 50 years in the home of a crew member's family." —By Ken Kaye, Sun-Sentinel November 11, 2013.

Artifacts were donated by the family of Walter R. Parpart, Jr. ARM3c USNR. Walter was the Radioman with the lead plane FT-28, piloted by Instructor Lt. Charles Taylor. There was no known photograph of Walter, and there were no original artifacts known to the public directly relating to Flight 19 until now, when Mrs. Maureen Campbell Clark of Manchester, New Jersey contacted the Museum at the urgency of her nephew, Kenneth Campbell. These artifacts are now on exhibit at your Museum. Visit Walter's page to see the complete exhibit and to read more about the news in our website: Article 1 and Article 2



Walter R. Parpart, Jr., on right, at the Fort Lauderdale New River, 1945.



Walter's Exhibit at the NASFL Museum.

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"Japan accepted Peace Terms. I still don't trust them." reads a page in Walter's Log Book.

### IN MEMORIAM

Our deepest condolences to the family of member and NASFL past Director **Paul Bradley** USA WWII, an architect and artist. Also to the families of **Sandy Paradise**, an Army Airline stewardess, and **Lt. Joe O'Brien** USNR WWII, an Avenger pilot at Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Honorary Member Ken Kaye. Lifetime Members Roy J. Urbanek, Brendan Doyle, David Insel for Lt. j.g. Chad Westfall USN, and Richard Lozito. Corporate Member Pelican Harbor Base. Family Members Oscar M. Garay Family, Buckley Family, Therese & Henry Thrift, and Individual Members Patricia Majewski, Joe Fitzpatrick, Kenneth Kwiatkoski, Hank Langsenkamp, William Zuendt USNR WWII, Ken Steigelman, Ann Della-Donna, and Richard G. Pearce, Sgt. USMCR.

# 68th Anniversary of Flight 19 Memorial Ceremony

We had a full house! Attending the Ceremony were Airport and Government Officials, Veterans of wars, and visitors from all walks of life. We showcased a WWII Fire Truck from the Fort Lauderdale Fire Museum, and several WWII Jeep Willys from the Military Research Foundation. Also, the Gold Coast Amateur Radio Association held a special broadcast event on site. During the ceremony, Founder Allan McElhiney was honored by Commissioner Chip LaMarca with a Proclamation: *December 5, 2013 is the Allan McElhiney Day in Broward County.* Thank you to the Navy League of Broward County for showcasing the Museum and news of the ceremony in their November 2013 Newsletter. And many thanks to Frank Loconto from CountryLine TV for performing his Pledge of Allegiance Trilogy, Sgt. Donald Prichard for helping as Master of Ceremony, David Plumb Associate Professor Lt.j.g Vietnam, for reading his poem "The Lost Pilot" and to all the volunteers who helped make the ceremony a great success. Visit our Events Blog to view a Slide-show of the Ceremony.









Jim Naugle former Mayor of Fort Lauderdale talks about his uncle <u>Thomas "Tex" Ellison</u>



Jules Harper presenting donation from the Valencia Reserve Veterans Club



Members of Air Force Association Gold Coast Chapter Virginia Montalvo, Loretta Young, Ran Meriam and Willowsteine Lawson with Allan.



Commissioner LaMarca presenting Allan a Proclamation: Allan McElhiney Day in Broward



Jeep Willys by the Military Research Foundation



George Maznicki's Photography WWII Fire truck by Ft. Lauderdale Fire Museum

### DONATED ARTIFACTS

- A WWII Navy dress uniform from <u>George Bayer</u> <u>Fairchild's</u> Family, (George participated in the Antarctic Expedition "*Operation Highjump*").
- 12 Vintage Military Board Games with WWII themes were donated by **Salvatore Scarfogliero**.
- Flight 19's Walter R. Parpart, Jr. New Artifacts donated by his family Maureen Campbell Clark and Kenneth Campbell.
- Jess Karcher, a Police Service Aide with the City of Fort Lauderdale donated a cache of WWII memorabilia, books, and artifacts from his private collection.
- Linda Lee Granger, artifacts in memory of Mr. Leonard and Anita Zanky.

- <u>Franklyn E. Dailey, Jr.</u>, CAPT. USNR (Ret), an historian and author, donated books, and one of his articles for our library.
- Photographs from NAS Fort Lauderdale WWII from Roy J. Urbanek USNR, a TBM/TBF Gunner.
- Thank you to **Mr. William R. Miller** USNR WWII, for donating a Navy tie.
- Philippine Scouts Heritage Coin, for our Nininger exhibit, and a promotional patriotic tote bag from The Makowski family from Huntsville, Alabama.
- Harry R. Blake, a former Marine, donated framed photographs of WWII, with descriptions of Marines in action. And also two US Marine Plaques.

### BENEFACTORS

Dr. Anthony Atwood Executive Director of the South Florida Military Museum

Valencia Reserve Veterans Club Boynton Beach, Florida. (Thank you Jules Harper!)

Robert Cleaves from Plano, Texas

Vice Mayor - Commissioner Tim Ryan Broward County, FL

> Hank Langsenkamp Steel Fabricators LLC

Pelican Harbor Base

Jordan's Permit Expediting Construction Services

Daughters of the American Revolution DAR Lighthouse Point Chapter

Dr. Jerry Klein

Nina H. Britton

Edgar "Buddy" Galvin, USNR WWII

Veterans Mentorship Program

Roy J. Urbanek, USNR WWII

Jon Myhre Pilot USA Vietnam, Aviation Historian

E E & G Environmental Services, LLC

### IN THE NEWS

- **Greg Meyer** Public Relations Officer from the Broward County Aviation department, featured the Museum in their eCountyline Newsletter with the article: "Volunteers Keep Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Alive." You can read the article online: Vol. 37 / No11
- Thank you to **Ken Kaye** from the Sun-Sentinel newspaper for his continued support, and for coming up with all his wonderful articles that helped spread the word about our Museum! You can view his articles at our Events Blog.
- Thank you to Producer/Documentarian Ron Lowther, for creating video of the Flight 19 Memorial Ceremony.

### DOCUMENTARIES IN THE WORKS

The **Military Channel**, and the **Travel Channel** — both are planning new documentaries about Flight 19.

### 2013-2014 V O L U N T E E R S!!

### **VOLUNTEERS ARE THE BACKBONE OF THIS MUSEUM — BECOME A VOLUNTEER!**

Patricia Majewski, Tom Melville, Ray & Larry Rivera, John McKenna, Patrick & Tim Sivore, Kitty Weidman, Forrest Casey, Vickie McKee, Richard Haddad, Jordán Morgan, Debbie King, Anthony Alberico, The Buckley Family, Hank and Hamilton, John & Minerva Bloom, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Quailey, Dorothy Riser, David Epstein, Buddy Galvin, Don Fallon, Sue Presley, Josie Gill, Vilma Perez, and Andrew Marocco.

Terri Thrift, Angela Piraino, and John Schwarz from the USS Houston CA-30 Survivors Association + Next Generations, thank you all for your outstanding support!



Navy Heritage Program: US Navy Reservists Unit VTU-0808G



Volunteers for a day: <u>U.S Navy LCS MCM DET 4</u> San Diego, CA

#### NEWS MUSEUM

**Memorial Brick Program:** The first batch of Memorial Brick Pavers arrived! You can view them now in our website. We will send an e-mail to everyone that ordered a brick. Thank you for your support! You can order a brick if you haven't done so yet, with the order form provided in this newsletter. The bricks will be eventually placed in the new area of the Flight 19 memorial, with help from the Navy Reserve volunteers.

Broward Navy Days recently learned the Coast Guard will be sending a second cutter: the USCGC Dependable to Fleet Week. Also to kick off Fleet Week 2014, a 5K Ruck Run Event from the Dania Beach pier along the beach to Hollywood and back, is planned for Saturday, April 26.

Volunteer for Fleet Week! | Register for the 5K Ruck Run!

Visit Broward Navy Days Website: browardnavydaysinc.org

The Makowski's from Huntsville, AL made the connection with a Doolittle letter inside Herbert Weigand's footlocker, an aircraft mechanic in the 8th USAF. The Museum donated an extra copy of this letter to the Makowski's, and they in turn showed it to a Doolittle Raiders historian who verified it. The original letter will be maintained by the 385th Bomb Group of the 8th USAF and a copy will be maintained by the Raiders historical archives in Texas

We received news from the Flight 19 Group in Copenhagen, Denmark. Thank you to Museum member Physician Bjørn Madsen for sharing with us stories of their reunions. Despite horrible weather, some brave ones, were still able to gather to commemorate the event this past December 5<sup>th</sup>. For the past 30 years, Bjørn and a group of friends and their children, have been holding a memorial ceremony for Flight 19. Dr Madsen visited the Museum in 2012.

### MUSEUM OPPORTUNITIES

Getting the Certificate of Occupancy: Jordán Morgan, owner of Jordan's Permit Expediting Construction Services began rolling the ball to get our CO by making the NASFL Museum Restrooms ADA compliant. Jordán recruited several people, such as President of JWR Construction Services Jerry DuBois, and Executive Vice-President William Gallo. Also Bob Miro, who performed asbestos testing, and several more individuals who have already graciously donated time and energy in measuring, planning, testing, and providing plans for permitting. We want to make the founder of this Museum— Allan McElhiney's dream come true! The plan is ready to be implemented. The Museum's Historical Association will be paying to complete this plan, as far as our finances can go. We are looking for Individuals and Corporations that can provide further manpower, materials, or cash donations. Make your mark, leave a legacy! Please contact the Museum at nasflmuseum@yahoo.com with subject matter: GRAND OPENING. Or please call: (754)300-9259 or (954)359-4400 (you can leave a message).

### **MUSEUM OPPORTUNITIES #2: Static Display TBM Avenger**

TBM Avenger for NAS Ft. Lauderdale Museum for sale at the Proud Bird Aviation Restaurant, Los Angeles, CA:

Andy Marocco, a business development Entrepreneur, from California, is a recent Acquisitions volunteer for our Museum. Andy is a long time student of the legendary "Flight 19" and is currently working on a book based on historical records that bring to light some newly discovered and unknown facts to their disappearance. Recently, Andy teamed up with fellow Flight 19 researcher, Jon Myhre, with the goal to acquire a TBM Avenger for the NAS Ft. Lauderdale Museum. He has also expressed several ideas that could help the Museum expand its size and revenues. In the past several months he has located a few possible TBM Avengers that could be displayed at the Museum. Some of them are being "authentic" and others full size fiberglass "replicas". They range from \$250,000 to the latest (affordable price) of \$25,000. Andy has procured a down payment of \$2,500 to hold the latter replica at the historic Proud Bird Aviation Restaurant in Los Angeles, California. We have two members with pledges of \$1,000 each, and some members are interested to volunteer for logistics and transport. If interested in pledging a donation, please contact us at <a href="maintenant-maintenant-new maintenant-maintenant-new maintenant-new maintenant-new

### FEBRUARY 22, LUNCHEON

Great Luncheon at the Lauderdale Yacht Club with our Speaker John Bowen, an author, illustrator, and Vietnam Veteran, who presented his new book <u>"Eleven Months and Nineteen Days"</u> a Vietnam Memoir. View a <u>Slide-show</u> in our Blog.













### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Ray Rivera** on receiving a Korean War Memorial Medal from the Veterans of Foreign Wars!







Ray Rivera with his family at the Museum



### Robert D. Woodbury Captain USMC, WWII & Korea

**Robert D. "Woody" Woodbury** was born in 1924 in St. Paul, Minnesota, the only boy of four siblings. At a young age, he learned to play piano and at 12 began his music career by forming a 10 piece band. They played at middle and high school functions. He also learned to play trumpet, and discovered his innate sense of humor mixed with his piano was a very successful combination that could be crafted into a career. Next, he formed a trio, playing at rural roadhouses and around the St. Paul-Minneapolis area.

In 1942, his budding career had to be put on hold, as the United States entered World War II. Woody joined the Marine Corps at 18 and served from 1942 to 1958. He taught fighter pilot tactics at NAS Daytona Beach, FL, instructing Marine Lieutenants and Navy Ensigns to fly the Grumman F4F Wildcat and F6F Hellcat aircraft. The war was heating up at a feverish pace and he was transferred to the Marine Corps Air Station at El Toro, CA, where he trained in the F4U Corsair. He was then transferred to Miramar, CA, and was in the first wave of pilots poised to invade Japan. However, fate and luck intervened as the a-bomb was dropped and that action kept Lt. Woodbury alive.

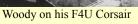
At war's end, and released from active duty, he restarted his comedy antics first in St. Paul, Minneapolis, then in Daytona Beach. This led to Jacksonville, at the two

top superclubs: the Peacock and Embassy. Soon it was to Miami at the then "World Famous Clover Club" the top cabaret in South Florida. Woody "reigned supreme" as the saying goes, with intervening bookings in Las Vegas, until June 1950 when the Korean War broke out. He was called back to active duty to El Toro, this time flying in the F9F Panther Jet. While he missed the devastation of WWII, such was not the case in Korea. Assigned to VMF-115 Squadron in Marine Air Group 33 of the First Marine Air Wing, Woody completed about a hundred combat missions. He flew his single-seat jet fighter alongside greats, such as baseball's immortal Ted Williams, John Glenn (later the U.S. Senator from Ohio), and Major Jack Bolt (the only pilot in Marine Corps history to have been an Ace in both WWII and Korea). Woody Woodbury remained in Korea and Japan, performing in many hospitals for wounded U.S military, and Allied countries. Seeing firsthand the horrors of war, the experience left an indelible mark on him. Following the Korean War, and now a Captain, he was re-assigned back to El Toro as an instructor on the Grumman F9F Cougar jets. One day lo-and-behold, he was instructed to report to his Executive Officer who announced his transfer to the famous Black Sheep Squadron, where he remained as an aviator until his departure from active duty.

Back into civilian life, he returned to Miami and then Fort Lauderdale — Woody's greatest showbiz love. In 1962, Woodbury replaced Johnny Carson on daytime television. Woody also completed about half a dozen motion pictures, and in 1967 he began hosting "The Woody Woodbury Show" a musical entertainment/variety show, which later evolved into the "Merv Griffin Show." He also recorded several successful comedy LP phonograph records. Robert "Woody" Woodbury a resident of Fort Lauderdale, father of two children Kimberly and Rand, was inducted into the City of Fort Lauderdale's Walk of Fame on May 26, 2012. On Feb. 18, 2014, Woody was accorded "Woody Woodbury Day" an honor bestowed by the Hon. Jack Seiler, Mayor, in a ceremony at the Fort Lauderdale City Hall. Not only has he entertained millions as a comedian, actor, and television personality, but also has served his country as a Warrior, a "Piano Pilot", and a proud, lucky, Marine through two wars. Visit our website to view Woody's unabridged biography and a Slide-show.









"After each mission, reports are made." Woodbury, at center.



"After the briefing, Lieut. Woodbury and fellow pilots head for the flight line." Woody, is first in line.

### 1st Lt. Arthur F. Mulock, USA WWII & Korea

Brother of Carolyn McElhiney (wife of Museum founder Allan McElhiney)



Arthur was born in Waltham, Massachusetts on July 18, 1923. He graduated from Waltham High School, where he was an athlete. He volunteered for the United States Army and the 508<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment in October 1942. Arthur was assigned to the Battalion's 81mm Mortar Platoon and served in Europe throughout WWII. He saw considerable action, parachuting into Normandy on D-Day, then at Nijmegen, Holland, and at the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium. On June 10, 1945 the paratroopers of the 508<sup>th</sup> arrived in Frankfurt, Germany to become part of the Army of Occupation but primarily as General Dwight D. Eisenhower's Honor Guard, at his Headquarters. Arthur was honorably discharged at the end of WWII. He returned to his home in Waltham, where he married his high school sweetheart June Wales. He enrolled in Springfield College and after graduation he re-entered the Army.

Arthur was commissioned as Lieutenant in 1949 and was assigned to the Far East, going to Korea with the outbreak of war. In the summer of 1950 he was assigned as a Platoon Leader with L Company, 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment, 24th Division. He was initially listed as missing in action for many years until his name appeared on "Johnson's List." This list was secretly kept by 18-year old soldier Wayne Archer (Johnnie) Johnson, from the time he was captured on July 11, 1950 until he was repatriated almost 38 months later. Although Johnson presented his list to a debriefing officer after his release from captivity, it was not made public until 1994 at a reunion

of Korean War POW survivors when he again presented his list to his comrades. The list noted that Mulock was not missing in action but had died in captivity. The list included the names of 496 American soldiers who died after being captured. Further research revealed that Arthur's name was mistakenly added to Johnson's list, and a check with the Department of the Army in 2003, shows that Arthur was still on the records as a POW. A former POW named Shorty Estabrook founded a group called the "Tiger Survivors." These survivors are those men who were forced into a grueling march from South Korea to North Korea after being captured. They nicknamed the brutal North Korean Major who was in charge of them the "Tiger." Estabrook mentioned that Arthur's name along with his, appeared on a list of American Korean War POW's taken to Russia for imprisonment, but Estabrook said that this was not true. Estabrook said that he remembered seeing Mulock's name on a blackboard in a school in North Korea that was used as a prison. As a result of a query placed in "The Graybeards," the Korean War Veterans Association magazine, Joe Gomez of McLoud, Oklahoma wrote that he joined Lieutenant Mulock's platoon in June 1950 in Japan. Gomez said that the 34th Infantry Regiment, shipped to South Korea July 5, 1950. He said that he was with Mulock on an outpost in Taejon on July 19, 1950 when Mulock was wounded and evacuated. Gomez said that he never saw Mulock during his captivity.

Arthur Mulock's name appears on the Korean War Memorial in Charlestown, Massachusetts and is also engraved on paving bricks at the Korean War Memorial in Worcester, Massachusetts. Arthur Mulock's sister, Carolyn McElhiney, has provided a DNA sample to be used in the event Arthur's remains are ever recovered. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, Parachute Wings, Combat Infantry Badge with Star, American Campaign Medal, National Service Medal, Europe-Africa Campaign Medal with four battle stars and invasion arrowhead, World War II Victory Medal, World War II Occupation Medal, Korean Campaign Medal, United Nations Medal, Republic of Korea Medal, United States Distinguished Unit Citation, French Fourragere, Belgian Fourragere, the Militaire Orde degree of Knight from Holland, and the POW Medal. Visit our website to view more photographs from Arthur F. Mulock and family.







# NAVAL AIR STATION FORT LAUDERDALE MUSEUM MEMORIAL BRICK PROGRAM

### 4" x 8" Engraved Light-Gray Brick Paver - \$60 each

You can play an important role in preserving the Spirit of Naval Aviation by purchasing a personally engraved brick paver for the new area of the Flight 19 Memorial Monument. This monument will be relocated from Navy Park to the grounds of the Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum, where it will be displayed for all who pass through to see. The purchase of your paver will help to inspire and educate so that the Spirit of Naval Aviation remain alive for years to come. Whether celebrating a graduation, memorializing a loved one, or commemorating a retirement, we all have a story to tell. Keep the Spirit alive, with your Memorial Paver! Memorial Bricks are engraved with a personalized message. You will receive a certificate of ownership and location map when the brick is installed. All funds raised from Memorial Bricks sales support the Museum. Your personal message becomes a lasting gift and a piece of history at the Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum.

### PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND BE SURE TO DOUBLE CHECK YOUR SPELLING

You can choose one, two, or three lines for your brick. Include spaces and punctuation.

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To view the current **Memorial Bricks** visit our website: www.nasflmuseum.com/memorial-bricks.html

Mail order form along with payment to: NAS Fort Lauderdale Museum 4000 West Perimeter Road Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315

Line 1

Payments are non-refundable and will be treated as donations to the NAS Fort Lauderdale Museum.

EIN-650353567. Certificate of Exemption: 85-8012740356c-1 Individuals ordering pavers will receive a letter verifying the order which also serves as a receipt for the donation.

## Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum <u>MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION</u>

Please fill in your information where applicable

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