


The Avenger

1-2011

The Avenger - January-March 2011

Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum

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NAVAL AIR STATION FORT LAUDERDALE MUSEUM

4000 West Perimeter Road Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315 954.359.4400

Email: nasft.lauderdalemuseum@netscape.com NEW Web site: www.nasflmuseum.com

Newsletter January-March 2011

FRIENDLY REMINDER: To help keep us open, dues and donations are appreciated for the year 2011. Please use the enclosed envelope.

October 16, 2010 Luncheon



David Flynn made Honorary Member of NASFLHA

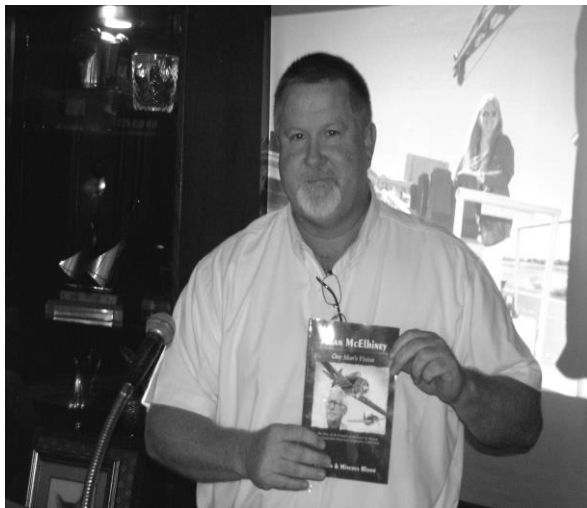
President Allan presented a certificate of NASFLHA Honorary Membership to long-time member, friend, and WWII survivor, David Flynn. David joined the Navy prior to the US entering the war and served on the USS Houston, which was sunk by the Japanese. He was picked up by a Japanese vessel which was later sunk by Allied forces, and eventually ended up in a Japanese Prisoner of War camp, where he remained until the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki ended the war.



Helen Landers of the Broward County Historical Commission gave a report on the latest developments of the Commission, and talked about the November 8th opening of "WWII Broward County on the Homefront" - an exhibit of photos and items detailing what Broward County did to protect our shores. NASFLHA has contributed items to be put on display in this exhibit.



Virginia Montalvo, NASFLHA Vice President is once again in charge of organizing this year's South Florida *Wreaths Across America*, sponsored by the Air Force Association. Virginia invited everyone to attend this moving ceremony, Saturday, December 12th, noon, at the South Florida National VA Cemetery in Lake Worth.



Dr. John Bloom was proud to present the second edition of "One Man's Vision", the book written by Minerva Bloom detailing Allan McElhiney's dream for the NAS Museum. Since the publication of the first edition, Minerva has found new treasures - letters, photographs, etc. - at the Museum and has included them, along with the story of David Flynn, in the second edition. Dr. Bloom remarked "Allan is the greatest treasure of all!"



CWO Anthony Atwood, USN, Military Historian and a NASFLHA director, asked for volunteers to sign up to be members of the Selective Service System Boards. There is no plan to begin inducting young men into military service, but the SSS must be ready to operate should it become necessary. For further information contact Anthony.



Bob Morris, Allan McElhiney, Tim Myette

Guest Speaker Tim Myette is an avid history enthusiast and authority on Florida and early Fort Lauderdale history, a lecturer-at-large, and a volunteer at The Fort Lauderdale Historical Center.

Tim has worked many varied and interesting jobs. He has worked for Raytheon and for Western Electric. He worked on the Apollo Program, the Poseidon Program, and the F-1-11, the first airplane that could automatically follow the curvature of the earth using radar.

Tim held everyone's attention with his interesting stories and humorous anecdotes about little-known Fort Lauderdale facts.

The Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum wishes to support ***AMERICA'S MOMS FOR SOLDIERS***. Many Soldiers and Marines serving on the front lines in Afghanistan and Iraq have no families or receive no mail or care packages from home. The AMFS was founded by mothers of soldiers currently serving in the U.S Military, and it's their mission to ensure our service members -those that don't get mail- receive "*care packages*" from home. The organization collects needed supplies, packages them and mails the care packages to our soldiers and Marines each month until they come home. With each package, they send a note and prayer letting them know how much we appreciate their sacrifices.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: Soldier's needs are basic and inexpensive. The AMFS appreciates donations of unused new items for monthly care packages. Keep in mind our soldiers may carry these items in their backpacks. Smaller sized items are preferred. They also accept donations. 95% of all contributions go directly to our soldiers. For donations visit:
www.americasmomsforsoldiers.com

P.O Box 668487, Pompano Beach, Florida 33066.
Phone: (954) 358-9358. E-mail: info@americasmomsforsoldiers.com

Photography by Bob Morris

FLIGHT 19 CEREMONY – DECEMBER 5, 2010



**Chief Warrant Officer Anthony Atwood, USNR
CDR Brodus Hartley II**



**Lt. David White USN (ret.)
with the helicopter crew from the USS Boone**



**Ismael Bonilla, Deputy Director of the Broward
County Aviation Department**



**Chip LaMarca Broward County Commissioner
CDR Edwin Tobon, USN**



**NASFL senior flight instructor Lt. David White
USN who led a search for 5 days
Finding nothing.
CDR Edwin Tobon, USN**



**Allan McElhiney with Lt. Commander Chris
Canniff, USN, Ship's Air Boss. He presented the
museum with a flag that the USS Boone flew on 3
December in memory of flight 19**

Fort Lauderdale Daily News

AND EVENING SENTINEL

35th Year No 75 FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1945 PRICE 5CENTS

FOURTEEN NAS AIRMEN MISSING



Units of Navy, Army, Coast Guard Scour Sea For Lost NAS Aircraft

This year, to commemorate the 65th anniversary of Flight 19, there were 122 people in attendance. We would like to thank Sun-Sentinel staff writer, Ken Kay, for getting the professional looking artwork and story on the very front page. Our speaker was the Deputy Director of Broward County Aviation Department, Mr. Ismael Bonilla. Also, on attendance were former Mayor of Fort Lauderdale Jim Naugle.

Once again Mr. Jay Walch, owner of Fort Lauderdale Florist at 1115 N. Federal Highway, was kind enough to donate the wreath. Our heartfelt thanks go to him for doing this every year. Thank you also to the Everglades Council Navy League for providing refreshments. We would never be able to honor those who lost their lives on December 5, 1945 and all those who have served in defense of our United States, without the support of so many.



“A generation which ignores history has no past and no future”

- ROBERT HEINLEIN -

COME SEE HOW GREAT THE MUSEUM LOOKS!

If you haven't stopped by lately, you really need to. All the hard work of our many volunteers is really paying off! John Casey, Sue Presley, Ray Rivera and John and Minerva Bloom have been working tirelessly at the museum. As you know, the Bloom's have recently written and published "One Man's Vision" a book about our President, Mr. Allan McElhiney. Not only have they written a wonderful book, and brought in many new members, they have also set up a new website and blog. We hope you can spend some time and comment or suggest any improvements. You can locate it by going to www.nasflmuseum.com. We are truly appreciative of all the volunteers for their time and dedication to our mission. We had an Open House Party at the end of December with about 40 people in attendance.





We were honored with a visit from the Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Labor, wife of Republican Leader, Mitch McConnell, and her father on January 3, 2011.

Others have donated countless hours to our museum, like Geraldine Tavares who did a fantastic job displaying many uniforms on mannequin displays. She also did a beautiful job putting a NASFLM display in the lobby of Fort Lauderdale's City Hall for the entire month of November 2010. Mayor Jack Seiler commented how great the display looked.



November 5th, 2010, the USS Jason Dunham sails into Port Everglades.
November 6th, 2010 - The Mai Kai Restaurant hosts a dinner for many of the crew aboard the USS Jason Dunham. Everyone in attendance helped Mr. McElhiney celebrate his 85th birthday.

Photography by Minerva Bloom

Museum News

Work is progressing on the outside of the building by the Aviation Department. We are close to getting the sprinkler system hooked up and finalized as the airport is working with Flamingo Plumbing. Bob Morris has been working all of 2010 in his spare time to get some of the estimates needed so the airport can help us get open to the public. He still has a few more estimates to finish up.

Welcome New Members!

Nicholas and Sandy Van Staden - sponsored by Dr. John Bloom
Elton Sayward (Ret. Naval Officer) - sponsored by Virginia Montalvo
Lydia and Joseph LaRocca - sponsored by Dr. John Bloom

THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST AND SUPPORT OF NASFLHA!

Luncheon News!

The next luncheon is tentatively scheduled for March 12th at the Lauderdale Yacht Club. The price is \$25.00 and the guest speaker will be announced. Please RSVP by March 10th to the Museum at 954-359-4400.

Time to Renew!

Please take this opportunity to renew your membership for 2011. Enclosed you will find a renewal form and envelope. We need dues and donations more than ever to keep us going!

We Want to Hear from YOU!

If you have items that pertain to the history of Fort Lauderdale's Naval Air Station, we will gratefully accept them for display in the museum. Photos and personal stories are also appreciated and we will include as many as possible in future newsletters.

And don't forget, we can always use more volunteers! Let Allan know your availability and he'll put you to work!

NASFLHA Website!

Don't forget to check out the new website: www.nasflmuseum.com

We have many articles, great information and resources and lots of great photographs. You can also comment on our blog and share your news! Our website has brought several new contacts, like pilot Bob Murphy who will fly in his TBM-3 for the Dec 5th Memorial Ceremony, and Ensign Malcolm Barker navigator on PB-4Y2 Privateer on which he spent 8 hours on 6 Dec, 1945, searching for Flight 19 out of Master Field, Miami. The website is expanding since we launched it on August 2010. We're getting hundreds of hits everyday from 39 countries.

- Newsletter Staff -

The Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale from 1942 to 1945 is featured.



Broward County Goes to War Exhibit

At the Broward County Historical Commission *From January to May 2011*. During the next 5 months, please visit the Broward County Historical Commission at the very West End of Las Olas Blvd. (301 SW 13th Ave. Phone: 954-357-5553) to see how Broward geared up to help win World War II. The Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale from 1942 to 1945 is featured.



TBM-3 will fly in for the next Dec 5 Ceremony

Mr. Bob Murphy flew into Boca Raton and then rented a car and drove to the Museum on Friday, Jan. 28. He owns a TBM-3 torpedo bomber. He's pretty sure that he will fly this plane here for the December 5th Flight 19 Memorial Ceremony for which he would like to do a flyover. His TBM-3 will be parked at National Jets.



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Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Historical Association Museum
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

PLEASE USE THE SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE AS PROVIDED

Name: _____ Date: _____

Additional Names: _____ Date: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

DUES:

General Membership	\$35 (1 year)
Family Membership	\$60 (1 year)
Corporate Membership	\$100 (1 year)
Student Membership	\$5 (1 year)
Lifetime Membership	\$250 (One time charge)

Type of Membership: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____ Total: _____

Please submit a check payable to: **Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Historical Association** or **NASFLHA**

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