

# HONOR FLIGHT SOUTH FLORIDA

## Highlights of the General Meeting - August 31, 2016

**NEXT FLIGHT:** Saturday, Oct. 29 out of Miami on an Eastern Air Lines B737-800. Chairman Rick Asper said this is a larger plane than previously announced. We will carrying 174 passengers -- 78 World War II veterans, 78 guardians and 18 staff. Ken Powers is working with a new military coordinator at Fort Meade, Md., in recruiting 32 soldiers to assist in Washington.

**GUARDIAN TRAINING:** 7 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 21; and 10 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 24 at Broward College, where we usually meet. New guardian coordinator Mercy Iglesias said that guardians have been confirmed for 55 of the 78 veterans. We need a few volunteers to help at both training sessions.

**RECRUITING DRIVE CONTINUES:** The Oct. 29 flight is scheduled to be filled entirely with World War II veterans, but only a few more remain on the list. We need to continue with our recruiting drive to build up our list of applicants for our 2017 flights. Mike Miskew is scheduling fall presentations at retirement villages and also at schools for their fundraising drives. If you can help with presentations and driving veterans, please email Mike -- mikemiskew@gmail.com. As Jim Naskrent, serving as master of ceremonies, said, "It's all about the veterans." All you really need to do is turn over the microphone to the veterans and let them answer questions. You are not required to give a lengthy speech. If you like, Mike can arrange to have you accompany another volunteer to see a presentation. While flying World War II veterans remains our main mission, more Korean War veterans are expected to be making Honor Flight trips. Another flight of Vietnam veterans serving as Elite Guardians is possible in 2017.

**NEW MEDICAL DIRECTOR:** Chairman Asper introduced Dr. Phillip Greenberg as our new medical director. He has already flown with Honor Flight and has recruited a number of his VA patients for flights. The son of a World War II veteran, Dr. Greenberg said, "I can feel his spirit" on the flights.

**FUNDRAISING:** Stan Bostic reported on these events:

\* Golf tournament Nov. 5 at Madison Green, Royal Palm Beach -- Honor Flight will be sharing proceeds with two other charities. Tickets can still be purchased for the raffle of a choice of several cars donated by Rick Case Auto. Tickets are \$50 each; three for \$100.

\* Spring golf tournament -- This is Honor Flight South Florida's event alone. Stan expects to soon announce a course and date, probably the weekend before Memorial Day. Stan needs at least six volunteers to take an active role in planning the tournament. If you can help, contact Stan -- stanbostic@rickcase.com.

\* Military gala -- Probably next summer, possibly in an airport hangar.

**NEW ON THE WEBSITE:** Jim Naskrent has added a few items to the website to help spread the word about Honor Flight:

\* An online monthly calendar -- [honorflightsouthflorida.org/calendar](http://honorflightsouthflorida.org/calendar). Click on an event date and information pops up. If you have an event to add, email Jim -- [jimnaskrent@rickcase.com](mailto:jimnaskrent@rickcase.com).

\* Online application for Virtual Flights.

\* Flyers to aid in the effort to register veterans -- [honorflightsouthflorida.org/support](http://honorflightsouthflorida.org/support) materials; and also for the Oct. 29 homecoming -- [honorflightsouthflorida.org/homecoming](http://honorflightsouthflorida.org/homecoming).

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

Thursday, Sept. 8: Come out to enjoy the fundraiser at Trio Bistro,.

Wednesday, Sept. 21: Guardian training at Broward College, 7 p.m. (Volunteers at 6:30).

Saturday, Sept. 24: Guardian training at Broward College, 10 a.m. (Volunteers at 9:30).

Saturday, Oct. 29: Flight Day; Ground crew at 4:30 a.m. for departure; 6 p.m for homecoming celebration. Plane scheduled to arrive at 7:45.

Friday, Nov. 11: Veterans Day; no events yet, but likely to have several as last year. If possible, please be available to help or drive veterans.

**NEXT MEETINGS:** 6:30 p.m., Wednesdays, Sept. 21, Oct.5, Oct. 19, Oct. 26, Broward College, Davie. Check website for updates.

-- Tom Christensen, Volunteer coordinator