#### **DeLAND, FLORIDA - VOLUSIA COUNTY**





**DNAS Museum News - April, 2019** 



MAY 27, 2019



#### **DeLand NAS WWII History - Memorabilia Donation**

#### Aviation Radioman - Leo J. Langer



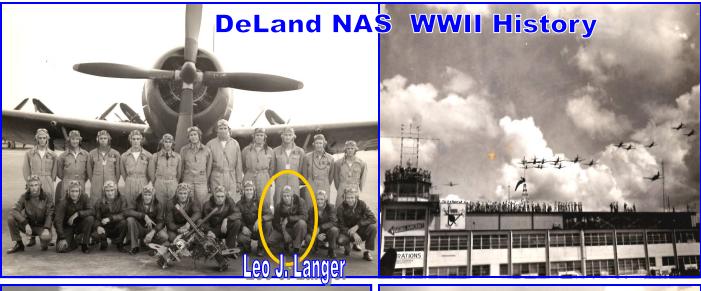








When WWII was ending and the Naval Air Station in DeLand was closed in 1946, many recollections of those who were there at the time revealed that the Navy packed and shipped off most of the paper records to government archives in various locations in the United States. When the DeLand Naval Air Station Museum was founded in 1995, our founders were able to recover some of the records through donations of memorabilia from members who were stationed in DeLand during WWII. The DNAS Museum has some log books, pilot records and old newsletters from 1942-1946 but the information is partial. As the years go by, it has become harder and harder to locate information or original DeLand NAS related records. This month we were so pleased to receive an email from Cheryl Lager of Ajo, Arizona. Cheryl's father, WWII Navy Veteran Leo Langer was stationed at NAS DeLand from October, 1944 to the closing of the base in 1946. He served as a Navy Aviation Radioman. Cheryl happened to find the museum on line and while in Florida visiting in Pt. St. Lucie, she added a visit to the DNAS Museum to donate her father's memorabilia. The pristine collection she brought to us included her father's uniform, photos, aviator flight log book and other paper records. Her timing could not have been better and the items donated will become a signature part of our new building displays preserving the history of DeLand NAS circa WWII. Thank you Cheryl for your donation of items which will be viewed by the public for generations and "In Memory of All Who Served". See more photos on the next page:





Plane Squadrons Fly
Over DeLand, FL NAS
Graduation Ceremonies



DeLand NAS Graduation Day



#### Saving A Piece of History For The Future



One of the most unique buildings, and perhaps the strongest structure left from the WWII DeLand Naval Air Station was a small, windowless bunker of steel reinforced concrete almost a foot thick. It was the bombsight vault that protected top secret bombsights when they weren't in The building, no longer usable, was recently planes. removed to make way for the new airport construction projects. Before it was demolished, DNASM Volunteers recycled usable supplies. They also salvaged the concrete filled steel vault door which is now on display in the Ronald Herman Assembly Pavilion. Educational signage will be developed in the future to document the purpose of the building. The steel reinforced door frame, still standing after the demolition, proved to be a quite a challenge to remove.





#### **Central Florida Metal Detectors Continue WWII Artifact Search**







**New Volunteers Casey Collins and** Kenneth Berry assist Huffman and Embry Riddle students to give the F14 Tomcat Jet a good cleaning. Both Casey and Kenneth are US Navy Veterans who served with the Blacklions of VF-213 squadron which commanded by our Captain Greg Gerard.









## Educational History Tours



Educational History Tours for youth and adults continue at DNAS Museum.

Bike week activities generated many visitors that were in the area. Gene Storz conducts a tour for a group of friends on a return visit from Jacksonville, FL. They brought two new friends just to hear the experiences of a WWII Veteran.



## Community Outreach



Members of the DNAS Museum and PTF-3 Patrol Boat Restoration Project were invited to the Sunnyland Antique and Classic Boat Show in Tavares, Fl. The 4 day event that was held from 21-24 March 2019. Thanks to our Volunteers for travelling off site and setting up a great booth display to promote PTF3 and the museum.

## Cogratulations Bob Wetton



Outgoing **President** Marv **Peffer** Volusia the West **Historical Society welcomes Bob** Wetton as new 2019 President. Bob has served as President in the past and we look forward to working with our great Community Partner.



# ANNUAL BIG YARD SALE COMING UP 4/12-13/2019









SUPPORT LOCAL VETERANS MUSEUM



LE ITEMS NEEDED

DeLand Naval Air Station Museum Pavilion
910 Biscayne Boulevard, DeLand, Florida—Airport
www.delandnavalairmuseum.org—dnas.musem.org@gmail.com
Call Scott (386) 822-2809 or Leave Message (386) 738-4149

All Volunteer Museum. Proceeds benefit DNASM Educational Programs & Restoration Projects

Please donate sale items, including cars or boats Please, No Large Furniture, Clothing or Books



Funded In Part By:











delandrotary.org



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#### CHRIS STUBBS FAMILY

IN MEMORY OF **WWII COMMANDER HARRY K. STUBBS** 

**DOUG & SARAH LANTIER MARTY TORBETT** FAMILY & FRIENDS IN MEMORY OF KENNETH S. TORBETT SANDRA TITCOMB & FAMILY IN MEMORY OF

Club of DeLand

**ELLWOOD TITCOMB** 

1ST DNAS MUSEUM PRESIDENT

THOMAS C. RYAN HONORING WWII COMMANDER THOMAS J. & MARY RYAN

> VIRGINIA BRUNER HONORING STEWART BRUNER







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COUNTY OF VOLUSIA - ECHO Rangers VETERANS SERVICES - volusia .org

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Museum of the Arts Florida Sheriff's Operation Purple Youth Program





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EBY Travel and Tours, LLC www.ebytravel.com Thank You Volunteers!!

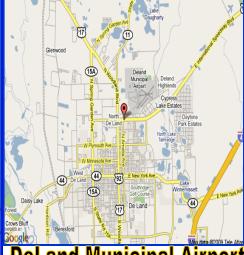
## ITEMS NEEDED for Annual Yard 4/12/19-4/13/19

**Tour Guides Needed - Individuals or Couples (Training Script Available)** 



















**The DeLand Naval Air Station Museum, Inc.** 

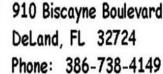
**Serving DeLand, Volusia County and the State of Florida** 

**Preserving Military & Local History** 

In Memory of ALL Who Served



DeLand Naval Air Station Museum, Inc.



www.delandnavalairmuseum.org JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!!

Hours of Operation: 12 Noon-4 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday Call to Schedule Group Tours for Adult & Youth Groups



JOIN TODAY OR DONATE (DONATE WITH CREDIT CARD ON WEBSITE)

Thank You Museum Volunteers!!!

**View Past Newsletters on Website Under News/Events**