

DeLand, Florida—USA



THIS
PLACE
MATTERS

DNAS Museum News - JULY, 2020

WWII MEMORIAL DEDICATION

7 WWII Fallen Crew Members Honored



The memorial site was dedicated as a place in Christmas, Florida, where from this day forward, people for generations will be able to pause for a moment to remember and acknowledge those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom. This is a place where children can learn lessons of freedom and about true heroes from their parents and grandparents. It has been said that as long as someone remembers your name, you will not be forgotten.

Philip H. Eichelberger



USNR Phillip Hiram Eichelberger

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crost the bar.

George R. Morris



Alan H. Schirmer



"O, young Lochinvar is come out of the west." Yes, Al is from South Dakota. We hear about it now and then, as Al wrapped in sweater, bathrobe, and blanket, and sitting on the radiator tells us how cold it is back there in a man's country. Al spends a lot of his afternoons over at the crew house and a lot of them just sitting while thinking deep thoughts. Every now and then we notice him in the choir, at cross country, at German Club, out in a half rater, or doing any number of other things. Reading, writing, working, or playing,

Al's life is certain to be an eventful and a happy one.

Melville T. Hess



George J. Eckels



George H. Brockway



Frederick L. Speiser



Veterans come from all walks of life, but they all share several qualities. Courage, pride, determination, selflessness, dedication to duty and integrity. As we discovered the names of the 7 WWII crew members 77 years later, we wanted to know more about who they were, where they came from and how fate placed them together on that day.

USN Pilot Lt. Frederick Lewis Speiser was born on June 8, 1916 and was from Ekalka, in Carter County, Montana. He was 27 years old. He was the pilot of the aircraft. His has a memorial grave is in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. #5134 near 3 of his flight crew.

USMC Major George H. Brockway was born on May 8, 1912 and was from Douglas, Converse County, Wyoming. He was 31 years old. He had one brother, John who was also a Navy Lt. His parents Earl and Elizabeth Brockway preceded him in death. His memorial grave is in Arlington National Cemetery #5130 near 3 of his flight crew.

USN Lt. Alan Harvey Schirmer was born on December 17, 1917 and was from Aberdeen, South Dakota. He was 25 years old. He left behind his widow, Betty who passed away in 2010. He was a graduate of the United States Naval Academy in the class of 1940. In the 1940 yearbook called the "The Lucky Bag" it was quoted next to his photo "O, young Lochinvar is come out of the west." Yes, Al is from South Dakota. We hear about it now and then, as Al wrapped in sweater, bathrobe, and blanket, and sitting on the radiator tells us how cold it is back there in a man's country. Al spends a lot of his afternoons over at the crew house and a lot of them just sitting while thinking deep thoughts. Every now and then we notice him in the choir, at cross country, at German Club, out in a half rater, or doing any number of other things. Reading, writing, working, or playing, Al's life is certain to be an eventful and a happy one." His memorial grave is in Arlington National Cemetery #5132 near 3 of his flight crew.

USNR Phillip Hiram Eichelberger was born on 9/26/1922 and was from Berkely Springs in Morgan County, West Virginia. He graduated with the Class of 1940 in Berkely Springs High School. He was 23 years old and his memorial grave is in the Greenway Cemetery in Berkely Spring, Morgan County West Virginia next to his parents Harry and Mable and his brother Joseph.

USNR Melville Theodore Hess was born in New York on October 19. He was a Navy Aviation Metalsmith from New Jersey at the time of his death. His memorial grave is in Arlington National Cemetery near 3 of his flight crew.

USNR George Robert Morris was born on January 14, 1918 and was 25 years old. He was from Cook County, Illinois. He was the 3rd of five siblings, two sisters and two brothers. He has a memorial grave next to his parents Herbert and Bessie in the Forest Home Cemetery in Forest Park, Illinois.

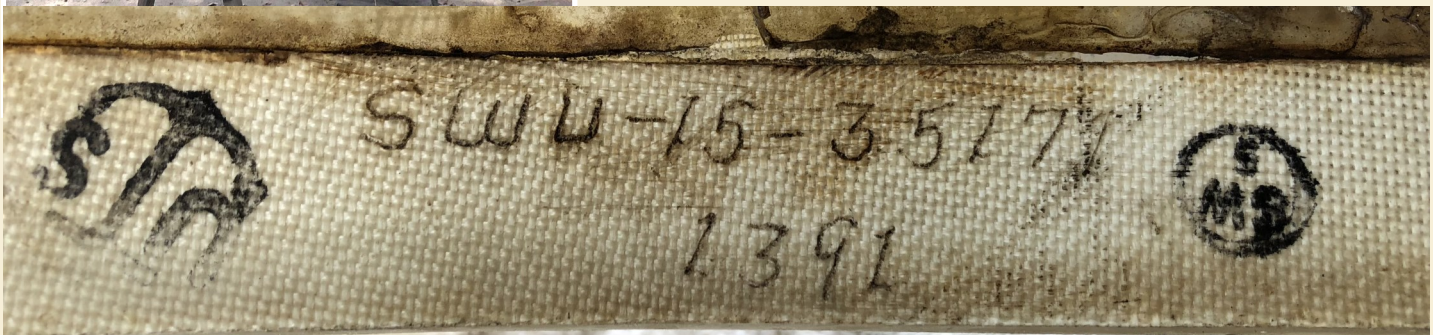
USN George Joseph Eckels was born in 1923 and was 19 years old. He was an only child and has a memorial grave in Woodlawn Cemetery in his hometown of Woodlawn in Baltimore County, Maryland next to his parents Arthur and Florence Eckels.

Identify Donated Aircraft Canopy



Gene cleans off an aircraft canopy that was donated to the museum.

If anyone has information on what type of canopy this is and what aircraft it might belong on, please contact Scott at (386) 822-2809 or email the info to dnas.museum.org@gmail.com.



DNAS Museum Remains Closed During Pandemic

Volunteers Working Behind The Scene

Even though the DNAS Museum is closed to the public until we determine it is safe to re-open, many of our great volunteers (while keeping our social distance) are still working behind the scene at the museum or from home. We appreciate their assistance and ongoing support. The DNAS Museum is an all volunteer museum and we rely 100% on Community Support. You can support the museum during the pandemic by renewing your membership (even if you can't participate, be a supporting member), make a donation through our website www.delandnavalairmuseum.org or mail a donation to DNAS Museum, 910 Biscayne Boulevard, DeLand, FL 32724. Use AmazonSmile for orders. Any amount is appreciated!



Al, Don & Frank received the certificate of occupancy for new building. A special thanks to Don Rowley for repairing and restoring a vintage DeLand Airport sign and for building a new wooden storage cabinet for the museum. We have GREAT Volunteers !!



DNAS Museum New Corporate Member

J&J AUTO WORKS, INC. - VERO BEACH, FL



The DeLand Naval Air Station Museum welcomes our newest Corporate Member, J&J Auto Works in Vero Beach, Florida. Owners, John and Patricia Licardi and their son Johnny stopped by the museum to see the Navy F-14 Tomcat Jet. John's father, the late Ben J. Licardi was employed by Grumman Aircraft Corporation from 1960's-1990's and worked on every F-14 made. Johnny Licardi is a student at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. The Licardi family plans to volunteer in the future

for the ongoing maintenance of the F-14. Below are some photos of Ben J. Licardi and the Grumman F-14 assembly crew at the Long Island facility.



4th of July



Happy Independence Day &

Thanks

to all those who serve



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IN MEMORY OF WWII COMMANDER HARRY K. STUBBS

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IN MEMORY OF KENNETH S. TORBETT, WWII DNAS LINE CHIEF

SANDRA TITCOMB & FAMILY IN MEMORY OF
ELLWOOD TITCOMB 1ST DNAS MUSEUM PRESIDENT



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HONORING WWII COMMANDER
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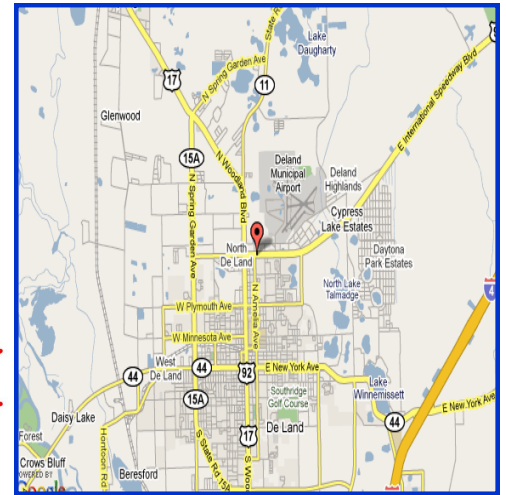


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Phone: 386-738-4149

www.delandnavalairmuseum.org

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**Wednesday through Saturday,
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**Call to Schedule Group Tours for
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