



DNAS Museum News - SEPTEMBER, 2019

In Memory of All Who Served

WWII DeLand NAVAL AIR STATION & MUSEUM HISTORY SHARED WITH COMMUNITY

DeLand Regional Public Library Hosts Speaker's Bureau



On August 14, 2019 the DeLand Naval Air Station Museum Volunteers were invited to the DeLand Regional Public Library to present a community educational program. A great turnout of both youth and adults learned about the history of the DeLand Naval Air Station during WWII 1942-1946 and the timeline and history of the DeLand Naval Air Station Museum from 1995 to present. They also asked great questions. The written surveys after the program were all rated excellent on enjoying the program, finding it interesting, articulate and with good length and pace. Some of the written comments included: "Great Program", "Well Done!" and "Loved learning more about DeLand". We appreciate the opportunity for Community Outreach and also made contact with a new museum volunteer. New Volunteers for tour guides and restoration projects are always welcome.



Volunteers Sand & Clean Navy F14 Tomcat Jet



Thank You Lee !



Lee Huffman Takes The Lead Cleaning & Painting the F14



Beating The Heat !

Al & Frank Continue Work on PT3



**Volunteers Take A Water Break In The
Ronald Herman Assembly Pavilion**



DNAS Museum Volunteers hosted members of the Naval History & Heritage Command, Washington D.C., during their recent visit to a local Florida lake where they were scanning for a potential underwater WWII plane crash site.

Educational Museum Tours

Local, Statewide, National & International

Youth & Adult Visitors Tour DNASM



**DNASM Board Member Fred Clark
Brings Visiting Family and Friends
to Tour The DNAS Museum**

In spite of the heat and summer rain storms, our museum visitors count continues to be high!

Our August tour log revealed visitors from other Florida cities, many other states and international visitors from Salter Point, Australia, Liege, Belgium, Dudley, France, United Kingdom and Poland.

NEW NAVAL SEA CADET DeLAND UNIT

HOLDS FIRST ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Seeking Students To Join New Unit



**Gene Storz & Harold Bradeen
Welcome Ron Wilson and Dennis Dickerson**

Lt. Commander Dennis Dickerson, (USNSCC) and Master Chief Ronald Wilson, US Navy Ret., organized their first meeting with students and parents who are interested in joining the new DeLand Naval Sea Cadet Corp Unit. Dennis is the Executive Officer and Ronald is the Commanding Officer of the new unit. The DeLand Naval Air Station Museum will serve as the host for the students, ages 10 through high school, to train. For more information visit www.seacadets.org, or Dennisdickerson2@msn.com.

2019 Patriotic Art Contest

Volusia County Students

Hosted by The Victoria Gardens Men's Club

The Victoria Gardens Men's Club is proud to sponsor the 2019 Patriotic Art Contest for high school students in Volusia County. This contest is designed to encourage respect for the United States of America and its military forces. Artwork must be submitted on Saturday, October 26, 2019, between 9 am and 10 am, to the Victoria Gardens Men's Club. Student artists are required to register their artwork through their high school. Contest prizes are sponsored by several organizations:

- ❑ Victoria Gardens Men's Club - \$200 Grand Prize – Best of Show
- ❑ DeLand Naval Air Station Museum - \$100 prize for art with a naval aviation theme
- ❑ The Daytona Area Council of the Navy League of the US – to be determined prize for art recognizing the United States Coast

Contest Rules

Only enrolled high school students residing in Volusia County are eligible to participate. Students may be in a public, charter, or denominational high school. Home schooled students are also eligible to participate. Each Volusia County high school is limited to four artworks that may be submitted for consideration. The process to determine the four submittals is at the discretion of each high school. For all other students, only one artwork per student may be submitted.

Artwork must be submitted to the Victoria Gardens Men's Club on Saturday, October 26, 2019, between 9 am and 10 am, to be considered. Display easels are encouraged to be provided by the artist.

Artwork that receives an award may be offered to the office of Congressman Michael Waltz and to the Volusia County Veteran's Office for possible display in their respective offices.

Awards will be presented following judging at a reception for the artists. Judges will be selected by the Victoria Gardens Men's Club. Awards provided by outside groups will be determined by their representative in consultation with the Men's Club. Honorable mention ribbon awards will be presented as deemed appropriate by the judges.

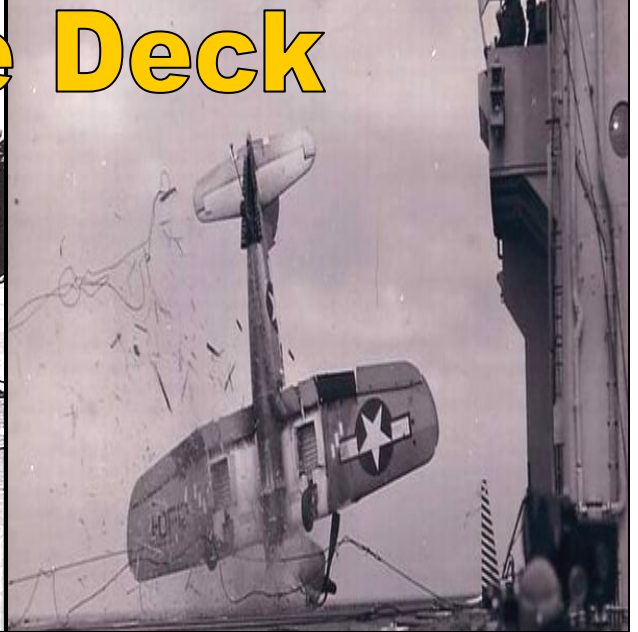
If the Best of Show prize is awarded to a student attending a high school, that school will also receive a \$100 incentive recognition award.

The Victoria Gardens Men's Club will not be held responsible for any artwork that is lost or damaged during the contest. All artwork submitted for judging will become the property of the Victoria Gardens Men's Club if not claimed after the contest concludes and may be displayed or disposed after the contest at the discretion of the Men's Club.



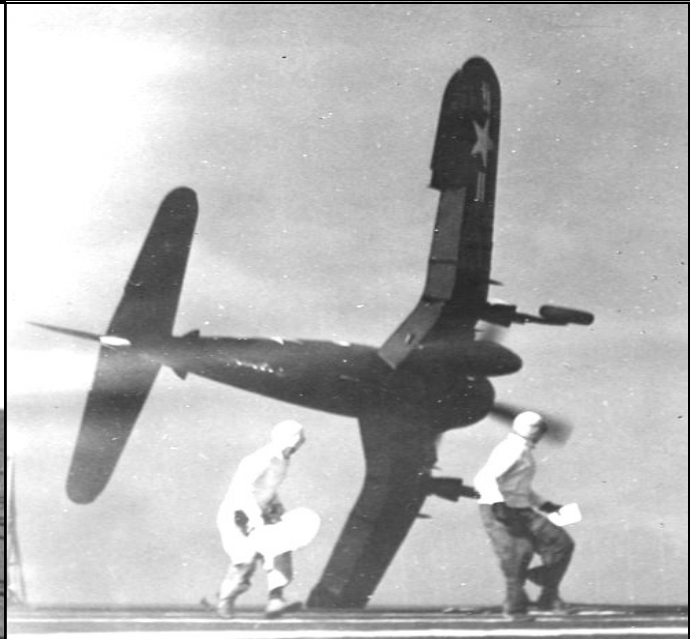
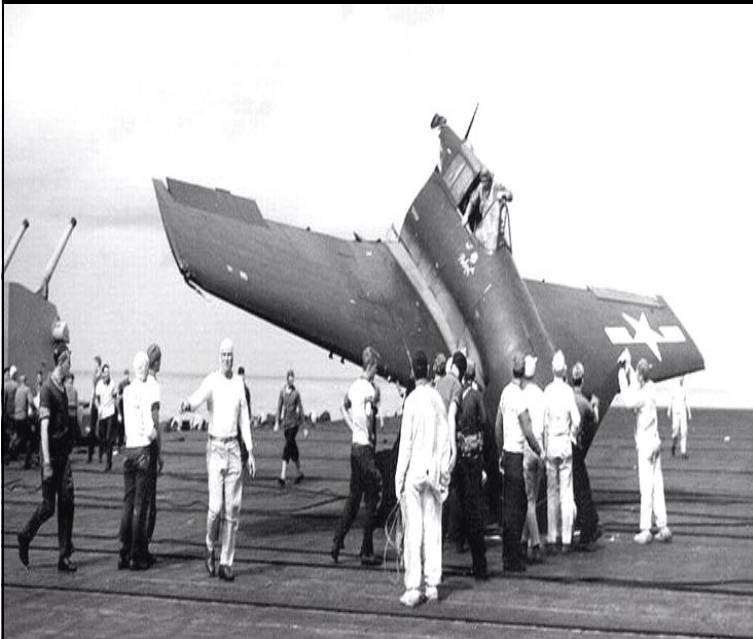
WWII HISTORY - AIRCRAFT MISHAPS

Clear The Deck





Climbing onto a crashed plane
to save the man inside



WWII History DeLand Naval Air Station 1944



**Navy Commander
Turner DeHart**

Turner DeHart, Franklin, North Carolina, joined the US Navy and received his wings in Pensacola, Florida. In 1944 he went to Naval Command Training in DeLand, Florida. He attended both Stetson University in DeLand and University of Maryland.

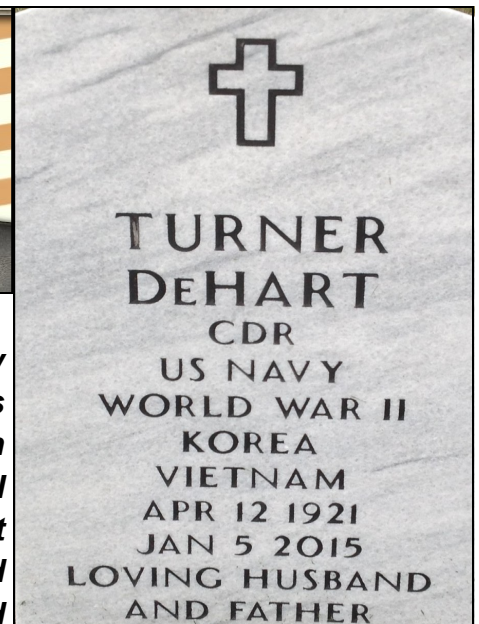
During his 25 years in the Navy he served far and wide, Honolulu, Hawaii, Japan, Korea, Turkey, Canada, (on loan to the Royal Canadian Navy) with his final posting at the Naval Security Station in Washington DC. He retired as a Commander in 1968. During Turner's life, he was recognized with a number of commendations, letters of appreciation and medals. He was considered by most locals as a generous historian for Macon County, North Carolina.

SBD Plane Crash In His Own Words

June 6, 1944—DeLand, Florida Naval Air Station Flight Training Dauntless SBD:

"My first flight in the SBD was only for a familiarization and no radical or stressful maneuvers were to be performed. "Just fly around and make a few landings," said our Commander, a Marine Corps Captain who had recently returned from combat in the South Pacific. He said to "wring the plane out," do all the aerobatics that you wanted to and could do if the plane would stay together long enough for that purpose. I thought at the time that he was just kidding, although we were aware that all of these planes now used for training had seen lots of duty in combat before being transported back to the States for training purposes.

Upon arriving at a safe altitude, I commenced my aerobatics and learned immediately how much difference in handling there was between this plane and the SNJ advance trainer I flew at Pensacola before graduation. The difference was like driving a hot rod and driving a truck. But persistence paid off and after completion of the workout, I decided to move over into the clouds for a bit of instrument flying practice before returning to the base. I reset my instruments upon entry into the clouds and again after I flew out of them. It was then my troubles with the engine began.



I was heading west towards Daytona Beach. Rechecking my instruments once again, I noticed that the oil temperature was too high and the oil pressure was too low. This combination spelled disaster if you couldn't land right away, which I couldn't do because I was still about 25 miles off the coast over the Atlantic Ocean. I radioed the control tower in DeLand explaining the problem. They, in turn, closed the field and cleared me for a direct landing approach. By then, the engine was missing noticeably and I knew that before long it would lock up completely. I was losing altitude and more throttle was needed to maintain a gradual descent to the runway but giving more throttle would make the engine freeze up quicker. When hot oil began to enter the cockpit from around the rudder pedals and over the cowlings onto my face and body, I realized that a real challenge lay before me. Would I get back to the field or must I crash into the swampy water between Daytona and DeLand? I began to pray for a safe landing. Fortunately, I was nearing the airfield but the oil was getting hotter and hotter and I was covered with it. Vision was an additional problem. I tried to wipe the oil from my face so I could see the field but only partly succeeded because it kept coming in. Considering bailing out, I rolled the plane over on its side but had doubts that I was high enough for my chute to open so I rolled it back to the glide path that I was on. Just then I could see the field and runway that I was to use for the emergency landing. I passed over the fence perimeter about a mile from the runway and hoped that my prayer was being answered. But I could see fire around the engine. Also one lonesome pine tree loomed up in front of me and the plane was beginning to stall out. My right wing hit the tree causing the plane to flip over the top and crash to the ground.

I had kept the wheels retracted and as the plane hit the tree I turned off the switch, if by then it mattered, though it may have. As the plane settled I found myself still right side up and I lost no time departing from the cockpit. I was afraid all along that the oil fire might reach the gasoline and the plane would explode but this did not happen. I ran from the plane for a couple of hundred feet, I suppose, and seeing no explosion as yet, I moved a bit closer to assess the damage, I saw the engine dislocated about 50 feet from the plane, the wings were bent backwards and the fuselage was destroyed at the rear gunner station. Luckily, my gunner was not with me on the flight. The ambulance arrived soon after. Two corpsmen came running over the sand dunes with a stretcher, which I didn't think was needed, for me to lie down on. But, I did anyway.

Arriving at the dispensary 10 minutes later, the doctor treated me for shock and several burns. He grounded me for a couple of days to recuperate. Then back into the cockpit of another SBD, I went to finish the training program."

2019 LIVE BIG BAND DANCE

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7:00 PM - 10:30 PM

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Tickets: \$25.00 EACH (RESERVED TABLES OF 8 OR 10 AVAILABLE)
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ALMOST SOLD OUT

CITY OF DeLAND 2019 Sport Aviation Village & Showcase 4TH ANNUAL EVENT **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**



The City of DeLand invites YOU to join their Showcase Family of Volunteers:

The Showcase is a three-day event to be held November 14-16, 2019, with Set Up Day on Wednesday, November 13th. Approximately 130 volunteers will be needed to coordinate, orchestrate, and produce the 4th annual, 2019 Showcase. Volunteers will receive the Official Showcase Volunteer T-Shirt, Cap or Visor, Wristband good for all three days Admission, a Volunteer Preferred Parking Pass, lunch daily, and a visit from the Water Cart throughout your shifts. Each Volunteer is asked to sign up for the same shift each day of the show. Ideally, each day you will work one shift (half day) and enjoy the show the remainder of each day! Not a pilot or aviation enthusiast? Join us anyway! We have volunteers in many positions: admissions, water carts, souvenir shop, media center attendant, and more! **VISIT www.sportaviationshowcase.com for more information.**

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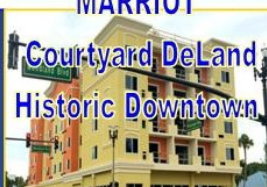
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African American Museum of the Arts

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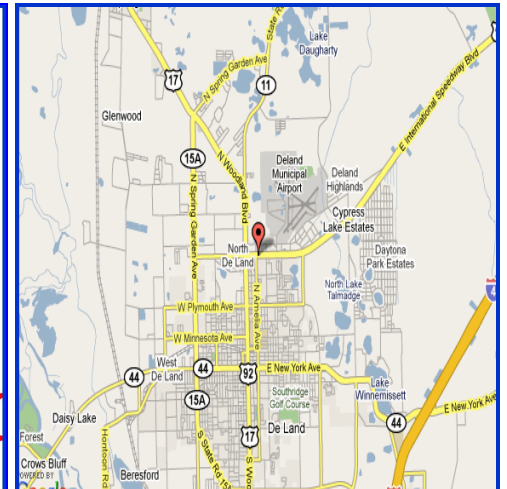
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SAVE THE DATE NOVEMBER 8, 2019 BIG BAND DANCE

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



**National Register
of Historic Places**



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DeLand Municipal Airport



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DeLand Naval Air Station Museum, Inc.

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Phone: 386-738-4149

www.delandnavalmuseum.org

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Hours of Operation: 12 Noon—4 p.m.

Wednesday through Sunday

Call to Schedule Group Tours for Adult & Youth Groups



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Thank You Museum Volunteers !!

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