

DeLand, Florida—USA



DNAS Museum News - JANUARY, 2021

DNAS MUSEUM RINGS IN 26TH YEAR 2020, A YEAR IN REVIEW

As we start our 26th Year, the DeLand Naval Air Station Museum Volunteers leave 2020 behind with another great sense of accomplishment. We had great plans for our 25th Anniversary Year. In spite of the many challenges the pandemic presented, we continue to adjust our plan for museum operations. Even with the cancellation of our public tours, our fundraisers and participation in so many other scheduled community events after the first quarter, our great volunteers have continued working on building new displays, reorganizing our vast collection of military memorabilia and preparing to welcome our visitors back when it is safe to do so.

Inspired and motivated by the memory of so many who came before us, some of the activities during our 25th Year (2020) included :

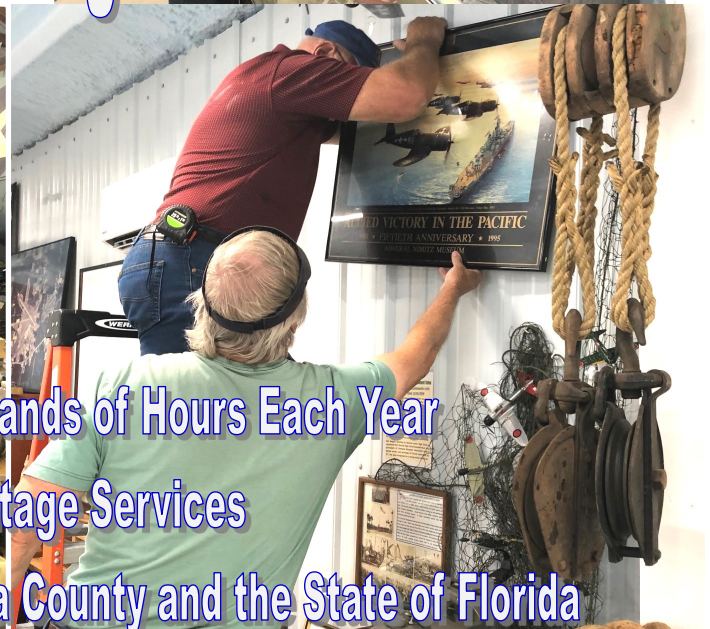
- ◆ Local, State, National and International Visitors, Both Adult and Youth Toured The Museum During the 1st Quarter before Covid-19 closure.
- ◆ Newsletters, Social Media Activity to promote and provide educational materials, Local & National Media Exposure, Community Outreach and Partnerships. Mentored High School and College Students, Sponsor for New Unit of the DeLand Naval Sea Cadets—www.seacadets.org and the Embry Riddle Aeronautical University Riddle Redeemers.
- ◆ Restoration Progress on the WWII TBF Avenger, F-14 Tomcat Jet, RT33A vintage aircraft, PTF-3 Vietnam era Patrol Boat and other vintage memorabilia.
- ◆ SCCA Races, Yard Sale and Marketing Fundraisers Accomplished by Our Volunteers, and promotion of our Community Partner events
- ◆ ECHO Rangers, DeBary Hall Living History Day, Embry-Riddle Career Day, University High Military and Career Showcase, Speakers Bureaus & Educational Programs on site and in the Community. Participated in Museum of Arts & Science Historycon, DeLand Regional Library, Rotary Clubs, Volusia County .
- ◆ Our Volunteers completed the recycled building with Community Donations of Cash & In-kind Services.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS AND SPONSORS!!

DNAS Museum Remains Closed During Pandemic

Volunteers Working Behind The Scene

The DNAS Museum remains closed to the public until we determine it is safe to re-open. Our great volunteers are still working 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, please consider becoming 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!



Our Volunteers Donate Thousands of Hours Each Year
For Cultural & Heritage Services
To Benefit the City of DeLand, Volusia County and the State of Florida



**New Family Volunteers
Welcome Dave Nelson, Kaden & Kobe**

**Dave is a retired Navy "Yellow Shirt"
who served on the USS John F. Kennedy**



**Naval Sea Cadets
Bring Holiday Cookies**



**Cleaning WWII DeLand NAS
File Cabinet & Hospital Coffee Pot**



**Team Work
Group Project**



**New Public Educational
Signage for MASH Helicopter**

Riddle Redeemer Alumni Update

Michael S. Vanegas Starting Career



Earned Bachelors in Aerospace Engineering
at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University



With 1st President
Isaiah Carlton



1st Group Of
Riddle Redeemers in 2017

The DeLand Naval Air Station Museum volunteers were thrilled to hear from Michael Vanegas, an Embry-Riddle Aeronautical "Riddle Redeemer" alumni from our first team of student volunteers.

"IN HIS OWN WORDS".....

"In 2015, I moved from the NYC area to the Daytona Beach area to begin pursuing my studies as an Aerospace Engineer at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Within my first week of studies, I was told by my seniors to consider joining a club to help remove me from the tedium of student life. As such I came to discover the Riddle Redeemers and participated as both a general member and even president for a few years."

"In my time here, I got the pleasure to not only work alongside many veterans but also work on projects that I never thought I would ever get the ability to work on. My time helping with projects such as the TBF Avenger, F-14 Tomcat, T-33 Shooting Star, and the PTF-3 Patrol Boat were amongst some of the most unexpected yet cherished times that I can recall having. After all, how many college students can you say have ever worked on such iconic pieces of machinery over the course of their college careers!?"

"While helping at the museum, I learned many new things from the veterans themselves. Whether it was practical tooling knowledge from our fellow Lee or Greg on the F-14 or TBF Avenger, or historical knowledge from veterans such as Al or Gene, there was never at any point a time in which I was not learning something new. Many veterans at the museum were living encyclopedias for things that we would have never learned in textbooks as well as eye-witness accounts for incidents that are only briefly covered in the traditional classroom environment. Being able to hear first-person testimonies from veterans who served in the Second World War, as well as other veterans who served in Korea and Vietnam was an experience that cannot be expressed as simply as it is stated in the books. Learning general practices such as working power/hand tools, doing sheet metal work on the aircraft skins, sanding the rough exterior surfaces of the F-14, and painting the fuselage of the T-33 Shooting Star were valuable skills that I can carry far into the future. Having the honor to interact and speak with such people is an experience that one can only get in places such as this museum and for that I am beyond grateful.

The impact that this museum has had on me has been very profound as it gave me an idea as to where I wanted to take my career. My original intent to work on commercial vehicles changed as I began to spend more time at the Deland Naval Air Station Museum. The more I came to involve myself with military vehicles, the more I came to see the importance of working side by side with the people that worked and continue to work hands-on with such machines. It is because of my involvement with the Deland Naval Air Station Museum that I ultimately decided to join the United States Navy Reserves and will soon be serving as an aircraft maintainer. In addition, starting from January of 2020, I will be also working for NAVAIR at the Marine Corps Air Station in Cherry Point, NC as part of their V-22 Osprey engineering team.

There is no doubt in my mind that I will miss my time at the Deland Naval Air Station Museum. Working alongside the veterans and fellow volunteers has been an experience which I will never forget, and I hope to be able to return to the Deland area to assist some more in the coming future! May you all be well, and I thank you for everything!

Congratulations Michael, We Are Proud of You !!

Support DNAS Museum - Gifts Available



The DeLand Naval Air Station Museum has a great selection of shirts, hats and other patriotic items that make great gifts. Also available are our patriotic lighted umbrellas, a variety of patriotic tote bags and patriotic 2ply face masks. Call or email soon to purchase these great items.

DeLand Naval Air Station Museum

SHIRTS/HATS AVAILABLE

Stock Up Now For Your Holiday Gifts & Support The Museum



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M-L-XL-XXL

\$20.00



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



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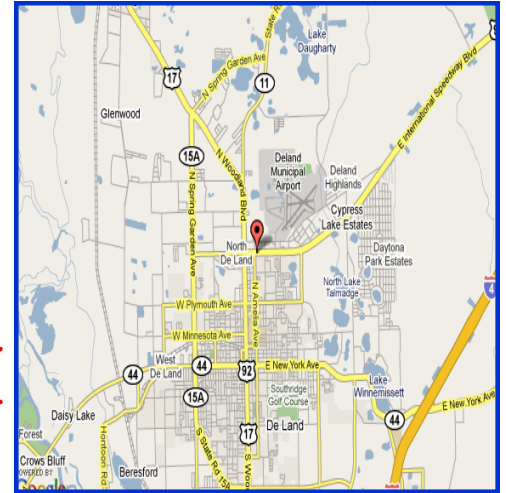
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of Historic Places**



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In Memory of ALL Who Served

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DeLand Naval Air Station Museum, Inc.

910 Biscayne Boulevard

DeLand, FL 32724

Phone: 386-738-4149

www.delandnavalairmuseum.org

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!!

**Hours of Operation: Temporarily
Closed During Covid-19 Pandemic.**

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Thank You Museum Volunteers !!

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