

DELANDINGS

HAPPY



NEW YEAR

DeLand Naval Air Station Museum, DeLand, Florida

January 2016



2016—A NEW YEAR AHEAD FOR DeLAND NAVAL AIR STATION MUSEUM

1-8-1946
DeLandings
Newsletter

The DeLand Naval Air Station Museum Volunteers leave 2015 behind with a great sense of accomplishment. Activities during the 20th Year of the museum included:

- ♦ National and International Visitors, Both Adult and Youth Toured The Museum.
- ♦ Increased Social Media Activity, Local and National Media Exposure and Community Outreach and Partnerships.
- ♦ WWII SBD-5 Osteen Plane Crash On-Going Site Investigation, Ensign William Bellmire.
- ♦ Private Richard Lee Duplicate Tombstone Mystery Solved.
- ♦ Restoration Progress TBF Avenger, T2-V, PTF-3 and Other Vintage Memorabilia.
- ♦ The Jenny Replica Arrival.
- ♦ 24th Annual Big Band Hangar Dance/Sold Out.
- ♦ 2015 Veterans Parade Participation.
- ♦ SCCA Races, Garage Sales & Fundraisers.
- ♦ Speakers Bureaus & Educational Programs.
- ♦ DNASM 20th Anniversary Celebration Open House.
- ♦ Santa Visits DNASM and collects our request for Peace on Earth.

As we start our journey into 2016, we reflect back on an editorial in the 1/8/1946 DeLandings Newsletter. World War II was officially ended and the message in the published editorial by Ms. Virginia Lawson can still apply today for any organization.

EDITORIAL

The Effect Of Personnel Changes

By Virginia Lawson, Y3c

The farther away from V-J Day we progress, the more we can see the change in personnel.

Many men who have served during the war are now returning to civilian life and leaving others to take their place. The Navy, being a permanent organization with officers and men devoting their life work to it, will undergo no decided permanent change with the change in personnel.

Here at NAS, DeLand during the recent months, the turnover has changed to a large extent. Those who have been here for quite a long period have surely seen the Naval organization run smoothly throughout the many changes.

Even though the Victory was won, we still have a battle to fight. We should try to keep our same standards of work that we had even before the victory was won, because those were the standards that enabled the victory to be gained on the battlefronts.

We must not permit the anticipation of a return to civilian life shortly, to lower our working standards. After all, we must realize that all are still members of the Armed Forces of the country, and a part of that "Navy". Without the tension of war to stimulate our efforts, we should not relax. Our duties remain the same.

Within ourselves, we are still fighting a war. A war to enable each of us to live in peace. In order to be able to live in peace, there must be a constant atmosphere in which everyone will feel secure. Continual bickering will only provoke others and cause them to do the same. So, in order to have a pleasant daily working routine, we must all work together and strive to keep our present organization at NAS, regardless of the gradual decrease in personnel.

Let us cooperate, and direct our efforts toward the continuance of a smoothly running organization.

EMBRY-RIDDLE "RIDDLE REDEEMERS"



Isaiah Carlton (left) with new Riddle Redeemers President Julio Cesar Magallon (right)

The DeLand Naval Air Station Museum (DNASM) is proud to support the Embry Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU) student organization, the "Riddle Redeemers". Their participation in museum activities has been welcomed and of mutual benefit as they team together with our members to learn from each other and give back to our community. They make us proud to know they are our future leaders.

The founder and first President of the organization is C/MSG Isaiah Carlton, a Senior at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and a cadet in the Eagle Battalion ROTC.

As a freshman, Isaiah learned that the DNASM has an F-14 on display and needed volunteers to assist with the on-going maintenance of the aircraft. He began volunteering and

when he discovered the passion of the veterans and volunteers at DNASM to preserve history, he saw the potential to make our community a better place. This enlightenment caused him to devote all of his free time creating the "Riddle Redeemers" as a non-profit, student service organization. On March 2, 2015, the Riddle Redeemers became an official organization sanctioned by ERAU. The mission of the Riddle Redeemers student members is to volunteer for community service, specifically restoring and preserving the legacy of historical military machines. Through active volunteer service, students have the opportunity to gain knowledge about each vintage artifact and benefit from real-world experiences by working alongside and being mentored by veterans, some of them who served in WWII. The Redeemers volunteer on a monthly basis and are given the opportunity to perform restoration tasks on a Grumman TBF Avenger aircraft and on-going maintenance duties for the F14, TV-2, Korean MASH helicopter, 1953 Army Jeep, Viet Nam era PTF-3 boat and other military artifacts. These tasks include prepping surfaces for painting, painting, controlling corrosion, preserving structures, rebuilding airframes or boat structures, welding, wiring, repairing, washing, and cleaning.

As a senior at ERAU, Isaiah plans to become an Army Aviator and serve in the Florida National Guard. His goal is to serve as a missionary pilot, flying overseas to help countries in need of God, philanthropy and medical assistance. He looks forward to seeing where the Riddle Redeemers will be in five years. He believes that as the organization grows, the students will be given the chance to make a great difference in the community by serving Volusia County while attending school. As he passes the lead to Julio Magallon, he has great confidence that the Riddle Redeemers are being led by an individual capable of inspiring others to pursue an opportunity that will impact their community and better their future. Visit website: <https://connection.erau.edu/organization/riddlredeemers>

"RIDDLE REDEEMERS" ASSIST DNASM





Osteen WWII Plane Crash Update Ensign William T. Bellmire Family Located

After a year of searching and with the assistance of so many volunteers and community partners, the “Osteen Quest” to find the identification of a WWII Navy Pilot who died in an SBD-5 aircraft that crashed on the property of Rodney Thomas, his identification was confirmed and relatives have been located. With the assistance of Jim Wetzel, Executive Director of the Delta County Historical Society in Delta, Colorado, relatives of Ensign William T. Bellmire were located.



At the Delta County Museum, a World War II exhibit show cases activities on the home front to support the war effort. There's also a memorial for William "Billy" Bellmire, the Delta pilot who was killed in a training exercise at DeLand Naval Air Station in Florida. Fragments of his aircraft and some personal effects were recently recovered and passed to museum Director Jim Wetzel, along with a shadow box presented to two of

Bellmire's distant relatives, Frank Pace, Uncle and Susanne Bellmire Schultz, Cousin. Included in the shadow box are a parachute buckle/cord, a belt buckle and gold chain. The military theme quilt on display was designed and made by DNASM Board Director Nancy Schweizer and donated to the Delta County Historical Society. A copy of the DNASM Resolution on Ensign Bellmire and recovered parts from the Florida crash site are also on display. (right)

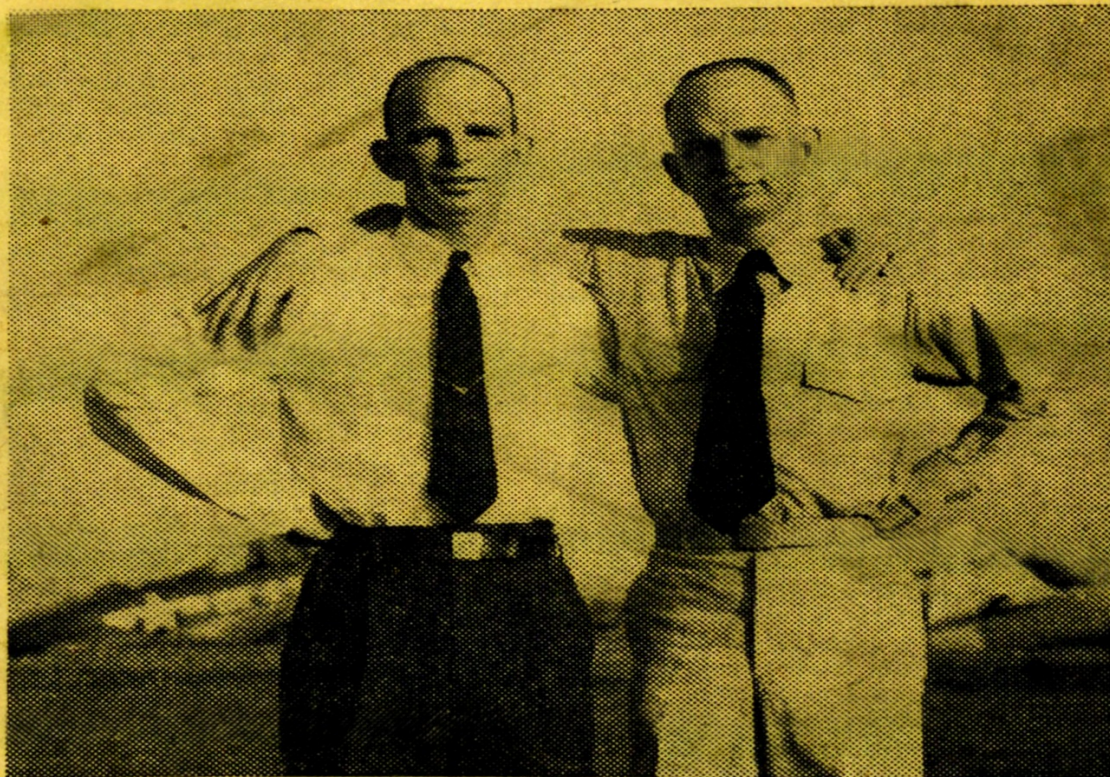
Ensign Bellmire is buried in the Delta City Colorado Cemetery next to his parents, Clarence and Shirley (Roady) Bellmire. He was 25, an only child and unmarried at the time of his death, Feb. 1, 1944. Additional artifacts are displayed at the DeLand Naval Air Station Museum in DeLand, Florida.



DeLANDINGS NEWSPAPER ARTICLE 5/1/1944

DINGS

May 1, 1944

Chief Penny On Report?

Navy. Photo

When a man is put on report three (3) times for the same offense, it is rather serious business in the Navy. Everyone on the Station was extremely surprised that this should happen to Chief Penny, who was until this time held in very high esteem.

Scuttlebutt on this station had it that "Chief" (the "Chief" in civilian clothing) went in to talk to Lt. Cmdr. Maxwell. Before he could begin a sentence, Mr. Maxwell informed him in no uncertain terms that he was to get back into uniform.

While lunching at Ship's Service one of the men approached the

"Chief" who was still in civilian clothes and questioned him as to why he got "busted out of the Navy". Penny proceeded to relate and enumerate the many offenses he had committed to merit his discharge.

This series of events was quite the talk of the Station until it was discovered that the man in civilian clothes was not our NAS Chief Penny, but his identical twin brother, who was visiting him at the time.

The Chief's twin, Kenneth Penny, was visiting DeLand before making application to get into the Navy. Before leaving the Station he was fully convinced of the advantages of a Naval Uniform.

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT.....

Our journey in 2015 has led us to many new contacts and community partners both locally and with other cities and states. We appreciate the assistance and cooperation that enabled us to learn and share more about our history.

Recently, Tracy Horner from Deltona Memorial Funeral Home and Cemetery, a DNASM sponsor, stopped by to tour the museum complex and to also coordinate the ongoing Osteen SBD-5 crash site marker project. Tracy has been working with Rodney Thomas and the DNASM to honor Ensign Bellmire's sacrifice. We thank Deltona Memorial Funeral Home and Cemetery for coming forward to help with this most worthy project. We also appreciate the donation from the Delta County Historical Society in Delta, Colorado to assist with placing a United States flag pole at the Osteen crash site.

Harold Bradeen, President



Tracy Horner (right) Deltona Memorial Funeral Home
(www.dignitymemorial.com) toured the DNAS Museum recently with President Harold Bradeen.

**A SPECIAL THANKS TO
THE CITY OF DeLAND**

**WE APPRECIATE THEIR
ON-GOING SUPPORT OF THE
DeLAND
NAVAL AIR STATION
MUSEUM**



Please Renew Your

2016 Membership

or Join Today

DeLand Naval Air Station Museum Membership Application/Renewal Form



DATE: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

NEW MEMBER _____ RENEWAL _____

_____ SINGLE \$25 _____ FAMILY \$40

_____ STUDENT (OVER AGE 18) \$20

_____ BUSINESS/CORPORATE \$100

_____ LIFETIME \$500

****PLEASE TELL US YOUR AREA OF INTEREST**

AS A VOLUNTEER: (Restoration Crew, Museum Guide,
Office, Museum Maintenance, Special Events, Other)

_____ (I can't actively participate but join as a supporting member) _____

PLEASE MAIL OR DROP OFF:

DeLand Naval Air Station Museum

910 Biscayne Boulevard—DeLand Airport

DeLand, FL 32724

(386) 738-4149 www.delandnavalairmuseum.org

dnas.museum.org@gmail.com



THANK YOU



SPONSORS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Our All Volunteer Museum Is Supported 100% By
Public Donations and In-Kind Services

"In Memory of All Who Served"

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!



CITY OF DeLAND

Time Build Inc (Investment Opportunity-Call For Info)
www.timebuildinc.com Sim Check Training Inc.
www.simchecktraining.com, Turbine Connection Inc.
www.turbineconnectioninc.com



briansbbq.com



airportginmill.com



DeLAND FAMILY YMCA - www.vfymca.org Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
RIDDLE REDEEMERS STUDENT CLUB
connection.erau.edu/organization/riddlereedeemers

JACK FORTES KEN & MARTY TORBETT
FRED & NANCY CLARK, JIM & BEVERLY OUTLAW

CHRIS STUBBS FAMILY HONORING HARRY K STUBBS,

VIRGINIA BRUNER HONORING STUART BRUNER

FAMILY BOOK SHOP - www.familybookshop.com

Deltona Memorial Funeral Home www.dignitymemorial.com



beacononlinenews.com



Hampton Inn & Suites DeLand

Proud Supporter of Our Veterans

www.delandsuites.hamptoninn.com

WEST VOLUSIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY www.delandhouse.com



jacobhac.com

RODNEY THOMAS



www.collisroofing.com

RONALD HERMAN FAMILY

ALL QUALITY PRODUCTS

www.allqualityproducts.com



Publix

www.publix.com



www.mainstreetcbf.com

MUSE BOOK SHOP

MICHAEL ARTH

www.themusebookshop.com michalearth.com



floridaleague.com



Defending Freedom Warrior Weekend cpswarriorweekend.org

Central Florida Metal Detecting Club www.thecfmdc.com

K-9 Search & Rescue of Orange City www.k9saroc.com

Quality Quick Print—www.qualityquickprint.com

SKYDIVE DeLAND - www.skydiveland.com

Stetson Flower & Wedding Botique—stetsonflowershop.com

Stetson University Sports Program



www.agingtree.com

County of Volusia Veterans
Services—volusia.org



www.macdeland.com



visitwestvolusia.com



www.delandchamber.org

Sea Scouts, University High School & DeLand High Volunteers

Volusia County Sheriffs Office

THANK YOU MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS!!



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: 12 Noon—4 p.m.

Wednesday through Sunday

(Open IF Volunteers Are Available)

Annex at 1050 Terminal Drive/Airport also open

Wednesday 12 Noon—4pm

JOIN TODAY OR DONATE

(DONATE WITH CREDIT CARD ON WEBSITE LINK)