

Mark Erdrich

From: Catherine Haynes [chaynes11629@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 16:26

To: Undisclosed Recipients

Subject: March/April list of Central FL veteran, military and patriotic events

March/April list of Central FL veteran, military and patriotic events

(Abbreviated edition to beat the Good Friday off and Spring Break exiting workers.

ONLY thru April 2.

*This is a list of unique events in Central Florida – events that have been shared with me.

*Send me your events – people cannot attend an event if they don't know about it!

*Please share this information and events with your friends and interested others and attend. Post where appropriate.

*Every effort is made to put a space into email addresses and websites – firewalls and spam filters don't like direct links, website and email addresses. If you use 'Copy and Paste' to make contact or get additional information, please keep this in mind.

*If you wish to be removed from the email list, just let me know.

American Legion Post #55 Golf Tournament – Sat. March 26 – Swiss Fairways Golf Club, 13114 Skiing Paradise Blvd, Clermont, 34711. Registration will begin at 7:00 am with an 8:00 am Shotgun start. Entry fee is \$50, includes golf, and award lunch, raffles. Teams being formed now, singles welcome.

Sponsorships welcomed; Donations, and Registration contact: Don at {352}874-2623; Jazmin at (352) 277-9379 LeqionPost55@embarq mail .com Jazminidalis @smail .com

Fund Raising Poker Run – Sat. March 26 – A Poker Run is a nice excuse to bring out the motorcycles and ride for a good cause. However, it is NOT limited to motorcycles – cars are welcomed too! A Veterans Community sponsors this event with all proceeds to benefit homeless veterans and their families in Central Florida. \$15 per rider, \$5 per passenger, \$1 for extra cards. (Participants are given playing cards along the route and the best 'poker hand' wins!) Lunch included 9am registration at 3 starting locations: Orlando Harley, Stormy Hill Harley, and Rossmeyer Harley. Ride ends at Fox Head Lounge, 280 N. SR 415, Osteen, 32761. Info: Pam at 386.414.4618 pam@aveteranscommunity.org

Scholarship Banquet Fund Raising Dinner – Sat. March 26 – This 21st Annual Valencia College & RAFMAN CLUB Foundation event rewards good scholars and encourages community leadership. 6:30pm registration, 7-9:45 PM Program & Dinner at First Baptist Church of Orlando, 3000 S. John Young PKWY, Orlando, 32805. \$40/pp donation; Semi – Formal attire. Door Prizes: 10" Tablet or 7" Tablet or \$100 VISA Gift Card! (need not be present to win one.) RAFMAN Club Foundation (Retired Air Force, Marines, Army, Navy) is a 501(c)3 Non-profit. (407) 734-5794 RAFMANclub@bellsouth.net www.rafmanclubfoundation.org/ (Thank you Arthur Jarvis!)

Remembering and Honoring Vietnam Veterans in Orlando– Mon. March 28 – Special presentation of a Proclamation by the City of Orlando at the City Council Meeting, 1:30pm. Orlando City Hall, 400 S Orange Ave, Orlando, 32801 All VVA Chapter 755 members, any Vietnam or any other veterans and veteran supporters are encouraged to attend the ceremony. It also shows the community leaders that their recognition is appreciated. Parking will be validated **ONLY** if you park in the adjoining City Commons Garage. (Thank you VVA member Vinnie M! SECVVA755@aol.com)

Veterans Coming Home – Tues. March 29 – Sponsored by WUCF TV. 9am – 11am. This meeting of

a continuing project will allow stories to be told, bridging the divide between military veterans and civilians. Come learn more, share your insight and knowledge about the veteran community here in Central Florida. WUCF TV, 12461 Research Parkway, Suite 550, Orlando, 32826. RSVP requested for head count to jennifer.cook @ wucftv .org

Vietnam Veteran Commemoration – Tues. March 29 – The Orlando Vet Center, 11am – 3pm, refreshments and a full ceremony honoring Vietnam vets along with the presentation of the special 50th anniversary commemorative pins. Guest speakers include Dr. Du Hua, who escaped after the Communist takeover. Meet the staff – greet Tyon Hall as the lead counselor, as Bill Sautner begins his well-deserved retirement! The Vet Center provides counseling for combat veterans and their families – vets helping vets. After hour and weekend appointments available upon request. 5575 Semoran Blvd., Suite 30, (TerraCotta Business Park), Orlando, 32725. Vet Centers also available in Clermont, Daytona Beach, Melbourne, and other Florida cities. 407- 857- 2800 For assistance after hours, weekends, and holidays call : 1-877-WAR-VETS (1-877-927-8387)

Greeters needed! Honor Flights Resume their Spring 2016 trips! Come Welcome them Home! – WEDNESDAY March 30 – Orlando Int'l Airport –After a day spent in Washington DC, veterans of WWII and Korean War veterans return home thru Orlando Int'l Airport. The nation-wide organization has three local hubs that take veterans on a single day trip to our nation's capital where they visit the WWII, Korea, and Vietnam War Memorials, Marine Corps Iwo Jima and the Air Force Monuments, and witness the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. And the cherry blossoms are in bloom! THIS group will return at about **9:00 pm** and enter the terminal area at about 9:30 - 10pm. Come welcome these former warriors home! “Welcome Home” receptions at the airports make a difference! Bring your flags, banners and signs!

Demographics of THIS group of 35 veterans: 13 from WW2, 19 Korean War, 2 Vets from both the Korean and Vietnam Wars, and one vet from the Vietnam War. Branches: 13 Army, Air Force, 2 Army Air Corps, 5 Marine Corps, 10 Navy and 1 Coast Guard. One of the WW2 fellows lied about his age and enlisted at age 16! Another fellow is a founder of the Navy Parachute Team, “The Leap Frogs”and was also a member of the very first Navy Seal Team.

Southwest Airlines # 2220 from Baltimore-Washington (BWI) at 9pm arrival, Terminal A, Airside 2 (hotel area in front of Starbucks.) *Before leaving home, check online to see if the flight is on time because there may be delays due to weather, mechanical or medical issues.*

Free parking has been arranged at an off airport property – FastPark and Relax at 7870 N Frontage Rd, Orlando, 32812 – They have been very generous to Honor Flights with free parking and shuttles to the airport (Tips are welcomed by drivers!) Just tell the FastPark and Relax attendant upon entering AND exiting the property that you are there for the Honor Flight veterans. Your parking voucher will be waived. And you will certainly remember them when you need to park for your next trip, won't you!

New: Vouchers are available for airport garage parking from a GOAA rep. in the terminal for this event – maximum of 3 hours – **BUT you have to take a paper/card upon entering the airport garage. The vouchers will not work if you use the SunPass transponders** – we cannot credit the charge back.

For the Early Birds - you can wave these veterans off in the morning no later than 5am – same Terminal location. FastPark and Relax parking available. The Honor Flight group processes thru Security early and quickly. Wave them off for a wonderful day!

The next Honor Flights at OIA are on Sat. April 9 – 50 veterans, plus their guardians and staff; Sat. April 23 – 25 veterans, plus their guardians and staff.

Contact Cathy Haynes for those details - chaynes11629@ yahoo .com 407-239-8468.

Central Florida Navy Leagues 5K & 10K Run/Walk/Roll – Sat. Apr 2 – This 7th annual event begins with Colors and National Anthem at 7:30am; Racing begins 8am at the Blue Jacket Park, 2501 General Rees Ave, Orlando, 32814. Join us for a run around the former grounds of Naval Training

Center Orlando to honor the city's rich military heritage and support our wounded service men and women. Proceeds benefit the Lone Sailor Monument and Camaraderie Foundation (providing counseling for military and veterans and their families experiencing various life challenges.) Discounts for groups and military before race day. Visit cfnl5k.org for details and to register online. Sponsorships welcomed. Info: info@cfnl5k.org

Lone Sailor Monument Dedication – Sat. April 2 – After the CFNL 5K/10K (about 9am,) this long awaited monument will be unveiled and dedicated. Over 600,000 brave men and women passed through the Naval Recruit Training Center Orlando. Little remains of the Base and this tribute will commemorate the lives that were changed – both in the Navy and in our community. Sponsored by the Central FL Navy League, with the surrounding site built by Blue-Cord Construction, a veteran owned company. Blue Jacket Park, 2501 General Reeves Ave., Orlando, 32814. (Lake Baldwin area)

Family Fun Day – Sat. April 2 – Coffee and Donuts at Blue Jacket Park, 9am – 11am. Camaraderie Foundation sponsors this addition to the Central Florida Navy League 5K/10K race and unveiling of the Lone Sailor Monument. Bounce House for the kids too! To RSVP please contact Anna Tanzilla at programs@camaraderiefoundation.org with your name, contact information, and # attending. Discounted race registration if you use “TEAMCAMARADERIE” on pre-race registration at www.cfnl5k.org Camaraderie Foundation in Central Florida provides resources for private and confidential Post Traumatic Stress (PTS) counseling for warriors and their families. It works. It has saved lives, marriages and families. Contact 407-841-0071

Militia Encampment – Sat and Sun April 2, 3 – Military history buffs will enjoy this event of soldiers in 1840 period uniforms, camp and programs in the Fort Christmas, east of Orlando on S.R. 50. 10am – 4pm in Christmas 1300 N Fort Christmas Rd, Christmas, FL 32709. Fort Christmas was built in present day Christmas, Florida during the Second Seminole War. Construction began on December 25, 1837, with the arrival of 2,000 U.S. Army soldiers and Alabama volunteers. Musket and cannon firing demonstrations, along with a traditional Florida "Cracker" house and eight pioneer homes.

Kids on the Water - Sun. Apr 2 - A free day of activities for kids at Wickham Park, per AVET Project. 10am – 2pm. Fishing, water safety, kayak, surf demo, paddle boarding. See their website for up to date info. Wickham Park, 2500 Parkway Dr., Melbourne. www.avetproject.org

Veterans in crisis – For you or someone you know - Confidential Hotline: 1-800-273-8255, #1.

Or: Website at veteranscrisisline.org provides 24/7 confidential chat online assistance;

Or: text 838255 for 24/7 confidential assistance. They are there because they care....

Caring and sharing,

Cathy Haynes

Member/supporter of numerous veteran and military organizations in Central FL

407-239-8468

chaynes11629@yahoo.com