

Scuttlebutt



MILITARY SEA SERVICES MUSEUM, INC.



Jan/Feb 2022



John Cecil

A message from the President

Season's Greetings to all our members near & far, from those here in Sebring. On 12/07/2021, the museum had a fantastic Pearl Harbor Day display and ceremony. WWII Veterans Jack Moore, age 99, a former Navy Gunners Mate, and Dell Smith, age 100, a former Navy Pilot, were in attendance. Both were honored by the 40+ people who attended. The museum had 2 large ships float models in the Veterans Day Parade in Lake Placid this year, and once again, won the best float trophy. It is on display at the museum.

As of 12/12/21 the museum has accepted 17 new members. 20 Dec is the scheduled date for the arrival of the museum's new storage building. Thanks to all who's donations and dues have made this possible. The museum is still working toward the expansion of our building. Let it be known that this will happen. We will celebrate 24 years as a museum on Memorial Day 2022. We intend to have a public ceremony to commemorate this occurrence.

Museum Happenings



On Saturday, 11/06/2021, Micha Marsh & Al Whitbeck manned the MSSM booth at the Sebring Arts & Crafts Festival. The USS Samuel B. Roberts giant scale model drew literally hundreds of curious visitors to the booth. Micha had a large volume of people who were interested in modeling stop by. Al did a jam up job informing folks about our museum. Set up and take down helpers included Chis Carino and Juan Ramirez.

Four Sebring High School AFJROTC cadets helped Al Witbeck and Micah Marsh put the Big E model on the trailer for the Lake Placid Veterans Day Parade on 11/11/2021. Thanks to Chief Master Sergeant Green for bringing the cadets.



MSSM Vice President, Tim Cannon completes his pre-launch check on the USS Enterprise CV6 historic, scale model of the WWII carrier model. Tim served on the USS Enterprise CVA(N) 65 during the Vietnam Conflict era. Thank you for your service and sacrifice.



John Bent, is a former Navy Aviation Fire Control Technician who also worked on the A-6 Intruder and E-2C Hawkeyes for Grumman. He helped refurbish and prep the WWII USS Enterprise CV-6 and USS Samuel B. Roberts DE-413 + trailers for the parade as a member of the MSSM. Thanks for your service and help.

Retired Navy Master Chief Gene Kissner displays the Colors as he views the Veterans Day Parade on 11/11/2021. An observation of his attire indicates that he has great pride in his association with the local military community.

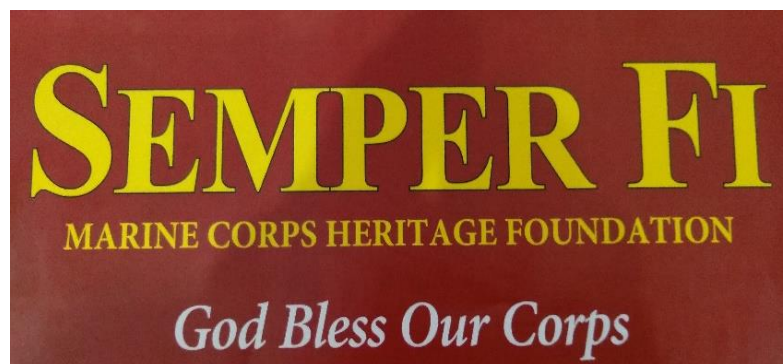


Photo Courtesy of Kim Moody, Highlands News-Sun Staff

The 2021, Highlands County Veterans Parade was held in Lake Placid this year on a strikingly beautiful and mild day. There was great participation from units marching and driving in the parade plus many spirited watchers along the route. The 2020 parade was held in Avon Park under blustery and rainy weather at the height of the pandemic, so participation was obviously more modest. In 2022 the Veterans Day Parade returns to Sebring, the County seat, and it is hoped Covid will be greatly diminished by that time so more veterans may join the parade along with groups from our patriotic Highlands community.



Former Marines, Corporal Gerald Cruz, and Sergeant Mark Manley, youngest and eldest, cut the ceremonial cake at the Cake & Ice Cream Social held at the MSSM. Corporal Cruz, a teacher at the Heartland Christian Academy, brought members of the Military Life Club, which he founded, to the event. Exposure to military history, leadership, rank structure & ceremony are all part of the Military Life Club curriculum. MSSM President John Cecil gave a short speech exuding the accomplishments of the Marine Corps throughout their exemplary history.



We're on Heartland time.

Cleaning in the fall, not the spring.

On two Fridays in September, several members showed up early to do some of the heavy lifting at the museum. Glen West dreamt up the ploy of recruiting 2 of our newest members to partake of the hot, sweaty exterior work. Not to be shown up, several long-time members joined in the festivities with a dazzling display of one upmanship.



Glen West CAPT USA



Mike Borders COL USA



**Glen West CAPT USA
Gil Uribe MAJ USMC
(Newbie)**

Pictured above, Glen touches up the North Porch pillar, Mike has too much fun wrestling with a 2000psi pressure washer, cleaning walls and sidewalks, while Glen & Gil repaint the masonry sign.



**Steve Albert CDR USN
(Newbie)**



**Mica Marsh
Chris Carino**

Pictured above, Steve repaints the front porch, while Mica & Chris take a break after mounting wheels on the gun carriage for the British Admiralty cannon.

Curator, Fred Carino, provided Dunkin' Donuts on day 1, while President, John Cecil, provided Subway Sandwiches on day 2.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month is an annual observance originating in the United States, where it is also known as African American History Month. It has received official recognition from governments in the United States and Canada, and more recently has been observed in Ireland, and the United Kingdom. It began as a way of remembering important people and events in the history of the African diaspora. It is celebrated in **February** in the United States and Canada, while in Ireland, and the United Kingdom it is observed in **October**.

February was chosen as the month to celebrate Black History Month because the Black abolitionist and writer Frederick Douglass was born in this month, as was Abraham Lincoln, who played an important role in shaping Black history.



African Americans are one of the largest of the many ethnic groups in the United States. African Americans are largely the descendants of enslaved people.

Carter G. Woodson, American historian who first opened the long-neglected field of black studies to scholars and popularized the field in the schools and colleges of black people. To focus attention on black contributions to civilization, he founded (1926) Negro History Week.



Abraham Lincoln 16th president of the United States (1861–65), preserved the Union during the American Civil War and brought about the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States. Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation went into effect on 1/1/1863

A day of infamy!

12/07/1941



The USS Nevada had the duty band for Morning Colors on that beautiful and serene Sunday morning. The attack rolled into the fleet moored in Pearl Harbor just before 0800hrs eighty years ago. Machine guns were strafing the ships and bombs began exploding while the band was in the middle of the Star-Spangled Banner. General quarters, battle station, *this is not a drill*, was called away. President F.D. Roosevelt declared war against Japan the very next day. 2,403 American's were killed in that attack and 1,478 were wounded. All 8 Pacific battleships were sunk or trapped in the harbor. In addition to the Hawaii attack, Japanese forces also attacked: Malaya, Hong Kong, Guam, the Philippines, Wake and Midway islands. The Japanese Empire should have let a sleeping dog lie. Within 4 years that nation was utterly devastated by military forces of the allied powers that united against her.

Many thanks to the MSSM Curator, Fred Carino and his all-volunteer work force for creating such a memorable presentation in the museums flag room.



January 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1 
2	3	4 	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 BOD Meeting 1630	13 	14	15
16 	17	18	19	20 1981 Ronald Reagan takes office	21	22
23 MSSM Dinner	24	25	26 1880 General Douglas Mcarthur Born	27	28	29
30	31 	U.S. Navy Seals, formally founded, 1 January 1962.				

February 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2 	3	4	5
6	7	8 1910  Founded	9 MSSM BOD Mtg 1630	10	11	12 1950 US Sixth Fleet formed
13 Superbowl  56	14 	15	16	17	18	19 
20	21 	22	23	24	25 1964 Clay defeats Liston	26
27 MSSM Dinner	28					
	 <p>As another year has passed, the Military Sea Services Museum once again gives it's heart felt thanks to Coker Fuel for providing propane to our facility. Your donation is a perfect example of community involvement, and is very much appreciated.</p>					

Curators Request

1. Any books, magazines, newspapers, photo, videos of African American Navy, Marine, and Coast Guard personnel for our February Special exhibit.
2. Black leather or Corfam, men's shoes size 10 or larger.
3. Aluminum cans. We sell these to purchase paper products.

Laughter is the best medicine!

* We could certainly slow the aging process down if it had to work its way through Congress.
Will Rogers

* Until I was thirteen, I thought my name was SHUT UP.
Joe Namath

* I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap.
Bob Hope

* Sometimes, when I look at my children, I say to myself, Lillian, you should have remained a virgin.
Lillian Carter (mother of Jimmy Carter)

* I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury.
Groucho Marx

* My luck is so bad that if I bought a cemetery, people would stop dying.
Rodney Dangerfield

* I have never hated a man enough to give his diamonds back.
Zsa Zsa Gabor

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