



The Premier Retirement Community for America's Veterans

Armed Forces Retirement Home

Communicator

Gulfport, MS & Washington, DC

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AFRH-GULFPORT

AFRH-G holds Spring Open House

By Becki Zschiedrich, Public Affairs

To celebrate spring, the Armed Forces Retirement Home hosted an Open House on Friday May 29, 2015 from 1:00 p.m. through 3:00 p.m. This event was open to the public.

Visitors took self-guided garden tours of the AFRH grounds. Delicious Hors d'oeuvres & refreshments were served in the front lobby. Resident artists had their artwork and creations on display for viewing and purchase. Our Residents also gave many indoor facility tours every half hour.

The staff and residents at the Armed Forces Retirement Home take great pride in the landscaping and environmentally conscious design of the



AFRH-G campus. We have worked together to create this beautiful environment for our Veterans and their guests to enjoy for now and the future.

Thank you to all our very talented Residents for displaying your beautiful artwork and thank you to all of our awesome Resident Volunteer Tour Guides. We enjoyed showing the community what an incredible facility we have here in Gulfport for our Veterans.



Gerry Gorsky displays her extreme talent in art work.



Col Wilhite admires PJ's talent in wood work.



Steve Crews advertises the three books he has written.



Frank Jones give guests a tour of the Home.

AFRH-WASHINGTON

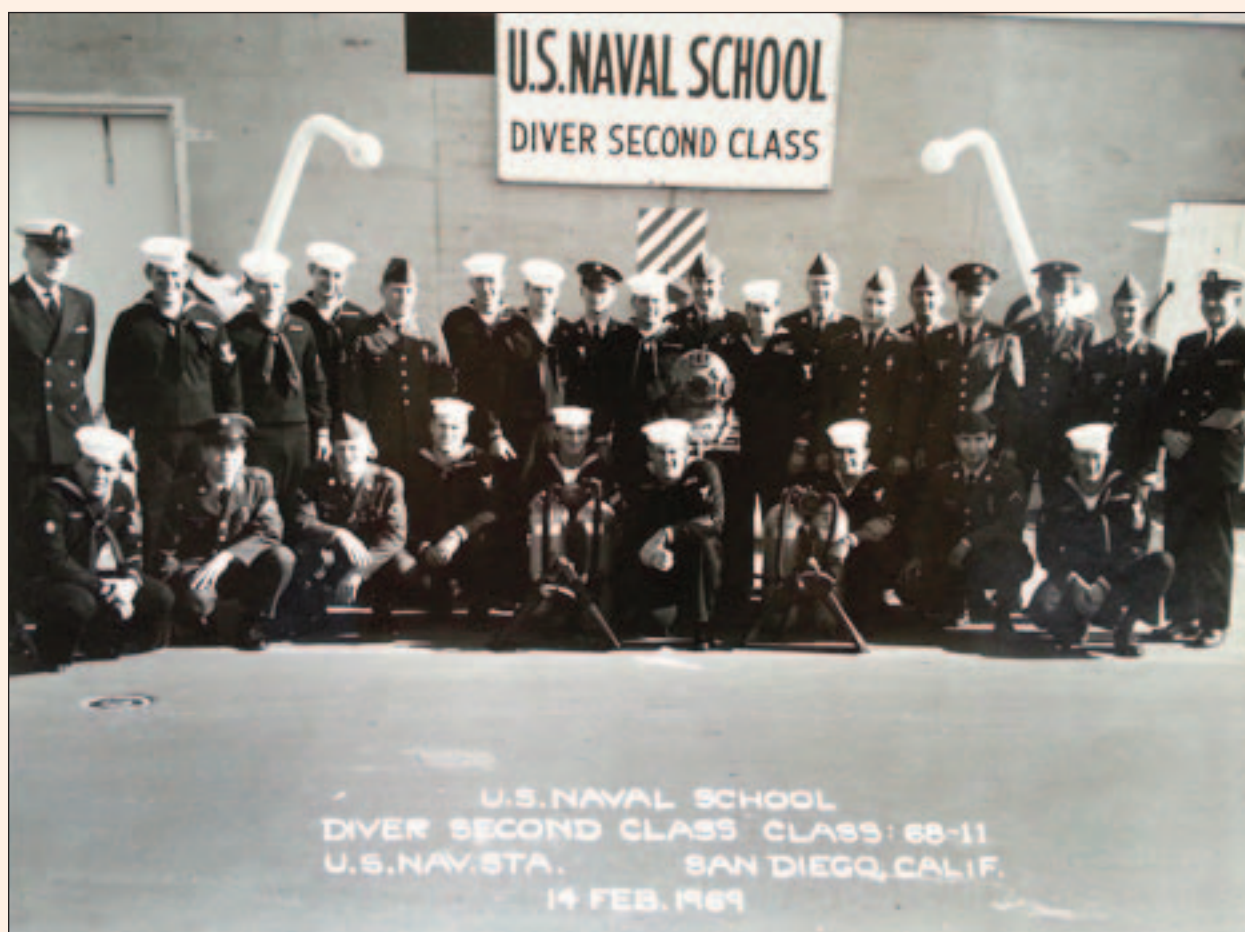
Seal Team 1 X-Ray Platoon - Resident honored

On Thursday, June 11, 2015 Charlie Romero, US Army Underwater Salvage Diver, presented Louis DiCroce, Seal Team One, X-Ray Platoon, with a plaque in honor of his leadership, service and commitment during the US Navy Diving School Class 68-11.

Charlie Romero stated, "DiCroce inspired us, he encouraged us and he motivated us to reach further than any of us ever had. He taught us not to give in, not to quit, even if the going got tougher than we could imagine. He was there to lift us up and carry us if he had to, but most of the time all it took was a certain look, a node of the head, and his slight grin to acknowledge that you did good. Most of the time that was all it took. He was an incredible leader, one that I most certainly will never forget."



Charlie Romero presents Lou DiCroce with a plaque from the Class of 68-11.



U.S. Naval School Diver Second Class - Class: 68-11
U.S. Naval Station, San Diego, California
14 February 1969



Lou DiCroce is surrounded by the Romero family, the Chief of Resident Services, Ron Kartz, and the AFRH-W Administrator, Sean Servais.

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AFRH COMMUNICATOR

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The AFRH Communicator is an authorized publication of the Armed Forces Retirement Home. Residents and employees are encouraged to submit photos, art, news items, and features. Materials will be edited by the *AFRH Communicator* staff for journalistic style and length. The articles included in this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions or views of the management, staff, or residents of the AFRH.

Serving Washington, D.C. and Gulfport, Mississippi



ARMY NAVY AIR FORCE MARINE CORPS COAST GUARD

AFRH-Gulfport waiting time for residency is
27-29 months from the date of application approval

AFRH-Washington has no waiting time for residency

AFRH is not just a place to live but a place to live more. Our model retirement communities are designed for residents to maintain an independent lifestyle in an environment designed for safety, comfort and personal enrichment.

Eligibility: Military veterans from each service branch can live at AFRH. The following persons who served as members of the Armed Forces, at least one-half of whose service was not active commissioned service other than as a warrant officer or limited-duty officer, are eligible to become residents of the Retirement Home:

- who are 60 years of age or over; and were discharged or released from service in the Armed Forces under honorable conditions after 20 or more years of active service.
- who are determined under rules prescribed by the Chief Operating Officer to be incapable of earning a livelihood because of a service-connected disability incurred in the line of duty in the Armed Forces.
- who served in a war theater during a time of war declared by Congress or were eligible for hostile fire special pay were discharged or released from service in the Armed Forces under honorable conditions; and are determined under rules prescribed by the Chief Operating Officer to be incapable of earning a livelihood because of injuries, disease, or disability.
- who served in a women's component of the Armed Forces before June 12, 1948; and are determined under rules prescribed by the Chief Operating Officer to be eligible for admission because of compelling personal circumstances.

To receive an informational brochure please contact the AFRH Marketing Office at 1-800-422-9988, or write to AFRH, PAO/Marketing, #1305, 3700 N. Capitol St. NW, Washington DC 20011-8400. Visit us on the web at: <http://www.AFRH.gov>



The Joint Commission
www.jointcommission.org

A CARF-CCAC Five-Year Term of Accreditation was awarded to the Armed Forces Retirement Home. <http://www.carf.org>
<http://www.carf.org/aging>



AFRH-W Veteran Highlight

By Christine Baldwin, AFRH-W Librarian



Lionel Verrette was born in the French Canadian province of New Brunswick. Since his father was a US citizen, Lionel was subject to both U.S. and Canadian laws until the age of 21. He was working in Maine, when he got drafted by the United States Army in July 1945.

(Both his brothers served in the Canadian Army). He did his 16 weeks of Basic Training at Camp Croft, SC in Infantry. Shortly afterwards, because of his proficiency in speaking French, Lionel was sent on a special assignment to Europe. It was during one of his many different assignments to Germany (a total of seven years) that he met and married his French War Bride in 1947. They later had six children. Also during his career, Lionel worked in the fields of anti-aircraft artillery and in the Quartermaster Corps. After returning to the states, he went to Fort Hood, TX and Camp Chaffee, AK and later spent ten years assigned to the 526th Military Police Company, Fort Meade, MD. Getting his orders directly from The Pentagon, Lionel was sent to French West Africa in 1961, where he worked security and delivered equipment for humanitarian aid. He was stationed in Upper Volta, only 40 km from Timbuktu, but due to the extreme heat, everything stopped between 1200 – 1500 every day, making the job long and difficult. He also used his skills in Vietnam in 1963 as a French linguist before the Vietnam War began. Lionel retired in 1965 from Fort Meade and spent the next 22 years with Armco Steel Company in Baltimore, MD. There he worked his way up from janitor to Senior Inspector in the wire lab. He always knew about the Armed Forces Retirement Home, so he was happy to come here three years ago.



AFRH-G Veteran Highlight

By Lori Kerns, AFRH-G Librarian



Fredi in 1945 while in the Marine Corp.

Fredi would ride every morning with her mother to drop off her grandfather at the shipyard where other members of her extended family worked. During the summer she would have loads of fun swimming in the bay situated across from San Francisco. They would also enjoy boat rides in the area's estuary.

After graduating high school, she and one of her sisters began talking about joining the military. In 1944 she decided to join the Marine Corps. Her mother was so upset about her decision that she did not ride with Fredi to the airport for her flight to boot camp. She went through boot camp training at Camp Lejeune, NC. She remained there to attend quartermaster school. Upon

Fredi Van Pelt was born on July 2, 1923 on the island of Alameda, CA. She was the youngest of three sisters. Her father, a painting contractor, was born in Amsterdam and migrated over with his family through Boston, MA. Her stay-at-home mother was the daughter of a shipbuilder originally from Nottingham.

completion she continued her stay at the camp to begin her job as a freight checker. She recalls there being a bakery across from where she worked. The bakery would give her fresh bread. She enjoyed her time on the beautiful camp by attending movies on-site and by taking the summer bus to the beach. In May of 1946, she was discharged once she earned her way to corporal. On her way back home, she was ordered to stay in New Orleans overnight with a few other female Marines because she would have had to ride the train back in a cattle car full of men. She remembers that as an enjoyable night she had with her friends. She finally made it to Camp Pendleton, CA for her discharge.

Fredi went back home to Alameda and began a job doing office work. Eventually she became a field office manager for a heavy industrial piping company. During her time at the company, she was sent to Cape Canaveral, FL where they worked on the sound suppression water system, which was essential for the flight to the moon. As a civilian, she also worked as a district sales manager for Avon covering four counties. She drove about 4,000 miles each month to appoint and train new representatives. She decided to retire from full time work and moved to Sun City, AZ where she worked part time. Full retirement did not come until she was in her seventies.

Even though she pursued a busy career, nothing held Fredi back from getting married and raising a family. She and her husband had three children, two sons and one daughter, and raised them in California. She is now the grandmother of three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

She found out about AFRH-G when one of her pinochle club members brought in pictures of the home.

She and two of her children came to check out the home because her daughter was getting worried about her living alone. Upon seeing AFRH, she decided this was the best place for her. Her only regret was having to leave her dog, Tobi. Her neighbor graciously took him and regularly keeps in touch with her.

Fredi keeps active by enjoying pinochle and competing in the various tournaments offered. She also volunteers her time by working for the Art Specialist by performing administrative duties and working the Library's circulation desk. She also works hard to feel good and stay fit by exercising in the gym each day.

Those that know her would confirm her savvy fashion sense. She's always dressed to a "T" right down to her matching shoes. Along with her fashionable clothing, she's always wearing a stunning smile. AFRH-G is very glad to welcome her here to enjoy her retirement.



Fredi today at AFRH-G.

Message from the Chief Operating Officer



As summer begins and before people take off in various directions, I want to take a moment to reflect on the retirement of our AFRH-Gulfport Administrator, Mr. Chuck Dickerson. Chuck has shared his remarkable talents with AFRH throughout his 14 years of service.

Hired at AFRH-Washington as Associate Director, Resident Services in December 2000, Mr. Dickerson had retired from a 27 year active duty Air Force career as a Command Chief Master Sergeant. He held key positions in the Air Force including Commandant of the Air Force Senior Non-Commission Officer (NCO) Academy. His military awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with silver oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal, and Air Force Achievement Medal. His position at the Washington campus became Chief,

Resident Services where he stayed for 11 years and excelled in all his endeavors.

As a key contributor to the transformation of AFRH (starting in 2002), Mr. Dickerson was forward thinking, creative, positive, and devoted to making AFRH a better living environment for former military and great workplace for staff. As AFRH changed from a military style operation to a more modern senior living community, Mr. Dickerson pitched in with his energy, his ideas, and his follow-through. He was a strong leader and military supporter and inspired all of us throughout this process. We all knew we could depend on Chuck.

His time came to do even more when Hurricane Katrina struck our Gulfport campus in August 2005. Charged with receiving the displaced Residents from Gulfport, Mr. Dickerson put forth his best efforts and awed us with the smooth efficient transition from the buses to the living quarters for 300+ new Residents on the Washington campus. However, all were not Independent Living Residents and not all the Residents could take the bus. He accommodated Assisted Living and Long Term Care residents from Gulfport who were transported to Andrews Air Force Base. The arrival and adjustment for all Residents was personally overseen by Mr. Dickerson.

Truly a round the clock Herculean team effort was led by Mr. Dickerson and his staff to welcome, indoctrinate, and make the 'new' Residents feel at home. Since each Resident could only take one small bag with them in transit from Gulfport to Washington, all the Resident belongings had to be shipped and delivered to the Residents now relocated in Washington. This massive undertaking was handled adeptly and with ease. Residents were very impressed with the courtesies they were shown. Pumping up the dining facility and recreation services to receive more patronage to finding and providing linens and being perpetually available to give personal assistance, Mr. Dickerson showed us his ability to lead and produce amazing results.

From 2006 to 2007 AFRH began making plans to tear down the Gulfport facility and construct a new building. Mr. Dickerson was an active participant in the design of new Gulfport facility. His Air Force experience as Command Chief of Eglin Air Force Base, where he assisted in the design of new dormitories (that became the standard for the entire Air Force), served him well.

Then in 2009 AFRH embarked on the Scott Project to replace the aging Scott Building. With the Gulfport design experience recently completed, Mr. Dickerson jumped in and played a vital role in ensuring the Washington facility would be equal to or better than the new Gulfport facility. Any lessons learned from the Gulfport were quickly pointed out by Mr. Dickerson as he engaged his impressive skills in the Scott Project.

At the same time Mr. Dickerson initiated the planning to move the Gulfport Residents who had been in Washington for almost five years back to the newly constructed facility. The precision with which he carefully laid out the logistics of moving

seemed effortless: transportation to the airport, chartered flight, household goods, personal luggage. Mr. Dickerson thought of every detail in a plan of action where all contingencies were considered. The move went without a hitch. Residents and staff were so excited and pleased. All these complex projects that were executed so smoothly were a tribute to Mr. Dickerson's extraordinary foresight and planning.

Simultaneously, the Washington campus was preparing for the move of its own Residents from the old Scott Building which was being torn down to make way for the new Scott. Not only Residents had to be moved, but AFRH functions like his own Resident Services, Dining, the Health and Wellness Center. Again, Mr. Dickerson lead the effort and weighed in significantly on the requirements for what we called the Scott Transition.

With the new Gulfport facility opened in 2010, Mr. Dickerson lent a helping hand to the Chief of Resident Services, providing operating procedures, guidance, and advice. The One Model we aimed to perpetuate in the new facility became a reality as he assisted and guided the new Gulfport staff to become part of the AFRH standard.

His Certification as an Aging Services Professional (CASP) with the University of North Texas provided him with the skills and experience required to understand what is required for aging military veterans.

Therefore in July 2012 Mr. Dickerson was selected as the Gulfport Administrator, an honor he truly deserved. He knew all the intricacies of running a Continuing Care Retirement Community. Many of the Gulfport Residents had been on the receiving end of his kindness and great leadership when the hurricane forced their temporary move to Washington. He was a perfect fit for the job. Being responsible for assisting the COO in executing the agency's mission, policies and programs, and assuring compliance with Federal statutes, regulations and applicable decisions and directions, he was keenly aware and had been compliant for years. His eleven plus years as Chief of Resident Services in Washington, along with his active military service, prepared him well for this job.

Not to be daunted any challenges, when Hurricane Isaac hit Gulfport soon after his arrival in 2012, Mr. Dickerson adeptly executed the hurricane preparedness plans. The Gulfport Residents literally weathered the storm under his leadership with only minor damage to the building which was another major show of his unswerving dedication to the Residents, his job, and attention to detail. Gulfport survived this hurricane well with Mr. Dickerson was at its helm.

Another major accomplishment was achieved at Gulfport under Mr. Dickerson's management. With the requirement to have healthcare accreditation from a nationally known organization, Mr. Dickerson rallied his staff to prepare for The Joint Commission survey in 2014. The survey went extremely well with few recommendations and observations. This again was a tribute to his insightful understanding of the requirements, his ability to lead, and his success in producing results.

Even this past year Mr. Dickerson negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding with Keesler Air Force to allow medical providers to come to the Gulfport facility and provide healthcare to the Residents. This unprecedented accomplishment bears witness again to his many talents and ability to reach out and provide what the Residents really wanted.

Without question, AFRH will miss Chuck Dickerson. In total Chuck Dickerson served his country for over 42 years. That service was impressive. We will miss his cheerful, positive attitude, his 'can do' willingness to tackle any challenge, and his ability to see opportunity when it arose. I speak for everyone when I give Chuck a heartfelt thank you for all he has done for the staff, the Residents, and the Washington and Gulfport communities. We wish Chuck and his wife, Miko, the best that life offers!

Steve McManus



Stanley McKenzie "Mac" greets Miko at Chuck's retirement.



Steve McManus presents Miko with a bouquet of flowers for her support of Chuck at AFRH.



Charlie Jenkins (right) wishes Chuck Dickerson well.



Steve McManus issues Chuck Dickerson his retirement certificate for 14 years of service.



Chuck Dickerson receives a standing ovation after his speech.



On behalf of the AFRH-W Campus, the Administrator, Shaun Servais, thanks Chuck for his service.

From the AFRH-W Administrator



The Washington Campus has been hard at work making ready for new Residents to join their compatriots and make new friends. I've fielded calls from Florida,

Tennessee, and Pennsylvania and happily passed them along to our Public Affairs Office. The PAO and the campus is looking forward to having Rebecca Newton on board in July.

This month, our campus hosted Walter Reed National Military Medical Center Senior Leadership during an off-

site meeting June 3rd. Brigadier General Jeffrey Clark (now MG Clark) was here and thanked the Home for facilitating a meeting space. The General and his staff had lunch with the Residents and the event was a big success. WRNMMC partners with AFRH-W for many services benefiting Residents so we were happy to play host.

The Friends of the Soldier's Home coordinated a Veteran's recognition event with nine home residents at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling. The event, June 5th, was in commemoration of the Vietnam War 50th Anniversary. The Residents were touched by the ceremony and were presented with a United States Flag by two US Naval Ceremonial Guardsmen. The following week, on June 10th, we hosted our annual Health and Safety Fair. Each healthcare service department put

together a table with educational handouts, goodies, and displays for how they serve Residents' healthcare needs. Many outside organizations from the community partnered with us including: Department of Motor Vehicles, WRNMMC, Ms. Senior District of Columbia, DC Office on Aging, and others. I hope residents were able to take advantage of the free massage chair! A special thanks to the planning committee and Sher'ee Dale for pulling together so many resources that care for our Residents!

We had a lot of fun during our first softball game of the season! Residents and employees played 6 innings under the sun with friendly competition and sportsmanship. Ron Kartz fielded an unassisted triple play from short stop and hit a 2-run Home run that rolled down hill! Home Resident Marvin Archer told me the position he played growing up was, "left-out!" It was great to have Marvin in the game and resi-

dents enjoying the spectacle. On June 14th, the US Army had its 240th birthday! We recognized the event June 12 with Sergeant Major James Wells from the US Army Reserve as our guest speaker. The guest speaker, our eldest Army service veteran, and a 19-year-old Army private received director coins as a token of our appreciation in service to their country. We also had cake! In closing I would like to personally wish Mr. Chuck Dickerson, and his wife Miko, a very happy, healthy retirement. Chuck's contributions to the Home are numerous and cannot be measured, but I know from the many positive comments Residents and staff have voiced, that he has touched many lives during his 15-years of service to AFRH.

Shaun Servais

DC Health Fair provides valuable information

By Michael Bayles, Chief Healthcare Services

Washington campus' 2015 annual health fair was a resounding success. It was well received by all, residents, staff, and external agencies that manned displays to provide information for our residents. Among them were the District of Columbia Office of Aging, which also provided representatives from multiple DC government agencies, to include fire/EMS, and motor vehicle administration. (there were others... maybe ask DCOA for a list) Toni Jackson, Miss Senior DC, was also present to visit with the residents. Quite a few representatives from the military health service were present, including a dermatologist, pharmacist, Psychiatrist, and an audiologist. The nursing students from the licensed practical nursing program at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center provided blood sugar testing (screening only), and blood pressure testing. The AFRH healthcare services staff also manned displays and provided information on nutrition, vision, Social Work Services, rehabilitation (adaptive devices, strength training, fall prevention) as well as dentistry. Resident Services, Recreation Services, and other AFRH Departments also participated. The key focus was to reinforce healthy adaptation to the aging process. Mr. Frogge, a resident, summed it up what many individuals expressed. "This has been the most beneficial health fair...we received valuable information from all the vendors."

Key takeaways included increasing activity levels and healthy eating behaviors and aim for an ideal body weight. Medication management and engaging the healthcare staff when experiencing health-related difficulties was also emphasized. Our Administrator, Mr. Shaun Servais, addressed the group, and on behalf of the residents, expressed thanks to the multiple agencies and personnel involved in planning this event. A special thanks to Ms. Sheree Dale, from Optometry, and Dr. Olivia Pessima, our Nurse Educator, for their coordination efforts.

Exhibit booth participants:

- DC Office of Aging
- NIH Study on Aging
- AFRH - Vision Care Eye Clinic
- WRNMMC Dermatology
- AFRH - Nutrition Services
- Capitol Caring
- Mobile Dentist
- AFRH - Falls Prevention Management
- AFRH - Rehabilitation Massage
- AFRH - Rehabilitation Services
- AFRH - Speech Therapy
- AFRH - Social Services
- DC DMV
- Vitas
- Millennium Pharmacy
- WRNMMC Nursing Students / AFRH Nursing Services
- DC Fire/EMS
- WRNMMC Audiology
- VA Vision Rehabilitation
- WRNMMC Pharmacy - Captain O'Reilly



Nursing student from WRNMMC administered Blood-Sugar testing at the Health Fair.



Donald Freer takes advantage of the BMI testing offered by DC Office of Aging.



Leslie Boggus, AFRH-W Dietitian offered a wide variety of information regarding proper diet and nutrition.

Notes from the AFRH-W, Chairman, Resident Advisory Committee



There once was a person who had a habit of wanting to make a difference but instead always procrastinated; thus at the end of the day nothing was accomplished. A mentor gave this

person a bag of nails and said that every time you procrastinate and something doesn't get done you must hammer a nail into the bottom of a bucket.

The first day the person had driven 37 nails into the bucket, 37 opportunities to do something but instead doing nothing. Over the next few weeks, as the procrastination became controlled and accomplishments made, the number of nails hammered daily gradually dwindled down. The person discovered it was easier to do something than to drive those

nails into the bucket.

Finally the day came when the person didn't procrastinate at all. The mentor suggested that the person now pull out one nail for each day that something was accomplished. The days passed and finally the mentor was told that all the nails were gone. The mentor and the individual looked at the bucket, and the mentor said "You have done well, but look at the holes in the bucket."

The bucket will never be the same. When you procrastinate, it leaves a void just like this one. Our home is a very rare jewel, indeed. There are so many opportunities where a difference could be made but yet no one steps forward. The Thrift Shop hours dwindle, the Auto Hobby Shop goes unmanned, fellow residents have to reschedule appointments because no escort was available, the Sewing Room stays shut, and the list goes on and on. And now you say "What is your point, Phil"? My point is simply that if each resi-

dent, who is able, donated 4 hours a month there would be no holes in the bucket. Donate 1 hour a week or 2 hours for two weeks or 4 hours one week and none the rest of the month. It would be as though there were 10 full time people working to ensure that AFRH-W remains the premiere retirement community it is. If every one of us donated just a wee bit of time averaging an hour a week, can you imagine how much better all our lives would be, how our quality of life would zoom through the stratosphere? You say "my 1 hour won't make a difference". I say you're incorrect. I offer the following story as proof;

This is the story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

There was an important volunteer position to be filled and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did.

Somebody got angry about this, because it was Everybody's job.

Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done!

Let's keep our bucket from leaking. Together we can make a difference in each other's lives. Please see Carolyn Haug in Volunteer Services and make a difference by volunteering in one of these areas ; Thrift Store, Bowling Center, Metro Access Class Instructor, Library Circulation Desk, Projection Room, Medical Escort, New Resident Sponsor. If you prefer to volunteer somewhere else – see Carolyn!

As always, if you have something you'd like me to discuss in future articles, let's sit down and discuss.

Phil Ford

From the AFRH-G Administrator



AFRH-G would like to welcome the acting interim Administrator, Colonel Dwayne B. Wilhite.

Colonel Dwayne B. Wilhite is the Perioperative Master Clinician assigned to the 81st Surgical Operations Squadron, 81st Medical Group, Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. The

colonel serves as the Perioperative Nurse Consultant to the Air Force Surgeon General. He provides inputs to and evaluates perioperative clinical practice, leadership, consultation, teaching, and the use of evidenced based practice to 17 Air Force Military Treatment Facilities. He is the subject matter expert who uses specialized knowledge and skills in the care of patients and their families who are undergoing operative or other invasive procedures. He works in collaboration with other health care professionals to provide a multidisciplinary approach to positive changes in the surgical environment and develop Operating Instructions, Policies, and Procedures to foster compliance with Air Force, Medical Groups, the Joint Commission (TJC), Health Service Inspection (HSI), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN). He advises the squadron commander in all areas impacting perioperative surgical care within the activities of 13 surgical specialties, a seven-room multi-specialty surgical suite, a 10-bed post-anesthesia care unit, a 20-bed ambulatory surgery unit, a pre-admissions clinic, obstetrics and gynecology outpatient clinic, and a Phase II surgical technician course.

Colonel Wilhite completed his nursing degree in 1979 at Andrews University in

Berrien Springs, Michigan. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force in 1987. He has served as a staff nurse, flight nurse, instructor and evaluator flight nurse, Surgical Services Element Leader, Chief of the United States Air Force's only Operating Room Nursing Course, Surgical Services Flight Commander, Deputy Squadron Commander and Squadron Commander.

The colonel has been a member of the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) since 1997.

Prior to his current assignment, Colonel Wilhite was the 673 Surgical Operations Squadron Deputy Commander at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska.

EDUCATION

- 1979 Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI
- 1994 Squadron Officer School - Residence
- 2002 Air Command and Staff College - Non-Residence
- 2003 Masters of Science Health Care Administration, California College for Health Sciences, San Diego, Calif.
- 2004 Basic Instructor Course, Lackland AFB, TX
- 2008 Air War College - Non-Residence

ASSIGNMENTS

- 1. May 88 – February 91 - Staff Nurse Multi-services Unit, Reese Hospital, Reese AFB, TX
- 2. February 91 – May 92 - Staff Nurse Multi-services Unit, 475MDG, Yokota AB, Japan
- 3. May 92 – August 95- Flight Nurse, Flight Nurse Instructor, Flight Nurse Evaluator, 374 Operations Group, Yokota AB, Japan
- 4. January 96 – October 96 Clinical Nurse Operating Room Services, 81MDG, Keesler AFB, MS
- 5. October 96 – February 97 - Nurse Man-

- ager, Otorhinolaryngology Team, Operating Room Services, 81MDG, Keesler AFB,
- 6. February 97 - May 00 - Nurse Manager, Central Sterile Services, 81MDG, Keesler AFB, MS
- 7. May 00 – June 04 - Operating Room Services Element Chief, 374 MDG, Yokota AB, Japan
- 8. June 04 – July 07 - Chief, Air Force Operating Room Nursing Course, 59 Medical Group Lackland AFB, TX
- 9. July 07 – September 07 - Allied Health Education Flight Commander, 59 Medical Training Group, Lackland AFB, TX
- 10. September 07 – January 09 Surgical Suite Element Leader, 3MDG, Elmendorf AFB, AK
- 11. January 09 – April 10 - Surgical Services Flight Commander, 3MDG, Elmendorf AFB, AK
- 12. April 10 – August 10 - Surgical Operations Squadron Commander, 673MDG, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK
- 13. August 10 – September 11 Surgical Operations Squadron Deputy Commander 673 MDG, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK

- 14. September 11 – Present - Perioperative Nursing Master Clinician, 81MDG, Keesler AFB, MS
- 15. April 12 – Present - Military Consultant to the Air Force Surgeon General

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

- Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters
- Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster
- Joint Service Achievement Medal
- Air Force Achievement Medal

- Combat Readiness Medal
- National Defense Service Medal with one bronze star
- Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
- Military Outstanding Volunteer Service

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND CERTIFICATIONS

- Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN)
- Certified Nurse of the Operating Room (CNOR)

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant	Jan. 23, 1988
First Lieutenant	Jan. 26, 1990
Captain	Feb. 24, 1992
Major	Mar. 01, 2001
Lieutenant Colonel	Jul. 01, 2006
Colonel	Jul. 01, 2011

Dwayne B. Wilhite, Colonel, AFRH-G Interim Administrator



Col Wilhite purchases a painting from resident artist, Ronald Washington at the AFRH-G Open House.

Gone fishing...caught a beautiful day!

By Susan Bergman, MT-BC, Recreation Therapy Services

On Friday May 29, 2015, after three tries, AFRH residents and volunteers finally caught a beautiful day! Beginning with fishing from the Chester M. McPhearson, Jr. pier in Ocean Springs, residents caught a variety of fish, a cool breeze, and all with a Great Blue Heron watching from above. After fishing, residents enjoyed boxed lunches from the Dining Hall at the adjoining Fort Maurepas State Park picnic shelter, which overlooks the beach, pier, playground, concert area, splash pad, and the Biloxi Bay Bridge. After a delicious lunch, residents continued their tradition of kite fishing to see which kite was the best - Traditional vs. Bi-Plane vs. Blue Angels – all 3 kites were winners. We thank all who helped in catching a beautiful day especially our AFRH volunteers, family members, and KAFB 85th Engineering Installation Squadron!



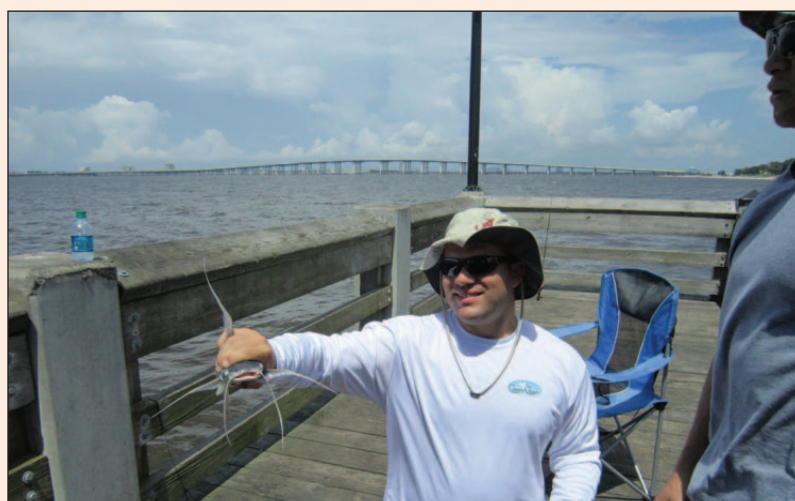
A kite fishing tradition continues.



A Great Blue Heron watches from above.



Lined up and ready for the big catch!



KAFB SSgt Bryant Horton shows off the catfish!



Marvin Heth with Volunteer Greta Goodin.

Notes from the AFRH-G, Chairman, Resident Advisory Committee



has been said many times by visitors to our home (AFRH) that they are pleased to see how well their "Tax Dollars" are being spent so we veterans can enjoy the standard of living that exists here. They say it nicely, and probably mean it sincerely, however

I am going to open this month's column by quoting portions from a letter I received from one of our residents. I think it says quite a lot about how so many people think about our home so here it is. "It

their concept of the home is wrong. That being the notion that AFRH is a taxpayer funded facility and, in some minds, that the residents live here "gratis" is not correct. The letter states that we need some sort of public relations handout or plaque informing the public that all the benefits and amenities provided by the home are self-sustaining through the trust fund created over a hundred and fifty years ago, and by mandated monthly payroll deductions from active duty enlisted personnel, and by monthly fees paid by all current occupants of the home. Well we could spend money to print pamphlets and make a bronze plaque telling our story but a better way I think would be for every one of us in our daily contacts with visitors and family is to let them know the story of the home by word of mouth. That goes for when we are out in public; we can let the people know that we are not feeding on the backs of the AMERICAN TAXPAYERS.

In order to keep this Home self-sufficient and not feeding of the Backs of the American Tax Payer, a few Residents are doing their part to ensure this doesn't happen the by making monthly contributions to our trust fund. I applaud each and every one of you for what you are doing. But I need to explain something to you; if you write a check or use payroll deduction and only put AFRH as the recipient that money will go into the General Trust Fund. However, when you make AFRH-Gulfport the recipient the money will come directly to the Home here. Now I want you to go one step further and that is to include the AFRH Gulfport Resident Fund in your contributions. Money contributed to the resident fund will go a long way in providing more activities and facilities here in Gulfport. And for the rest of you, how about getting on the Band Wagon and starting an allotment through MyPay for \$5 or \$10 a month, to go towards the "AFRH Gulfport Resident Fund".

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to come see me.

Henri D. Gibson



Henri at June's Town Hall Meeting.

AFRH-W June Activities

Vietnam Veterans Honored In D.C. Friends of the Soldiers Home & AFRH-W Partner for a Special Day at Anacostia-Bolling

By John Hughes

Photos by John Hughes & Louis Avenilla

Friends of the Soldiers Home and the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington campus partnered for a unique event June 5th at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling. Friends of the Soldiers Home rented a bus staffed with volunteers to transport Washington campus veterans to the base for Vietnam Commemoration Day. The veterans were welcomed by a Navy Honor Guard and treated to lunch at the Bolling Club at a table with the base Vice Commander. They were then treated to a special exhibition by Navy and Air Force drill teams. The purpose of the event was for active-duty personnel to say thank you to Vietnam veterans who didn't get the appreciation they deserved after their service decades ago.

The Friends of the Soldiers Home is grateful to the base for this special day. We are also thankful to AFRH-W, those who support the Friends of the Soldiers Home, and those who made this bus trip possible.



The US Navy Drill Team supported the event with drill perfection.



USAF Drill Team performs at the ceremony.



AFRH-W Vietnam Veterans enjoy a meal in honor of their service.

Country Western cookout

By Amanda Jensema, CTRS

Music. Food. Friends. Fun. We had all of that and more! The weather was a HOT 92 degrees with humidity making it feel over 100 degrees, forcing our cookout to be a cook "in". Everyone had a great time enjoying the music performed by the band "Sidewalk Mule". They played a variety of country music from greats Johnny Cash and Patsy Cline, to current singers like Miranda Lambert and Lady Antebellum. Residents enjoyed singing along with the songs they knew and clapping along to the songs they did not. Fresh strawberries, hamburgers, chicken breast sandwiches, baked beans, and homemade coleslaw were served, and there was plenty for all. For dessert, they cooled off with cookies and ice cream. We would like to thank all the volunteers who came and helped make the cookout a huge success. Let the summer fun continue!



This Cowboy sure know how to sing some good ole' country songs.



Residents are served up some home cooking while they listen to Sidewalk Mule.

Reviews are in!

By Christine Baldwin, AFRH-W Librarian

After 4 half hour sessions, Joe Nesnow's one man play "Attorney for the Damned" is over. But the reviews keep coming in. Joe's finely etched performance of the lawyer, Clarence Darrow, had residents afterwards proclaiming how totally convincing he was. Joe made you feel that you were "talking to an old friend". In fact when meeting him afterwards, sans makeup, one resident couldn't believe it was the same person! With only a few pieces of furniture and a couple of changes of lights, Joe was able to tell the whole story of Darrow's life from 1894-1930. He featured the famous cases, but also told about his personal interaction with the defendants and fellow lawyers. "Joe's emotions seems so real and he was able to tell so much about Clarence Darrow in a short amount of time." What's next for our resident actor?

Golf news from the greens

PRO RESIDENT GOLF TOURNAMENT!

Jerry Carter Fitness Specialist

On Thursday, May 21 the Pro Resident Golf Tournament took place here at the AFRH golf course. Participants included residents, employees, and PGA golfers. All had fun, great golf competition and interaction during this exciting golf tournament. The winning team- 1st place honors: Roy Wheeler, Bert Spangler, Marvin Tally and Matt Kayson. Congratulations to the winning team and all who participated in the Pro Resident Golf Tournament!

Jerry Carter Fitness Specialist

"1st GOLF SCRAMBLE OF THE YEAR"

On Friday, June 19th 2015 the first golf scramble took place here at the AFRH golf course. Sixteen residents participated in this event and here is the winning team: Roy Wheeler, Howard Shirley, Jose Gordon and Hugh Rowe. Way to Go!

Gary Sinise speaks at National Press Club



Gary Sinise spoke about the need for supporting veterans.

Photo by Noel St. John, National Press Club

By John Hughes, Friends of the Soldiers' Home

A table of 10 residents from the Armed Forces Retirement Home-DC attended a special breakfast address by actor/humanitarian Gary Sinise at the National Press Club on June 16. The event, in which the "Forrest Gump" actor Sinise spoke about the need for supporting veterans, was made possible by Friends of the Soldiers Home and the Press Club. John Hughes, the Club's 108th president, is also the founder of Friends of the Soldiers Home. The AFRH residents were recognized by the National Press Club ballroom audience with hearty applause before Sinise began his speech.

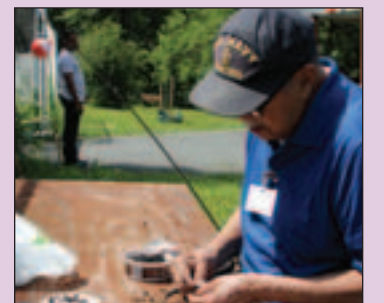


AFRH-W Residents enjoy breakfast and guest speaker, Gary Sinise at the National Press Club.
Photo by Joe Frogge

Lazy Summer Day at the AFRH Ponds

By Amanda Jensema, CTRS

After several hot summer days with torrential thunderstorms and lightning, there was a break in the weather. Lucky for the Healthcare residents as they had a trip planned to go fishing! The weather was beautiful, the sun was out, sky blue, and there was a nice steady breeze. Fourteen residents came down to the ponds to enjoy a favorite past time and catch fish, or just to enjoy the weather. After all the fishing was done it was time to have lunch. Residents enjoyed turkey sandwiches, hot dogs, macaroni salad, chips, watermelon, and assorted cakes. We even had fresh lemonade to quench anyone's thirst! During lunch the residents were caught up on current events and held discussions about the world we live in today. We would like to thank our fishing "pro", Alisa Kartz, for coming down to assist the residents!



Juan Velazquez-Ortiz baiting his hook and hoping for a big catch.



Sarah Kenan assist Howard Smith in bringing in the catch of the day.

AFRH-G June Activities

Saturday fun

By Jennifer Biernacki, Recreation Assistant

On Saturday May 30, 2014, a NCOA class came to volunteer for the Bingo game held on Loyalty Hall. The day began by pairing up each Resident with a TSgt to double their odds of winning while other TSgt called the numbers of the game and yet another snapped photos of the event. The winnings of the day were shared by many as the excitement was seen throughout the room. The Residents also spent time sharing their stories and connecting with the class. A fun and memorable morning for all those present on Loyalty Hall that day.



The NOCA class and the Loyalty Hall Residents had a great time playing Bingo.

Bowling Tournament

By Dennis Crabtree, Recreation Specialist

On Thursday June 4, 2015 residents were competing in the Bowling Tournament at the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Gulfport. Eugene Smith, John Luttrell, Don Ridgeway, Jimmy Smith, John McCoy, Lyn Ouzts and Frank Baker were all bowling in a friendly tournament. Don Ridgeway took 1st place with a score of 663. John Luttrell took 2nd place with a score of 617. Jimmy Smith took 3rd place with a score of 602.



Congratulations to Don Ridgeway, who won first place with a score of 663.

Indoor Shuffleboard (Knock off) Tournament

By Dennis Crabtree, Recreation Specialist

On Monday June 1, residents were competing in the Indoor Shuffleboard (Knock off) Tournament in the Bocce Center. Jerry Anderson is seen looking for that perfect slide to knock off Bill Long pucks. Bill Long has that smile thinking there is no way Jerry Anderson will be able to knock off any pucks except his own. Fredi Van Pelt, Mary German, Wayland Webb and Mike Longwell are studying the technical style that Jerry Anderson uses during the game

Michael Longwell took 1st place, Wayland Webb took 2nd place, Fredi Van Pelt took 3rd place.



Fredi VanPelt watched closely as Jerald Anderson plays.



Jerald Anderson uses a technical style when he plays shuffleboard.

Cribbage Tournament

By Dennis Crabtree, Recreation Specialist

On Thursday May 28, 2015 residents were competing in the 1st Cribbage Tournament on the 2nd floor Club Room. Fredi Van Pelt is keeping an eye on Wayland Webb for that next playing card. Ron Persing and Bob Brodeur are studying each other to win the game. Six residents signed up and six players played in the tournament. Other players who are not in the photos are Bill Hill and Ron Perry. There could only be three winners for that day. Bob Brodeur took 1st place, Ron Persing took 2nd place, Fredi Van Pelt took 3rd place.



Bob Brodeur (left) and Ron Persing (right) study each other to win the game.



Fredi VanPelt (left) and Wayland Webb (right) keep an eye on each other.

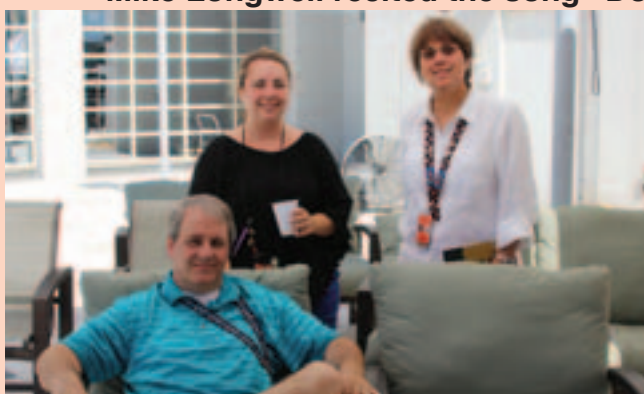
A Southern Poet-Tea Reading

By Lori Kerns, Librarian

On Thursday, June 18, Residents at AFRH-G enjoyed a poetry reading. The "Southern Poet-Tea Reading" was held on the 1st floor balcony overlooking the beautiful grounds of the home. The Residents relaxed in the shade while drinking sweet tea and lemonade and eating treats from an enormous spread of finger foods as the readers shared their poems. Doris Hopper started the program with her poem "My Grandmother." Following her, O.J. Ferrington gave Residents a giggle with one of his limericks. Mike Longwell recited the song "Dog-Face Soldier" in poetic form then read an original poem written by Resident, Kitty Gill. Jack Horsley shared a Maya Angelou poem entitled "Phenomenal Women." Doris Jones read an original poem written by a friend. The poem was called "Should We Build Another Wall." Mary Nelson ended the program with her enthusiastic recitation of "The Owl and the Pussycat." After the program ended, Residents stayed to enjoy the warm Gulf breeze and to enjoy more of the refreshments provided. A nice time was had by all.



Mike Longwell recited the song "Dog Face Soldier in a poetic form.



Sean Campbell, Lori Kerns, and Lee Corbin from Recreation sure know how to put on a show.



Jennifer Biernaki, Frances Scott, and Volunteer Gigi Boettcher, enjoyed the show.

Thou art together

By Milt Williams, Art Specialist

In May, Eva Downs came by the craft room to show her daughter Patti her first mosaic work of art, titled "A Heart for Flowers". While viewing other art works by residents, both got inspired and before they could say "pretty colors" had a brush in hand and together painted on donated ceramic rabbits, finishing before lunch. I wonder if "Rabbit Stew" was on the menu, Hmmm! On another day, Eva mentioned she had to miss a scheduled art class, so instead of missing out, she "volunteered" to be the first to test a painting technique called, Acrylic Skins. A quick, easy and fun way of painting by pouring a clear acrylic and high flow colors on the flat surface of a picture, mixing and swirling the colors to form interesting patterns. Thanks Eva, we are looking forward to your next art adventure.



Thank you volunteers

Special thanks to the Volunteers from the Seabee Base Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1 First Class Association who washed several wheelchairs and battery powered vehicles for the Gulfport Residents on June 17th.



Residents Robert Agolia and William Bartlett were very thankful to get their BPV's cleaned.

WASHINGTON

Discovery Communications Global Impact Day



Volunteers put a lot of elbow grease into cleaning the tank.

By Carolyn Haug, Volunteer Coordinator

Volunteers from Discovery Communications corporate office in Silver Springs, MD, held their annual Global Impact Day at the Armed Forces Retirement Home - Washington on Friday, June 12th. Each year, 4,000 of their employees from 50 offices in 35 countries take a day away from the office to volunteer in their local community. Discovery Communications has been volunteering with the Armed Forces Retirement Home for the last five years. Several of the volunteers were familiar with the Home through previous Impact Day projects as well as participating with Friend of the Soldiers Home events.

The partnership and project is coordinated through Volunteer Fairfax, an organization matching individuals, nonprofits and corporate groups to organizations that utilize volunteers. This year, volunteers held a car wash and gifted residents American flag car fresheners. The large project was held on the Sheridan backyard where they removed dead limbs and fallen limbs from recent storms and cleaned the static displays; including the tank, just in time for the Army Birthday Celebration later that afternoon. Thank you to Chuck Felder and Bill Williams who led the volunteers in their service projects and the residents of the Home who showed the volunteers our hospitality!



Discovery Communications volunteers gather in front of the newly cleaned Air Force jet for a final group photo.

21st annual DC fishing rodeo reels in a total success

By Jerry Carter, Fitness Specialist

On Friday, June 5th 2015 the 21st Annual Fishing Rodeo took place at the AFRH ponds. Residents seemed to enjoy the opportunity to fish, interact with fellow mates, and partake in competitive fishing rodeo. Several catfish, sunfish, and perch were caught by participants. The fish were biting throughout the rodeo. Robert Schonherr won award for the Longest Fish Caught for the 6th year in a row! His catfish measured 16 1/2 inches. Margaret Spicer won Heaviest Fish Caught weighing 3 pounds. Farris Dozier caught 21 fish and won Most Fish Caught, and Norma Rambow won Smallest Fish Caught measuring 2 inches. Congratulations to all our winners and participants in the 21st Annual Fishing Rodeo!



Margaret Spicer shows off her big catch.



Norma Rambow awarded for the smallest catch caught.



Residents, volunteers and staff make for a successful Rodeo.

GULFPORT

Music, Fun & "Sunset" at the AFRH-G Pool Party

By Sean Campbell, Lead Recreation Specialist

Residents at the AFRH-G enjoyed an afternoon of relaxing by the pool. The ferocious gulf coast summer heat took a break as cool breezes washed over the pool deck and residents enjoyed a fun time of camaraderie. Delicious food and cold beverages were provided while tunes from the beach filled the air. It was a true tropical paradise for some as they tested the waters and enjoyed the fantastic amenity the AFRH-G has in its swimming pool.



Residents and guests enjoyed relaxing by the pool in the evening.



The pool party was in full gear as the sun was going down over the Gulf of Mexico.

Resident garden vegetables a grand hit!

By Susan Bergman, MT-BC, Recreation Therapy Services

On Friday June 5th, Independent Living Gardeners were busy tending to their vegetables. Don Ober was busy picking his tomatoes and cucumbers while Andy Lemstra watched over his sweet potatoes, watermelons, tomatoes, and peppers. With the spring heat already hitting the 90's, gardeners were trying to beat the heat by getting an early start. Later in the day, residents on Allegiance, Valor, & Loyalty Hall enjoyed fresh off the vine pickins' with a Southern favorite of Fried Green Tomatoes. Don Ober joined in for a first ever tasting and said, "Those are some good tomatoes." Thanks to our gardeners for sharing their bounty as you could hear residents say, "Yum...Brings Back Memories...Heaven...That's Darn Good!" The garden vegetables were definitely a grand hit!



Donald Ober shows off all the vegetables that he grew.



Donald Ober (back left) & Andy Lemstra (front right) working in the garden on the AFRH-G grounds.

AFRH-G Residents Honored at first Biloxi Baseball Team, The Shuckers, tailgate party

By Becki Zschiedrich, Public Affairs

Four Residents from AFRH-G were quite the celebrities when they pulled up in a stretch limo, sponsored by the Beau Rivage Resort and Casino, to the Ultimate Game-Day Experience at the opening of the new baseball stadium in downtown Biloxi on Saturday, June 6, 2015. At the tailgate party AFRH-G WWII Veterans, Bill Allen, Charlie Jenkins, John McCoy and Jack Oyster were acknowledged and thanked for their service to our country. When introducing our D-Day and WWII Veteran, Jack Oyster, the emcee stated, "It couldn't be more appropriate to introduce D-Day Veteran Jack Oyster", since the name of the new baseball team is the Shuckers!

Over 5,000 fans attended Biloxi's Double-A Minor League Baseball team's first home game on Saturday at MGM Park. Former Mayor of Biloxi, A.J. Holloway, had been working since 2004 to get a baseball stadium built in Biloxi. That dream is now a reality. Mayor Holloway greeted our veterans and was very happy to see them at the tailgate party.



From the left, "Wild" Bill Allen, John McCoy, Jack Oyster, and Charlie Jenkins were honored at the Shuckers Tailgate party before the very first game.



The Gulfport Residents were picked up by a limo, sponsored by the Beau Rivage Casino, and rode in style to the Tailgate Party.

Residents sing out at Loyalty Happy Hour

By Susan Bergman, MT-BC, Recreation Therapy Services

On Thursday, June 4, 2015, Loyalty residents enjoyed a Happy Hour filled with fun, smiles, talents, and treats. The Happy Hour began with their signature "Tiny Bubbles" with "Bubblette Back-Up Singers" Frances Scott and Ray Burger. After an amazing performance at the Music Makers & Shakers in the Community Center on May 27, Allegiance Hall resident, Clarence "Mac" McGee, came up to provide a variety of country western favorites and compositions of his own through singing and playing his guitar. After "Mac" sang a Buck Owens song, resident Warren "Al" Alsup, spontaneously burst into song with "I've Got a Tiger by the Tail." This sparked great memories leading to an encore of "At the Hop" and "Blueberry Hill." Residents enjoyed their great volunteer hostess, GiGi Boettcher, as she travelled the room delivering cheese balls, chocolate pirouettes, sodas, wine, beer, cheese and crackers. With talents & treats galore, all were Happy!



"Mac" McGee shines on voice & guitar!



Warren Alsup sings his favorite song, while Susan strums on the guitar.

Happy 240th Birthday U. S. Army

By Constance Maziel, Team Leader, Recreation Services

On Friday June 12th 2015, the Armed Forces Retirement Home- Washington celebrated the United States Army Birthday. AFRH residents, staff, guests, and active duty soldiers all gathered in the Hall of Honors to commemorate 240 years of peace and freedom, in which our U.S. Army has preserved. Chief of Resident Services Ronald Kartz, hosted the celebration and expressed delight and honor in being part of such a memorable occasion. The event kicked off with the National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a heartfelt invocation led by Chaplain John Goodloe. The ceremony continued with guest speaker Sergeant Major James Wells from Fresno California, an accomplished soldier of our U.S. Army. Sergeant Maj. Wells provided an up-lifting personal message to every soldier present and expressed admiration for all branches of service. Sergeant Maj. Wells also honored those soldiers who have fallen and acknowledged gratitude towards the residents at AFRH for their service in defending this great nation. The celebration proceeded with the traditional Army cake cutting ceremony, honoring our oldest and youngest Army soldiers present. The Armed Forces Retirement Home-Washington was proud to have resident, Mrs. Barbara Copare present as the oldest Army soldier at AFRH. The ceremony concluded with heart-warming remarks and reverence to the guest speaker from AFRH Administrator Shaun Servais, followed by the official United States Army song. A special thanks to Sergeant Maj. James Wells, Mrs. Barbara Copare, Mr. John "Gunny" Smith, and RAC Chairman Phil Ford for making the 240th U.S. Army Birthday Ceremony a success. "Hoo-ah" Go Army!!



Barbara Copare, PFC Sheng and SGM Wells celebrate the Army Birthday by cutting the first slice of the cake.



SGM James Wells speaks with Gwen Hendley, U.S. Army retiree after the ceremony.

Gulfport celebrates U.S. Army 240th Birthday



Col Pamela Delancey, U.S. Army & MSG Doc Newton US Army (Ret) cut the US Army 240th year birthday cake in Gulfport.

Chuck Dickerson's retirement ice cream social



Larry Papale thanks Chuck for all he has done for the residents.



Ed Williamson truly appreciated all the things Chuck accomplished while in Gulfport.



Art Kelly shares a personal moment with Chuck after his retirement ceremony.



Chuck and his wife, Miko, enjoy the well wishes from AFRH-W from the video conference screen.



Mike Longwell presents Mr. Dickerson with his AFRH Admissions package for residency as a joke.



Mr. McManus presents Mr. Dickerson with a Certificate of Appreciation for excellent service to AFRH.



Gulfport and Washington staff and residents congratulate Mr. Dickerson on his retirement.



Dr. Dawn Hansen wishes Mr. Dickerson the best in his retirement.



Chuck Hollings presents Chuck Dickerson with a special blanket from the residents and staff in Washington.



Doris Balfour wishes Chuck the best in the next chapter of his life.