



AFRH-GULFPORT

The Mississippi Gulf Coast is thriving, yet still re-building, 10 years after Hurricane Katrina

By Becki Zschiedrich, Public Affairs

When Katrina roared ashore August 29th, 2005, the Gulfport Home was filled to its practical capacity of 564 residents. The Armed Forces Retirement Home Residents expected to be displaced for only a few weeks after Hurricane Katrina damaged their facility in 2005. Little did they know, they wouldn't be home for 5 long years.

It's hard to believe it's already been 10 years since Hurricane Katrina changed the lives of so many residents of AFRH-G. Katrina, which was the worst natural disaster to hit the U.S., damaged the 11 story AFRH-G tower beyond repair. When Katrina blasted through Mississippi, 414 residents rode out the storm for 17 long hours at the Gulfport Home and 150 residents had voluntarily evacuated in their own cars. Being that the building was elevated 20.6 feet above sea level everyone thought they could ride it out at the Home including The Weather Channel's Meteorologist, Jim Cantore. When the hurricane came through Gulfport it was said to be a 28 to 35 foot surge and allowed water to rise in the building about 3 to 4 feet. The storm surge completely wrecked all the medical and mechanical equipment plus destroyed the emergency generator. With winds exceeding 100 mph the water tower fell over on the property and destroyed the steel-and-concrete perimeter. Surprisingly no injuries were reported within the building. However, with no electricity and no running water the building could no longer be cooled and food couldn't be prepared. Katrina's wind and water dealt a crushing blow to the AFRH and forced its residents to evacuate. The Residents of the Home were evacuated to Washington D.C. the very next day via charter buses that had been pre-staged away from Katrina's reach. Many of the residents who rode out Katrina at the facility moved in with family members and some moved away into their own apartments. Some residents decided to stay in D.C. while others were scattered throughout 32 states.

When Hurricane Katrina forced the 11-story AFRH in Gulfport, Mississippi to close, Congress appropriated \$236 million to demolish the old structure and build a new state-of-the-art facility. After the implosion of the old Home in 2007, the government contractor began the construction of three eight-story buildings to replace it. The new facility was designed to lessen the effects of a category five hurricane, and included 582 rooms that are more than four times larger than the rooms in the old facility. In the fall of 2010, more than 200 former residents of the home returned to the new Gulfport facility after being forced to relocate to D.C. The first 126 veterans returned home five years after Hurricane Katrina on October 4, 2010 to a larger and more lavish facility.

A decade later, recovery is still underway on Mississippi's Gulf Coast. There are still empty lots and for sale signs scattered from Bay St. Louis to Pascagoula, which are reminders of the thousands of people who didn't return to their homes, or couldn't afford to come back. We are very fortunate and so ecstatic to have our Residents back in Gulfport.



The front lobby of the old building was flooded and full of debris after the surge came through.



Every vehicle on the property was totaled, including the 5 vehicles that The Weather Channel had on site.



Residents get on the charter bus to D.C. the very next day.



The old building the day after Katrina.



Meteorologist, Jim Cantore broadcasted live from AFRH-G to commemorate the 10 year anniversary of Katrina.



The new AFRH-G re-opened October 4, 2010.

AFRH-WASHINGTON

Republic of Korea Delegates honor veterans of the Korean War at AFRH-W

By Shaun Servais, Administrator
Photos by David Eichaker

Saturday, July 25th, Ruling Party Leader Kim Moo Sung toured the Scott Building and addressed approximately 30 Residents in the Hall of Honor. Major General Shin was escorting the group of 20 visitors, including legislators from the Korean government, and numerous Korean journalists and photographers. A crystal Korean War memento and a cash donation were received by two Korean War Veteran Residents representing the home. During a heartfelt speech, numerous thank you's were given to the Veterans for their service and sacrifice in defense of the Korean people and freedom. It was an honor to host the group who was so gracious to visit and pay their respects to the Korean War Veterans.

After visiting with residents, the delegation paused for photos with the Lincoln statue before embarking a private tour of President Lincoln's Cottage.



Keith Van Doren (center) listens to guest speaker, Kim Moo Sung.



The Korean Delegates pose for a photo with several residents of the AFRH-W.



Korean War Veteran Bill Opferman (center) attended the recognition ceremony in the Hall of Honor.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 2
Gulfport Resident Highlight, Andy Lemstra

Page 3
Former Senator Robert "Bob" Dole visits AFRH-Washington

Page 6
DC Hawaiian Luau

AFRH COMMUNICATOR

Phone: 1-800-422-9988 Web site: www.AFRH.gov Email: sheila.abarr@AFRH.gov

Sheila Abarr - AFRH Public Affairs Officer
Sherry Lawrence - AFRH-W Public Affairs
Rebecca Newton - AFRH-W Public Affairs
Becki Zschiedrich - AFRH-G Public Affairs

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

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>

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



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



James Judy in 1951 on the USS Hornet.

because there was no room in the women's residence hall. Apparently the 'Judy' in his name made for confused gender identification. He worked in the local public library for the first year after graduation, while sorting out what he wanted to do.

In 1951, Jim enlisted in the U.S. Navy, rather than be subject to the vagaries of the draft. Following basic training at Bainbridge, MD, and Airman's Flight School at Jacksonville, FL,

James Judy was born in Pennsylvania, the youngest of thirteen children; six brothers and six sisters. He maintained the Honor Roll throughout school and was valedictorian at the High School graduation ceremonies. Jim intended to attend college and applied to Indiana State College (PA). He received a prompt reply which said he was academically acceptable, but was denied admission

he attended Aerography School at Lakehurst, NJ. After completing his training, Jim was assigned to the USS Valley Forge out of Norfolk, VA. In December of 1951 Jim was transferred to the re-commissioned USS Hornet and embarked from Norfolk to cruise through Mediterranean, the Suez Canal and across the Indian Ocean to the Hornet's permanent assignment in the South China Sea and Japan Sea, flying reconnaissance flights into the interior of communist China for the next two years. (Of a 182 compliment of aircraft on board at the start, none returned due to hostile gunfire). Jim returned stateside in late 1954, completing a round-the-world tour of duty. He completed his service at San Ysidro Naval Air Station in California.

Jim left the service after the war and attended college under the GI Bill. He received his bachelor and master's degrees in history in 1958 from Kent State University, where he began a teaching career. A believer in life-long education, Jim completed additional graduate work in history at Western Reserve University and Rutgers University. He taught Modern European and world History until 1963. Jim then accepted an appointment at Glassboro State College, NJ, as the Assistant professor in History, becoming the Associate Academic Dean as well in 1967. In 1968, he was appointed the New Jersey's Director of State Colleges. In 1969, Jim was one of six individuals tapped to create a new college in south Jersey – a seminal experience in his vocation of higher education and student development. This new college was named Richard Stockton State College (named for the signer of the Declaration of Independence), and is now Stockton University. While at Stockton, Jim served as Vice President 1971-1978 and as President 1978-1981. Jim then went to Thiel College in

Greenville, PA to work with students in a Lutheran setting as Vice President for Student Development. In 1991, he became Regional Consultant in Leadership for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America serving Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia. In 1995 Jim was appointed Lay Pastor of a small rural church in Northwestern Pennsylvania. He was ordained a Lutheran Minister in 2010. His life-long passion has been working with youth and adults in developing leadership skills helping them to use those skills to improve society.

Though a relatively new resident at AFRH-W, Jim is quite familiar with the place and its programs as his oldest sister, May, was a resident at the home from 1985-2002, where she died in the LaGarde Health Center, and was buried at Arlington following services in Stanley Chapel.

These days Jim contents himself with reading, playing bridge and giving back to the home through volunteering in the library and the Chaplain's office.



James Judy today living life at AFRH-W.

AFRH-G Veteran Highlight

By Lori Kerns, AFRH-G Librarian



Andy in 1959 at The Old Guard in Fort Myer, Virginia.

During high school Andy would ride his bike 10km to school and back. The children attended school six days a week. He and his classmates were also required to learn three foreign languages, German, French, and English. He and his friends/siblings would have fun and pass the time by playing soccer.

At 18, Andy got drafted in the Dutch Navy and served two years. Upon completion, he went to work in a candy factory. In 1957, he decided to follow one of his brother's footsteps and immigrated to the United States. At that time, immigrants were obligated to sign up for the draft. Within six

Andrew Lemstra was born in December 1933 in a northern province of Holland called Friesland. He was the third child of seven. As a child, he spoke the local language, Frisian, until he began grade school where he learned to speak Dutch. He vividly remembers German occupations coming in May of 1940. Luckily, his family got liberated by the Canadian part of the Allied Forces in May 1945. It wasn't until after the war that he found out his dad had been drafted and had joined the Resistance.

months he was sent a draft notice. He decided to join the Army before he was drafted. He completed his basic training at Fort Ord, CA. His first assignment after basic and AIT was for The Old Guard at Fort Myer, VA. As part of B Company, he pulled cordons for dignitaries. His next assignment was to Fort Belvoir, VA, and then on to France. While in France, Andy would spend his downtime playing soccer with a French team on Sundays. Next, he was sent to the Canal Zone in Panama in a unified command at Quarry Heights. Right about this time, he became a U. S. citizen because it was required for him to have a T. S. clearance. He was about to be sent to Vietnam for one year but was required to go to Fort Bragg, NC, for PSYOP training and to Fort Bliss, TX, to learn Vietnamese. In Vietnam, he served his whole tour with the G5 of the Third Marine Division Dong Ha doing things like putting leaflets in artillery shells and dropping leaflets from planes. After Vietnam, he was sent back to the Canal Zone where he stayed for three years. During this time he served as an admin specialist. After a short stay in Fort Ord, he was sent to Germany for three years to do housing referrals finding housing for military personnel. His last assignment was to Fort Leonard Wood, MO. Here, he worked in housing until he decided to retire from the military in 1979. During his time in Vietnam, he was awarded the Navy Commendation with a V device and a Joint Service Commendation Medal.

Upon his military retirement, he began civil service working with trainee clothing issue. He also worked at a Greyhound bus station selling tickets to troops. Getting tired of this job, he went to work for the contractor who had the contract for the mess halls. After a few years, he finally decided to retire for good.

While stationed in Panama, he fell in love and got married. He and his wife had two children, a boy and a girl. Both of his children now live in Missouri. His son comes to visit

often and they enjoy each other's company by going fishing. Andy also goes back to Holland at least once a year to visit his brothers and sisters.

Always knowing about AFRH, he decided to visit both the DC and Gulfport campuses. He decided to move to AFRH-G and has been here over four years. A very dependable and hard-working resident, he volunteers four days a week. It is very common to see him working the Admin or Library Circulation desk with his iPad watching soccer. He also enjoys reading the Dutch newspaper and skypping his brother. When asked what he likes about the home, he stated that he enjoys living here "because it's new and the rooms are nice, the people are extremely helpful, and the facilities are excellent. The food is great too!" He also mentioned that he loves that "the old soldiers are here."



Andy today at AFRH-G volunteering at the Administration front desk.

Message from the Chief Operating Officer



Time flies, but memories are everlasting; this weekend marks the ten years anniversary of Hurricane Katrina's devastation. AFRH-Gulfport was destroyed, but despite being at what the then AFRH-G Command Master Chief Perrone called the "tip of the spear," all of our Residents and staff came through safe. As devastating as Katrina was my memories are positive; I think of how our staff jumped into action, how welcoming our AFRH-Washington Residents were, and probably most poignant, how resilient our AFRH-Gulfport Residents were!

I have to stress the efforts of all involved in getting our Residents out of Gulfport safely, getting to and settling into Washington, was nothing short of Herculean. In Gulfport, due to the power outage resulting from Katrina, Residents had to be carried up and down stairs, and transporting Residents to Keesler Air Force Base for military airlift had to be proficient.

Preparation of bed spaces in Washington had to be accomplished, transportation from Andrews Air Force Base had to be arranged. All of these things were achieved by Residents, staff, and volunteers throughout the surrounding military communities (the assistance provided by the SeaBees and their trainees was invaluable). The efforts, communication,

and sacrifice all lend towards my positive memories of a devastating time.

Four years ago last weekend, an earthquake shook AFRH-Washington; the earthquake registered 5.8 magnitude and though no harm came to Residents and staff, but the facilities took a major hit. The hardest hit building was the Sherman Building which was home then to the AFRH Corporate staff, and a D.C. Charter School (not Creative Minds). The Sheridan Building also received damage, as three of the then five elevators were compromised. Sherman South was the most heavily damaged and unstable, due to the damage of the Clock Tower. I still remember looking into the Sherman Parking Lot and seeing a piece of the Clock Tower sitting on the hood of the car of our Chief Human Capital Officer's husband!

Through both of these significant natural disasters AFRH stood strong, a testament to our Residents, staff, and surrounding communities. AFRH is simply more than the brick and mortar of our buildings, it is people that makes us strong!

If I seem to be a bit nostalgic this month, it is with good cause; I have formally announced my retirement effective January 2016. I will discuss more in the coming months but it is simply time. I've devoted a great deal of my life to AFRH, and with my wife retiring this past summer, it is time for me to switch gears.

Steve McManus

Former Senator Bob Dole visits AFRH-W

By Rebecca Newton, AFRH-W Public Affairs

Armed Forces Retirement Home, Washington recently had the honor of hosting a distinguished visitor, who had previously visited the home. Senator Bob Dole visited AFRH-W back in 2005 and gifted neck ties to the Residents.

This time, he sat, chatted with Residents and answered questions. Senator Dole even joked about his 1996 bid for the Presidency, being neighbors with Monica Lewinsky and old age. His visit to AFRH-W and President Lincoln's Cottage was arranged by Harry Miller, an AFRH-W Resident.

At 92 years old, Senator Dole is still very active. He makes television appearances, consults at a DC law firm and strongly supports Veterans' causes. A war veteran himself, Senator Dole visits the WWII Memorial in DC, every Saturday from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.



Senator Dole speaks to the Residents in at the AFRH in Washington D.C.



Senator Dole with Resident Harry Miller.

Statue of Liberty - A work of art from the heart

By Milton Williams, Art Specialist

I should say, hearts plural, for many collaborated on this group project. During one of our many discussions in our AFRH "School of Arts and Sciences" room, Dianna Lamb and other resident artists came up with the idea of painting a type of "mosaic" rendering of the Statue of Liberty. Twelve resident artists came together and painted 24 separate canvas panels, each one depicting a section of the statue and each painted in the artist's own style and technique. All used the same colors and followed a set pattern, so when placed next to each other they came together as one piece. Marion Wolke, Gerry Gorsky and Fredi Van Pelt helped install all the canvas panels in a frame made by woodworker, PJ Johnson. A signature strip of wood at the base was used by all to sign and PJ inserted a special coin that has an American Flag and the words "United We Stand". This unique painting of the Statue of Liberty is an outstanding work of art and a nice addition that will be displayed on a column in the Art Display Room of our Home. It is, however, a whole lot more. It exemplifies how our veterans, who served together, helped keep our "One Nation, Under God" safe and secure for us. The alliance of all is a moving reminder of the uniqueness of the United States of America, its citizens and those who serve. Thank you to my Art Class and I'm looking forward to the next Art Adventure...

The artists include; Gerry Gorsky, Wanda Webb, Barbara Folk, Frances Scott, Ray Eckert, Ted Wesolowski, Frank Haney, Clifford Smith, PJ Johnson, Ron Washington, Corena Wash and Ron Persing.



A sign up sheet for the Statue of Liberty project hangs in the art room.



Barbara Folk, Gerry Gorsky, and Ray Eckert couldn't wait to get started on the Statue of Liberty project.



The artists gather for a group photo. From left to right - Barbara Folk, Wanda Webb, Ted Wesolowski, Gerry Gorsky, Clifford Smith, Col Wilhite, Milt Williams, Ray Eckert, PJ Johnson, Frank Haney, Frances Scott. Missing from group photo are Ron Washington, Corena Wash and Ron Persing.



Artist Ronald Washington signs the masterpiece.

From the AFRH-W Administrator



The summer is drawing to a close and breathable weather is finally coming back! Football season is just around the corner as well as the Hunt for October in

Major League Baseball. I bumped into two decked out residents in Nationals' gear on their way to the ballpark one afternoon this month. Did you know the Georgia Ave/

Petworth Station connects to Navy Yard/Nationals Park by the Green Line Metrorail? No need to switch lines, it's very easy to travel and root for the home team!

In August, we hosted a focus group on the Ruppert Landscaping Company Field Day scheduled for September 18th. The focus group explained to residents

the agenda for Field Day, the campus beautification projects that will be completed, and what we can expect to see throughout the day. Included in the agenda is one of the 12 largest tree spade trucks in the country will plant a 40-foot tree in a little less than 5 minutes; what a site! This is a very special event that the home competed against other organizations to win. I may be biased but feel strongly AFRH-W is a very special place, and a worthwhile location for Field Day 2015. Residents should be excited to see the sod unroll, with more than 700 Ruppert Landscaping Employees getting their hands dirty. The events of the day will be transformative and I want to graciously thank the Ruppert Landscaping Company for their generous donation. Our Chief of Campus Operations, Patrick Benjamin, was heavily involved with securing Field Day. Patrick also celebrated 30-years of service to the Home August 8th. Congratulations Patrick!

As we head into fall, there are a couple other key dates I'd like to share with Residents and their families. On Saturday,

September 12th from 10AM-3PM, President Lincoln's Cottage is hosting its fourth annual Family Day. All are welcome to enjoy the day's festivities, including live entertainment, creative activities, and the encampment of the "Bucktails," soldiers from the 150th Pennsylvania Volunteers who guarded the Lincoln Family here at the Soldiers' Home. Many consider this Presidential Guard a precursor to the US Secret Service. The Bucktails will camp on the Cottage south lawn from Friday, September 11 to Sunday, September 13.

The main event families should consider making travel plans to attend Fall Fest October 4th. Fall Fest is the third and final annual campus event when gates are open to the public. The Friends of the Old Soldier's Home (FOSH) is the main sponsor. An antique car show, whiskey tasting, food trucks, petting zoo, and military vehicle display are all in the works. The fall weather is my favorite time of year and hope to see many in attendance for this year's Fall Fest.

August was indeed a busy month. I want to extend a very warm welcome to

Creative Minds International Public Charter School, the new tenants of Sherman Building North Wing and Annex. The school opened its doors August 24th after extensively renovating much of the Sherman Building vacant since the 2011 earthquake. In speaking with the faculty at the ice-cream social, I could feel the buzz of excitement for the first day of school and the future. The teachers could not wait to get started educating kids pre-school through 5th grade. I thank the Residents for their patience as traffic flows and best practicing for minimizing headaches is learned and implemented.

Finally, I was selfishly sad to hear of the decision announced by our Chief Operating Officer, Steve McManus, to retire this coming January, 2016. No question his passion, influence, and leadership will be missed by the AFRH. Personally, I'll be picking his brain every chance I get between now and then. My best wishes for a very happy, healthy retirement with his wife, Marianne.

Shaun Servais

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



I awoke today knowing it was time to pen the monthly article with no earthly clue what I would focus on. At 1300 inspiration hit! So here goes.....

During the Ice Cream Social meet and greet with our new neighbors at

Charter School International numerous teachers mentioned how wonderful it would be if residents came over periodically to share their stories with the students. I began to think how enlightening that would be, not only for the students to hear the stories but also for the residents who would be interacting and hearing the reactions of the students to the story they were just told. More about this opportunity will be forthcoming shortly. Please consider volunteering for this magnificent opportunity.

Which leads to a nice segue into the topic of volunteering. There is always a need for volunteers, in so many areas, as I mentioned in last month's article. Although volunteers, many of the positions come with some responsibility. Trip calling is not just calling out the loading order for the bus. It is also making sure the number of residents who were at roll call are actually on the bus. It is about making sure that resident's accommodations are attended to (MPV's/walkers, etc.). It is customary and much appreciated to allow the trip caller to have the front seat, and for the most part the rule during a trip. The trip caller makes the decision when the bus is ready to depart from the home and more importantly when it is ready to depart on the return to the home. The trip caller has to ensure that every person who came from the home is onboard or accounted for on the return trip. Please cooperate with trip callers, for it is not the most enjoyable volunteer position due to the myriad decisions often times having to be made.

We, resident volunteers, (including myself and all the floor reps), seldom hear a thank you, but let something occur to a resident's disliking and we sure get an earful quickly. We like to be proactive and not reactive. If you have a concern or suggestion please let us know. It is easy to 'Monday morning quarterback' but help us on the frontlines help you. It would be appreciated.

Often times I receive calls to meet with a member of the staff or administration because a resident had a concern voiced to them. That is fine and comes with the territory of being the RAC Chairman. I simply ask if there is an issue you want to have addressed, a concern about something you would like addressed, talk to me or a floor rep. We are the front line for trying to ensure that AFRH-W remains the pre-

miere retirement home that it is. It is your prerogative to put 'anonymous' notes in the RAC box, the Administrator's box or the C.O.O's box. However often times further information or clarification is needed and it cannot be obtained if it is submitted anonymously; thus no action is taken. I assure you that I, any RAC member (remember we all have easily identifiable yellow name tags), and volunteers 'in charge' of various activities (trip calling, bowling center, and golf course are three that come immediately to mind) will do our best to listen and hear what you are saying and proceed accordingly. Your voice does make a positive difference.

As always, if you have something you would like me to include or discuss in this article, let's sit and chat.

Highlights of our August 19, 2015 meeting; Chairman's Welcome to all / Announcements
> Please be reminded that emergency pendants are available at no cost from Security.
> The RAC Fund always welcome donations, and requests that residents consider remembering the AFRH-W RAC Recreation Fund in their final bequests(wills).

> Please place comments and concerns in RAC box in Tunnel for the most expeditious handling rather than waiting for a RAC meeting. All RAC representatives have yellow ID tags.

> Between meetings of the RAC each month the Chairman and Vice Chairman meet with the Chief of Residence Services, Ombudsman, Chief of Health Care (or designee) and Chief of Campus Operations on Mondays. Numerous items remain under discussion. The RAC does listen and is involved with discussions with Administration and staff on a regular basis to keep AFRH-W the premiere retirement facility that it is. (note: see new business)
AFRH - W Ombudsman

> Please leave a note if not in office and he will contact you. A majority of day is spent out of office advocating/working for and with residents.

Business Office

> A representative of Business Office (Shaun Servais) discussed letter all residents had placed in their mail boxes on Tuesday, August 11, 2015. Senior Leadership at DOD is working on obtaining the needed information directly from V A. NOTE: No resident will have their fee increased because they did not submit a letter from VA showing benefits received or showing no benefits received.

> Fines and Forfeitures levied by military (which go to trust fund) has decreased significantly and AFRH (W and G) are earnestly working to ensure that all fees are calculated correctly based on total income of resident.

> It is important that you provide all necessary documentation requested (except for V A letter) or you may (will) be calculated as paying the Maximum fee.

> If you sign waiver to pay maximum fee and your level of care is changed (from

Independent to Assisted Living/Long Term Care/Memory Support you will be assessed maximum fee there as well based on waiver. Residents are encouraged to submit required forms for fee calculation if they earn less than 70,000 per year to ensure the pay properly calculated fee for level of care they are in. Please see any member of Business Office during regular posted working hours.

RAC FLOOR REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS and COMMITTEES

FLOOR REPS: No report
CAMPUS OPERATIONS:

> Numerous projects underway. See project board in tunnel. Thank you extended for having stairwell doors prominently labeled on interior side.

> Waiting for vendor approval for safes. If you would like a safe for your room, and have not signed up for one, please call in a work order request and your name will be placed on list.

FOOD SERVICE:

> Discussion about repetition of certain items held with Food Service. Changes to menu being considered.

> Please put your comments, suggestions and concerns in suggestion box located between the menus at entrance to dining hall. They are read and addressed.

GOLF:

> Two tournaments planned (one in morning, one in afternoon) for October 4, 2015. All donations / sponsorships of wounded warriors for these tournaments goes directly to RAC Recreation Fund. Donation of \$100.00 by RAC members made to sponsor 4 wounded warriors.

> Sponsorship/donations forms available in recreation office. Please consider donating / sponsoring a wounded warrior for \$25.00.

> Request made to consider changing employee-resident golf tournament back to 1300 as it had been in previous years instead of new time of 1600. Next resident - employee Tournament is Oct 1, 2015.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS:

> When the Medication Distribution Room is closed during posted hours (Monday through Friday 8AM to 4 PM) please go to the Wellness Center front desk for assistance. There are procedures in place to get your medications dispensed during posted distribution hours, if Pharmacy Tech not present.

> All residents are encouraged to have an 'emergency bag' available that includes change of clothes, underwear, toiletries, cell phone charger, etc. in case it is needed for an unexpected hospitalization.

> A focus group is being planned in the near future that on Wellness Center and Healthcare issues.

MORALE WELFARE and RECREATION: Please volunteer. There is always a place your skills can be put to use! See Carolyn Haugh in Volunteer Services and sign up today, PLEASE ☺!

MASTER PLAN:

> Ruppert Landscaping has selected AFRH-W to be the recipient of their yearly

service project. They will be donating approximately \$150,000 of materials and labor to enhance the landscape of the campus.

Resident Services will be holding a focus group on August 21, 2015 at 10 AM in Media Room (Theatre) to announce details and inform residents of the timelines.

> A 'buy a brick' fundraising campaign is being planned. Current areas under discussion. Stay tuned for its roll-out soon!
RESIDENT FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The resident fund is expending more than it is receiving. Approximately 15-20% cuts to the budget are being submitted. It does not appear that any current services or functions will be impacted! A true win-win!

SECURITY: The new Charter School will begin operation on August 24, 2015. Please be patient as there may be some minor issues that arise with traffic flow.

OLD BUSINESS: Secretary for RAC still sought.

NEW BUSINESS:

> Motion made to have Tom Myrick represent 6th floor as alternate floor Rep by Marvin Archer, 2nd by Al Brotski. No discussion. Passed unanimously

> Resident Suggestion received to have military birthday ceremony and other events held in Media Room (Theatre). After short discussion the RAC endorsed suggestion going forward to Administration for consideration. (7 in favor, 1 opposed)

> Request made to have all speakers in dining hall operating during birthday dinner. (request submitted to have this accomplished).

> Did you or someone you know immigrate to the United States? If so, please consider sharing your story with President Lincoln's Cottage! In October 2015, the Cottage will open a special exhibit on President Lincoln and immigration, and they are collecting personal accounts for potential use in the exhibit. To schedule an interview, or find out more details about the interview process, please add your name and contact information to the sign-up sheet in the Recreation office.

RESIDENT CONCERNS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REPLY

None

Motion to adjourn at 10:23 passed, Next meeting at 10AM on September 16, 2015

Thank you for supporting your Resident Advisory Committee. RAC meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at 10 AM in the Scott Community Room. The Resident Advisory Committee (RAC) is here to serve you!

Please contact us; a) in person, b) through submission of form placed in RAC box in tunnel, or c) by e-mail at rac.afrh@gmail.com. Minutes approved for posting on August 19, 2015

Phil Ford

Professional bull rider visits AFRH-G

By Sean Campbell, Lead Recreation Specialist

Professional Bull Riders, Inc. (PBR) sensation Chase Outlaw visited veterans at the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Gulfport to promote the upcoming "Battle at the Beau", a Professional Bull Riding Competition to be held at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum this upcoming weekend. Chase entertained questions from AFRH residents explaining the intricacies of bull riding and the PBR career.

Chase began riding calves at the young age of 4 and from that point on there was no question of what career he wanted to pursue. Being a third generation bull rider, Chase quickly rose through the ranks of amateur bull riding and began riding in the PBR events as soon as he turned 18. Chase has qualified for 3 straight PBR World Finals and was the PBR Touring Pro Champion in 2013.

Unfortunately, Chase is rehabbing from a previous shoulder injury and did not compete in Biloxi, but 30 lucky AFRH residents were on hand to watch some of Chase's competitors in action as they rode 2,000 pound bulls in search of that elusive 8-second ride.



Chase Outlaw talks with Obie Webb and discusses his belt buckle.

What a Treat – Fried Green Tomatoes!

By Susan Bergman, MT-BC, Recreation Therapy Services

Residents & Recreation Therapy on Loyalty Hall were caught shaking up some fun. What a treat – preparing fresh fried green tomatoes (it's a Southern thing) from the gardens of IL resident, Don Ober.



Music Therapist Susan Bergman gets ready to fry up some homegrown green tomatoes from the vegetable garden at AFRH-G.

Resident volunteer shout out

By Jennifer L. Briley, Volunteer Coordinator

I would like to give a great big shout out to Mr. Robert Agolia who attended the Coast Guard Birthday Celebration in honor of his friend from the Washington D.C. Campus Mr. Reid Hawthorn. Mr. Hawthorn was a Chief in the U.S. Coast Guard during World War Two, and passed away around May 13th 2015.

Mr. Robert Agolia told me about a mission that his friend had completed in the Everglades. Mr. Reid Hawthorn was the assigned swimmer attached to a Helicopter Unit when a civilian transport flight crashed near the Everglades. Mr. Hawthorn and his Helo team were tasked with looking for and rescuing survivors. When his Helo team made it to the crash site they quickly discovered that there were no survivors; so Mr. Hawthorn began to pull bodies out of the water. The helicopter filled up quickly and they ran out of room. Mr. Hawthorn was left in the water while his team took the bodies back to land and then they came back to pick him up. He said that while he was waiting, he was scared for his life because there were alligators in the water, but thankfully they left him alone. For his sacrifice and bravery, his Unit Commanding Officer awarded him a replica of the helicopter that he was assigned to.

I would like to thank Mr. Agolia for sharing his friend's story with me during the Coast Guard Birthday Celebration, and in remembrance of Mr. Reid Hawthorn, thank you for all your dedicated service to our country.



Robert Agolia and Reid Hawthorn a few years back.

Cross-stitch artist

By Milt Williams, Art Specialist

William "Bill" Sanders, a new resident in Gulfport, has been doing cross-stitch for 37 years and is showing his works of art in our Display Room through September. These works of art are on 18-count Aida cloth utilizing cross-stitch, half cross-stitch, backstitch, satin stitch, quarter cross-stitch, couching and French knots. He said, "Most of the cross-stitching was done using two pieces of DMC floss with approximately 324 stitches per square inch. Working approximately 15 hours a week takes 4 to 5 months to complete one piece of work. It is a relaxing hobby and I get enjoyment seeing it completed and framed".

My favorite art piece is the "Wolf piece" which looks like a photo – even close up! Thank you Bill for sharing your cross-stitch art with us. All who have seen these pieces likewise share in that enjoyment and we look forward to seeing more new pieces.



Above is the wolf piece that Bill created that resembles a photo, even though it's cross stitch.

To the left is Bill standing in front of his many cross-stitching works of art on display in the Art Room.

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



This is an open letter to Charles (Chuck) Dickerson, a really good friend of AFRH. I say AFRH because you are a good friend to us here and to the Washington campus. I hope the next few months will be the best months

for you and nothing like the past few. Last month AFRH-Gulfport, the residents, and I lost a truly good friend. You are, as my father would say, "A Mighty, Mighty Man". Being the Administrator is a hard job with little reward, except for the occasional handshake and a cheerful good morning from some of the residents. You, though, always had a cheerful greeting and smile for us. With every interaction I had with you, Chuck, I

knew that you put the welfare of the Home and the residents first. You took time to talk and listen with an open mind and open heart.

I first met you Chuck in 2008 when I arrived at the DC home and you were the Chief of Resident Services there. At that time I didn't know you well, but when you won the job of Administrator here in Gulfport, and I began working closely with you, I found you to be truly dedicated to us and the Home and I believe that you made it your passion seeing that we had the best of care and the best living conditions. I believe that when you retired we lost the best friend this Home has ever or will ever have.

I was at your retirement ceremony but could not bring myself to stay until it was over. I tried but could not take it any longer because I was beginning to choke up and I felt like I was going to cry. So Chuck here is my farewell and good luck to you and yours. Remember when it's your time to enter the Home I will be here to welcome you and hope we will continue our friendship... Your friend, Henri

Now this is for the residents. We are coming up on the new fiscal year and I think it will bring new challenges for the RAC and Home. Money will be tight and budgets will have to be watched carefully. However, the Resident Fund is still in good shape and we will be able to continue with our recreational programs as they now exist. But, in order to keep the fund solvent we must come up with new ways to infuse more money into the fund that is why we will be starting our "Memorial Brick" fundraiser in a few months. By now you should have received the Memorial Brick "interest survey". Before the RAC will continue with the project we need to have at least 250 positive responses by the 3rd of September. If you have any questions about the program talk to your floor Rep. If you don't have a Floor Rep on your floor, see Roy Cook or me and maybe think about becoming a Floor Rep and making a difference. Stop being a couch potato, get up, move

around, go on trips, volunteer, do something to make your life here more rewarding.

Henri D. Gibson



Col Wilhite, Jamie Gominger & Michelle Gargiulo (Liaison/Office of U.S. Congressman Steven Palazzo), Elizabeth Gray Henry (Legislative Aide/Office of U.S. Senator Thad Cochran) and RAC Chair Henri Gibson.

AFRH-W June Activities

WINGS presents: WWI Remembrance

By Amanda Jensema, CTRS

The residents at AFRH-Washington had a special treat on August 6th. WINGS Performing Arts put on a special production for us entitled Remembrance. They are from Gulfport, MS, and on Veteran's Day last year they performed for the residents at our Gulfport location. After that, WINGS was invited to perform this special production at the Kennedy Center, which brought them to Washington, DC.

Remembrance is performance that focused on the time during WWI. It is based on poems, letters and music written during WWI. It honors the patriotism, sacrifice, and aftermath of that time, following all those involved, soldiers, and loved ones. It was a touching tribute and performed beautifully. There was music and dancing throughout the performance that portrayed all emotions felt during that time in our history.

Susan Bergman, the Music Therapist at AFRH-Gulfport had a part in this production. Dressed in full Scottish garb, she played "Amazing Grace" on her bagpipes at the end of the show. As she played she walked through the audience and exited out the back as we all listened to the haunting melody until it could be heard no more.

WINGS is a nationally recognized program held at the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center that works with youth of all ages to nurture talent, spirit, and leadership. We would like to thank all of the youth who worked so hard on this performance, as well as their parents and directors. This surely will be a production many will not forget.



WINGS performing arts put on a special production for the AFRH-W Resident.

Photographs by Rebecca Newton, AFRH-W Public Affairs



AFRH-G Music Therapist, Susan Bergman, played "Amazing Grace" on the bagpipes.

Summer in the city means residents, friends partner in gardens

By Ken Rubotzky

Tomatoes, beans, peanuts, eggplants, corn -- these items from the Armed Forces Retirement Home-DC gardens are delicious and nutritious. Not every tomato is perfect, but they're still tasty. Now in its fifth year, the gardening partnership of Home residents and volunteers from Friends of the Soldiers Home is the centerpiece for a relaxing time in a hectic city. Vegetables in more than 25 plots push through the long hot days of summer with the help of over 50 volunteers. Garden socials offer opportunities to serve beer and grilled food, and to swap tales. Residents bring their coolers filled with bubbly treats. Recent incessant rains has everything in the gardens spiraling skyward, including the weeds. Swallows nesting in Matthew's new birdhouses flit above everyone's heads, making tasty morsels of mosquitoes and other pesky garden critters. Michael, Enid, Casey and others carefully tend to Roger's row of flowers. Kelly's stewardship of the cut flower bed is rewarding us with yellows, purples, and reds. Good times are ahead too -- the cool growing weather is just two months away.



National Guard 257th Army Brass Band Concert

By Amanda Jensema, CTRS

Residents were treated to a wonderful concert put on by the National Guard 257th Army Brass Band. The music played was a wide variety of different styles and tunes from Broadway, Popular, Jazz, and Patriotic. During the concert they spoke about each song and medley and shared stories. One such song they did was a version of "Shenandoah" that was entitled "Ragged Old Flag" composed by Johnny Cash. This song was a hit with the residents, as one of the band members read the poem as the song was played. It was a very moving tribute and received a standing ovation. Another song that resonated with the residents was a song that was led by a tuba. This song was "Rubber Ducky". Other popular songs performed included, "American Patrol", "When the Saints Go Marching In", and "My Country Tis of Thee". The members of the band were SFC Fred Marcellus, SGT Brandon Lebe, SPC Charles Berry, SGT Paul Deschene, SSG Dave Tarquine, and SGT John Rosa. We look forward to having them return next year to perform for our Veterans.



2015 Hawaiian Luau at AFRH-W

By Nicole Chappell, Recreation Specialist

Aloha Kakou! On August 14th, the AFRH-W residents celebrated the "Hawaiian Luau on the Scott Patio. Although the sun was hot and beaming, the residents were all thrilled to engage in the festivities outside. The Ukulele Band provided an exciting introduction of traditional Hawaiian music which set the mood for the upcoming activities.

The residents had the opportunity to engage in Lei making, using the most beautiful Dendrobium Orchids, while waiting for the dance and fire show to begin. As the day progressed, the Hula Polynesian Ladies performed a non-traditional dance using their hips and hand gestures to the rhythm of the music.

Soon after, the Polynesian Men performed a traditional dance using hand and facial gestures that told a historical story of the Hawaiian Island. A few of the residents even participated in the dance too!!! The highlight of the event was the fire show, which left an anxious yet eager expression on everyone's face as the Hawaiian Fire Men tossed, turned, and twirled the fire sticks!

On the menu for the evening was a wonderful Hawaiian spread of Sweet & Sour Chicken, Sweet & Sour Pork, Pineapple rice, and a variety of fresh fruit including the resident's favorite, pineapples and mangos! As the night went on, more and more residents moved outside where everyone could listen to the music and enjoy the Hawaiian mixed drinks, which were fresh Pina Colodas and frosty Mango Margaritas.

Special thanks to Sarah Kennan and Constance Maziel for all of their assistance in planning the event. In addition, thanks to our wonderful volunteers from the Walter Reed Medical Center, Mr. William Ernestberg from the Coast Guard, and Dining Hall staff. Aloha until next year!!!

The Hula Polynesian Ladies performed a non-traditional dance for the residents.



The Hawaiian Fire Men had everyone's attention when they started twirling the fire sticks.

AFRH-G June Activities

Hawaiian good times

By Jen Biernacki Recreation Assistant

The Residents on Valor Hall enjoyed a variety of Hawaiian goodness from music, decorations and cuisine starting Wednesday August 15, 2015 and ending on Friday August 14, 2015. On Wednesday, a steel drum and a ukulele were played at music time with Susan Bergman singing the songs of the beach and ocean, to the tiny bubbles in the drinks to the classics we all remember so well. A "Luau" themed cookout followed the music group. For the cookout, the dining room was decorated with flowers, bright colors and swinging Toucans. On Friday, a Luau lunch served coconut shrimp, mango and key lime pie and Hawaiian rolls just to name a few of the delicious Hawaiian cuisine selections. At 1400 on Friday, the Residents then were surfed over to the Happy Hour that covered Hawaiian trivia and more great music. Finally the Hawaiian days ended with a night time Luau Dance to put an end to the "Hawaiian Good Times."



Larry Papale shares a toast of Hawaiian good times.



Marvin Haynes enjoys the coconut shrimp.

A small thank you....

By Rob Miller, Recreation Assistant-Fitness

Yes, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the residents of this facility for allowing me to come into your home. Thank you for allowing me to be your Fitness "guy". The most important thing however, thanks for helping me with my health. It may not seem like much, but I have been here for four months and have seen vast improvement with my flexibility, my blood pressure and just my overall health because I feel better.

You might ask yourself, "How did we help"? The answer is simple....Chair Exercise and Stretch class. The classes are held on separate days, chair exercise is Monday, Wednesday and Friday. As for the stretch class, they are held Tuesday and Thursday. These classes are held at 9:00 a.m. The best thing about it is, while working to improve your health, you also get support from others and have some social interaction, which helps your mental health component.

The chair exercise size class can be as strenuous as you want it to be. We begin with some simple stretches. Once we are finished we start with our "clusters". Clusters are the groupings of movements or exercises that have a similarity of some sort (such as a cluster that uses the resistance bands), which we have seven of. These are done at a fast pace to allow for some Cardio work to be completed. We do 2 sets of 10 repetitions for each grouping. The weights we are using are all light dumbbells and each person can pick the weight that is best for them. The class is about 45 minutes long, and covers the whole body. At the end, we all feel better. The class is not strict and there are only two rules: (1) If it hurts or you have an injury, don't do it and (2) Let us keep it fun! I encourage suggestions to make it a better workout. I know when you think of a class it sounds like it is going to be a drag, but I like to think of it as "Chair Exercise Club", because we all are part of the program. The stretch class is the same way, it should feel good and we do good to our entire body through simple stretches that only take about 35 minutes.

In closing, it is my honor to help you. Try coming down for a couple of the classes, even if it is only for a few exercises. Even a little bit helps and if it could help me, it can help anyone!



Rob teaches his chair exercise class on Monday, Wednesday, & Friday at 9:00 a.m.

The man behind the scenes

Jen Biernacki, Recreation Assistant

The scenery for the train layout has been filled with many talented ideas and developments from Clifford Smith, known as "Smitty" to all in the train yard. Smitty has spent many hours creating mountains, rivers, streams, bridges and buildings for the train layout. The roads, gardens, and terrain have taken shape. The mountains contain ridges, peaks, animals, hikers, lookouts and water that when viewed provides a sense of artistry. The foundation of the layout is now done. Minor changes and holiday additions will continue as the train layout is here for many more to enjoy. A sincere thank you to Smitty for his hard work and talents as our foundation for the layout is complete. We couldn't have done it without you!!



Clifford "Smitty" Smith works hard on the mountain scene for the train layout.

Cribbage Tournament

By Dennis Crabtree, Recreation Specialist

On Tuesday August 11, 2015, residents were competing in a Cribbage Tournament on the 2nd floor Club Room. Mary German is keeping an eye on Bill Hill for that trick card shuffling. Ron Persing and Fredi Van Pelt are making sure their counting comes out right. Wayland Webb and Bob Klotz are studying each other to win the game. Six residents signed up and six players played in the tournament.

There could only be three winners for that day. Fredi Van Pelt took 1st place, Bob Klotz took 2nd place, and Ron Persing took 3rd place.



Mary German keeps an eye on Bill Hill during the Cribbage Tournament.

AFRH-G volunteers are priceless on recreation therapy outing!

By Susan Bergman, MT-BC, Recreation Services

On Friday, July 24, 2014, residents on Valor, Loyalty, & Allegiance Halls enjoyed a Recreation Therapy outing to K-Mart for shopping and Cracker Barrel for lunch. AFRH-G Resident & Community volunteers paired up with residents to assist and escort individuals through K-Mart to find their needs. Resident volunteer, Jack Horsley, said "it was a ball...I love helping those folks...we have a great time!" Frances Scott was all smiles shopping for the perfect accessory for her hair and said, "I just love Jack...he is a great help." Other resident volunteers included Clifford "Smitty" Smith and Ernest Rousch along with community volunteers, GiGi Boettcher and Leann Wise. A great big thank you to our volunteers who brighten the lives of the resident veterans and help to make our community outings a success!



Frances Scott tries on a new headband while Jack Horsley holds a mirror for her.

Big wins, big smiles

By Jen Biernacki Recreation Assistant

On Saturday 7/18/2015 the LA 1 Molly Marine Chapter, Women Marine Association came to Loyalty Hall to share a morning game of Bingo. Each Resident was paired off with a volunteer to double the odds of winning. Many shouts of "Bingo" echoed during the event as the smiles and cheers followed. The prizes were awarded that also created many sounds of joy. Thanks to the Molly Marine Chapter for sharing a fantastic day with our AFRH-G Loyalty Residents.



Warren "Penn" Penney smiles after his big win!

WASHINGTON

Local soldiers visit D.C.

By *Rebecca Newton, AFRH-W Public Affairs*

Soldiers of the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade HHC, Fort Meade, recently visited the Armed Forces Retirement Home, Washington and were treated to a tour of the campus. Sheila Abarr, Public Affairs Officer, provided the history of the buildings and grounds, as well as an inside look at the facilities and services provided to the Residents.

The tour, which consisted of thirty-five Soldiers, stopped at the arts and crafts studio, bowling center, hobby shop, GI Gym, library, Sheridan Residence Hall and the Hall of Honor. Members of the unit were extremely appreciative, and stated that they would love to visit again, and volunteer.



Soldiers of the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade HHC, Fort Meade, visited and toured the Armed Forces Retirement Home, Washington.

DC celebrates USCG 225th birthday



Resident Leslie Wilson (center) was the representative for the oldest Coastie present. Coast Guard Reserve Force Master Chief, Eric L. Johnson (right) assisted in the cake cutting.

By *Rebecca Newton, AFRH-W Public Affairs*

Residents and staff of the Armed Forces Retirement Home, Washington celebrated the 225th birthday of the US Coast Guard with the help of local Coast Guardsmen, including Coast Guard Reserve Force Master Chief, Eric L. Johnson.

Ombudsman Rob Webb offered a warm welcome and gifted coins to the guests. Chaplain John Goodloe offered a prayer and Resident Advisory Committee Chair, Phil Ford, presented AFRH mugs. The celebration culminated with the singing of the Coast Guard song and the ceremonial cutting of the cake by the youngest, and oldest Coast Guardsmen present.

Master Chief Johnson concluded the celebration by sharing warm sentiments with attendees.

GULFPORT

Happy 225th Birthday Coast Guard

By *Becki Zschiedrich, AFRH-G Public Affairs*

Happy 225th birthday to the U.S. Coast Guard! The Coast Guard is one of America's five armed forces and traces its founding to Aug. 4, 1790, when the first Congress authorized the construction of 10 vessels to enforce tariff and trade laws, prevent smuggling, and protect the collection of federal revenue. Responsibilities added over the years included humanitarian duties such as aiding mariners in distress.

On August 4th the Armed Forces Retirement Home, along with members of the U.S. Coast Guard in Gulfport, Mississippi celebrated the U.S. Coast Guard's 225th birthday. Acting Resident Services Chief, Christopher Alexander was the emcee. A touching Coast Guard Tribute Video was shown after the invocation was presented by Father Joseph Uko, AFRH Chaplain. Our guest speaker was BMCS Rebecca Wynnes, USCG, who volunteers often at AFRH-G. The cake was cut by the youngest Coast Guard member and the oldest Coast Guard resident at AFRH, Ed Proctor. To close the ceremony, everyone sang along to "Semper Paratus".

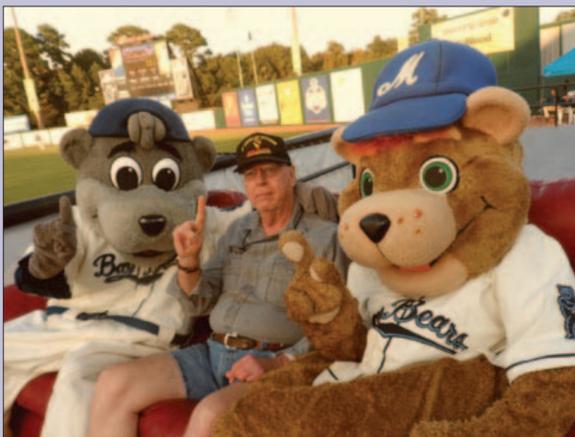


The cake was cut by the youngest Coast Guard member and the oldest Coast Guard resident at AFRH-G, Ed Proctor.

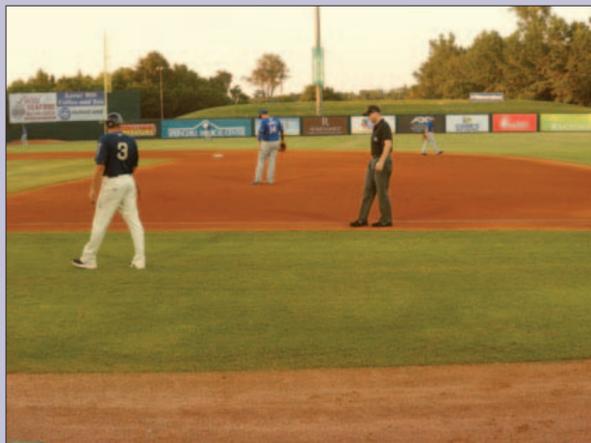
Biloxi baseball is back!

By *Sean Campbell, Lead Recreation Specialist*

For several years the AFRH-G residents have been able to enjoy local AA Baseball in Mobile, AL as the Mobile BayBears hosted AFRH veterans each year at Hank Aaron Stadium. Now that the Biloxi Shuckers organization is in full swing, residents went one last time to Hank Aaron Stadium in Mobile, to watch the BayBears take on the new home team. Residents enjoyed food and drink as well as great seats and air conditioned access to enjoy the game. For years the BayBears were the "home team" and now Biloxi has found a home on the Mississippi Gulf Coast at MGM Park. In addition to enjoying a game between the two rivals in Mobile, residents will attend a game in Biloxi in September to cheer on the Biloxi Shuckers.



Jack Frizzell enjoys the game with BayBears mascots.



The game is on between the Biloxi Shuckers and the Mobile BayBears.



Joe Kelly enjoyed the trip to Mobile, Alabama to watch the Mobile BayBears and the Biloxi Shuckers.