



P.O. BOX 953663  
LAKE MARY, FL 32795

# Democratic Veterans Caucus of Florida

Newsletter

October - December 2019

## Veterans History Project Library of Congress

The Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center collects, preserves, and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war.

Stories can be told through, personal narratives, audio and video-taped interviews, written memoirs; correspondence, letters, post cards, v-mail, personal diaries; and visual materials, photographs, drawings and scrapbooks. The Project collects first-hand accounts of US Veterans from World War I 1914 -1918, World War II 1939 - 1945 and other wars until the War on Terrorism 2001- 2009, the Afghan War from 2001 until present and the Iraq War, 2003 -2011.

The United States Congress created the Veterans History Project in 2000. The authorizing legislation (Public Law 106-380), sponsored by Representatives Ron Kind, Amo Houghton, and Steny Hoyer in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senators Max Cleland and Chuck Hagel in the U.S. Senate, received unanimous support and was signed into law by President William Jefferson Clinton on October 27, 2000.

AARP is the founding corporate sponsor of the Veterans History Project. In addition to providing initial major funding for the Project, AARP also spread the word to its legion of volunteers and almost 37 million members, encouraging them to get involved. Numerous state chapters have also been involved in the Project.

The Veterans History Project is made possible by the generous support of the United States Congress.

*www.loc.gov Veterans History Project*  
Contact Air Force Veteran Carlton Cartwright 561-719-8106  
*carlton3553@gmail.com*



### Democratic Veterans Caucus of Florida 2020 Retreat

## Register Now!

**February 21st - 23rd, 2020**

**Orlando Marriott Lake Mary**

**1501 International Parkway**

**Lake Mary, FL 32746**

**Call 407-995-7032 for Reservations**



Learn more & find registration forms  
on Facebook @FLDemocraticVets or  
at [demvetsfl.org](http://demvetsfl.org). Have questions?  
Contact President Phil Giorno at  
[presdvcfgiorno@gmail.com](mailto:presdvcfgiorno@gmail.com)

Paid for and approved by the Democratic Veterans Caucus of Florida  
and not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.

## VOLUSIA COUNTY

The Volusia County Democratic Veterans Caucus distributed collected supplies at two churches on an August trip to Bay County Florida. President Danny Fuqua led a group that delivered goods to Trinity Lutheran Church and Beacon Light Community Church. Trinity Lutheran Church opens a food bank for the community each Wednesday. Many veterans attend the food bank and many days supplies run short therefore the local area was very appreciative of the donations from the two groups. Tammy Wilson, the Trinity Lutheran Church Food Bank Director was very appreciative of the donations from the DVCF.

Members of the Volusia County Democratic Executive Committee and Veterans Caucus collected supplies for needy people affected by hurricane Michael. A second trip was made to deliver goods collected from several areas for the people of the Florida panhandle devastated by hurricane Michael.

*Volusia County photos by Danny Fuqua*



## TYRONE "KIT" CARSON

Tyrone "Kit" Carson is a charter member of the Bay County Democratic Veterans Caucus. Kit resided in Panama City in October 2018 when hurricane Michael hit the area. Kit had to be evacuated and he now lives in Covington, Georgia in the Riverside Health Care facility. He has been away from his Bay County home since the hurricane hit.

Kit was born in Americus, Georgia and was raised in Macon. He spent 27 years in the Navy and during the latter part of his career, he was a Career Counselor. He was the first Career Counselor assigned to the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Panama City. He was later stationed on the USS Mobile Bay at Biloxi, MS. The highlights of his Navy career include sailing to Vietnam on the USS New Jersey. He sailed all over the world including being assigned to St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands, three trips through the Panama Canal, and one trip through the Suez Canal. He also once crossed the equator and once sailed through the International Dateline.



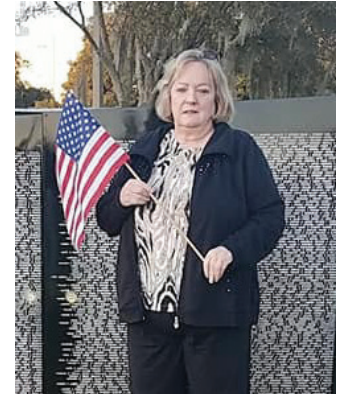
After his retirement from the Navy, Kit worked 20 years at the Post Office. Kit has four children. He wants to say hi and let everyone know he is making it day by day and he is looking forward to coming home soon.

*Pictured are Kit Carson and his grandson*



## SEMINOLE COUNTY

Marian Williams and Helen Milliken of the Seminole County Democratic Veterans Caucus visited the Veterans Traveling Memorial Wall while it was at Fort Mellon Park in Sanford, Florida on November 11, 2019. “The Moving Wall” as it is sometimes called is the half-size replica of the Washington, DC Vietnam Veterans Memorial that has been touring the country since 1984. Two structures of The Moving Wall now travel the USA from April through November, spending about a week at each site.

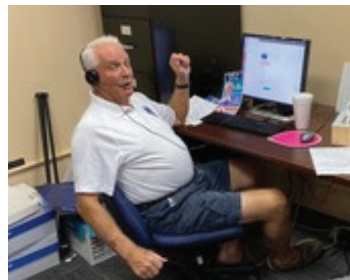
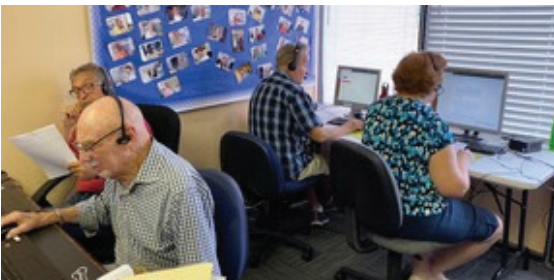


## VETERANS CALLING VETERANS PHONE BANK

By Gretchen Lienhop

On October 25, 2019, members of the Sarasota County Democratic Party and the Sarasota County Democratic Veterans Caucus conducted a Veterans Calling Veterans Phone Bank. The Phone Bank took place from 1-3 PM from the Sarasota County Democratic Headquarters. The calls were made to Democrat and Non Party Affiliation (NPA) veterans registered for the city of Venice election, which is in Sarasota County. The calls were made to get the citizens to “get out the vote.”

The Caucus set up a phone bank and had 11 Caucus members make calls. Many members had never phone banked before so they learned a new skill. Our Caucus made over 450 phone calls and when we got “live” folks on the phone, they were excited to talk and all confirmed they were voting Democrat, except for the “cranky” guy I got. Our Phone Bank coordinator, Emily Rizzo, was so impressed she joined the caucus. Her remarks were, “Wow, they showed up early, listened intently on how to do it, then hit the phones. A great team to work with.” And of course, thanks to our Chair, JoAnne DeVries who provided hot pizza and snacks to all. Sarasota County Democrats look forward to doing more community Democratic events in the future.



*Pictured are: Steven Hemping, Elliot Aronson (96 year old WW2 Vet), Kenny DeCamp, Scott Hughes, Kate Noonan, Tony Mowry, and Cindy Barrow.*

### DVCF Leadership

<i>President</i>	Phil Giorno presdvcfgiorno@gmail.com
<i>Vice President</i>	Elena McCullough
<i>Treasurer</i>	Marian Williams mmj9244@aol.com
<i>Secretary</i>	Vacant
<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	Reuben Sparks

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Please visit our website:  
demvetsfl.org  
Like us on Facebook:  
Democratic Veterans Caucus of  
florida - DVCF

### Upcoming Events

DVCF Retreat  
Orlando Marriott Lake Mary  
Lake Mary, FL  
Feb 21-23, 2020

## PINELLAS COUNTY PIZZA AND POTLUCK PARTY

By Wanda Schwerer

On July 7, 2019 the Pinellas County Chapter of the Democratic Veterans Caucus of Florida (DVCF) held its first Pizza and Potluck Party at the air-conditioned Letter Carriers Union Hall in Pinellas Park. Over 100 tickets were sold, and attendance approximated that amount. Extra pizzas had to be ordered even with the overflowing tables of dishes brought by attendees. As a fundraiser, it was a rousing success, netting \$1,600 for the Chapter and 10 new Pinellas County DVCF paid chapter members, with 6 additional who have not yet paid the dues. This brought our total paid chapter membership to 32.

Elected officials who spoke included our own CD-13 Congressman, Charlie Crist; Florida House District 68 Representative Ben Diamond; Pinellas County Commissioners Ken Welch, Janet Long and Charlie Justice; Pinellas County School Board President Rene Flowers and members Nicole Carr and Joanne Lentino; current and former St. Petersburg Council Members, and Commissioners and Council Members from other Pinellas County municipalities. And lots of candidates spoke as well!

Many thanks to our founding member, Michael Fox, for heading up this effort and recruiting folks to help. Also thanks to Treasurer Cora Kostka for organizing the food, and thanks to member Chris Brudy, for providing the musical entertainment.



*Pictured are Congressman Charlie Crist, one of the several tables of food, member Chris Brudy providing musical entertainment and a view of the crowd.*



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