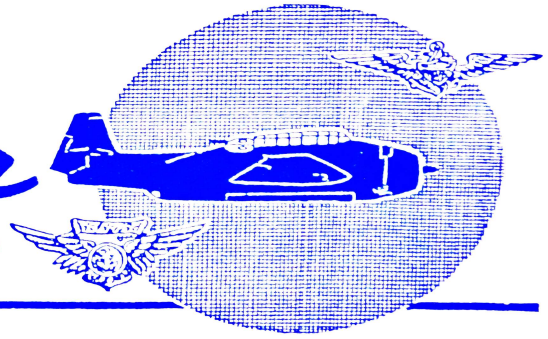


The Avenger

U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION - FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



4000 West Perimeter Road Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315 954.359.4400

Email: nasft.lauderdalemuseum@netscape.com Website: <http://www.nasflmuseum.com>

Newsletter April – June 2011

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May 14, 2011 Luncheon



Honoring Architect Paul Bradley

President Allan presented a plaque to member Sgt. Paul Bradley USA WWII, in recognition for his many years of outstanding dedication and contribution to military history.

From left to right: Allan McElhiney, Bob Morris, the honoree Architect Paul Bradley with his wife Barbara Bradley, and Capt. Pete Husta.

Thank you to Norene Damico for recommending Capt. Husta and his wife Madhya (Maddie), to be our great speakers!



Newest Drawing from Paul Bradley

Mr. Bradley brought with him his newest drawing for the Museum. This one is of a Martin B-26 Marauder. It will be proudly displayed at the Museum along with his other works.

From left to right: Allan McElhiney, Paul Bradley with his daughter Pat, and holding the drawing is Bob Morris.

Photos by Minerva Bloom.

Our Luncheon Guest Speakers: Captain Peter Husta, USN & Madhya (Maddie) Husta



Captain Pete Husta is currently the Fourth Fleet Liaison Officer to the Headquarters Staff of the U.S. Southern Command and Maddie, his wife, is the Survivor Outreach Services Coordinator at SOUTHCOM. Please read their bios on the next page. They both were very engaging and interesting.



Captain Peter Husta is the son of a WWII Pacific Campaign veteran and native of Wilton, Connecticut. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1979 and from Webster University in 1987. Following graduation from the Academy, he proceeded directly to sea, serving in operations, deck and engineering billets in USS Mount Baker (AE-34), USS Klakring (FFG-42), USS Samuel Eliot Morison (FFG-13) and in USS Flatley (FFG-21). He is the plank owner Main Propulsion Assistant in Klakring and served as the Reserve Engineer and as Executive Officer in Morison and as the Reserve Unit Commanding Officer in Flatley.

Ashore, Captain Husta served at the Fleet & Mine Warfare Training Center, Navy Reserve Command Headquarters and in Mobile Inshore Warfare Unit's. (MIUW) 209 and 212. He commanded MIUW 209 and subsequently went on to command MIUW 212. He is the first officer to ever command this type of unit in back-to-back assignments. Captain Husta has also served as Special Assistant to the Commander Armed Forces South in Naples Italy. Returning permanently to the Active Duty rolls, Captain Husta subsequently served in Honduras as the Navy Section Chief and then as the Navy Mission Chief in Colombia. Following five years in Central and South America, he was selected to serve as the Navy Element Commander and subsequently, the chief of Staff of the Joint Task Force in Guantanamo, Cuba. He is currently the Fourth Fleet Liaison Officer to the Headquarters Staff of the U.S. Southern Command. Captain Husta has served in Navy, Joint, NATO and Combined commands and operations and is authorized to wear the Defense Superior Service Medal (2 awards), the Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal and several other personal, Unit and Service awards. He's also authorized to wear the Honduran Medalla de Merito Clase Dos, the Colombian Surface Fleet, Aviation Division and Submarine Fleet Service Commendations and was awarded the Sociedad de Almirante Padilla. Captain Husta was married to the former Madhya Acosta Castillo in the ancient Mayan ruins at Copan, Honduras.

Madhya (Maddie) Husta grew up in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. As a senior in Tegucigalpa High School, she earned an exchange scholarship and spent a year as an exchange student in Monterey, California, only a few blocks away from the Defense Language Institute. Upon her return to Honduras, she studied undergrad and graduate level psychology becoming a licensed practitioner at the National Psychiatry Hospital. Later in her career, she explored Educational Psychology working in the private school system teaching bilingual students in grade school and high school. Maddie is a Navy wife, married to Captain Pete Husta, the Fourth Fleet Liaison Officer at SOUTHCOM.

Maddie has been working in this AOR for several years, serving in Honduras, Colombia and Cuba. Before coming to Miami she came from the Naval Station at Guantánamo Bay, where she supported families of all military branches stationed at the Naval Station.

Her work in Guantanamo included the Fleet and Family Support Center as the Life Skills Educator in charge of teaching anger and stress management, parenting, couple's communication, and loss and grief. On her following duties, she was the Cuban Community Assistance Program Manager running the only elder care program in the Department of Defense. In this capacity, she managed a 24/7 service running three Assisted Living Facilities and providing general advocacy for the 44 Cuban families residing aboard the Naval Station. These families are those who chose to remain employed aboard the Naval Station following the 1959 Castro led revolution. Maddie is now the *Survivor Outreach Services* coordinator at Southcom serving as the liaison, and advocating for the families of our Fallen Heroes.

To reach Mrs. Madhya Husta, Survivor Outreach Services Coordinator for South Florida:

9301 NW 33rd

St Doral, FL 33172

Office: 305-437-2178

E-mail: Madhya.Husta@hq.southcom.mil

Website: www.MyArmyOneSource.com

SURVIVOR OUTREACH SERVICES



Photography Copyright © Minerva Bloom 2011

Our Fallen Warriors have paid the ultimate sacrifice. The Army has a commitment to their Families. Families deserve our respect, gratitude and the very best we can provide. The purpose of SOS is to deliver on that commitment: (1) By providing access to support, information and services. (2) Closest location to where the Survivor resides. (3) When and for as long as they desire.

SOS offers support through:

- **Benefits Coordinators.** No one is ever fully prepared to lose a loved one, which is why the SOS has *Benefits Coordinators*. They're located at the Casualty Assistance Center and are there to assist and guide you as you make the many decisions necessary following the death of a Soldier. Coordinators help identify your specific benefits and entitlements and ensure you receive what is legally yours. They assist you in completing paperwork and navigating the various agencies Survivors encounter. They remain current on changes in the law and have a wealth of information available to support you during this very difficult time.
- **Financial Counselors.** In times of emotional distress, figuring out what to do about finances can create a heavy burden. The SOS provides professional financial information and services in areas such as investing, estate planning, tax issues and basic budgeting. Their Financial Counselors will be there when you need them, for as long as you need them. They are committed to assisting you in creating your financial security and ensuring you receive the necessary information to make sound financial decisions.
- **Support Coordinators.** The SOS provides long term support to you for as long as your desire. Wondering what direction to go in now? Their local Support Coordinators are happy to sit down with you as you journey through this transition by providing direct services as well as information, referrals and recommendations. They can also connect you with support groups, bereavement and financial counselors, as well as help you request copies of documents to obtain answers to questions and direct you to additional Survivor resources.

If you are in need of these services, you can reach Mrs. Madhya Husta
Survivor Outreach Services Coordinator for South Florida:

9301 NW 33rd St.
Doral, FL 33172-1202
Phone Office: 305-437-2178
e-mail: Madhya.Husta@hq.southcom.mil
or visit the website: www.MyArmyOneSource.com

MUSEUM NEWS

The old carpet has all been removed, the floors are being repaired, and beautiful new carpet donated by the Airport is being installed by our volunteer members: Mike McGee, John Bloom, Rob Taylor, Karl Bork, John Casey and our youngest member Richard Jones, who served two tours of duty in Iraq; one aboard the USS George Washington Aircraft Carrier, and the other as a soldier in the U.S. Army. Helping with the work were also U.S Navy VTU 0808G members: MAC Patrick Bowden, CAPT. Scott Hahn, HM2 Richard McGowan, CAPT. Stephen Schaffer. Also member Rob Taylor is being generous in donating materials and his expertise for carpet installation. And thank you to Ray Rivera for always helping in the maintenance of the Museum.



Photos by Allan McElhiney © 2011

NEWS ON THE CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY

Second Vice-president Bob Morris, is working with structural Engineer Willie Cook and Architect Bill Storr. Plans are drawn for the bathroom renovation and we are also in the final steps of connecting the fire sprinklers. President McElhiney was contacted by John Smith, who is ready to connect the fire sprinkler system and Commander Gary Pirtle, structural Engineer also contacted Allan and is ready to assist.

A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS !!

If you would like to volunteer or donate materials, please contact the Museum at: (954) 359-4400

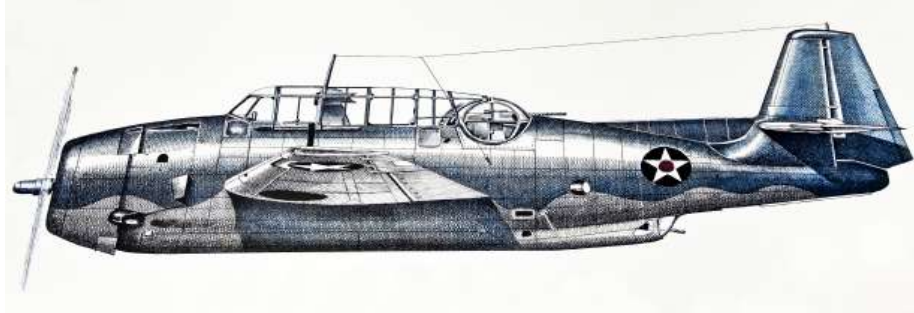
The historic NASFL Museum is a 501c3 organization. Your help will be greatly appreciated as day by day, we are tackling the task of making the Museum fully operational to be enjoyed and analyzed not just by researchers but for the general public.

There remains much work to be done so we can get our *Certificate of Occupancy*. We have many wonderful, faithful volunteers, who kindly donate their time, expertise or influence. There are many opportunities to volunteer in the areas of history, curators, exhibit maintenance, administrative/clerical assistance, computers, general repairs, cataloging, construction, landscaping, etc. Whether you are a college student, a retired senior or a working adult with the desire to give back to your community, we have opportunities for you! Must be at least 18 years old.

Volunteers needed year round, Monday - Sunday. Flexible schedule.

LIST OF THINGS NEEDED AT THE MUSEUM:

- Restore the Guard House to original condition with proper signs. We have the lumber, but we need workers for the restoration.
- Remodeling of two restrooms for handicap accessibility.
- Moving of two exhibit torpedoes from the back to the front of the building for better viewing.
- Remodeling of windows & inside window treatments.
- Hurricane preparedness: Tree branch trimming.
- New security alarm system.



NEW ! NASFL ONLINE MERCHANDISE STORE !

We launched a merchandise store at Zazzle with quality, fully customizable products: add your own text or message! And choose from vintage images and art from the Museum's collection, such as Posters, Prints, Canvas, Greeting Cards, Postcards, Mousepads, Stamps/Postage, Mugs, and wonderful printed T-shirts in many sizes, styles & colors! 100% satisfaction guarantee! All proceeds from sales will benefit the Museum. Click on the link below, or on any of the product images to browse the Museum's online Merchandise store. We'll be adding more items frequently!

www.zazzle.com/nasfortlauderdale

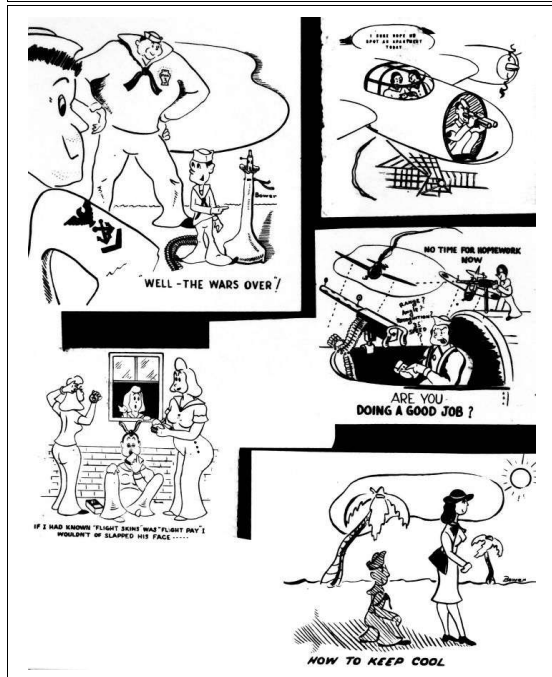
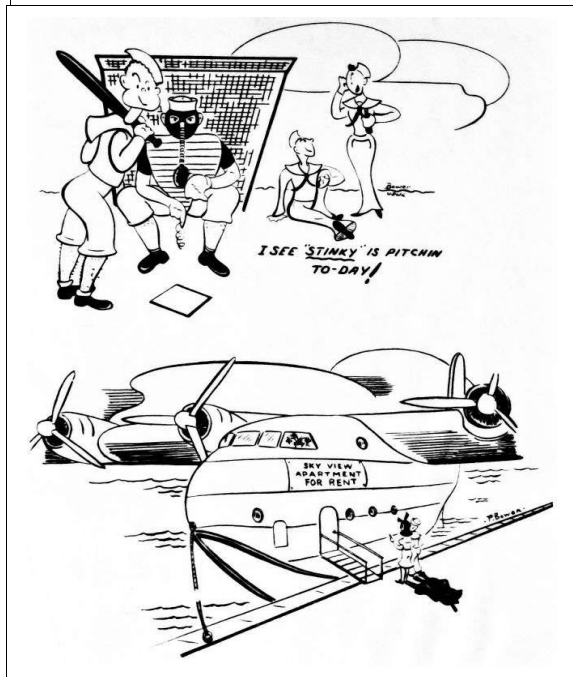
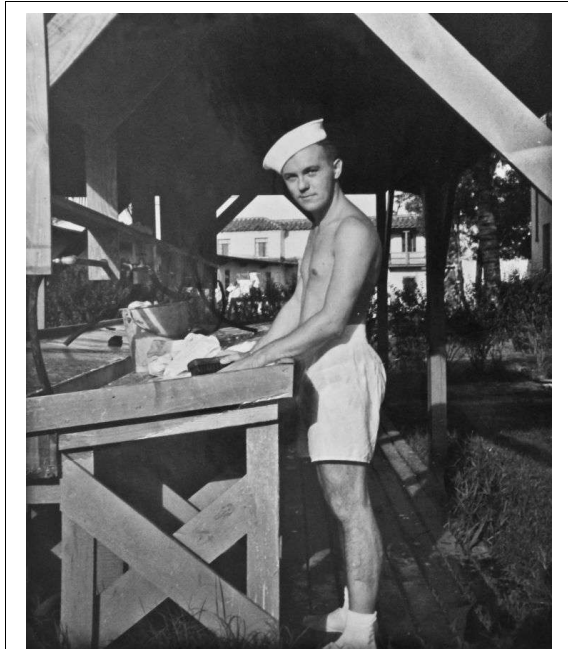


Women, Kids, Men T-shirts & Polo shirts, Coffee Mugs, Posters & Prints, Postage/Stamps, Greeting Cards & Postcards, Hats, Mousepads and more!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

NASFL ILLUSTRATOR PHILLIP BOWER

During World War II, Aviation Radioman Phillip Bower was discovered to have a great talent as an illustrator. His illustrations were used at various Air Bases in Florida to teach new recruits to recognize Japanese aircraft, warships, destroyers and other warfare subjects. When Petty Officer Bower arrived at Fort Lauderdale Naval Air Station, he did the illustrations for a new manual on the TBF/TBM torpedo bomber ("Avenger") which was used to teach aviators and their crewman. He also drew cartoons for the Avenger Newspaper at the base, which added to the morale. While stationed at the base here, he met his wife to be and settled in Fort Lauderdale after his discharge from the Navy. He was the owner of a decorating business called "Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow" located on Las Olas Boulevard. Upon his passing, his son Roger took over the business. To see more of Phillip Bower's illustrations check the ["Member Spotlight"](#) page on our website. We will be featuring every month, members of the Naval Air Station during WWII, with vintage images as well as stories of members from our Historical Association. There are many amazing and courageous stories that must be told, so they are not forgotten. Look for our next feature!



A DAY ON THE GOOD YEAR BLIMP

The NASFL Museum was able to accommodate 6 volunteer workers on the Good Year Blimp “[Spirit of Innovation](#)” on June 16. They all had a great time overlooking the landforms along Pompano, Lighthouse Point, Deerfield and Boca Raton. Pilot Corky Belanger was very informative and entertaining. Thanks Donna, Doug and to all the crew at the Pompano Blimp Base for making this such a memorable flight! We will have more images on the next newsletter. [For history of the Good Year Blimp click here](#)



Photos by Minerva Bloom. Entrance to the Good Year Blimp



Back of the Good Year Blimp building



Donna, Administrative Assistant and Allan McElhiney



Mandy, Senior Pilot



The Good Year Blimp hangar



Bruce, Richard Matt, Debbie & John getting ready to board



Pilot Corky Belanger, a second generation Blimp Pilot



Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse



Deerfield Beach & Pier



Boca Raton Inlet



The Fort Lauderdale Intracoastal Waterway



Capone Island in Deerfield Beach



The group had a great time aboard, and then watched the blimp take off on its next journey.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !

Mrs. Lenord Zanky, Ralph Flaherty, John Ray and Lynn Drucker, Brad Wood, Malcolm Barker, Shavonne Nembhard, student member Brandon Nembhard, and author Angela Mary Piraino.

THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST AND SUPPORT OF NASFLHA !

NEXT LUNCHEON

The next luncheon is tentatively scheduled for 16 July, at the Lauderdale Yacht Club. The price is \$25.00 per person. Our guest speaker will be Broward County Sheriff Al Lamberti, Undersheriff Tom Wheeler or Executive Officer to the Sheriff Donald Prichard. Please RSVP by 14 July to: (954) 359-4400.

NASFL ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

We will be adding more stories to our website such as the [Member Spotlight](#) page in which we'll feature every month, members of the Naval Air Station during WWII, with vintage images as well as stories of members from our Historical Association. There are many amazing and courageous stories that must be told, so they are not forgotten. Check out **Our first Member Spotlight: [NASFL Illustrator Phillip Bower](#)**

Our presence in the World Wide Web is expanding, as more and more people find us: **Shavonne L. Nembhard** is a student at Barry University, doing a research paper on the History of South Florida with Professor Brasom. Because her brother is in the Navy, she decided to research if there were some historical places in Florida about the Navy, and she found the NASFL Museum's website at the top of her search query. She came to visit with her son Brandon and became our newest members. Brandon was also interested in becoming a volunteer for the summer. Welcome Shavonne & Brandon!

We want to hear from you! If you would like to contribute, please send us your story, your memories, or pictures. We will include them in our Blog as well as in both our print and e-mail Newsletter.



Left image: Shavonne L. Nembhard, Allan McElhiney & Brandon. *Right Image:* Allan, Shavonne & Minerva Bloom.

MEMBER PHOTOS



Above: David Epstein & his wife Gloria, celebrating their 67th wedding anniversary. Congratulations!



Lt. David White & John Casey at the May 14 Luncheon honoring Architect Paul Bradley.



Capt. Pete Husta, Norene Damico, Allan McElhiney & Maddie Husta at the Lauderdale Yacht Club Luncheon.

MISCELLANEOUS

TBM-3 will fly in for the next Dec 5 Ceremony:

Mr. Bob Murphy flew into Boca Raton and then rented a car and drove to the Museum on Friday, Jan. 28. He owns a TBM-3 torpedo bomber. He's pretty sure that he will fly this plane here for the December 5th Flight 19 Memorial Ceremony for which he would like to do a flyover. His TBM-3 will be parked at National Jets.



Photo: Bob Murphy

- The Museum will be doing an “*Honor Area*” for our deceased members, and also an area to recognize our contributors to the Museum.
- Anthony Atwood & Allan McElhiney suggested our members should read the National Geographic book [“Return to Midway”](#) by Robert D. Ballard.
- **Attention:** We are looking for Naval Officers to help with a military wedding for the year 2015, when a naval officer will be graduating from Medical School. Please contact the Museum for details.

Newsletter Staff:
Allan McElhiney & Minerva Bloom

Photography by:
Allan McElhiney, [Minerva Bloom](#),
David Epstein and Bob Murphy.

Email: nasft.lauderdalemuseum@netscape.com

Website: www.nasflmuseum.com

Phone: (954) 359.44.00

And don't forget our New Online Zazzle Shop!

www.zazzle.com/nasfortlauderdale

Please share this membership form we need more members!

If you haven't paid your dues
Donations are always Welcome

DUES & MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Historical Association Museum

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Name: _____ Date: _____

Additional Names: _____ Date: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

<u>DUES:</u>	General Membership	\$35 (1 year)
	Family Membership	\$60 (1 year)
	Corporate Membership	\$100 (1 year)
	Student Membership	\$5 (1 year)
	Lifetime Membership	\$250 (One time charge)

Type of Membership: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____ Total: _____

Print and send this Membership Form by regular mail with your Check or Money Order payable to: **NAS Fort Lauderdale Historical Association** (or **NASFLHA** for short)

Mail it to:

NASFLHA
4000 West Perimeter Road
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33315

If you have any problems please call:
(954) 359-4400 or e-mail us at:

nasft.lauderdalemuseum@netscape.com