OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

LYNNE MATTHEWS

MAYOR, CITY OF PUNTA

GORDA

VICE PRESIDENT

RANDALL "RANDY" FRANCIS

VETERAN — U.S.ARMY

SECRETARY
ROBERT "SAM" HARRIS
VETERAN — U.S. AIR FORCE

TREASURER
ARTHUR "ART" PRIOR
VETERAN — U.S. ARMY

DIRECTORS

ALOIS "AL" BURDA III VETERAN — U.S. NAVY

JACK 'MOE' HOWARD VETERAN — U.S. ARMY

RUSS FIORINOVETERAN - U.S. AIR FORCE

BARRY FRANZINO
USMC RESERVES VETERAN

PATRICK G. FULLER
U.S. MARINE CORPS (RET.)

ERIC JOHNSON

OWNER, JOHNSON-TAYLOR FUNERAL & CREMATION

GARY HARRELL U.S. NAVY (RET.)

SU MISCIA MUSEUM AMBASSADOR

C.J. METCALFE
VETERAN COMMITTEE

VANESSA GRANT OLIVER ESQ. CEO AMBITRANS

MICAH RICHINS

PRESIDENT & CEO SUNSEEKER RESORT

MARK VIANELLO

SUPERINTENDENT OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DIRECTOR EMERITUS

FRED BUCKINGHAM BRIG GEN, U.S. AIR FORCE, (RET.)

DEREK KNUFFKE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MILITARY HERITAGE MUSEUM

6 June 2024

Greetings to all of our amazing volunteers. As we move closer to the fall elections day-to-day life will almost certainly become more politically charged than it is now.

In addition to a refresher on AmeriCorps policy on prohibited activities, I need to provide some clarity on two things that may seem at odds. On the one hand this museum is and will remain apolitical. On the other hand, we lease the theater space to the City of Punta Gorda. This may seem at odds, but these two are completely different concepts and they do not intertwine. The City of Punta Gorda pays for space in the theater. While they are here, that is public space and the attendees comply by the City of Punta Gorda's ordinances for public meetings.

We will remain 100% apolitical in accordance with the MHM Policy and AmeriCorps policy. One of the fundamentals of American Military Heritage is the distinct line between military and civilian leadership. We will maintain that distinction here.

Just as important, as a non-profit organization is reliant on grants, we are bound by the requirement to be neutral on issues which do not concern this museum.

You may find a situation where it seems these two ideas are in conflict and you feel like there is a gray area. Even then, it is <u>never</u> the responsibility of a volunteer to make that distinction or to make a correction. Bring that issue directly to the executive director with a recommendation on how to resolve it please.

Thank you for all you do. This has been a fantastic year all around in the museum. Please keep doing what you do so well here at our museum.

v/r

Derek

Derek Kuuffke

Executive Director