



Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.

Buford A. Johnson Chapter Newsletter

November, 2017

November Meeting Replaced by Airshow



Our November meeting has been replaced by participation in the 15th Anniversary Celebration of Veteran's Day at Flabob Airport on Saturday, November 11, 2017. The gates will open at 9:00 AM. The event will continue until 4:00 PM. To help set up, please try to be there by 7:00 AM. Mr. Jempson and Mr. Marshall will have a table there to sell our fundraising items. They will need help at the table. Flabob would like to recognize our chapter. The address is 4130 Mennes Avenue, Jurupa Valley, CA. The phone there is 951-683-2309. From Moreno Valley take the 60/215 to exit 50 toward Rubidoux. Continue on Rubidoux Blvd. to Twining St. Take Twining to Mennes Ave. You will see a church on your left. Turn right and follow Mennes to the airport. There is free admission and parking. Donations will be welcome. There will be many activities and will also be a car show. If you plan to sit at the table, bring a chair. Please join us. We need you.

NAACP Veteran's Recognition Luncheon



We are invited to attend the 47th Anderson Copeland Memorial Veteran's Recognition Luncheon on Friday, November 10, 2017 at 11:00 AM. The event is hosted by the Riverside Branch of the NAACP. It will be held at the Mt. Rubidoux SDA Church in Mainess Hall. The address is 5320 Victoria Avenue, Riverside, CA 92508. Dress uniforms are strongly suggested. The speaker will be Lt. Col. Sandra Jones, USAF Reserve. Col. Jones is a retired combat nurse. A complimentary lunch will be served to all veterans and their families. Please join us there.

12th Annual Salute to Veterans Parade



On November 18th, we will take part in the 12th Annual Salute to Veterans Parade in Riverside. Several members have volunteered to participate. We will need help decorating the vehicles. Participants should meet at the Riverside Community College at the staging area no later than 8:00 AM. Please contact Mr. Jempson at 951-756-1387 for further information.



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Out and About



On November 2, 2017, members who have participated in past King Remembers days were invited to a football game dedicated to veterans at Martin Luther King High School in Riverside. King Remembers is an event held in the spring of each year where students interview veterans as a part of their history classes. Veterans and their families were met at the gate and given a meal. They were then escorted to their seats to watch the game. Veterans who could not walk from the parking lot were transported in golf carts. At half time, veterans became a part of the half time show. They were escorted on to the field and given the honor they so richly deserve. Representing our chapter were Edison and Dixie Marshall. We hope to see more of you at the King High Remembers event which is scheduled for March 16, 2018 from 8:00 AM to 2:00PM. Lunch will be included. This will give all members plenty of time to plan. Living History events provide an opportunity to give our youth a glimpse of history as it was lived rather than a dry description in a history text.



MLK Wolf mascot bumps fists with Mr. Marshall



Gridiron action



Lining up to go onto the field



The band entertained
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Flag



Veterans being recognized



Cheer

Beyond the Tuskegee Experience

Today, we see the Tuskegee Airmen as heroes, but, in their time, they were doing a job. They fought the Germans in the war and racism at home. Their example continued on as an inspiration throughout the following decades and was a part of the birth of the Civil Rights Movement. Many airmen came back to civilian life and became community leaders. Others stayed in the military and had distinguished careers, paving the way for those to follow.

In June, 2007, 23 year old Barrington Irving, who was inspired by the Tuskegee Airmen became the first and youngest black aviator to fly solo around the world. To this day, they continue to inspire young men and women to pursue careers in aviation and to follow their dreams.

The Tuskegee Airmen define their greatest achievements as the “Four Hurrahs.” The First Hurrah was graduating from flying school and being assigned to the 99th Pursuit Squadron and then to the 332nd Fighter Group. The Second Hurrah was the 332nd Fighter Group escorting over 200 bombing missions over Europe during WWII. The Third Hurrah was winning the Gunnery Meet on May 2, 1949. This would not have been possible without their Maintenance Personnel. Staff Sergeant Buford A. Johnson was described as the “Best of the Best” by his pilot James Harvey. The Fourth Hurrah was receiving the Congressional Gold Medal on March 29, 2007.

It is up to us to be certain that the legacy of these brave men and women continues.



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