



The Platinum Coast

HERALD

An Affiliate of The Retired Officers Association

November
2001

Collier and Lee Counties, Florida

<http://www.naples.net/clubs/platcost/>

The apple doesn't fall far ...

ABE SKINNER

*Collier County
Property Appraiser*

Collier County Property Appraiser Abe Skinner is our November speaker. Even though he lives and works in Collier County, we're confident that he can find his way to Old Hickory.

Born in Fort Myers, Abe is a lifetime resident of Collier and Lee Counties, as is his wife, Martha, who recently retired from Collier County. A member of the Collier County Property Appraiser's staff since 1962 and Past President of the Florida Association of Property Appraisers, Abe attended public schools in Fort Myers, and the University of Florida at Gainesville in addition to completing numerous college-level courses sponsored by the International Association of Assessing Officers and the State of Florida Department of Revenue.



Abe and his wife, Martha, are the parents of two and grandparents of two.



Holiday Service Project Quality of Life Boxes November 3 Our ONLY Chance to Participate

*Submitted by
Shirley Hagerson*

The Red Cross is requesting Chapter support for contributions of Quality-of-Life items for military staff assigned in Kosovo, Bosnia, Prince Sultan Air Base (Saudi Arabia), and Camp Doha (Kuwait) and possibly other bases. Emphasis is on Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and New Year's Day. The most often requested items are:

- Decorations and blank holiday greeting cards, as well as other cards such as Thank You, Thinking of You and Relative Birthday
- Christmas trees and other decorations, stockings and stocking-stuffers.
- Individually wrapped hard candy, gum, candy canes, cookies, pre-Sweetened Kool-Aid, sweetened ice tea mix, hot chocolate and cider mixes,

flavored coffee creamer, microwave popcorn, Tootsie Rolls (candy and pops), bubble gum, etc.

- Toiletry items such as shaving cream, razors, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shower soap/gel, Chap-Stick or other lip balm, and foot powder.
- Videos (especially movies), music CDs and cassettes.
- Small board games such as chess, checkers, dominoes, Parcheesi, Yahtzee, Uno, cribbage, jigsaw puzzles and playing cards.
- Recent paperback books (mysteries, action, drama and science fiction).
- Writing paper, envelopes and pens.
- Puzzle books.

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The Platinum Coast Herald

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Platinum Coast Officers Club

PO Box 3005

Naples, Florida 34106-3005

OFFICERS

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CW4 AUS
Tel. 941.793.2317

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Legislative

Charles D. Barker
Lt. Col., USAF
Tel. 941.561.1757

JROTC Liaison

Robert O. Glodich
CW4, AUS
Tel. 941.793.2317

Membership

Vacant
(Can you help?)

TEMPORARY NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Zan Mayo Glodich
Phone/Fax 941.793.2317
Email: temp-gal@home.com

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President's Message



Our October meeting at The Tides on Marco Island was well attended for this time of year. The food was good but the speaker, Linda Abbott, of the Collier County School Board, was excellent. If you weren't there, you missed a very informative presentation.

I mentioned at the meeting that of the 45 Chapters/Clubs in Florida I receive bulletins from several, and it is obvious that all have an attendance problem, regardless of the prominence of the scheduled speaker. A straw vote at the meeting to try and determine the preferences of those in attendance was not particularly conclusive, so a survey is included below to poll the entire membership. Please participate and be prepared to discuss these options at the November 3 meeting.

Treasurer, Gil Erlichman, reminds us that Chapter dues of \$20.00 are due January 1. In the past, members have also generously contributed amounts over and above the dues for the scholarship fund and the JROTC fund. Those needs continue and I ask that you again be as generous as possible. We old-timers have done our part, but these youth may well be asked to sacrifice even more. Let's show our support.

Whoops ... almost forgot to tell you, this month's mystery member is Ray Engstrand.

Bob Glodich

Meeting Preference Survey

I prefer:

Time:

- Luncheon Meetings
 Dinner Meetings
 Some of each

Schedule:

- A flexible schedule
 The same day of the same week each month
Preferred Day/s: _____

Place:

- Moving from place to place
 A fixed, mutually convenient location
(probably North Naples)

Bring clip and bring to meeting or mail survey to:
Platinum Coast Military Officers Club
PO Box 3005, Naples, FL 34106-3005.

JROTC Activity

Naples High's 1996 PCROC TROA Medal recipient, Sergeant Andy Osburn, is a crew chief with the 160th Special Operations Aviation Battalion and is deployed overseas. Last year's Golden Eagle winner, Jonathan Webb, is now a C/2LT and commands Delta Company.

Several Collier JROTC units will march in the Swamp Buggy Parade on 27 October. Look for our color guards, drill teams, and marching units.

Immokalee High School will have a color guard, and both Naples and Barron Collier will have color guards and drill teams in the Veterans' Day Parade of 11 November. Late notice and school policy concerning Sunday events contributed to reduced participation.

The Collier County Raider Challenge to determine the county champion will be held on 15 December at Camp Cocohatchee Boy Scout Camp. Cadets will compete in PT tests, 5 KM 35 lb. rucksack march, 400 meter litter carry/first aid, air rifle quickfire, map reading test and compass course, and one-rope bridge. Volunteers are needed for judging! Call SFC O'Neil at 430-6660.



Smooth Start for TFL

Initial feedback about TriCare for Life has been positive, but if your doctor's office staff needs more information about TFL you have four sources right there on the spot to help them better understand the TFL benefit.

1. Call toll free 888-DoD-LIFE [888 363 5433] the TFL call center. The call center is operational Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and

Sunday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (Eastern Time).

2. If the office has access to the Web, on the main Medicare page, <http://www.medicare.gov/> click on News and Updates, then the link to TFL information, <http://www.medicare.gov/Contacts/Related/OtherGovernmentSites.asp#tricare>

3. The *Medicare & You* 2002 handbook is available on the Web at <http://www.medicare.gov/Publications/Pubs/pdf/mandy.pdf>. Section 6, item 3 (page 58) has information on TFL.

4. Go to the TROA Web site at <http://capwiz.com/tfl/index.html>, scroll to the bottom of the page and you will find multiple sources of TFL information. TROA's TFL Handbook for Providers is also available on the Web at <http://www.troa.org/Legislative/HealthCare/TFLProvider.pdf>



Quality of Life

Continued from page 1

Last mailing is November 26, so items must be brought to our November 3 meeting. Call Shirley Hagerson at 774-6180 if you have questions.

HAPPENINGS

Luncheon Meeting

**Saturday
3 November 2001**

**Old Hickory
Ft. Myers**

**Social Hour
11:30 a.m.
Lunch
12:00 Noon**

**Choice of
Prime Rib / Baked Potato or
Blackened Mahi Mahi w/ Rice Pilaf**

\$16.00 pp

**Speaker
Collier County Property Appraiser
Abe Skinner**

**RSVP
Paul Weber
262-6803**

November Board Meeting

**Monday, 5 November
3:00 p.m.**

**Home of Gil and Fran Erlichman
290 Robin Hood Circle
(Off Radio Road)
Naples
Tel. 348.8434 for Directions**

December Dinner Meeting

**Friday, 21 December
Country Club of Naples**

**Social Hour 6:30 p.m.
Dinner**

**(Bring an unwrapped Christmas
gift for child under age 10)**



**THOMAS M. FITZPATRICK,
M.D., P.A.**
Orthopaedic Surgery

The Commons Medical & Surgical Center
800 Goodlette Road North, Suite 380
Naples, Florida 34102
(941) 262-6660

Mystery Member ... Do You Recognize Him?



The photos are steadily coming in and I thank you for contributing to this game. We have one for next month but are ready for more after that.

The photos appear on our web site as well as in the newsletter (and look much better there). The address is <http://www.naples.net/clubs/platcost/>.

Please look through your old photos and pick out one that you would like to see here. I promise to take good care of your photos and return them unharmed but I do need you to carefully and lightly write your name on the back.

Hints: The year is 1944 and the uniform is Air Force. Identity is revealed on page 2.

Email Addresses Needed

If you have and use an email account, please send a test message to temp-gal@home.com with your real name in the message or subject line. If we ever had to cancel a meeting or change a meeting place, much telephone time could be saved.

Internet users might also want to help test our web site and offer suggestions for design and content. The site was completely revamped in October and the most difficult part was making it view attractively on different computers, due to variations in the way different browsers interpret coding and scripts and the options available to individual users. If this sounds like something you'd like to play with, mention it in your test message.

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Platinum Coast Retired Officers Club
PO Box 3005
Naples, Florida 34106-3005