



NAL Florida Chapter Newsletter, June 1, 2019

A Note from President Roselle Hanson

Welcome to the June issue of our newsletter! It's been a busy year, and I'm proud of our accomplishments! We continue to have luncheons filled to capacity, our speakers have been outstanding, our actions show our commitment to scholarship and education, and many of us have been interviewed as a result of the numerous requests from media and authors for special articles commemorating the Apollo Program as we approach the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11, the first moon landing.

We welcome the new Treasurer, Joe Lackovich, and the new Program Chair, Ann Bolton. We can't thank enough the outgoing Treasurer Catherine Alexander, and Russell Romanella who served as Program Chair, both served several years and provided great service to our chapter. I also appreciate the help of all the Board members and Vice President Wayne Owens, and Secretary Bob Raymond.

We've contributed funds to the regional FIRST Robotics Regional competition in Orlando, a newly created robotics team at Park Avenue Church School, the Eastern Florida State College Aerospace Technician competition, and our Launch STEM Careers (LSC) project. The LSC project just completed its 4th year and second year as a NALFL project mentoring girls and young women from elementary through university levels. Read more about this project further down in this newsletter.

The NALFL is co-sponsoring a luncheon with the American Space Museum July 17, for the Women of Apollo and your help is needed. It's been a challenge finding contact information for these women. Did you know over 500 women worked for NASA during the Apollo years in many different jobs? For more information about this event see our website home page and click on "the Apollo 11 Celebrations" or go to https://www.nalfl.com/?page_id=9782

We are also having a special Apollo Anniversary luncheon July 25 at the Debus and afterwards we will tour the Apollo/Saturn V Center to see its new renovations and displays. Watch our website for reservations to sign up for the luncheon and bus ride to tour the Apollo/Saturn V Center.

I also appreciate the help of all the Board members and Vice President Wayne Owens, and Secretary Bob Raymond, David Schechter and Suzanne Jamieson who lead Membership, Bev Merrilees, Cheryl Thorton and Barbara Naylor who manage reservations, check-in and the 50/50 desks, and Al Koller for social media publications and Nancy English for newsletters.

Larry Wilhelm served as photographer to enable us to include member photos in our directory and at monthly luncheons. Sam Haddad really adds to our luncheons with his fun and friendly commentary and Mike Haddad helps us with online record keeping and IT needs. I thank everyone who makes our chapter function and continue to grow!

Thanks to All of you for letting me serve as our chapter president. It's been a busy 2 years!

Membership News

By David Schechter and Suzanne Jamieson

The membership year for the NASA Alumni League Florida Chapter (NALFL) runs from July 1 to June 30. For the 2018-19 year, we had 149 members, 1 Life Benefactor member (\$1000.00 one-time donation), 23 Life members (\$500.00 one-time donation) and 15 Supporting members (\$100.00 annual donation). We also have had 20 new members join.

Our membership drive for the 2019-20 year starts June 1.

Membership levels remain the same as last year and are described [HERE](#).

You can join or renew in three ways:

- (1) [CLICK HERE NOW](#) to go online and pay using PayPal.
- (2) [GO HERE](#), print the application, fill it out and mail it with a check to NALFL, P.O. Box 423, Titusville, FL 32781.
- (3) [PICK UP AN APPLICATION](#) at the luncheon sign in desk, fill it out and return it by mail or hand it to a committee member at the meeting.

Twelve people have paid ahead for the 2019-20 membership year, not counting the 23 Life members. If you are one of these "pre-paid" members, you should receive an email before June 1 reminding you of your pre-paid status, and nothing more is required from you at this time.

The process will change a bit. New members will be issued NALFL identification cards/badges. Renewing members, please [don't discard your badges or badge holders](#). After you renew, you will be issued new red "2019" stickers to be placed on top of your existing green "2018" sticker (like your license plate stickers). Note: NALFL issued new badges, which are available at the registration table.

Your membership support is important to us, and we encourage all of you to invite your retired colleagues to become one of us. We appreciate your support and look forward to a great 2019-20 membership year!

Treasurer's Report

By Joe Lackovich and Catherine Alexander

Our beginning balance on January 1, 2018 was [\\$22,704.36](#) and we ended the year at [\\$27,134.76](#), an increase of [\\$4,430](#). Our income for the year was 158% of the budgeted amount. One of the most significant differences was the addition of the Launching STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Careers (LSC) Project to the NASA Alumni League Florida

(NALFL) scholarship activities. This Project was not included in our original Budget in 2018. The LSC Project was established by three of our members to provide STEM educational opportunities for girls. This project brought increased scholarship funding along with it and provided a mechanism for additional targeted scholarship donations from the community. Luncheon Income, Membership Income and Scholarship Income were all above budgeted levels.

Scholarship funds donated by NALFL totaled **\$8,329.31**. This included a donation of \$1001 to the FIRST Robotics Regional Competition, \$2,500 from the NALFL to the LSC Project and \$500 to Eastern Florida State College – Aerospace Tech Program. Expenses for the LSC Project totaled \$4,328.31 which covered supplies and special STEM mentoring events such as the Florida Tech Science Bus visits to schools and the Women in STEM event at Florida Tech. Our scholarship outreach continues to grow, thanks to the generosity of our members and the Brevard community.

I want to thank NALFL member John Key for once again for conducting the audit of the NALFL accounts for 2018. John verified the status of the accounts and provided valuable recommendations which have already been implemented.

Launch STEM Careers Update

By Rita Willcoxon

The Launch STEM Careers (LSC) Project had a very successful year. The project included activities with over 300 girls at 5 high schools, Florida Institute of Technology (FIT), and 7 elementary/middle schools. We conducted 58 visits during the school year either to train the High School or College girls or to conduct the hands-on STEM activities with the elementary and middle schools. The LSC also coordinated and hosted the 2nd Women in STEM Networking Event where approximately 100 STEM professionals from sixteen different companies, FIT female students, and high school students attended. The event creates an opportunity for STEM professionals across Brevard to network both across companies and with FIT STEM students to discuss career and workplace topics and provide contacts for the college girls for potential internships or permanent positions. The following were added to the LSC project this year:

- the addition of four high schools to the project
- the establishment of a FIT sanctioned on campus Launch STEM Careers Club
- pairing of professional mentors to twelve of the FIT girls in the LSC club
- addition of a partnership with the FIT Marine Biology and Ocean Engineering Department's Science Bus as a STEM activity at each school
- the addition of a pilot program with the Astronaut Memorial Foundation to do sphero coding as a STEM activity at three of the schools, one was a field trip to the space center which also provided an opportunity for the high school students to tour the Swampworks lab and the ISS plant biology areas
- Women from Harris Corporation joined us as mentors at Eau Gallie/Sabal and Bayside/Westside
- Women from Harris provided job strategy and resume training to the LSC club at FIT
- Addition of a 'Girls Who Code' 10-week pilot program at University Park Elementary which was led by Embraer

From a fundraising standpoint, the LSC project was chosen by GE/Wabtec as their STEM group to donate to during their March 14, National Pi Day which provided us with almost \$1000 to go toward supplies for the hands-on activities. We thank Al Koller and Sharon Hanson for helping us to get the Launchstemcareers.org website up and running with the capability to receive online donations. We also submitted a grant proposal to the Balda Family Foundation and are awaiting the results of an end of May selection process. In addition, we were asked to participate in several community events below:

- Guest speaker at the Daughter of the American Revolution Meeting in Melbourne in February. The DAR chapter has agreed to sponsor LSC in the submission of a grant proposal to their National Organization
- Served on a panel discussion on Girls in STEM, at the May 15 Community Foundation of Brevard meeting where they made a \$100 donation to LSC
- Guest speaker at the American Business Women Association in June

Finally, the LSC projects continues to grow. For the 2019/2020 school year, three of the high schools requested to add an addition elementary or middle school. The women at Harris have agreed to take the lead at Palm Bay High School/Palm Bay Elementary school. We are proud that we have grown from 2 elementary schools and 60 girls when we started in 2015/2016 school year to now 6 high schools, FIT, and 11 elementary/middle schools.

*****Upcoming Events*****



“Light the Fire” is the theme for the 46th Space Congress to be held **June 4th-7th, 2019** at the Radisson Resort at the Port, Cape Canaveral, FL. This event is packed with interesting presentations, panel sessions and exhibits highlighting such topics as *Multi-User Spaceport Programs, Exploration and Innovation, and How Do We Grow*. Mark your calendars to attend this informative event. For registration, go to <https://commons.erau.edu/space-congress-proceedings/proceedings-2019-46th/>.



Apollo 11 50th Anniversary KSC Workers Reunion

An Apollo 11 50th Anniversary KSC Workers Reunion is planned for mid-morning Sunday, **July 14, 2019** at the Astronauts Memorial Foundation Building at the KSC Visitor Center. This is a joint venture by the American Space Museum in Titusville and the Astronauts Memorial Foundation at KSC. This event is for **Apollo workers and their immediate families only** and will not be open to the general public.

Advance reservations **will be required** for this event. More details to come.

Please share this info with your Apollo Veteran friends!



NASA KSC Women of 1969

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11, the NASA Alumni League (NAL), in partnership with the American Space Museum (ASM), is honoring the NASA KSC Women of 1969 at a reunion and celebration luncheon to be held on **July 17, 2019** at La Cita Country Club

in Titusville, FL. Lunch will be provided for all NASA KSC honorees and the costs for family and other guests will be \$20 per ticket. Registration will begin at 11:00 a.m. followed by fellowship and lunch. A program to recognize all the NASA KSC Women of 1969 honorees will follow at noon. The speaker will be Astronaut Nicole Stott.

Reservations and payment (if any) are required by **July 1, 2019**. Make payments to "NASA/KSC Women of 1969", include the Wells Fargo account # 9255831100 on the memo line and select one of the following ways to pay: (1) Check; (2) Money Order; (3) Cash ONLY if you go in-person to any Wells Fargo Bank; or (4) Debit/Credit Card Cash Advance ONLY by going in-person to any Wells Fargo bank to pay by credit or debit card.

Please select one entrée per person below:

<u>Entrée</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Pay Method</u>
Chicken	_____	Check _____
Fish	_____	Money Order _____
Vegetarian	_____	Credit/Debit _____

Mail: NASA KSC Women of 1969
P.O. Box 663
Titusville, FL 32781

If you have any questions or concerns, please call or email Cheryl Thornton at 321-626-7119 or NASAKSCWomenof1969@gmail.com.

The American Space Museum (ASM) will add an exhibit in their museum to honor the women who were part of the historic Apollo 11 mission. We hope you take the time to visit the museum in Titusville while you are here for the event.

Mark your calendar for July 17 and plan to attend this celebration of space history.