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## June Fisher House News From Our Home

### With Gratitude

We would like to recognize some of our cause champions and financial partners for the month of May. When you see them, please thank them for their help fulfilling our mission.



Destin Woman's Club - \$9,000

**Raytheon**

Raytheon Company - \$1,500



Coastal Power Sports - Bike Night  
\$1,000



American Legion Post 356 Auxiliary and  
SONS \$4,150



Emerald Coast Lightning and Destin  
Rockets Lacrosse - \$1,000



Wintec, Incorporated  
Greg and Betty Fountain - \$1,000

Brock Lawn & Pest - Fort Walton Beach  
In Kind - Pest Control for the Home



Hurlburt Spouses Club - \$ 1,000

Sons of the American Legion SQDN 296  
\$ 500

Highpointe Hotel Corporation  
Courtyard Marriott/Hilton Garden Inn  
In Kind - Temporary Lodging

Joshuatree Internet Marketing  
In Kind - Web Design

Loc-n-Stor  
In Kind - Storage Facilities

Mackey Enterprises  
In Kind - Materials for the Home



Remember when shopping online with Amazon, choose Fisher House of the Emerald Coast. We just received our first donation thanks to your shopping in the amount of \$27.68. It's a start!

Our 2016 eligibility was recently confirmed. Please choose #66684 to support your Emerald Coast Fisher House and our local military families.



Visit our Website

## Upcoming Events

Fishing for a Cause - July 2016  
2nd Annual Okaloosa Island Pier Tarpon  
Tournament, weekends in July. 850.225.3022  
[piertournamentsinc@gmail.com](mailto:piertournamentsinc@gmail.com)



Honor Dad by purchasing a brick in his name.

<http://fisherhouseemeraldcoast.org/commemorative-bricks/>

September 24  
3rd Annual Eggs on the Beach  
Volunteers and sponsors needed



**Good Stewardship? We mean it!**



To put more of your financial support into care for our military and their families, Fisher House has relocated our corporate office to Workspace Suites on Lewis Turner Boulevard. We love the new space and it meets the needs of the organization perfectly.

**Coming soon - Fall 2016**

**Community Roundtable  
Brainstorming for 2017**

**Annual Black Tie Gala**

## Welcome Virginia Raaymakers

We would like to introduce our newest member of the Fisher House of the Emerald Coast staff, our new housekeeper Ms. Virginia Raaymakers.

Originally from Karlsruhe, Germany, Virginia moved to this area from Seattle, Washington in 2015. She brings a wealth of experience as a previous cleaning business owner and also possesses vast experience in the housekeeping department. She has introduced "green cleaning" to our Fisher House, which has been well received by our guests. Her friendly demeanor and constant smile makes guests feel welcome and at ease. In the short time she has been here, she has offered several suggestions to improve upon the facility, in turn, enhancing guests' experience at the Fisher House.

We are fortunate to have great teammates on site caring for our guests!



## Around Town



**Crestview Chamber of Commerce  
Networking Breakfast**



**Our American Legion Auxiliary friends have  
perfected their zany post!**



**Army Ranger Camp Open House was great fun!**



**The guys at Coastal Power Sports trying to get  
their crazy post on.....**





Sandra Wilson - Crestview Chamber takes a tour



Kelly Humphrey - NWF Daily News tours the home

## Fisher House welcomes a baby!

A healthy baby was delivered and discharged to go home. Mom developed a complication requiring additional in-patient medical care and dad had a contagious virus. The grandmother came to stay at Fisher House with the baby, right across the street from the hospital until Mom and Dad could get well. Happy ending and greater peace of mind.

Because we respect the privacy of our guests, we often can only share generically how your support is blessing lives. Rest assured, the lives you touch are real and you make a significant difference. Thank you for doing your part to bless others.



## The Chain of Love

[\(see definition here\)](#)

In May, we provided off-site temporary accommodations for a family whose active duty son, was critically injured in a non-work related accident, sadly losing his life. His brother, also active duty, came to provide escort. Car rental was not an option due to youth and the brother wanted to remain close to his brothers' brothers in arms on base. Your Fisher House

organization provided hotel accommodations near his support system, keeping families together.

Six of these brothers in arms later volunteered at a community event in his honor. Event organizers subsequently made a generous anonymous contribution to your local Fisher House.

Another family in our geographic footprint, a veteran, his wife, brother (who is also a veteran), grandson and fur family member traveled to Gainesville for a preoperative appointment to treat cancer. We provided temporary accommodations for his support system to remain close.

### Meet Board of Directors Vice President Gordy Fornell

Lieutenant General Fornell, USAF, (Ret) retired from active duty in the USAF in 1993 with over 35 years of service. He served in senior acquisition leadership positions in AF Systems Command and AF Materiel Command. The general is a command pilot with more than 7,000 flying hours in more than 40 types of aircraft. His military decorations and awards include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with 11 oak leaf clusters and Air Force Commendation Medal. He



also wears the Basic Parachutist Badge and the Missile Crew Member Badge.

He has been a private consultant since retiring and lives in Niceville, FL. He is also a member of the Defense Support Initiative of the Okaloosa County Economic Development Council, Chairman of the Air Force Armament Museum Foundation, member of both the Niceville Chamber of Commerce and Emerald Coast Military Affairs Committee, and member of the Mid-Bay Bridge Authority. He is a graduate of the AF Test Pilot School, holds an MBA from the Wharton School and an engineering degree from Michigan State University.

In May, our home on Eglin AFB hosted 42 guests, offering 245 bed nights.



**Ron Gribble, House Manager**



**Don Peckham, Assistant House Manager**

### **Fisher House Board Members**

#### **Executive Committee**

**President, Teresa Halverson**

**Vice President, Gordon "Gordy" Fornell**

**Treasurer, Mark Stogsdill**

**Secretary/Past President, Shirley Pigott**

#### **Board Members**

**Richard Dick  
Jim Fisher  
Bob Lynn  
Katy Mitchell  
Bruce Nunnally  
Jeff Riemer  
Tama Van Decar  
Jerry Williams  
Jim Yurack**

**Emeritus  
Myra Arnold**

STAY CONNECTED





## Volunteer Appreciation Day 2016

We hope that you enjoyed our inaugural celebration of our hands and feet who volunteer their precious time in support of our mission, serving those who serve. Save the date - 2017 is on the calendar! Visit our [website](#) for the date.

Door Prize Winners: Maggie Boyd, Glenn Harley, Terry McCormack, Jim St. John, Gunnar Jorgensen, Peter Karp and ticket holder 630320. Call/text/email 850.259.4956, [director@fisherhouseemeraldcoast.org](mailto:director@fisherhouseemeraldcoast.org) to arrange pickup/delivery of your prize.



Beach Community Bank provided the grill and the grill master, President/CEO Tony Hughes. The burgers and dogs were grilled to perfection in the Florida sun while our celebrity chefs baked. Thanks, team!



Special thanks to Trec Chedister and Tony Hughes, founding board members, the Honorable Mike Anderson, Mayor of Fort Walton Beach, Gordy and Bobbie Fornell and Brooke McLean, CEO of Air Force Enlisted Village.



Board Members Katy Mitchell and Gordy Fornell



Music provided by Tim Richey of the Mulligans Band



Maggie Boyd, Keith Brown, Shirley Pigott and Lenora Cook are rocking the kitchen!



**Board Members Mark Stogsdill and Richard Dick**



**Delicious dessert from EOD, makers of handcrafted artisan fudge was served, courtesy of Aaron Hale and McKayla Tracy. YUM! Have you tried? [Order here!](#)**



**House Manager Ron Gribble, original employee hosts a tour of our lovely home.**

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