



## AUSTRALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION - GOLD COAST

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July, 2019.

### THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Our AAA-GCD received an invitation from the Gold Coast Canadian Club to attend the Canadian equivalent of the USA's Independence Day at a luncheon on June 30 at the Loose Moose Tap & Grill House in Broadbeach. Rodney and I attended along with Wanda Fitzgerald and Fred Hamblen Jr. Some years ago the AAA and the Canadian group liaised at many functions and after speaking with their new President, we agreed to reconnect in the future for various functions.

Meanwhile, preparations were underway for the Independence Day celebration for AAA-GCD that was to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> July at the Gold Coast Historical Society and Museum where some of our members volunteer and opened the Museum especially for us to hold our function. We had 30 in attendance provided all the snags, hotdogs, hamburgers and dessert and guests contributed with snacks, dips and a variation of salads and side dishes which ended up a gourmet delight. Fortunately weather was kind and if you got bored with visiting there was much to check out within the Museum and grounds itself. As I have titled this location a hidden gem on the coast. If you weren't in attendance go and visit sometime. Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday off Bundall Road.

Thanks to all those who attended including Evelyn Gerritsma who flew up from Sydney and our Canadian guests Judy and Norm Wuest along with some faces we haven't seen in years. So all the effort and preparation was not in vain and good olde 4<sup>th</sup> July did not go unnoticed!

A presentation of a Life Membership was made to once President and often Vice President of the Gold Coast Division and Federal President for 3 years Mr Keith Shackley for his efforts and service given to Australian American Association both on the Gold Coast and Federal. Keith, thank you.

An invitation had been extended to me as President and Rodney, Billie Jo McCann and Keith Shackley hosted by U.S. Ambassador Arthur B. Culvahouse Jr. and the Commander, Battle Force

Seventh Fleet Rear Admiral Karl Thomas to attend a celebration of American Independence on Sunday July 7<sup>th</sup> on board USS RONALD REAGAN. What an occasion to behold, and a privilege to have the opportunity to be included at this reception.

As was indicated in last month's issue that the new AAA-GCD website is up and running now thanks to Committee member Fred Hamblen Jr. and the address [australianamericanassociationgoldcoast.com](http://australianamericanassociationgoldcoast.com) is

Please go and check it out and look for photos from previous functions and also forthcoming events so you now will have your finger on the pulse of our activities past and future. It is so wonderful to be back on track with the website and maybe it will entice others out there on the coast to come and join us at our events.

A reminder that we have a Meet and Greet this coming Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at Southport Yacht Club and if you wish, stay on for the Roast night.

Please note this date in August where our Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at 6:00pm in the Board Room of the Southport Yacht Club.

Materials and information regarding this AGM will be forthcoming, in the meantime think about volunteering to be nominated to run for the Committee for 2019-2020, we would love to have you on board and join in the fellowship and friendship at the same time.

So after a big month of celebrations and major events and accomplishments for AAA-GCD I close and glad you could join us this month at one or more of our functions and I look forward to your attending in the near future.

Lastly, as a reminder once more don't forget to look on AAA-GCD website for the latest and greatest of [australianamericanassociationgoldcoast.com](http://australianamericanassociationgoldcoast.com) functions.

Your President Faye Brutlag

**Photos from the functions.**



**Georgia Cook, Kath McLean, Elaine Kennett and Elaine Campbell smile for camera.**



**Howard Campbell chats with Carole Morris with Ray McLean to the left chatting to someone else.**

**Photos from Battle of Coral Sea in May**



**Members & friends enjoying the BBQ lunch Wanda, Georgia Kath, Ray, Richard, Gino, June and Rodney**



**President Faye with Rodney and Colonel Raymond Powell Defence Attache**



**John Kearney and Carole Morris oversee Phillip Morris while he cooks the BBQ**



**Howard with Korean Rep and Colonel Powell**

**COMING EVENTS**

**Meet & Greet Dates  
SOUTHPORT YACHT CLUB 4TH  
WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH  
5.30 - 7.00 PM**

**July 24<sup>th</sup> 2019.  
August 28<sup>th</sup> 2019. AGM as well 6.00 pm**



**Richards Williams and renewed member Elaine Kennett. Richards put on an impromptu performance to entertain the group.**

**Hope you can make one of functions in the future.**