

# **AVON PARK CHAMPIONS CLUB**

HONORING THE PAST  
SUPPORTING THE PRESENT  
ENCOURAGING THE FUTURE



*THE CHAMPIONS CLUB BOARD MEMBERS  
WOULD LIKE TO THANK EACH OF YOU FOR  
YOUR SUPPORT.*



*WELCOME  
TO THE EIGHTH ANNUAL*



## **HALL OF FAME INDUCTION BANQUET**

**MARCH 2, 2019**

### **INDUCTEES**

**ANN CARTER  
KENNY LONG  
WILLIAM S. "STEVE" MAXWELL  
CLYDE "CHOP" POUGH**





## TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE

Welcome.....	Walter Nunnallee
Pledge of Allegiance.....	Walter Nunnallee
Invocation.....	Father Nicholas McLoughlin
Entertainment.....	APHS Women's Choir
Dinner.....	Served by APHS Culinary
Club Goals & Achievements.....	Ronnie Jackson, President
President's Award.....	Ronnie Jackson, President
Student Scholarships.....	Lew Mundt, Vice President
Induction Ann Carter .....	Walter Nunnallee
Induction Kenny Long .....	Walter Nunnallee
Induction William S. "Steve Maxwell".....	Walter Nunnallee
Induction Clyde "Pork Chop" Pough.....	Walter Nunnallee
Closing.....	Ronnie Jackson, President

# AVON PARK CHAMPIONS CLUB

The purpose of the Avon Park Champions Club is to create a championship environment in Avon Park both by honoring the past and supporting our local academic and athletic programs. All the championships in the history of Avon Park were a product of the support of families, coaches, teachers, teammates, classmates - the entire community. Just as it takes a village

to raise a child, it takes a community effort to produce championship caliber programs. The Avon Park Champions Club was formed to provide the support necessary to afford each student that same opportunity that many of us experienced in years past.

To steal a quote from Field of Dreams, "build it and they will come", create a championship environment in our community and the championships will come!

**If you are interested in supporting the Champions Club, please visit our website at [www.apchampionsclub.com](http://www.apchampionsclub.com)**



**118 South Lake Avenue  
Avon Park, FL 33825  
Phone: 863-453-5959**

**Email: [info@apchampionsclub.com](mailto:info@apchampionsclub.com)**

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION TO  
THE APHS Women's Show  
Choir**

<i>Amiah Anderson</i>	<i>Kate Bonini</i>
<i>Liliana Fuentes</i>	<i>Ejenard Chavenn</i>
<i>Ilyana Hernandez</i>	<i>Tara Cloud</i>
<i>Iris Negley</i>	<i>Madison Coceano</i>
<i>Cristina Ruiz</i>	<i>Halea Dagda</i>
<i>Lysmary Silva</i>	<i>Neaychma Fogle</i>
<i>Jeannaica St Louis</i>	

**SOLOISTS**

*Avon Park High School and the Champions Club  
are very proud of these young women.*

**AVON PARK CHAMPIONS CLUB MEMBERS**

**Executive Board**

**President.....Ronnie Jackson**  
**Vice President.....Lew Mundt**  
**Secretary.....Stephanie Devlin**  
**Treasurer.....Charles Devlin**

**Board of Directors**

Chet Brojek  
Scott Dressel  
Kimberly Ferguson  
Dawn Henderson  
Amy Jackson  
Penny Jahna  
Walter Nunnallee

**General Members**

Keith Bentley	Bill Jarrett
Alvin Conner	Dale Landress
Rodney Davis	Cherri Lee
Paul Devlin	Dean Lemler
Teresa Devlin	Doug Lemler
Willie English	Staci Lemler
Becky Ford	Jean Lund
Steven Ford	Judy Mundt
Monica Germaine	John Palmer
Anthony Gordon	Jimmy Prevatt
Tom Gordon	Hoppy Rewis
Terry Heston	Ron Sevigny
Billy Jackson	Laura Welch
Mort Jackson	
Kim Jahna	

## **ANN CARTER**

*Ann is a native of Avon Park. She is the daughter of Bill and Jessie Thomas Rowland and sister of Charlie Rowland.*

*She graduated from Avon Park High School as an honor student with the class of 1958.*

*Ann became a member of the Avon Park High School Circus in the 7th grade. She tumbled and performed on the trapeze. She mastered different stunts over her high school years and ended with the flying trapeze.*

*During her 10th grade year, she became a member of the high school band as a majorette and was appointed head majorette her senior year.*

*Ann played basketball all 4 years of high school and was captain her senior year. She was voted, “Most Athletic” her senior year and was the only senior not to miss a day of school.*

*After graduation ,she started working at the United Telephone Co . as a telephone operator and then she was secretary to the district manager.*

*She met the man of her dreams, Edward Carter, in*

## **Silver/\$100**

**Robert Barben, Inc.  
Big T Tire  
Rodney and Lisa Davis  
Designer’s Top Shop  
Home Depot  
Tom Lund Insurance  
Dr. Pritit Sharma  
Jan Shoop  
Southern Signs  
Dr. Tina Thomas  
Warren’s Auto Sales**



**We would like to thank the following  
that helped make this event possible**

### **SPECIAL THANK YOU TO APHS CHORUS**

**Stephanie Devlin.....Banquet Chair  
Penny Jahna.....Silent Auction Coordinator  
Raeleigh Jewell Culinary Arts Class.....Food Prep & Serving  
Stephen Devlin.....Club Video  
Amy Jackson.....Inductee Video  
Walter Nunnallee... ..Banquet Emcee  
Amy Jackson .....Program  
Ronnie Jackson, Lew Mundt, Charles Devlin  
“The Chefs”**

# **THANK YOU TO OUR BANQUET SPONSORS**

## **Platinum/\$500**

**Carney Foundation  
Bagwell Lumber  
Chet & Chris Brojek  
Cowpoke's Watering Hole  
Griffin Dry Cleaning & Laundry, Inc.  
Devtech  
GeoDev  
Huston Motors  
Jarrett Gordon Ford  
Jarrett Foundation  
MIDFLORIDA Credit Union  
Walter & Joyce Nunnallee  
Wild Turkey Tavern**

## **Gold/\$250**

**Avon Park Rotary Club  
Center State Bank  
Hardee County Disposal  
Heartland National Bank  
Hicks Oil  
Jahna Concrete  
John Palmer Electric  
Sevigny and Associates Eye Care  
Steel Blue Fabrication LLC  
Taqueria Merlo  
Wells Motor Co**



*and recently celebrated 59 years of marriage. They have three sons and one daughter, Chip, Travis, Walt and Dedra. Seven (7) grandchildren and five (5) great grandchildren.*

*Her husband Ed, was Publisher of the Avon Park Sun until his retirement in 1987. Ann attended bookkeeping classes at Stetson University, and helped him as a bookkeeper, writer, advertising, sales, photographer and political reporter. She met with several dignitaries over the years including a friend Governor Claude Kirk who was here for the ground breaking of our State College.*

*She started in the 60's buying real estate, obtained her real estate license and then her broker's license. Ann owned two Century 21 offices, one in Lake Wales and one here in her hometown of Avon Park. She sold the franchises and maintains Highlands Realty Inc. to date.*

## **KENNY LONG**

*Kenneth Richard Long, Sr. (Kenny) was born in Terry Hill, PA on Feb 11<sup>th</sup>, 1942. His mother, Stella Weigle Long, died when he was three weeks old. As a result of his mother's passing, his father, Ivan G. Long, hired a Mennonite lady, Beatrice Zoll, to help raise the family.*

*He moved to Avon Park in first grade. During that time, the Avon Park Red Devil Circus began and Kenny performed as a tumbler. He furthered his skills during his high school years and began performing on the flying rings, parallel bars and a clown.*

*Kenny was a very impressive student and athlete at Avon Park High School. He played all four year on the football team. He also won many prestigious awards such as: Bailey Medal- Most Thoughtful of Others, Industrial Arts Award, Most Improved Football Player Award, Coach Garrett Award, Coach Franza Award, P.O. Goof, FHA Sweetheart, and "Best Physique" - Avon Park High School's Devil's Chatter. John Crittenden awarded Kenny a Gold Watch for services over and beyond normal student activities.*

*He was then off to serve our country and he entered the Marine Corps in 1960. He was appointed Right Guide/front man carrying the Platoon Flag and was honored with a meritorious promotion to private first class (PFC) E-2. In 1961 he graduated Tank Commander School M60 Tanks/ Meritorious Promotion to Lance Corporal E-3. In 1962 he received a Meritorious Promotion to Corporal E-4 – and appointed Administrative Chief of Company C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tank Battalion, Force Troops, Fleet Marine Force Atlantic at Camp LeJeune, N.C.*

*He earned diplomas from the United States Marine Corps – in Accounting, Bookkeeping, Air Conditioning, Refrigeration, and Electrical Wiring.*

## **THANK YOU TO THOSE THAT DONATED ITEMS TO THE SILENT AUCTION**

***Amy Jackson—Plunder Design Pieces***

***Artist, Humberto Benitez***

***Heartland National Bank***

***Chet and Chris Brojek***

***18 East***

***Walter & Joyce Nunnallee***

***Megan Bronson—Lip Sense***

***Palmer—Ace Hardware***

***Big T Tire***

***Friends of Champions Club***

***Tom Lund Insurance***

***Frank Davis/Guided Fishing Trip***

***Tassel and Thread***

***Chet and Christine Brojek***



*Please visit the silent auction display before and during dinner. An announcement will be made prior to the closing auction time. All winners will be notified*

# HALL OF FAME

## PAST INDUCTEES

2012

*Lucy Derkman  
Joe Franza  
Reginald "Guy" Garrett  
Thomas Gordon  
Ronnie Jackson  
Bill Jarrett*

2013

*Chet Brojek  
Frederic "Fred" Jahna  
Virgil Martin  
Rance "Hoppy" Rewis  
J. C. Walker*

2014

*Ralph Hill  
Dewayne Lemler  
Dexter Seigler  
Ronald Sevigny  
Don Sisemore*

2015

*Robert Barben  
Rodney Davis  
Dale Landress  
Jean Lund  
Jimmy Prevatt*

2016

*Alvin Conner  
Cherri Lee  
Al Loveless  
Fred Montsdeoca  
Wendell Williams*

2017

*Chuck Anderson  
Thomas Bagwell  
John Crittenden  
Willie English  
Anthony Gordon*

2018

*Charles "Charlie" Bonjokian  
Joe Jackson  
Larie Welch  
Stanley Wells*



*He also designed and built waterproof deployment boxes for the Marine Corps manuals that saved hours of time upon deployment.*

*Kenny continued his athleticism in the Marine Corps as a boxer and held the chin-ups record during boot camp with an impressive 37 in 2 minutes.*

*He married his high school sweetheart, Freda Lee Bennett, on July 13<sup>th</sup> 1961. They have two daughters LaDawn Ruth and Kari Jane. They also had a son, Kenneth Richard Long, Jr. born February 11<sup>th</sup> 1967, and went to be one of Jesus' angels on January 5<sup>th</sup> 1971. Kenny and Freda have grandsons, Kenny, attending Embry Riddle University, and Koy, attending Florida Southern. They also have granddaughters, Kami, attending University of Florida and KenLee, a junior at Brandon High School.*

*Kenny has accumulated 5,000+ hours flying time since 1975. In 1980 Kenny built an airplane desk receiving worldwide attention. He even received an invitation to the Johnny Carson Show but dislocated his knee at a company picnic playing football and could not make the trip.*

*He also continues to serve others on many committees such as: Chairman of the Highlands County board of Examiners - 10 years.*

*Chairman of the Highlands County Code Enforcement Board -2 years.*

*Chairman of the Ridge Vo-Tech Vocational Advisory Board -15 years.*

*Chairman of the Avon Park Airport Committee -r 26 years.*

*Chairman of the Avon Park Competency Board - 26 years.*

*Avon Park Chamber of Commerce Board 1983-85.*

*Avon Park Noon Rotary Club since 1972 past board member/  
PAUL HARRIS FELLOW.*

*1992 Matty Laird Aviation Award - Air Force Association for commitment and involvement in Aviation.*

*Business success as owner and operator of Long's Air Conditioning, Inc. (Family owned for over 70 years):*



*The Avon Park Champions Club Hall of Fame honors and recognizes former students, faculty, staff and citizens of Avon Park who have distinguished themselves by virtue of their outstanding*

# WILLIAM S. "STEVE" MAXWELL

*William S. Maxwell, better known as Steve Maxwell, was born November 6, 1944, in Avon Park, FL at the home place on 607 E. Circle St., originally known as 607 E. Pleasant St. He is the youngest of the four children of T. Hayes and Leoma Maxwell. His siblings are Thomas Hayes Maxwell, Jr. (deceased), Jane Maxwell Day, Menlo Park CA, and Claire Maxwell McGraw, Haines City, FL. He has five children: Shellie Maxwell Christman (Dave), Atlanta GA; Susi Maxwell Zwalina, Orlando, FL; Jennifer Maxwell Charles (Chris), St. Petersburg, FL; Casey Adcock Morris (JF), Winter Garden, FL; and Jared Adcock (Summer), Monroe, GA. He also has six grandchildren: Isabella "Bella" Christman, Atlanta; Kennedy Zwalina, Orlando; Jack and Conley Morris, Winter Garden, FL; and Max and Brewer Adcock, Monroe, GA. and one great-grandchild, Raylan Zwalina, Lake Mary.*

*In 1935, his parents ,Hayes and Leoma Maxwell, bought property on East Pleasant St. with a ten acre grove and small log house, and moved there. Hayes added bedrooms and porches around that house as the children were born, but the original log walls are still visible in the living room. He established his business Maxwell Groves at that time, and it continues today on the same site, celebrating over 83 years of being in operation.*

*Steve attended Avon Park schools, graduating in 1962. He lettered in football his senior year. He attended Bob Jones University in SC the fall term of 1962 and left there to enter the United States Air Force in January 1963. He spent two years of service in the United States and Thailand, as an air freight airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class. He worked for a short time for Highlands County as Deputy Supervisor of Elections under Jimmy Whitehouse, but soon focused on learning the fruit business, which he eventually took over. He built a packing house that included an office, installed the machinery and hired a secretary. (The business office had previously been in the family home, where his mother had kept the books since 1935.) He also bought the nearby Edward N. Griffith home at 200 N. Lotela, got married, remodeled the house, and raised his family there. He continues to live there today.*

## AVON PARK CHAMPIONS CLUB

### SUPPORTING THE PRESENT

*The Avon Park Champions Club helps support the following programs, clubs and organizations.*

All Avon Park Public Schools  
APHS Culinary Class  
Avon Park Diamond Club  
Avon Park Youth Football  
Avon Park Dixie Youth Baseball  
Boys' and Girls' Club  
APHS Future Business Leaders of America  
Music on Main Street  
APHS Student –Athlete of the Month  
Parade of Athletes  
Central Florida Striders  
Champions Elite Track Team  
Marc Mero (motivational speaker)  
Jingle Bell Run  
Harvest Festival Anchor Sponsor  
School Advisory Committee  
Avon Park High School's Chorus and Band

#### APHS Sports

- Baseball
- Boys' Basketball
- Girls' Basketball
- Girl's Flag Football
- Cheerleading
- Football
- Boys'/Girls' Soccer
- Tennis
- Volleyball
- Wrestling
- Softball

#### APMS Sports

- Boys' Basketball
- Girls' Basketball
- Cheerleading
- Volleyball

Girls /Boy's Golf





# **AVON PARK CHAMPIONS CLUB**

## **ENCOURAGING THE FUTURE**

*The Avon Park Champions Club seeks to assist students who have demonstrated integrity, strength of character, financial need, a good academic record, commitment to pursue a college education and a desire to contribute to society.*

*The Champions Club has presented 15 \$1,000.00 scholarships to date.*

### **SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

**2014**-Charles Council

Maria Tataris

**2015**-Brianna Cox

Rachel Gaidos

**2016**-Paul Devlin

Chase Langston

**2017**-Cassidy Beers

Luis Cervera

Jaydee Grice

Diana Eugenio-Hernandez

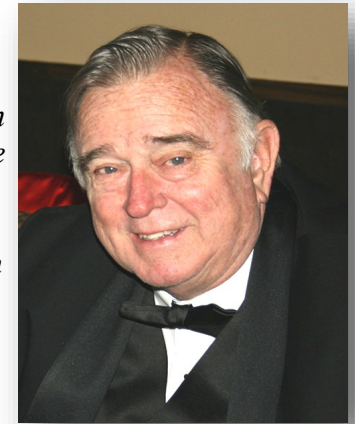
**2018** -Kristen Farless

Joseph Franza

Bryce Langston

Denise Lindimas

Madison Thomas



*While growing up, Steve was a member of the United Methodist Church in Avon Park. Upon his return to Avon Park, he attended the First Baptist Church, where he taught Sunday School, then moved to the First Presbyterian Church and served there as a deacon. Later he returned to First Baptist and eventually joined the Avon Park Lakes Baptist Church, which started as a mission church of First Baptist. He is active in the Senior Adult Sunday School Class there.*

*Steve has been a member of Rotary over 40 years, and is presently in the Noon Rotary Club of Avon Park. He has received the Paul Harris Fellow Award twice. On several occasions he has hosted and housed visiting International Rotarians. He is also a longtime member of the Highlands County Farm Bureau and has received its Outstanding Member Award. His father helped establish that Chapter of the Farm Bureau in the late 40's. Steve has the FFA Ag Barn at Avon Park High School named in his honor. For years he has offered his help to FFA students to house and prepare their animals for the Highlands County Youth Fair. In 2008, he was named Pioneer of the Year by the Avon Park Historical Society.*

*When Steve took over Maxwell Groves, he built a packing house on the home property and developed a gift fruit shipping business and a store on Hwy 27 that sold fruit retail as well as shipping gift baskets, and serving soft ice cream made with fresh orange juice. That store was eventually moved to the family property on Circle Street and the ice cream is still very popular. Recently Jarvis Castillo and his wife Maggie leased the store. In the 1970's and 80's he also developed two small businesses, Maxwell Pest Control and M&M Distributors, which he eventually sold.*

*Steve has always been generous and active in the community, helping with Chamber of Commerce, Avon Park Museum and*

## CLYDE “ CHOP” POUGH

*Clyde Pough, better known as “Pork Chop”, was born on Christmas day in 1969. He was raised among a large family here in Avon Park, Florida. As a gifted athlete, he was well known at Avon Park High School. He was part of the baseball and football teams and joined both varsity teams as a freshman. During the late 80’s, Avon Park High’s football and baseball teams had made a name for itself. Chop was part of the 1987 State Championship baseball team and the next year as a part of the 1988 State Championship football team. He was also a stand out pitcher on the Dixie Majors World Series Championship team in 1987. Chop tied a Dixie Majors World Series record with three wins, including a three hit shutout in the championship game. He also had the privilege of playing in the North-South All Star game.*

*His success at Avon Park High was just the beginning for this talented player. Chop was drafted as a pitcher in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round to the Cleveland Indians in 1988 during his senior year.*

*His professional baseball career lasted 12 years and during that time he played for the Cleveland Indians, Boston Red Sox, Kansas City Royals and an Independent League team the Nashua Pride. During his time with the Nashua Pride, he earned another championship title. Even though he was drafted as a pitcher, surprisingly he never pitched during his stint in the professional league. He played 3<sup>rd</sup> base during most of his remaining career.*

*With many great memories under his hat, a few that stood out were the opportunity to meet up with family in the major leagues. Not too many families can say that!*

*He played against his cousin, Anthony Gordon, during spring training in Tucson, AZ and got a hit off him. He also had the opportunity of sharing the field with his cousin, Thomas “Flash” Gordon, during spring training*



*Even after his baseball career came to an end, he decided to join his cousins once again. He began working at Jarrett- Gordon Ford in Davenport, Florida. He’s been part of the company for 15 years and works as the New Car Inventory Manager. As a way of staying involved in baseball and in order to contribute to the future of the game, he decided to coach for the Florida Flash travel ball team. For the past 10 years, he has enjoyed teaching the game he’s loved for so many years; this is really what he is most proud of even after all his personal success.*

*He is currently the proud father of 5 children: 4 daughters (Shatavia, Vanasia, Alana and Camille) and a son (Kameron). He and his wife, Allison, currently live in Haines City but come home to Avon Park quite often. They attend Zion Temple Holiness Church here in Avon Park to listen to the word of God given in his cousin Anthony’s sermons each Sunday.*