

Year End 2019 STEM Recap Report on SREM at the VAC. You can also access this report by clicking on:

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by Bill Teixeira

I'm so thrilled as we end another successful year and especially working with the STEM team members at the VAC. The ideas received from the STEM team have proven to make our programs very successful; the ideas were brilliant. I wish I created some of them myself! Working as a team is the answer to solve most problems and to come up with new ways to solve problems, start new ventures and help our youth; it is very rewarding as one succeeds in working with one another. In any profession, decisions can create discomfort, waste money and cause decision-makers to live with regret. However, working with STEM is just an awesome experience and decisions are easy to make and implement. We have to learn from the mistakes made by others and also learn from the mistakes we have made as well.

We predicted that the last quarter of 2019 would be terrific and the beginning of the first quarter was just going to knock your socks off. Last quarter we developed a STEM web site dedicated to STEM with a link to the VAC web site. The students by selling carry bags for groceries at \$4.00 each raised enough money to buy a needed 55-inch TV. We received two grants, one from Walmart and the other from Northrup Grumman. A retired Engineer from the Boeing Corporation joined our team as an instructor. A most inspiring meeting took place in December with a group called STEMconnect; a program of Florida High Tech Corridor. This group, in the coming months, will assist us to expand our teaching ability to include marketing tools, STEM guidance on programs, developing program subject matter, experts from industry and bring academia into our classroom virtually.

We have recapped a few of our achievements in 2019 now let's discuss what is planned for 2020 and beyond for one can never stop from moving forward. We will be adding flight instruction to our sessions with the planned purchase of a flight simulator that will have all the bells and whistles. Partnering with concerned others in the community we have planned an outreach program asking volunteers to attend meetings in a new way called Webinars. This approach gives the attendees the opportunities to be at home and attend a meeting via the Internet. We also plan to use this new approach to teach our students. In our classroom, the student will watch an instructor create a project on TV while the student creates the same project with their own hands. The one area we are planning to develop is to select a few students who really want to get into a project and develop it with their own hands working until the project is completed; this project would be an ongoing project that could take twelve months to two

years to complete. So, stand by for 2020, it is not only a big election year but also a year of growth for STEM and for the Valiant Air Command

Warbird Museum; are you as excited as we are? We sure hope so for we are counting on a well-devised light plan and staying on course. Remember to use your head and use the good decision-making ability that you possess.