

American Legion

Charles F. Thomas IV Post 117

March / April
2015
Issue No. 2



Monthly Events At A Glance . . .

MARCH

- ◆ Karaoke - Every Friday 8 to 12 pm and Sunday 4 to 8 pm
- ◆ Shrimp/Wings Sunday - Every Sunday 1 to 5 pm
- ◆ Tacos - First and Third Tuesday, 5 to 7 pm
- ◆ Haley's Wings - Third Wednesday, 5 to 7 pm
- ◆ Big-Azz-Burgers - Wednesday, 4 March, 5 to 7 pm
- ◆ Riders Dinner - Friday, 6 March, 5 to 7 pm
- ◆ Guardian ad Litem Dinner - Saturday, 7 March, 4 to 7 pm
- ◆ SAL Dinner - Friday, 13 March, 5 to 7 pm
- ◆ St. Patrick's Day - 17 March, Food by 40&8, 1 to 7 pm
- ◆ AUX Dinner - Friday, 20 March, 5 to 7 pm
- ◆ District 12 Picnic @ Post 117 - 21 March, All Day Event
- ◆ SAL College - Saturday, 21 March

APRIL

- ◆ Karaoke - Every Friday 8 to 12 pm and Sunday 4 to 8 pm
- ◆ Shrimp/Wings Sunday - Every Sunday 1 to 5 pm
- ◆ Tacos - First and Third Tuesday, 5 to 7 pm
- ◆ Haley's Wings - Third Wednesday, 5 to 7 pm
- ◆ Riders Dinner - Friday, 3 April, 5 to 7 pm
- ◆ Children's Easter Party - Saturday, 4 April
- ◆ Easter Sunday - Sunday, 5 April, 40&8 Dinner
- ◆ SAL Dinner - Friday, 10 April, 5 to 7 pm
- ◆ Aux Dinner - Friday, 17 April, 5 to 7 pm
- ◆ Post Dinner - Friday, 24 April, 5 to 7 pm

Post Meetings:

- Legion Meeting – 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 pm
- SAL Meeting – 2nd Thursday, 6:30 pm
- Auxiliary Meeting – 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 pm
- Legion Riders Meeting – 1st Thursday, 6:30 pm
- 40 & 8 Voiture 1621 – 3rd Thursday, 7:00 pm
- La Femmes – 1st Wednesday, 7:00 pm

Post Website: www.all17.com

Legion Riders Website: www.alr117.com

American Legion, Charles F Thomas IV Post 117 Inc.
189 Veterans Drive, Palm Bay, FL 32909
Veterans Organization Certificate #15-00-064930-58C
Florida Department of Revenue

American Legion Officers

CommanderJim Fournier
1st Vice ComBruce Thurber
2nd Vice ComGene Baker
AdjutantDuane Podhola
Finance OfficerDuane Podhola
ChaplainBarry Roberts
Sgt. At ArmsMatt Zirwas
Asst. Sgt. At Arms ...Ray Yarnell
HistorianTim Morris
Judge AdvocateTom McCausland
Service Officers.James Stewart & Barry Roberts
Exec. Committee.....Mike Demarte & Tom Giampino

American Legion Auxiliary Officers

PresidentSharon McCausland
1st Vice Pres.....Kerry Baker
2nd Vice PresSheila Cline-Burns
Treasurer.....Kim Oaks
Secretary.....Sheila Cline-Burns
Sgt. At Arms.....Karen Humann
Asst. Sgt. At Arms....Open
Chaplain.....Barbara Simons
HistorianMaryann Spellman
Membership.....Janet Podhola
Executive Members at Large:
Boots Kimber, Linda Lanier, & Sheila Culnan

Sons of the American Legion Officers

Squadron Commander.Bruce Thurber
1st Vice S.C.....Ray Yarnell
2nd Vice S.C.....Tony Gannon
AdjutantKevin MacDonald
Finance Officer Ray Mohr
Chaplain.....Dick Kissinger
Sgt. At Arms.....Fred Hooley
Asst. Sgt. At Arms.....Russell Flieschman
Historian.....Ed Milnor

American Legion Riders Officers

DirectorDick Kissinger
Asst Director.....Jim Fournier
Secretary.....Sheila Cline-Burns
Treasurer.....James Stewart
Chaplain.....James Stewart
Sgt. At Arms.....Duane Podhola
Historian.....Dawn Hanner
Safety Officer.....Terry Doiel

Commander's Corner

Dear Legion, Aux, and SAL Members,

First I would like to thank all of the hard working volunteers that helped with the Canteen remodel. You all have done a fabulous job and I have heard nothing but compliments. I also want to give a special "Thank You" to Don and Millie Joucum for their tremendous job refinishing the bar, Randy Chilcott and his company for their hard work with the acoustical ceiling and Todd Burns for all of the Electrical work. Thank you all again! I also would like to thank Barry Roberts and the rest of the volunteers for putting on the Four Chaplains ceremony back on February 1st. "Great Job and Thank You!"

We have a lot of motorcycle poker runs, riders and visitors that are coming to our post, so please, be cautious and courteous when driving through the parking lot and on the property. We do have posted speed limit signs and speed bumps, so please abide by them. Thank you.

American Legion Post 117 has once again been chosen to host the 12th District Picnic on Saturday, March 21st. The money raised at this picnic helps support the bus transportation for the Boys & Girls State program. Please come out and support this great program.

Congratulations to Tim Brooks for winning the latest Legion Riders Chip Challenge. (4,083 golf balls were hit)

As always, please make sure to read the posters and flyers hanging in the Canteen, Tiki and on the AL117.com website for the most current information on events here at the post. Thank you all for your support and I look forward to continue on having a great 2015.

For God and Country,

Jim Fournier

Commander, American Legion Post 117



Ways and Means Committee

Chairman: *Jim Fournier*
Members: *Bruce Thurber*
Sharon McCausland
Sheila Cline-Burns
Gene Baker
Sheila Culnan
Dick Kissinger
Duane Podhola



Canteen Staff

Canteen Manager: *Sheila Cline-Burns*
Volunteer Bartenders: *Shirley Domonousky*
Sheila Culnan
Linda Abbott
Barbara Mohr
Haley Farris
Terry Rook



House Committee

Chairman: *Tom Giampino*
Members: *John Jones* *Ron Lawton*
Charlie Christy *Steve Goodman*
Brenda Miskow *Doyle Hughes*
Jeff Davis



Honor Guard

Commander: *Matt Zirwas*
Members: *Jim Fournier*
Bruce Thurber
Tom McCausland
Randy Chilcott
Bruce Walkowiak
Donna Walkowiak
Jesse Figueroa
Dave Hynes
Brandon Thurber



Dear Members,

Welcome spring, enjoy the cool air, summer heat will be here before you know it.

During our March and April Auxiliary Meeting we will be asking for nominations for Auxiliary Officer positions. Please come to the meetings and nominate officers for the positions in our Auxiliary. We always need new ideas.

On March 15th our Department President, Erna Shwabe, will be visiting, our unit. We will be dedicating the Lighthouse to the Post during Erna Shwabe's visit and term of office. Dawn Burgess, Maryann Spellman, Dorothy Walsh, and Donna Walkowiak worked very hard selling the tickets. We want to thank our Post Members for their support of the Lighthouse Project.

On April 4 our Auxiliary will be treating our members children and grandchildren to an Easter party. Please look for the signup sheet and add your children and grandchildren to the list.

Every Tuesday from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm we are coupon clipping in the hall. Please place your coupons for clipping in the room outside the ladies hall restroom. We are also collecting items for our overseas Veterans. A big "Thank You" to Sandy Huff for delivering magazines to our nursing homes. All these items can be placed in the room outside the ladies hall restroom.

Sincerely,

Sharon McCausland

American Legion Auxiliary President, Unit 117



**AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY**

SAL Members,

As we prepare for the nomination and election of new officers for the 2015-2016 year, I would like to thank everyone for their support this past year. As I have many other duties with the District and Legion I will not be running for re-election. I will be there for support to whomever takes over. During the past year we have made all of our membership goals plus. Making us the 2nd largest squadron in the District and 3rd in the Eastern Area which is quite an accomplishment. As I travel on District duties I am asked about the Great Steak Dinners we had and when they are coming back. Thanks to Todd, Ray, and Tony we are known thru out the District for our steak dinners. Our donations to the community this year have exceeded what most organizations of our size accomplish in one year. Thank you for a great year it has been my pleasure serving you.

Bruce Thurber

SAL Commander, Squadron 117



**SONS OF THE
AMERICAN LEGION**

Chaplains Corner

Dear Legion, Aux and SAL Members,

I would like to invite everyone to our Riders Church services being held the first and third Sundays of the Month at 0830. Bring a friend as we fellowship together at The Freedom Café.

Most people are confronted with difficult circumstances in their lives whether it is work related, family, relationships, illness or even death of a loved one. Many have dealt with loneliness or a broken heart and continue to search for fulfillment in their lives to fill that void or try to cover up that pain.

Zephaniah 3:17 - The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

Gods love can cast out all fear of loneliness and He can fill your heart with Joy.... Some may think those are just words.... I challenge you to ask God to grow you to a new level of understanding and living in His love!

For God and Country,

Barry Roberts

Chaplain, American Legion Post 117

bwroberts@rocketmail.com Cell (863) 661-9999



Fellow Legion Riders,

The next couple of months will be busy for everyone in the post. In March and April we will have nominations for Officers in the Riders and hold the election in May. I will not be running for any office this year as I need some time off. It has been fun and I learned a lot. I want to thank all the Officers for a job well done. We have done a lot of riding supporting our benefits and other benefits at other posts. Dawn Hanner is working on our Historian Book and doing a great job. If anyone has any pictures that she might be able to use please get in touch with her.



We are still having trouble getting volunteers for Thursday Steak Shoot, Friday Night Dinners and Sunday Breakfast. We need existing and new members to step up and volunteer. Even if you don't know how to work in kitchen, you can learn by working with someone else. I would like to thank everyone that has helped over the last two years.

By the time this newsletter is printed our Special Olympics Poker Run will have been run. We think this one will be bigger and better than last years. Again I want to thank everyone for a job well done.

Richard Kissinger

Director, American Legion Riders Chapter 117

Veterans Affairs Choice Card Program

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Choice Card Program is a new, temporary benefit that will begin to cover non-VA care for eligible veterans already enrolled in VA health care. Veterans are eligible for Choice Card benefits if any of the following conditions apply:

- (1) they were told by their local VA medical facility that they need to wait more than 30 days from their preferred appointment date or the date medically determined by their physician;
- (2) their current residence is more than 40 miles to the closest VA health care facility; or
- (3) they face significant travel hardships to get to the nearest VA health care facility.

For more information on the Choice Card Program, call [866-606-8198](tel:866-606-8198) or contact your county veterans service officer.

James H. Stewart Jr. (Jimmy)

Service Officer, American Legion Post 117

JStewart.ServiceOfficerPost117@gmail.com

Honor Guard

The American Legion Post 117 Honor Guard has been extremely active this year. They have accomplished so many things and are continually called upon to perform ceremonies for deceased members, Retirement Facilities, and Post and Patriotic events. The nine members and myself have participated in the following events so far this year.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 20 Funeral Services | 12 Memorial Services |
| 2 Flag Pole Dedications | 2 Salutes |
| 3 Memorial Day Activities | 3 Veterans Day Activities |
| The Four Chaplains Ceremony | POW/MIA Dedication @ Post 394 |

When you see our Honor Guard Members please thank them for their hard work and dedication. They are the best in the District and are always ready to support any event.

Matt Zirwas

Honor Guard Commander, American Legion Post 117

Sergeant-At-Arms, American Legion Post 117



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 117



Baja Warrior Raffle

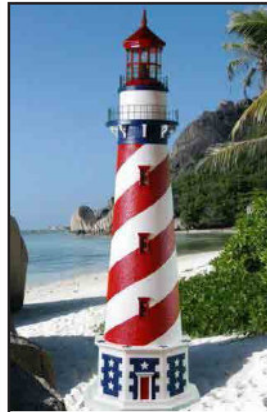
Homelite 196cc Gas Engine



Enter to Win! 8 tickets \$5

All proceeds benefit breast cancer research!

Drawing to be held April 4, 2015



Unit 117
Past President Parley
Presents:
*Lighthouse
Dedication
& Department
President Visit*

Sunday
MARCH 15, 2015
3:00 PM

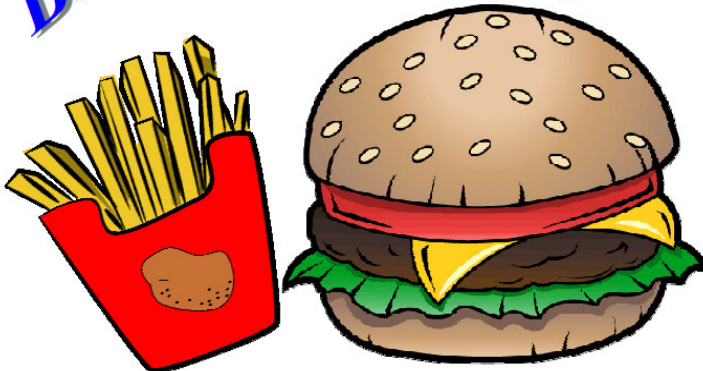
Please join us for an afternoon social as we present Post 117 with a new lighthouse in honor of Women in the Military, past and present. We will be joined by special guest Erna Schwabe, Department of Florida President and District 12 Staff.

Refreshments will be served.



BIG-AZZ-BURGERS

Wednesday
4 March 2015
5 to 7 pm



Offering Veterans
a hand up, not a hand-out.

South Central
FLORIDA
**STAND
DOWN**

FOR ALL VETERANS

Brevard, Osceola, Indian River Counties

Saturday May 30, 2015
8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

American Legion Post 117
189 Veterans Drive
Palm Bay, Florida

*Pick-up and return
transportation provided.*

SERVICES PROVIDED:
Medical, Dental, Legal, Chiro,
PTSD/TBI/MST Screening &
Counseling, Addiction Counseling,
Food Stamp Assistance, Housing
Assistance, Veteran Service
Officers, Dog Grooming, Hair Cuts,
Mani/Pedis, Clothing, Job Search,
Florida ID - License Renewals,
Breakfast, Lunch, Music,
a peaceful environment,
& child care on site!



*For more information, to
volunteer or donate,
please contact Dorothy Walsh:*
STANDOWN2015@AOL.COM
(321) 426-6736

Boosters

Bill Butler (5/15)
Elaine Griswold (7/16)
Duane & Janet Podhola (1/16)
Howard & Kathy Print (3/16)
Ruben & Asia Rodriguez (9/16)
Barb & Ray Mohr (4/15)
Dianne Thibodeau (11/15)
Jimmy "D" & Millie (11/14)
John & Judy Greed (3/15)
Tom & Les Giampino (3/15)
Matt Zirwas (5/15)
Chester Jenkins (9/15)
Robert & Sandra Mack (5/16)
In Memory of Clifford Wright (5/16)
Jim Fournier (4/16)
Dawn Burgess (4/16)

Booster Information

Due to the rising cost of printing and postage for the newsletters, we are asking you to help defray the cost by participating as a booster every year. A \$15 donation will allow you two names for one year.

Note: The numbers after your name indicate what month & year you need to renew your booster check made out to the "American Legion Post 117".

Hall Rental Information

Our Post Hall is available for special functions, weddings, anniversary & birthday parties, etc.
Call the Legion at 321-729-8089 for prices & booking info.

Service Officer Support

James Stewart - (832) 315-7670
Barry Roberts - (863) 661-9999

American Legion Legacy Scholarship

The American Legion wants to ensure higher education is a possibility for children whose parents have been killed while serving our country. It is a civic duty to provide them with equal opportunity. The Legion offers its support through the Legacy Scholarship Fund.

Each year several states provide additional support to the Legacy Scholarship Fund by holding Legacy Runs within their state. This is the third year that Florida has held a run in support of this effort. This year the run begins in Lake City on 23 March and ends in Crystal River on 28 March. Currently 20 plus Riders from American Legion Post 117 are planning to join the Legacy Run in Steinhatchee, Florida. Each year the National Legacy Run is made thru several states with thousands of Legion Riders participating.

To date the State and National Legacy Runs have collected millions of dollars that will assist fallen veterans children through college. If you are interested in supporting this fund or join the run please see or contact Duane Podhola, Chapter 117 Legacy Run Coordinator for details.

Duane Podhola

321-698-7382 (Cell)
dpodhola@earthlink.net





Karaoke Entertainment Schedule



<u>Date</u>	<u>Entertainer(s)</u>
01 March	Tropical Nights
06 March	Jimmy "D"
08 March	Jimmy "D"
13 March	Dan Haber
15 March	Dan Haber
20 March	Tropical Nights
22 March	Chuck Body
27 March	Chuck Body
29 March	Jimmy "D"

<u>Date</u>	<u>Entertainer(s)</u>
03 April	Jimmy "D"
05 April	Tropical Nights
10 April	Dan Haber
12 April	Jimmy "D"
17 April	Tropical Nights
19 April	Dan Haber
24 April	Chuck Body
26 April	Chuck Body

***A Special "Thank You"
to "Doc" for providing
entertainment on Saturdays***

Thank You

Auxiliary Chaplain's Corner

***Please call me or leave
a message at the Post
if you need assistance.***



Barbara Simons
Chaplain, Auxiliary Unit 117
Phone: 321-544-9444
Post: 321-729-8089



Pet Services

Free Services for Member's Pets

- ◆ Nails Trimmed or Dremeled
- ◆ Ear Hair Removed
- ◆ Ears Cleaned
- ◆ Anal Glands Drained

When: Second Tuesday of the Month
Time: 9:00 am till 12:30 pm
Place: American Legion Post 117
Provided By: Sharon McCausland



"PETS MUST BE ON LEASH OR IN CRATE"

Legion Shirts For Sale

T-Shirts (Tan)	\$12
Polo-Shirts (White)	\$25

Riders Items For Sale

Men's Tank Tops (Black).....	\$10
Men's T-Shirts (Black).....	\$10
Men's Muscle Shirts (Small to XL).....	\$10
Men's Muscle Shirts (2XL to 3XL).....	\$12
Men's Muscles (Black, White, Red)	
T-Shirts (Maroon) (Small to XL).....	\$16
T-Shirts (Maroon) (2XL to 3XL).....	\$18
Denim (Lt Blue) (Small to XL).....	\$25
Denim (Lt Blue) (2XL).....	\$25
Long Sleeve (Black).....	\$20
Ladies Tank Top (Black).....	\$15
Ladies V-Neck (Black).....	\$18
Small Riders Patch.....	\$5
Large Riders Patch.....	\$20
Hat	\$15

SAL Items For Sale

Flag Poles (20' Expandable)	\$50
US Flag (3x5)	\$20
POW/MIA Flag.....	\$30
SAL Hats.....	\$10

TACO TUESDAY



Tacos - \$2.00
5 to 7 pm



1st & 3rd
Tuesdays
Only

SHRIMP SUNDAY



Peel & Eat Shrimp
\$9 per pound \$5 per 1/2 lb

Every Sunday
1-5 pm or until sold out

Prepared by Chef Gene and Crew
American Legion Post 117
189 Veterans Drive, Palm Bay, Florida!



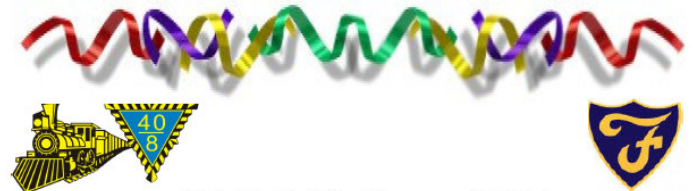
Guardian ad Litem
All You Can Eat Dinner

Goulash, Salad, and Rolls

When: Saturday, March 7th
Time: 4 to 7pm
Cost: \$ 8.00 per person

Sponsored By:
Sons of the American Legion

No sharing please, this is a fund raiser!!!



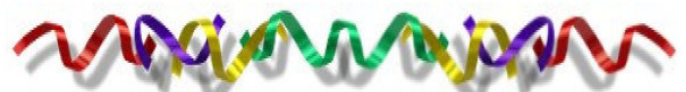
**40 & 8 Voiture 1621
& La Society de Femme
St Patrick's Day Dinner**

Date: 17 March 2015
Time: 1 to 7 pm
Corn Beef, Cabbage, and
Vegetables
or Rubeen Sandwich
Cost: \$8.00



**Select items from our
Chinese Auction**

**Note: All proceeds go toward Nurses
Training Scholarships**



District 12 Picnic
21 March 2015
American Legion Post 117



Food, Fun, Raffles
And Much More
Proceeds Support
2015 Boys and Girls State

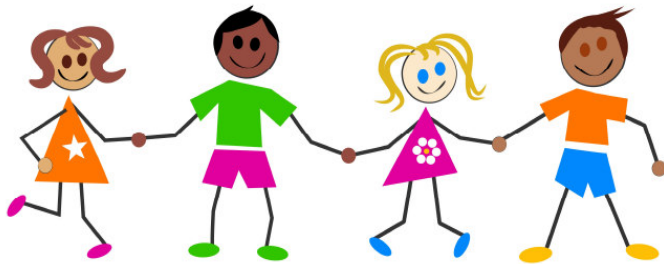
Haley's Awesome



Wings - 50 Cents each



Third Wednesdays
4 - 7 PM



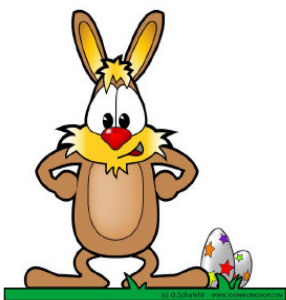
Kids Easter Party

4 April 2015

Sponsored by Auxiliary

Food, Fun, & Activities

See Signup List in Canteen



Egg Coloring
Easter Egg Hunt
Candy & Treats
Refreshments



Easter Sunday
Dinner

5 April 2015

Dinner

Served 1-5 pm

\$6.00 Plate

Provided by 40&8



Baked Stuffed Pork Chop
Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy

Green Beans
Roll & Butter

American Legion Post 117
189 Veterans Way SE
Palm Bay, FL 32909

Friday Dinners

Mar 6 (Riders) - Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Vegetable

Mar 13 (SAL) - Baked Pork Chop, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Corn

Mar 20 (Aux) - Pot Roast, Potatoes, Carrots, Roll & Butter

Mar 27 (Post) - Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable

Apr 3 (Riders) - Fish & Chips (Fries), Hush Puppies, Slaw, Cheddar Biscuits

Apr 10 (SAL) - Stuffed Shells, Sausage, Salad, and Garlic Bread

Apr 17 (Aux) - TBA

Apr 24 (Post) - Surf & Turf, Twice Baked Potatoes

Newsletter Mail Request

If you are requesting the newsletter be mailed to your residence please fill in the form below and mail to: American Legion Post 117

189 Veterans Drive SE
Palm Bay, FL 32909

Name: _____ Membership Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____