



AMERICAN LEGION CHARLES F. THOMAS IV POST 117  
189 VETERANS DRIVE • PALM BAY, FLORIDA 32909

# The Thomas Times

2017

Happy New Year



**Inside this issue:**

Post Directory	2
Commander's Corner	3
Post Meetings Schedule	3
Unit 117 Auxiliary President	4
SAL Squadron 117 Commander	4
Legion Riders Chapter 117 Director	5
Friday Dinners & Karaoke	5
Special Olympics Poker Run	6
Boosters	6
Merchandise & Services	6

## Getting Ready for the Special Olympics

Every year SAL Squadron 117 raises money for the Special Olympics in Brevard County.

Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and competition to children and adults 8 years of age and older with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Brevard County's Special Olympics program currently offers 12 sports and serves 514 athletes throughout Brevard County.

SAL Squadron 117 is proud to do its part to support this important program by joining with the Chapter 117 Legion Riders to host the Annual Poker Run on 4 February. The Run starts and ends at Post 117 where there will be a BBQ and music - see the flyer on page 6. The SAL is also holding a Special Olympics Raffle (see info at right) Tickets are available at Post 117, Buy Yours Now!

**Tickets on Sale Now Post #117**  
**Sons of the American Legion**  
**SQUADRON #117**

**Special Olympics Raffle**

HITACHI  
39" Flat Screen TV

THINKWARE DASH CAM  
Auto Dash-Cam

10" ACER Tablet

echo dot

**4-Winners Drawing**  
**February 4th 2017**



The Palm Bay Chamber of Commerce invites YOU to participate in the 2017 Chamber Chili Cookoff! The Entry Fee to compete is \$50 with all proceeds going to the Palm Bay Chamber

Foundation for Education. The event will be held Saturday 11 February at Space Coast Harley Davidson from 11 to 4 PM. If you are interested in participating in the Cookoff,

**Join in the Fun!**  
**For Info Call**  
**(321) 951-9998**

please call (321) 951-9998 and ask for Pat or Nancy. If you're not a Chili Chef, you can still come out and enjoy the day and vote for your favorite! The festivities include live entertainment, raffles and a kid zone - admission is \$5.

## Post 117 Directory

### American Legion Officers

Commander ..... Jim Fournier  
 1st Vice Commander ..... Bruce Thurber  
 2nd Vice Commander ..... Gene Baker  
 Adjutant ..... Duane Podhola  
 Finance Officer ..... Chris Hess  
 Chaplain ..... Barry Roberts  
 Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Matt Zirwas  
 Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Gene Pilot  
 Historian ..... Tim Durham  
 Judge Advocate ..... Charlie Christy  
 Service Officer ..... Don Overton  
 Service Officer ..... Chris Hamrick  
 Executive Committee ..... Dave Fox  
 Executive Committee ..... Tom Giampino

### Auxiliary Officers

President ..... Wanda McDermon  
 1st Vice President ..... Beverly Hall  
 2nd Vice President ..... Millicent Donovan  
 Treasurer ..... Diane Wood  
 Secretary ..... Haley Farris  
 Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Joann Wright  
 Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Phoebe Chilcott  
 Chaplain ..... Barbara Simons  
 Historian ..... Karen Humann  
 Membership ..... Beverly Hall  
 Executive Committee ..... Linda Lanier  
 Executive Committee ..... Millie Jochum  
 Executive Committee ..... Kim Oaks

### Sons of the American Legion Officers

Squadron Commander ..... Randy Chilcott  
 1st Vice Squadron Commander ..... Bruce Walkowiak  
 2nd Vice Squadron Commander ..... Tony Gannon  
 Adjutant ..... Ed Milnor  
 Finance Officer ..... Ray Mohr  
 Chaplain ..... Ed Milnor Jr.  
 Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Dylan Young  
 Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Keith Durham  
 Historian ..... Bob Humann

### Legion Riders Officers

Director ..... Bob Wiseman  
 Assistant Director ..... Bruce Walkowiak  
 Secretary ..... Sheila Cline-Burns  
 Treasurer ..... Ray Mohr  
 Chaplain ..... Donna Walkowiak  
 Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Duane Podhola  
 Historian ..... Michelle Bucher  
 Safety Officer ..... Ed Milnor

### Honor Guard

Commander: Matt Zirwas  
 Members: Phoebe Chilcott  
 Randy Chilcott Dawn Hanner  
 Bob Menard Ed Milnor  
 Eddy Milnor Bruce Walkowiak  
 Donna Walkowiak

### Ways & Means Committee

Chairman: Gene Baker  
 Members: Randy Chilcott  
 Millicent Donovan  
 Tim Durham  
 Chris Hess  
 Bob Wiseman

### House Committee

Chairman: tbd  
 Members: Leo Bellanger  
 Randy Chilcott Chris Hamerick  
 Don Jochum Brenda Miskow  
 Sherry White

*The Thomas Times is published 6 times a year by 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*

*The opinions expressed herein are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the American Legion, Post 117 or its affiliates.*

*Editor: Bev Durham <email: newsletter@AL117.com>*

### Visit the Post 117 Facebook Pages

American Legion Post 117  
 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 117  
 American Legion SAL Squadron 117  
 Legion Riders FL Chapter 117

# Commander's Corner



Happy New Year to everyone and I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a great holiday season. We all had a busy 2016 and a lot of improvements have been made to the Post. The seawall was completed, and the ceiling tiles in the hall and canteen have been replaced, just to name a few of the projects that were completed. A BIG "thank you!" To Randy Chilcott, his Company and all of the volunteers for their hard work and help with the ceilings. (I can't thank you all enough.) I also want to mention a big thank you for all of the kitchen volunteers for a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner.

Please - make sure your membership dues are paid up to date. The bartenders will be checking your cards, please be proud to show them your card. We have the SAL's Special Olympics poker run on February 4th, the Veterans Walk on February 18th and our 2nd Annual Department of Florida Children & Youth family picnic on April 1st just to name a few of the big events coming up. I want to thank all of the Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL Officers, and the canteen staff for the hard and dedicated work during the 2016 year; I look forward to working with you all this year.



As always, please make sure to read the posters and flyers hanging in the canteen, Tiki bar and on the AL117.com website for the most current information on events here at the Post. Thank you all for your help and support. For God and Country,  
*Jim Fournier*  
Commander,  
American Legion Post 117

## Post Meetings • Post Meetings • Post Meetings • Post Meetings • Post Meetings

- Legion Meeting, 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 pm
- Legion EC Meeting, 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 pm
- SAL Meeting, 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 pm
- SAL EC Meeting, 1st Tuesday, 6:30 pm
- Auxiliary Meeting, 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 pm
- Auxiliary EC Meeting, 1st Tuesday, 7:00 pm
- Legion Riders Meeting, 1st Thursday, 6:30 pm
- Legion Riders EC Meeting, Last Thursday, 6:30 pm
- 40 & 8 Voiture 1621, 3rd Thursday, 7:00 pm
- La Femmes, 1st Wednesday, 7:00 pm
- Ways & Means Committee, 1st Monday, 7:00 pm
- House Committee, the Monday before the Legion EC meeting, 7:00 pm





Wanda McDermon  
President, Unit 117



### Unit 117 American Legion Auxiliary

Happy 2017 everyone, I hope you and yours had a great Holiday Season. There were many functions and parties during the holidays, I am sure a good time was had by all. A big THANK YOU goes out to all the wonderful members of 117; I know you worked hard to make this past Christmas a big hit. We have a lot of things coming up the next three months, please check you newsletter and calendars for these upcoming events, I am sure the Commander and our other subordinates will

be needing volunteers to help pull these functions off. Any time you can lend a hand it would be greatly appreciated. All the members of 117 are working towards being named the Post of the Year by the Department of Florida, let us all pitch in and make this happen. I can't say enough about all the wonderful ladies in Unit 117, they are always there to lend a helping hand; being it making baskets for raffles, filling in for the kitchen, getting donations together or making contributions. I

am indeed honored to work with all these fine ladies. Reminder, all 2017 dues were to be paid by midnight, December 31, 2016, if you have not done so, please contact our 1st Vice, Beverly Hall to renew. We need to keep our membership strong and moving forward. That's it for right now, if you should have any concerns or need information, please call on one of your officers or myself and we will help if we can. We are starting a new year, let's all pull together and make it a great one.

***“For nearly a century, The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion have worked steadfastly, side by side, promoting patriotism and national security while supporting youth and advocating for veterans and active-duty military.”***



Randy Chilcott  
Commander  
Squadron 117



### Squadron 117, Sons of the American Legion

Welcome 2017 and I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We had a Tremendous 2016 but I know we can do even better in 2017! The Special Olympics Run is almost here and we have a lot more work to do, if you can volunteer to help in any way contact Tony Gannon. The election process for 2017-2018 year starts in March if you are interested

in holding a Squadron office please let someone know so they can nominate you. Remember if you haven't renewed your dues by now, you will be unable to access the Post or Tiki. I encourage all SAL members to attend our monthly meeting the (2nd Tuesday of the month). At our next meeting on Tuesday January 10th at 6:30 we will be voting on the proposed changes to our Constitution and

By Laws. As always we need volunteers for Steak shoot, Friday night dinner, Breakfast, NFL lunch and Big AZZ Burgers. Please try and help out all our SAL activities. Our next SAL District meeting is March 4th at Post 163 Melbourne, registration at 9am, meeting at 10am. Please feel free to talk to me about any ideas you may have. See ya'll around the post!



*Bob Wiseman  
Director, Chapter 117*



## Chapter 117, American Legion Riders

I hope that you and your Family had a Very Merry Christmas and my wishes to all that you have a Prosperous and Blessed New Year!

November and December where very busy months for the riders, we had a total of eleven (11) rides for those two months. Thus far we have two runs in January plus the ALR Summit & Expo.

I want to thank everyone that has stepped up to volunteer for Steak Shoot, Friday Night Dinners,

Sunday Breakfast and NFL Sunday. Please volunteer a little of your time to help support the Riders and your Post.

Please continue to attend the meetings and also support our Rides/Escorts and this is very important that if you are out riding please keep track of your mileage and the number of riders (don't need names) that are with you, you can e-mail me or just write the information down on a piece of paper and drop it in the Riders box in the foyer.

**“STAY HIGH  
ON LIFE  
AND KEEP  
RIDING”**

### Friday Night Dinners and Karaoke

<b>Date</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Menu</b>	<b>Karaoke DJ</b>
6 January	Riders	Italian Sausage, Spaghetti, Bread and Salad	Jimmy D
13 January	S.A.L.	Broiled Seafood Platter (Fish, Bay Scallops, Shrimp & Crab Cakes) Yellow Rice, Vegetable	Guest DJ
20 January	Auxiliary	Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Veggie and Dessert.	Jimmy D
27 January	Post	Open Face BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich on Texas Toast topped with French Fried Onion Bits; Homemade Mac & Cheese;	Chuck Body
3 February	Riders	To Be Announced	Jimmy D
10 February	S.A.L.	1/2 Oven Roasted Chicken, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Vegetable and a Roll with Butter	Guest DJ
17 February	Auxiliary	Authentic Hungarian Goulash, Sourdough Bread, Cucumber Salad, Dessert prepared by Chef Ray and kitchen elves	Jimmy D
24 February	Post	To Be Announced	Chuck Body



# Special Olympics Annual Poker Run

## Saturday, February 4, 2017

Registration 9a.m. at American Legion Post 117 - 189 Veterans Dr. Palm Bay, Fl 32909

**First Bike Out 10:00 AM Last Bike In 3:00 PM**  
**All Vehicles Welcome/Riders \$10.00/ Passengers \$5.00**

1st: Camp Holly: 6901 US-192, Melbourne, Fl 32904

2nd: Lou's Filling Station : 411 E. New Haven Ave. Melbourne, Fl 32901

3rd: Lou's Blues:3 191 Florida A1A, Indialantic, Fl 32903

4th: Post 81 2909 S. Harbor City Blvd. Melbourne, Fl 32901

Run Ending American Legion Post 117 189 Veterans Dr. Palm Bay, Fl 32909

**High Hand..\$50 Low Hand..\$100**

8:30a till 10:00a  
 Breakfast Sandwich & Coffee **2.00**

**FREE BEER**  
 Riders/Passengers **While it Last!!!**

**MUSIC!  
 FOOD! &  
 FUN!**

**50 50**  
 BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS!

**6.00**

**Vendors Welcome**  
**For info, and Donations call:**  
**Ed: 321-403-2972 or Tony: 321-693-9647**

### MERCHANDISE SALES

#### Legion Shirts For Sale

- T-Shirts (Tan) ..... \$12
- Polo Shirts (White, Red, Black or Maroon) ..... \$20

#### Riders Items For Sale

- Men's Tank Tops (Black) ..... \$10
- Men's T-Shirts (Black) ..... \$10

(Men's Muscle Shirts Available in Black, White, or Red)

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

#### SAL Items For Sale

- US Flag (3x5) ..... \$20
- POW/MIA Flag ..... \$30
- SAL T-Shirts (Red or Blue) ..... \$10

#### AUX Items For Sale

- Auxiliary Ladies V-Neck T-Shirts ..... \$15
- Black Half Staff Ribbon ..... \$12

### BOOSTERS

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.

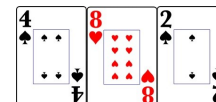
Note: The numbers after your name indicate what month/ year you need to renew your booster check made out to the "American Legion Post 117".

- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Duane & Janet Podhola (3/17) | Elaine Griswold (7/17)        |
| Bonnie DeCaro (3/17)         | Kevin & Karen McGarry (8/17)  |
| Joe & Linda Shipley (3/17)   | Tom & Les Giampino (9/17)     |
| Gene & Suzie Pilot (5/17)    | Howard Print II (11/17)       |
| Dawn Burgess (6/17)          | Emie & Shirley Winslow (6/18) |
| Jim Fournier (6/17)          |                               |

### Hall Rental

Our Post Hall is available for special functions, weddings, anniversary & birthday parties, etc. Please contact Chris Hess at (321) 729-8089 for rental availability and price information.

**Steak Shoot Every Thursday @ 7:30 pm**  
**Join in the Fun!**



### Pet Services



Free Services for Members' Pets  
 Nails Trimmed or Dremeled  
 Ears Cleaned and Hair Removed  
 Anal Glands Drained

When: 2nd Tuesday of the Month  
 Time: 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Place: American Legion Post 117

Services Provided By: Sharon McCausland

**Pets must be on leash or in crate**

### Haircuts by Cathy

3rd Sunday of the Month  
 10 am to 12 noon

