



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

# The Thomas Times



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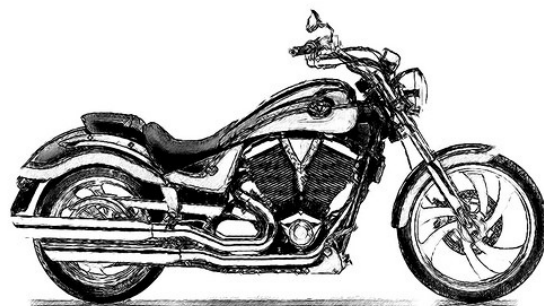
## American Legion Post 117 Prepares to Commemorate Memorial Day

As we do every year, the American Legion Family for Post 117 will work with community volunteers to place American Flags at the graves of veterans at Fountainhead Cemetery in Palm Bay on Saturday, 26 May 2018. Watch for fliers in the canteen for all the details.

The Memorial Day ceremony will take place on Monday, 28 May 2018 beginning at noon at Post 117. The ceremony will be followed by lunch. Again - look for flyers in the canteen for all the details.

Volunteers are also needed on Tuesday, 29 May to recover the flags from the cemetery.

Make your plans now to join the members of the Post 117 American Legion Family as we commemorate the service and sacrifices of our veterans on this most important weekend.



## Suds of Love Poker Run & Motorcycle Swap Meet Saturday, 12 May 2018

Ride begins at VFW Post 4228 (Titusville) and ends at Post 117.

Swap Meet from 1 - 5 pm at Post 117.

See flyers for details.

## 2nd Annual Veterans' Fishing Trip Sunday, 20 May 2018

All veterans are invited to join an all-expenses paid fishing trip on the *Fort Pierce Lady*.

Buses will leave at 6am from Post 117 and return around 4pm.

The trip is limited to the first 50 who sign up.

If interested, please contact Andy (262) 716-1925 or Keifer (321) 213-8983 by 14 May 2018.

## 2018-2019 Officers

The following personnel have been selected as Officers for the American Legion Post 117 for the coming year:

Commander

Gene Baker

1st Vice Commander

Bruce Thurber

Finance Officer

Gary Bernard

Historian

Bill Davidson

Chaplin

Barry Roberts

Sergeant-at-Arms

Donna Swinski

Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms

Bud Fritz

An election will be held to select Executive Committee Members .

## Post 117 Directory

### American Legion Officers

Commander ..... Gene Baker  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander..... Bruce Thurber  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander..... Position Vacant  
 Adjutant..... Duane Podhola  
 Finance Officer..... Chris Hess  
 Chaplain..... Barry Roberts  
 Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Tim Brooks  
 Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms..... Gene Pilot  
 Historian..... Bill Davidson  
 Judge Advocate..... Charlie Christy  
 Service Officer ..... Kevin McGarry  
 Service Officer ..... Chris Hamrick  
 Executive Committee ..... Jim Fournier  
 Executive Committee ..... Dave Fox  
 Executive Committee ..... Bob Wiseman

### Auxiliary Officers

President..... Wanda McDermon  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President..... Position Vacant  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President ..... Linda Shipley  
 Treasurer ..... Diane Wood  
 Secretary..... Karen Humann  
 Sergeant-at-Arms..... Deb Cellucci  
 Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Sharon Schmidt  
 Chaplain ..... Barbara Simons  
 Historian ..... Kim Oaks  
 Membership ..... Position Vacant  
 Executive Committee..... Kerry Baker  
 Executive Committee..... Lauren Belbusti  
 Executive Committee..... Dawn Burgess

### Sons of the American Legion Officers

Squadron Commander..... Randy Chilcott  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Squadron Commander.. Bruce Walkowiak  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Squadron Commander. Tony Gannon  
 Adjutant..... Chris Richert  
 Finance Officer..... Ray Mohr  
 Chaplain..... Chris Richert  
 Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Dylan Young  
 Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Bob Humann  
 Historian..... Position Vacant  
 Advisor ..... Bruce Thurber

### Legion Riders Officers

Director ..... Dawn Burgess  
 Assistant Director ..... Bruce Walkowiak  
 Secretary..... Sheila Cline-Burns  
 Treasurer..... Ray Mohr  
 Chaplain ..... Donna Walkowiak  
 Sergeant-at-Arms..... Tim Morris  
 Historian ..... MaryAnn Spellman  
 Safety Officer ..... Eric Spellman  
 Membership ..... Karen Humann

### Honor Guard

Commander: Matt Zirwas  
 Members: Leo Bellanger  
 Dawn Hanner Ed Milnor  
 Eddy Milnor Bruce Walkowiak  
 Donna Walkowiak

### Ways & Means Committee

Chairman: Gene Baker  
 Members: Dawn Burgess  
 Randy Chilcott  
 Chris Hess  
 Linda Shipley

### House Committee

Chairman: Duane Podhola  
 Members: Leo Bellanger  
 Bud Fritz Joe Luckey  
 Wanda McDermon Tom Wood

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*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



The last few months have been a challenge for the post. The IRS audit made us realize some things that we thought weren't required were and we now have payroll taxes and workman's comp. we are required to pay. The upgrade of the air conditioners for the canteen has been completed and I think everyone should feel the difference. We are through the busiest part of the year and I would like to thank the Legion family for all the work that was done. The Special Olympics run was a success and that is the work of the whole family, especially the SAL. The children and youth picnic was a good job done all at Post 117, we did a lot of work with very little help from anyone else. The family meeting was a success with a lot of information being exchanged between the Legion and the rest of the family, quite a few good ideas were brought up for discussion. We have Memorial Day coming up in the near future and I hope everyone will come and put flags at Fountainhead and enjoy the ceremony and the picnic afterward. My first year is coming to an end and I am proud of all we have accomplished. I am looking forward to working with the new post officers and all the officers elected by the other organizations in the family. Have a safe and enjoyable next few months and lets have another great year .

*Gene Baker*

Commander, American Legion Post 117



*Gene Baker  
Commander,  
American Legion by  
Post 117*

## 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  
 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, 4th Tuesday, 7:00 pm  
 La Femmes, 1st Wednesday, 7:00 pm  
 Ways & Means Committee, 1st Monday, 7:00 pm  
 House Committee, 2nd Monday , 7:00 pm





*Randy Chilcott  
Commander*



## Squadron 117, Sons of the American Legion

I am grateful to have been elected your Squadron Commander again for the coming 2018, 2019 year. Thank you again to those who have stepped up and volunteered your time with all the events the squadron has done this past year.

To all the moms - Happy Mother's Day! Squadron 117 will be cooking you a free breakfast on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 13, 2018 from 8:30 till 11am.

The SAL 12th District Constitutional Conference will be

held Saturday, May 12, 2018 at Post 117. Registration is at 9:30; the meeting starts at 10am.

The 46th Annual Detachment Convention will be held July 5th to July 8, 2018 at the Orlando World Center Marriott.

As always we need volunteers for Thursday Steak Shoot, Friday Night Dinner, Sunday Breakfast and Big AZZ Burgers. Please try and help out all our SAL activities.

Please feel free to talk to me about any ideas you may have.

See ya'll around the Post!



*Dawn Burgess  
Director,  
Chapter 117*



## Chapter 117, American Legion Riders

Hello Riders,

My, how the time flies! We have had a very successful year and I can't thank you all enough for your positive contributions to our program. We had rides and fun runs almost every weekend, and have a lot of miles and donations to various events/charities. I will have the recap at our June meeting.

As of this writing, it appears that Marty Spreadbury will be your Director next year. Marty is a seasoned rider with great road captain skills leading groups. I hope you will give his team of officers the same great support you have shown our officers this year.

Please support the upcoming rides in May. Mark your calendars for June 9, when we will have our Year-End party and fundraiser for Project Vet Relief. The band "Absolute Blue" will be playing, as well as Doc Holiday--our favorite DJ.

Until then, I'll see you on the road or at the Post.

Ride Safe, my friends!

**For the Cause,  
Not the Applause !!**







5th Annual  
Kentucky  
Derby  
Party  
Saturday,  
5 May 2018

Featuring the  
Parade of Hats



There will be a prize for the  
1st, 2nd and 3rd best hat!  
Food, prizes, and of course, the  
main event, the 144th running  
of the Kentucky Derby!  
See the flyers in the canteen  
for more details.  
Come Join the fun!



Saturday, 19 May 2018

## Poppy Run

See flyers in the canteen for details.

*Lest We Forget*



Volunteers are always  
needed for post events!  
Volunteer to do your part!

Volunteers needed to place flags on Veterans' graves  
on Saturday, 26 May 2018 and to recover the flags  
on Tuesday, 29 May 2018. See flyers in canteen for details.

### Friday Night Dinners and Karaoke

Date	Host	Menu	Karaoke DJ
4 May	Riders	Quatro de Mayo Dinner 2 chicken enchiladas, Taco, Beans and Rice by Chef Wendy	Jason
11 May	S.A.L.	All You Can Eat Fried Fish, Coleslaw, Hush Puppies and French Fries	Chuck Body
18 May	Auxiliary	To Be Announced	Chuck Body
25 May	Post	Stuffed Pork Loin, Rice Pilaf Mixed Vegetables	Jason
1 June	Auxiliary	To Be Announced	tbd
8 April	Riders	To Be Announced	tbd
15 April	S.A.L.	All You Can Eat Fried Fish, Coleslaw, Hush Puppies and French Fries	tbd
22 April	Auxiliary	To Be Announced	tbd
29 April	Post	Pork Chops, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, and Mixed Vegetables	tbd

**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".

Thank you for your support!

- Joe & Linda Shipley (4/18)
- Ernie & Shirley Winslow (6/18)
- Elaine Griswold (7/18)
- Durham Family (3/19)

**Hall Rental**

Our Post Hall is available for special functions, weddings, anniversary & birthday parties, etc.

Please contact Chris Hess at (321) 729-8089 for facility information, rental availability, and price information.

**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 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) .....\$16
- Small Riders Patch .....\$10
- 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

12th District  
 Constitutional Conference  
 May 12, 2018  
 American Legion Post 117  
 Registration 9:00 am  
 Call to Order 10:00 am



**Pet Services**

**Provided By: Sharon McCausland**

**When:** 2nd Tuesday of the Month  
**Time:** 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM  
**Place:** American Legion Post 117  
**Pets must be on leash or in crate**

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

**Haircuts by Cathy**

3rd Sunday  
 of the Month  
 10 am to  
 12 noon

