



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

# The Thomas Times



**Monday**  
**Sept 3rd**  
**12-4**

Bring your favorite side to share  
Hamburgers and Hot Dogs by the Post

## Lets Talk Dues

There's only four months left in the year to renew you dues for 2019.

## Your Membership Team

Bruce Thurber-1st Vice  
Gary Benard-Adjutant  
Tony Gannon-SAL 1st Vice  
Chris Richert-SAL Adjutant  
Sheila Benard-AUX 1st Vice  
Linda Shipley-AUX 2nd Vice  
Karen Humann-Riders

## Volunteers

Legion Family members are always in need of Volunteers. If you haven't volunteered before give it a try.

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**Tuesday September 11th, 2018**  
**Ceremony at 1300 hrs**

Squadron 117 and the Legion Family provide Lunch for the First Responders of Palm Bay Starting at 11 am  
First Responders Eat Free All others \$6



## September

Labor Day Monday 3rd  
Patriot Day Tuesday 11th  
American Legion Day Sunday 16th  
Air Force Birthday Tuesday 18th  
POIW/MIA Day Friday 21st

## October

Columbus Day Monday 8th  
SAL Squadron 117 Birthday Tuesday 9th  
Navy Birthday Saturday 13th

## 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..... Gary Benard  
 Finance Officer..... Gary Benard  
 Chaplain..... Barry Roberts  
 Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Donna Swinski  
 Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms..... Bud Fritz  
 Historian..... Bill Davidson  
 Judge Advocate..... Chris Hamrick  
 Service Officer ..... Chris Hamrick  
 Service Officer ..... Kevin McGarry  
 Executive Committee ..... Jim Fournier  
 Executive Committee ..... Leo Belanger  
 Executive Committee ..... Bob Wiseman

### Auxiliary Officers

President.....Diane Tomlin Wood  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.....Sheila Bernard  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President .....Linda Shipley  
 Treasurer .....Patricia Luckey  
 Secretary.....Beverly Saltz  
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Nancy Richert  
 Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms .....Sharon Schmidt  
 Chaplain .....Barbara Simons  
 Historian .....Wendy Wood  
 Membership .....Sheila Benard  
 Executive Committee.....Kerry Baker  
 Executive Committee.....Barbara Flaherty  
 Executive Committee.....Linda Lanier  
 Executive Committee.....Wanda McDermon

### Sons of the American Legion Officers

Squadron Commander..... Randy Chilcott  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Squadron Commander.. Tony Gannon  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Squadron Commander. Chris Richert  
 Adjutant..... Chris Richert  
 Finance Officer..... Don Bilger  
 Chaplain..... Chris Richert  
 Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Tom Wood  
 Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Position Vacant  
 Historian..... Bud Fritz  
 Advisor ..... Bruce Thurber

### Legion Riders Officers

Director .....Marty Spreadbury  
 Assistant Director .....Guy Savage  
 Secretary.....Brenda Miskow  
 Finance Officer .....Kim Oaks  
 Chaplain .....Wendy Roberts  
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Tim Morris  
 Historian .....MaryAnn Spellman  
 Safety Officer .....Eric Spellman  
 Membership .....Karen Humann

### Honor Guard

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

### Ways & Means Committee

Chairman: Gene Baker  
 Members: Marty Spreadbury  
 Randy Chilcott  
 Diane Wood  
 Linda Shipley

### House Committee

Chairman: Leo Belanger  
 Members: Bud Fritz  
 Joe Luckey  
 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: Bill Davidson <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 New Year has started and all the new officers are installed. I am looking forward to the next year and the challenges it may bring. The new no smoking policy has gone into effect and it is still a work in progress. I am getting a lot of questions concerning the policy. At this time we need to let it play out and see what happens in the future. September 11<sup>th</sup> (Patriots Day) is approaching fast; it is a very busy day for the post. On this day, for new members, we feed all of the First Responders in Palm Bay for free. All members of the legion family will be needed to make it a success, I hope to see as many of you there as possible. Before the next Thomas Times is published the Auxiliary will have had the Halloween Party and the adult Halloween Party. I am sure they will be a resounding success as always. We will continue to make improvements to the post with the help of all the post families. Have a safe and enjoyable September and October.

*Gene Baker*



*Gene Baker  
Commander,  
American Legion  
Post 117*

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

Legion Meeting, 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 pm

Legion EC Meeting, 2nd Wednesday, 6:00 pm

SAL Meeting, 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 pm

SAL EC Meeting, 4th Monday, 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



### Unit 117 American Legion Auxiliary



Diane Tomlin Wood  
President, Unit 117



The auxiliary team is ready to go for the 2018-2019 year, "We're All In". Started our year attending the Florida Department Workshop and wow was that exciting. We brought back ideas for all the programs supporting our veterans, their families and the community. We are kicking off October 6<sup>th</sup> with our Casino Mystery evening, donating to Final Salute (Dept. President Michele DeGenarro choice for this year). AND she will be our special guest for the event. We will be having our raffle for the food baskets with a smoker stuffed

with all the goodies starting in September. Check the calendar and bulletin boards for announcements for other coming events.

We are always looking for volunteers. See any of our officers or chairs, we will set you up. Thank you in advance for all your support. We are a family and "We're All In".

For God and country,

Diane Wood

### Squadron 117, Sons of the American Legion



Randy Chilcott  
Commander  
Squadron 117



This year's membership Theme by Detachment Commander Tom Klinger is (MASH) Making All Soldiers Heroes While Making Amazing Stuff Happen. The new membership year for 2019 has started please pay your dues as soon as possible, the cutoff date for the early bird dinner is November 11, 2018. Tuesday, September 11, 2018 (9-11) is the First Responders lunch/dinner it is a Legion family event all volunteers are appreciated and needed! Contact any Legion family officer. Tom Wood is heading up the Special Olympics committee this year and has already got a gun

raffle started. Please support the S.A.L. for this GREAT CAUSE! See all the fliers for more information. Our next District meeting will be held at Post 22 on September 22, 2018 at 10am. The District picnic will be at Wickham Park on September 29, 2018.

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!

Randy Chilcott

## Chapter 117, American Legion Riders



Marty Spreadbury  
Director,  
Chapter 117



Hello Riders,  
Has it's been 2 months already?  
Per normal a hot and rainy  
summer but we've enjoyed a  
couple rides here and there.  
Thanks to those who  
participated, contributed and  
volunteered over the last couple  
months greatly appreciated.  
Cooler dryer weather is on its  
way and there is a lot happing in  
the Veteran & Rider community.  
We'll be sending out Emails,  
posting on the Bulletin Boards  
and Facebook as we get the  
details your participation is

greatly appreciated.  
Our Annual Escort for 9-11 First  
Responder Meals is approaching  
rapidly it's on a Tuesday this year.  
Please consider helping us escort  
meal deliveries to our local First  
Responders. We need Riders so  
let us know if you can volunteer  
deliveries start at 1100 hrs should  
all will be back to Post 117 for  
the Ceremony @ 1300 hrs.  
Second shift group goes out at  
1500 hrs.

Requesting names of Veterans we can honor with our "Vet of the Month Ride By". If you know a Veteran that we can honor in this fashion please submit their names to one of our officers or jot the name and details on a piece of paper and leave it in the Riders mail box in the lobby.

Please attend our meetings as we work on planning out the year. We are always in need of Volunteers for Steak Shoot, Dinner, Breakfast, so pick a month and give us a hand.

### **Volunteers For Last 2 Months THANK YOU !!**

**July-Steak Shoot:** Tony, Leo & Bud , **Friday Dinner:** Brenda, Josh & Stephen, **Sunday Breakfast:** Sue, Margie, Freddy & Marty

**August-Steak Shoot:** Eric & Tim, **Friday Dinner:** Sue, Neala, Guy & Marty, **Sunday Breakfast:** Sue, Wendy & Marty

***Email is main form of communication to keep ever one informed, we're also doing our best to post info to Riders & Post 117 Facebook Pages as well as on the Riders Bulletin Board.***

Until we get a chance to ride together again rubber side down shinny side up, be safe in your travels see ya soon.



**Still Serving...  
And Riding!**



## Legion Family Future Leaders Unit 117



MaryAnn  
Spellman  
Junior Chairman

Greetings all,

Yes, our juniors are now a part of the newsletter once again. We would love to grow this program, our children and Grandchildren are our Legion Family FUTURE LEADERS (Juniors) let's get them involved now, so they can grow and learn just what our Legion Family is all about and what we do for our Veterans and the community. If you have a child / grandchild and would like them to be a part of our junior's girl and boys are both welcome to join up to age 17.

Please speak with Auxiliary 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Sheila Benard to enroll any girls, or SAL Squad Commander Randy Chilcott for the boys. The membership dues are \$8.00 for the year for all juniors.

As we continue grow this program we really want to keep everyone up to date on what they have been doing and what's coming up in the future. We don't want anyone to miss out on the amazing things our Future Leaders will be doing this year. If you are not a part of our Legion Family Future Leaders Face Book page, please request to join to learn about upcoming events and their progress.

We have a huge support team this year, Kim Oaks and I will be co-chairing along with the help of many others. We intend on growing and getting all the Jr's involved in many Post family events, and programs along with other special things we have planned throughout the year.

Our next meeting will be held on September 9<sup>th</sup> 2018 @ 11am in the Post hall, the Jr's will be learning about Blue star families, they will also be making blue star banners to take home and hang in their window for active Military.

October meeting will be on October 14<sup>th</sup> 2018 @ 11am, the Jr's will be making holiday cards and ornaments to send to our troops overseas.

We are planning on being consistent and having our meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month, if for any reason we need to change that due to post activities we will move to the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month.

We hope to see everyone there.

For God & Country,

MaryAnn Spellman

Junior Chairman, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 117



Sheila Benard  
Auxiliary  
Membership  
Chairman  
Unit 117

## Unit 117 American Legion Auxiliary-Membership

Everyone, as we move into our new year at our post it's also time to re-new our membership, and to invite new people into our family. Our dues this year for our Auxiliary is \$35.00 and \$8.00 for our Juniors. To be eligible for our family Early Bird Dinner your dues need to be paid by November 11th, the dinner will be served on November 23rd. 12PM - 3PM. So lets get those dues paid. I will be set up at the post on September 10th to make it easier for some of you or I can meet you or you can just pay the bartender. The post is now excepting credit cards to make it easier for you.

I can be contacted at [sheilabenard@yahoo.com](mailto:sheilabenard@yahoo.com) or [ala117bp@yahoo.com](mailto:ala117bp@yahoo.com)

Membership Chairman  
Sheila Benard



**CASINO**  
*Dead Money*



## Murder Mystery Dinner

*Hosted by A.L.A. Unit 117 all proceeds will go to  
Final Salute...Female Vets*

*Please join us for a great night of, suspense, fun, food, Casino games, food and drinks.*

**October 6<sup>th</sup> 2018 @ 6pm**

*\$20 per person. \$15.00 per person without part in the show*

*Included: Your part in the show, Food, \$10.00 in casino play chips and  
1 Signature Drink Ticket*

*Menu: Monte Cristo Sandwiches, salads, a variety of appetizers, snacks and dessert.*

**Deadline for Tickets September 15<sup>th</sup> 2018**

Please see an Auxiliary officer for tickets, and sign up sheet, or your bartender  
For more info contact Linda Shipley 865-789-8030 or MaryAnn Spellman 917-834-5763



### Boy Scouts in the News

The Boy Scouts have started another school year and our Scouts, Troop 732, has had a very successful past year at Post 117. I would like to thank every member of the Post and especially, the past & present Officers for their support. Last year, we chartered Troop 732 after the previous Troop was dying out. I have been with 732 for the past 18 years and I can honestly say that we have never had such great support from a chartering organization.

This past year we have had over half a dozen Scouts earn their Eagle Scout rank, which is well above the average. This coming year we already have three working on their Eagle Scout rank and we couldn't have done it without your support.

Kevin McGarry,  
Boy Scout Charter Representative

### Post Service Officer's Corner

Chris "Peg Leg" Hamrick and I are the Service Officers for the Post. If you have any questions or concerns dealing with any benefits, please contact us. Just about everything now is done electronically and we can assist you in filling out the forms or answer questions. Our contact information is below.

Are you on Medicare?? Open enrollment is coming up on October 15<sup>th</sup>. So, on Wednesday September 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM, in the hall, we will have representatives from Humana giving an educational seminar on what kinds of "Medicare Advantage" types options are and how to figure out which is best for you. This is just an educational seminar on the different options and what you should know, and ask, when the insurance companies are allowed to start selling their plans on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Contact Information:

Kevin McGarry  
[kcmcgarry@gmail.com](mailto:kcmcgarry@gmail.com)  
321-795-2034

Chris Hamrick  
[sgthamrick@hotmail.com](mailto:sgthamrick@hotmail.com)  
321-313-3469





# Blind Draw Darts

**1 ST AND 3 RD MONDAYS  
STARTING A 7 PM  
BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER**

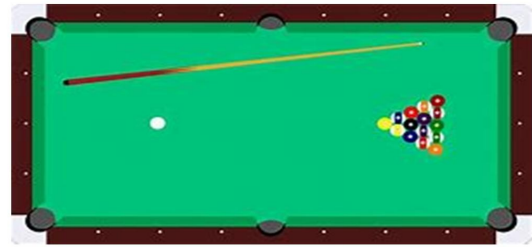
**\$3 BUY IN**



Wings and Fries  
Available



## IN-HOUSE POOL TOURNAMENTS Every Thursday 1pm till?



## 1st & 3rd Saturdays 1pm till?

### Friday Night Dinners and Karaoke

<i>Date</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Menu</i>	<i>Karaoke DJ</i>
7 September	Riders	Sausage, peppers & onions hero's with crinkle cut fries and dessert	Jimmy D
14 September	S.A.L.	All You Can Eat Fried Fish, Coleslaw, Hush Puppies and French Fries	Jason
21 September	Auxiliary	Country Fried Steak, Mashed taters and gravy, corn, Roll Chocolate peanut butter cake	Jimmy D
28 September	Post	Glazed Chicken Breast, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Mixed Veggies'	Jason
5 October	Riders	To Be Announced	Jimmy D
12 October	S.A.L.	All You Can Eat Fried Fish, Coleslaw, Hush Puppies and French Fries	Jason
19 October	Auxiliary	Pot Roast, Roasted carrots and potatoes, roll Desert	Jimmy D
26 October	Post	To Be Announced	Jason

## Saturday Night DJ

*This will be for twice a month.  
Check the bulletin board for which  
days  
Dancing and Music  
**Jimmy D.**  
Come out and enjoy yourself*

## Unit 117 American Legion Auxiliary

Legion Family Future Leaders (Juniors)  
Meetings

Sunday September 9th 11am-12pm

Sunday October 14th 11am-12pm

## Medicare Seminar September 19th at 2pm in the Hall

The Post Service Officers, Kevin McGarry and Chris (Pegleg) Hamrick have made arrangements for representatives from Humana to give an educational seminar on what kind of "Medicare Advantage" Plans there are and what options there may be.

The seminar will be held Wednesday September 19th at 2pm in the Hall.

## Saturday Night Band September 22nd



They will be playing from 7pm to 11pm.

They played at the "Lucky 13s Annual Ride In" on August 18th.

## Halloween Parties Saturday October 27th in the Hall

**Kids Party 11am-1pm**

**Adult Party 7pm till??**



**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 to rent for special functions, weddings, anniversary & birthday parties, etc.

Please contact the Canteen Manager 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) .....\$25

**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



**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

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

**Haircuts**

**by Cathy**

3rd Sunday

of the Month

10 am to

