



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

# The Thomas Times

## **Congratulations Post 117 made 5th Consecutive All Time High in Membership**

It's that time of the year when the Post starts to have a lot of events. Lots of events also means lots of volunteers are needed.

Here are the events in short form:

### March 2nd

Eastern Area Ball, Cocktails at 5pm, Dinner at 6pm.

### March 9th

12th District Picnic & Birthday Party 11am till??

### March 16th

Legion Birthday Bash, 12 noon to 4pm.

### April 6th

Department of Florida Children & Youth Picnic & Poker Run  
 Poker Run registration 9am, KSU 10am, Picnic 12 noon to 6pm.

### April 27th

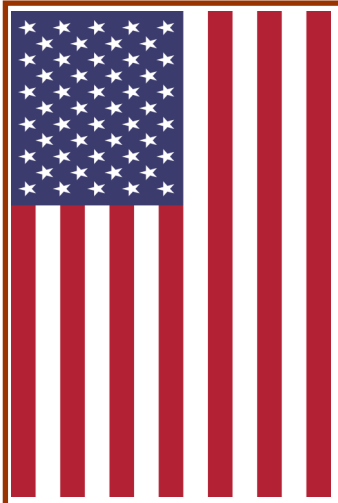
BIN VIII Run, 12 noon to 6pm, Run starts at Shriners at  
 1191 W. Eau Gallie Blvd.

### April 28th

3rd Annual Veterans Fishing Trip  
 Be at Post 117 by 6am, bus leaves at 6:30am. Don't be late.

See pages 9&10 for more details about each events.

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## 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..... Position Vacant  
 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.....Barbara Ward  
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Nancy Richert  
 Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms .....Position Vacant  
 Chaplain .....Barbara Simons  
 Historian .....MaryAnn Spellman  
 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..... Bob Humann  
 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 ..... Josh Spreadbury  
 Sergeant-at-Arms..... Tim Morris  
 Historian ..... MaryAnn Spellman  
 Safety Officer ..... Eric Spellman  
 Membership ..... Guy Savage

### Honor Guard

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

### Ways & Means Committee

Chairman:  
 Members:  
 Randy Chilcott  
 Diane Wood  
 Linda Shipley

### House Committee

Chairman: Leo Belanger  
 Members:  
 Bud Fritz  
 Tom Wood  
 Joe Luckey

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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



I would first like to thank everyone for all the work that has been done in the last two months. As a family we have raised money in support of the Special Olympics. The whole family pitched in and everyone had a good time and a lot of good was done for Brevard County Special Olympics. We took on an event, the Department Commanders Homecoming and it was a huge success. The Valentine's Day RV and camping weekend we conducted was also a new event that we had never done and again it was a big success and enjoyed by all members of the family. In March we have the Eastern Area Ball and it will be a big hit I am sure. The Auxiliary Children's Easter Party is coming soon, so let's all ensure the kids have a good time. We have two more big events coming in April; the Department's Children and Youth Picnic and the BIN run. I am sure we will do an excellent job as always. Please don't forget the importance of the upcoming elections and turn out to vote, the person you would like to see run the family groups depends on your nominations and votes. Everyone please enjoy the next few months, and be safe.



*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





*Diane Tomlin Wood  
President, Unit 117*



### Unit 117 American Legion Auxiliary

Spring is in the air and it is that time we begin the search for our new officers for 2019-2020. It is election time, now is the time to consider holding an office for one of the largest women's veteran organization in America. The gratification you feel and the pride of helping our veterans, their families and the community can not be measured in words. Consider running for an office or even chairing for a program in the new year coming up. Get involved, any of your officers will be glad to answer any questions or needs you may have.

Our next big Event will be our 2nd Annual Hippie Ball scheduled in April. Look for the flyers, I am sure our Linda will have some surprises coming forth in the near future. All the events held by either the Auxiliary or our post families would not have been as successful if it was not for our members. We are proud members of Post 117 and we help one another. Your support is what makes us proud. Check your calendar, volunteer a couple of hours a month and support your post family and the unit. Thank you for all for what you do. I am a proud member of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 117.

### Squadron 117, Sons of the American Legion



*Randy Chilcott  
Commander  
Squadron 117*



I want to thank Tom Wood and the entire legion family for making this year Special Olympics a HUGE SUCCESS! We raised \$11,328.33 in donations and \$4,469.67 in-kind donations making for a total of \$15,798.00.

If you are interested in holding a squadron office let someone in the squadron know so they can nominate you. Offices up for reelection are Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> vice, 2<sup>nd</sup> vice, Finance officer, Chaplin, Historian, Sergeant of Arms and Assistant Sergeant of Arms. All nominations are at our regular meetings.

First round nominations are March 12, 2019 second round nominations are April 9, 2019 election of officers is May 14, 2019.

Our next District meeting will be held at Post 163 on March 2, 2019 at 10am.

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!

## Chapter 117, American Legion Riders



**Marty Spreadbury**  
Director,  
Chapter 117



Hello Riders,

Wow the first 2 months of 2019 have gone by already, but we've been busy. Our first 2 quarters stats have been submitted and the results are listed below. Thank You All for Your support!!

**Quarterly Report for 117 Riders;**

**1st quarter/ July- Sept. 2019**

**Bike Miles: 18,600**

**Bike/ volunteer hours: 2,156**

**Donations: \$4,870.00**

**2nd quarter/ Oct.- Dec. 2019**

**Bike Miles: 9,786**

**Bike/ volunteer hours: 1,959**

**Donations: \$1,448.00**

**Total**

**Bike Miles: 28,386**

**Bike/ Volunteer Hours: 4,115**

**Donations: \$6,318.00**

Remember our up coming March 7th meeting is the first round of Officer Nominations. March 9<sup>th</sup> we have the District Picnic, Live Music, Food and Fun and a ride in come out and join us. On March the 16<sup>th</sup> the Post will celebrate the "100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of American Legion". This year will be the 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Daytona's Bike Week March 8 – 17.

Governor Ron DeSantis has signed a proclamation declaring March 29<sup>th</sup> Vietnam Veterans Day, we Salute You All and Thank You for Your Service.

April 6<sup>th</sup> the Department of Florida Children & Youth Picnic will be hosted by Post 117, April 8<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> FL ALR Unity Run which will be stopping by 117 on Thursday the 11<sup>th</sup> for lunch "**volunteers needed**". Leesburg Bike Fest April 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>, the Bin Run on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget the Veteran's Fishing Trip April 28<sup>th</sup>.

Looking into May for you long range planners May 5<sup>th</sup> is the Wall Escort from Cocoa and May 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> is The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Vietnam and All Veterans Reunion, Wickham Park.

There are numerous other events happening we'll continue to post via Facebook & Emails also check the Post & Rider's bulletin boards for flyers and information.



### Chapter 117, American Legion Riders cont'd



Marty Spreadbury  
Director,  
Chapter 117

Still 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 the meetings remember first round of Officer Nomination is March 7<sup>th</sup> at our regularly scheduled meeting.**

**We are always in need of Volunteers for Steak Shoot, Dinner and Breakfast, so pick a month and give us a hand.**

Volunteers For Last 2 Months THANK YOU!!



January

Steak Shoot: Bobby, Donna, Lou

Friday Dinner: Josh & Crew

Sunday Breakfast: Tim & Kim

Sunday Lunch: Tim & Kim

Bike Night: Doc Holiday with the tunes, Dan on the grill, Neala & Sue Merchandise, Raffles

February

Steak Shoot: Eric, Brenda & Mike

Friday Dinner: Maryann & Kim

Sunday Breakfast: Bob & Larry

Bike Night: Doc Holiday with the tunes, Dan on the grill, Sue & Neala Merchandise, Raffles Until our next chance to ride together keep the rubber side down shinny side up, be safe in your travels see ya soon.



**Menu**  
**\$5**

**Starts March 4th**  
*Check the Tv's and Bulletin Board for each week*

**Monday-Ham & Cheese Panini**  
**Tuesday-Chicken Tenders**  
**Wednesday-Grill Cheese Sandwich**  
**Thursday-Chicken Philly**  
**Friday –Fish Sandwich**

**Served with Fries**  
**Or 6 Onion Rings**

**Week 1**

### Friday Night Dinners and Karaoke

<i>Date</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Menu</i>	<i>Karaoke DJ</i>
1 March	SAL	Spaghetti with Meatballs, Garlic Bread, Side Salad & Dessert	Chuck Body
8 March	Riders	TBD	Chuck Body
15 March	SAL	All You Can Eat Fried or Baked Fish, Coleslaw, Hush Puppies and French Fries	Chuck Body
22 March	AUX	Ribs, Corn on the Cobb, Potato Salad and Desert	Chuck Body
29 March	Post	Prime Rib, Baled Potato, Veggie and Roll	Chuck Body
5 April	Riders	TBD	Chuck Body
12 April	SAL	All You Can Eat Fried or Baked Fish, Coleslaw, Hush Puppies and French Fries	Chuck Body
19 April	AUX	Country Fried Steak, Homemade Mash Potato's and Gravy, Country Green Beans, Roll and Desert	Jimmy D
26 April	Post	TBD	Jimmy D

### 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!  
 Tom & Diane Wood 9/19  
 Gary & Sheila Benard 9/19  
 Jimmy & Mille Donovan 9/19  
 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 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 12p







# Eastern Area Ball

## March 2nd 2019



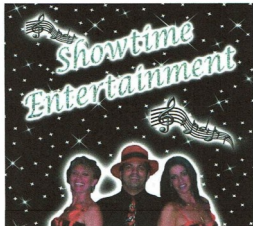
American Legion Post 117  
189 Veterans Drive, Palm Bay



Corned Beef  
And Cabbage

Dinner 6 PM

**\$15 Per Person \$25 per Couple**



Holiday Inn Express & Suites Palm Bay  
1206 Malabar Rd SE  
Palm Bay, FL 32907  
(321) 220-2003

King Room \$129  
2 Queens \$139

## American Legion Post 117 Invites All Veterans and their Family's



### LEGACY & VISION

Be a part of  
our Centennial  
Celebration

189 Veterans Drive  
Palm Bay, FL 32908  
321-729-8089

**Food  
Raffles**

March 16th, 2019

Opening Ceremony 1130

Celebration 12-4 pm



Featuring  
**Doc Holiday**

**Information Booths  
on Benefits  
for Veterans  
Service Officers**

## 12th District Picnic and Birthday Party

Saturday March 9th  
11am-??  
American Legion  
Post 117  
Palm Bay



### On the Menu

Brisket-Burgers-Dogs

With all the Sides



Rockin the House  
and MC



Info:

Chris Hamrick 321-313-3469



Live on Stage  
Touch of Grey



Debbie Gentry 321-960-8241



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

★ CHILDREN & YOUTH ★ HELP US GIVE SMILES ★



SATURDAY  
APRIL 6, 2019  
12:00pm - 6:00pm

AMERICAN LEGION  
POST 117  
189 Veterans Dr.  
Palm Bay, FL 32909

Admission: Free

#### Activities

- Carnival Games
- Safety Finger Printing
- Bounce House
- Vendors
- Chinese Auction
- 50/50 Raffle
- Dunk Tank

#### Food

- Cotton Candy
- Candy Apples
- BBQ Chicken
- Hot Dogs
- Hamburgers

#### Poker Run

- Registration starts at 9 AM
- Kick stands up at 10 AM
- \$10 per Rider
- \$5 per Passenger



Questions?

Department C&Y Chairman:  
Vickie Van Buren; 352-562-9963

SAL C&Y Chairman:  
Tom Soeder; 410-707-2331



**Saturday,  
April 27th 2019  
12p.m. - 6p.m.**

Starting location:

**Shriners**  
1591 W Eau  
Gallie Blvd.



**50/50  
Raffles**

Ending location  
Post 117 in Palm Bay  
for food, music and good company!

**\$5**  
Entry fee  
per person

Come out  
and support



**AFTER PARTY  
AT THE  
WRECKING CREW  
CLUBHOUSE**

Music By:



Food  
provided by  
Post 117



**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Veterans Fishing Trip  
April 28<sup>th</sup> 2019**



Come join us for an all-expenses paid fishing trip for our veterans

**When:** April 28, 2019 Buses leave at 6:30am sharp!!! Be at American Legion Post 117 in Palm Bay at 6:00am and should return around 4pm.  
**Where:** Ft Pierce Lady, 482 N Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce, FL

**Whats included:** Lunch, Snacks, Raffles, Fishing, Beverages, Transportation to and from the port in Ft. Pierce. (You may bring your own fishing gear)  
**Whats not included:** Tips for the deckhands, Tips for the bus driver, and raingear  
**Who:** All veterans (Chaperones will be needed as well which can include the SAL and Auxiliary)  
How do you sign up?

Either Sign up on the board at Post 117 or Contact Andy or Keifer by April 14<sup>th</sup> 2019  
Andy (262)716-1925  
Keifer (321)213-8983

**There is a limit of 60 people on this trip so contact us soon before it fills up!**



**Blind Draw Darts**

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

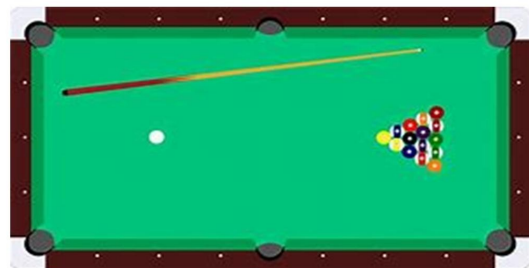
**\$3 BUY IN**



Wings and Fries  
Available



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



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

# Leather & Lace

## March 9th & April 13th

### 7-11p

Set your compass for



*funkin' your favorites...  
drenched in  
BLUES*

**Sax West**

**Saturday, March 16**  
7-11 p.m.

American Legion Post 117  
Palm Bay, FL



Like us on Facebook

## March 16th & April 20th 7-11p

March 23rd & April 27th  
 Showtime Entertainment  
 Live from  
 7pm  
 until  
 11pm





# Menu

## \$5

- Monday-Ham & Cheese Panini
- Tuesday-Chicken Tenders
- Wednesday-Wings
- Thursday-Chicken Philly
- Friday -Fish Sandwich

Served with Fries  
Or 6 Onion Rings

### Week 1



# Menu

## \$5

- Monday-Grilled Cheese & Tomato
- Tuesday-Chicken Tenders
- Wednesday-Wings
- Thursday-Bacon Cheese-Burger
- Friday-Fish Sandwich

Served with Fries  
Or 6 Onion Rings

### Week 3



# Menu

## \$5

- Monday-BLT Panini
- Tuesday-Chicken Tenders
- Wednesday-Cuban Panini
- Thursday-Pork Cutlet
- Friday-Tuna Melt

Served with Fries  
Or 6 Onion Rings

### Week 2



# Menu

## \$5

- Monday-BLT Panini
- Tuesday-Chicken Tenders
- Wednesday-Pork Cutlet
- Thursday-Cuban Panini
- Friday-Tuna Melt

Served with Fries  
Or 6 Onion Rings

### Week 4