

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

# The Thomas Times

# The "Legion Act" was signed by President Trump

ALL Veterans who severed from December 7, 1941 to the Present

are now eligible to become Legionnaires.

# What's Going On

# September 2<sup>nd</sup>-Labor Day

Picnic at the post. Bring your favorite side to share. Hamburgers and

Hot Dogs by the Post.

### September II<sup>th</sup>

Squadron 117 and the American Legion Family provide Lunch for the First Responders of Palm Bay Starting at 11 am. <u>First Respond-</u>

ers Eat Free. Riders Providing Escort for lunch deliveries. September 14<sup>th</sup>

Auxiliary Unit 117 Wild West Murder Mystery Dinner fund raiser

for Department of Florida Honor Flight efforts.

# September 29<sup>th</sup>

Auxiliary Unit 117 Honor Flight Recruitment Dinner. All Veterans of

WWII, Korea and Vietnam are invited. Veterans eat for free.

# October 5<sup>th</sup>

The 12<sup>th</sup> District Picnic will be held at Wickham Park.

### October 16<sup>th</sup>

Legionnaires will vote to Permanently Band Smoking or Not to Per-

manently Band Smoking.

# October 18<sup>th</sup>

Early Bird Dinner

# October 19<sup>th</sup>

Squadron 117 hosting a Luau fund raiser for Special Olympics of Brevard.

# See the fliers on pages 11-13 for more details about these events.

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### **American Legion Officers**

Commander	Bruce Thurber
I <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	Gene Pilot
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	Terry Struven
Adjutant	Jeff Colopy
Finance Officer	Gene Baker
Chaplain	Barry Roberts
Assistant Chaplain	Danny Buckley
Sergeant-at-Arms	Ed Milnor
Sergeant-at-Arms	Donna Swinski
Historian	Bill Davidson
Judge Advocate	Chris Hamrick
Service Officer	Chris Hamrick
Service Officer	Kevin McGarry
Executive Committee	Leo Belanger
Executive Committee	Ed Carbin
Immediate Passed Commander	Gene Baker

### Sons of the American Legion Officers

Squadron Commander	.Randy Chilcott
I <sup>st</sup> Vice Squadron Commander.	.Bruce Walkowiak
$2^{nd}$ Vice Squadron Commander	.Tom Wood
Adjutant	Bruce Thurber.
Finance Officer	.Don Bilger
Chaplain	.George Aichele
Sergeant-at-Arms	.Tony Gannon
Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms	.Terry Cox
Historian	Andy Campbell.
SAL Advisor	Bruce Thurber

President	Diane Tomlin Wood
I <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Linda Shipley
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Maryann Spellman
Treasurer	Wanda Colopy
Secretary	Barbara Ward
Sergeant-at-Arms	Nancy Richert
Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms	Wanda McDermon
Chaplain	Barbara Simons
Historian	Janie Mithaler
Executive Committee	Kathy Belanger
Executive Committee	Pat Luckey
Executive Committee	Linda Lanier

### **Legion Riders Officers**

Director	. Marty Spreadbury
Assistant Director	. Guy Savage
Secretary	. Stacy Gioia
Finance Officer	.Patti Boatright
Chaplain	. Josh Spreadbury
Sergeant-at-Arms	. Tony Boatright
Historian	. Open Position
Safety Officer	. Eric Spellman
Membership	. Guy Savage

### Honor Guard

### Ways & Means Committee

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

Chairman: Bob Swinski Members: Randy Chilcott Tom Wood Linda Shipley

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: Bill Davidson <email: newsletter@al117.com>

Marty Spreadbury Guy Savage **Bill Davidson** Terry Struven Wanda Colopy

#### **House Committee**

Chairman: Leo Belanger Members: Tom Wood Jerry Pucel Jeffrey Colopy Terry Doiel Andy Campbell Chris Tepper

### **Canteen Committee**

Chairmen: Bob Swinski Members: leff Davis Kerry Baker Les Leiner Randy Chilcott Sheila Benard Tom Wood

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# Commander's Corner

Bruce Thurber Commander, American Legion Post 117

commander@all17.com



Summer is ending and the busy Season is upon us. Our first Family meeting was a great success and we strengthened the bond. We will have another meeting and hopefully a larger crowd. Last year our membership grew to 107% this is going to be a challenge to beat but I truly believe with everyone's help we can do it, as we are halfway there. On July 30<sup>th</sup> President Trump signed the Legion Act opening membership to all honorably discharged veterans who served after Dec 7<sup>th</sup>, 1941. Our first Legionnaire under this program came to us several years ago as a member of our Auxiliary and it was an honor to welcome Donna as a Member of The American Legion.

I<sup>st</sup>Vice Commander Gene Pilot will be holding his Early Bird Dinner on Friday Oct 18<sup>th</sup> and invites all who renewed early to enjoy dinner at no cost just show your card with the early bird stamp.

We have many exciting events coming one of the most exciting is the inaugural Palm Bay Veterans Parade on Nov 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The parade will be followed by a picnic at the post. We are being honored to have US Congressman Bill Posey and Brig Gen Douglas Schiess 45<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Commander as our guest speakers. I have appointed Pat Luckey as Chairman of this event and need lots of volunteers to help. It is expected several hundred attendees will come through the post that day.

A suggestion box has been installed so that you can let me know how you feel about things or pass on entertainment suggestions. I will not release names when comments are made, I only ask for them incase I need additional information before passing it on. Some of things I would like to hear about is the Specials that Wanda is doing, Bobs entertainment schedule and what you would like to see.

Patriots Day (9-11) is approaching fast and Sons of the American Legion Squadron 117 is again sponsoring free meals for the First responders of Palm Bay. This is one of the largest Family events we have. The SAL cooks the food, the Auxiliary prepares the individual meals and the Riders escort delivery drivers to each location across the city. We then have a ceremony honoring the Frist Responders. It takes a lot of Volunteers to make this happen. Please sign up to help.

Our next Family meeting will be November 16<sup>th</sup> at 11AM. Our first meeting was very successful and hopefully informative to all.

The Decorating of the TIKI has been turned over to the Riders and they are seeking paint donations for the artist who will be brining it to life. Please make donations of usable out-door paints. Contact them for colors that are needed.

Lets enjoy the nice weather that is on it's way.



Diane Tomlin Wood President, Unit 117

auxiliary@al117.com



### Unit 117 American Legion Auxiliary

We are off and running with some serious and fun events for September and October. The Murder Mystery – Western style event kicks off on Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>. Lots of fun, food, games and special guests. I am sure Linda Shipley and MaryAnn Spellman will have some surprises that night. Fun night for all, tickets will be available at the door. Do not want to miss this. Proceeds will be going to our Department's Presi-

dent program of choice this year, Honor Flight. Sept. 29<sup>th,</sup> we host the Space Coast Honor Flight Recruitment dinner for our veterans. With support of the Post 117 American Legion family we are able to provide a dinner for our honored veterans. This is open to our WWII, Korean and Vietnam veterans. Get the word out and bring our veterans to this event. It will be informative and educational. The recruiters will be on sight to answer any questions and assist any-

one that has interest in this program.

Off to October we have our Children and adult annual Halloween Party that are always a lot of fun. Get dressed up and celebrate good times with old and new friends. And of course, music with our great

Jimmy D.

Reminder that the early bird dinner cutoff is Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>. Get those memberships in.

As always thank you all for support. Throughout the months we have our Steak shoots and Friday dinners. Check the calendar for all the events happening throughout the Post Family. In the spirit of Service

not self.....

For God and Country,



Randy Chilcott Commander Squadron 117

sal@al117.com



# Squadron 117, Sons of the American Legion

Squadron 117, Sons of the American Legion The new membership years for 2020 dues have started please pay your dues ASAP; the cutoff date for the early bird dinner is September 15<sup>th</sup> with the dinner being held on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

The SAL is going to be busy in September and October starting with the First Responders lunch/dinner (911) hosted by the SAL. This is a legion family event all volunteers are appreciated. Next up is Luau Ride & Pig Roast October 19<sup>th</sup> with all the proceeds going to Special Olympics. Also I want to mention the RV/Tent camp out on November 1,2 and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Andy Campbell will be doing a meat raffle in the Tiki on Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1-2pm with all proceeds going to the Veterans fishing trip.

Tom Wood is heading up the Special Olympics committee again this year and already has done many good raffles to support the cause; up next is a gun raffle! Check the bulletin board for all our flyers. Please support your Sons!

Our next District meeting is on September 14th at post 1 in Titusville registration is at 10 meeting at 11am. The district picnic will be at

Wickham Park on October 5<sup>th</sup>,

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!



Special Olympics-- Well its getting close to that time again. Already working on fundraisers. We are having a Luau Oct 19<sup>th</sup> and a gun raffle going on now. We have been doing raffles all year, knife raffle, tool basket and a table grill so far. Lets exceed last year's total. No donation is too small and if anyone wants to purchase raffle tickets, contact or see any Sons of the American Legion officers.

Tom Wood S.A.L. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice





Marty Spreadbury Director, Chapter 117

ridersdirector @all17.com



### Chapter 117, American Legion Riders

As time trucks on and we are approaching fall we have lots of activities coming up. Our annual 9-11 Escort is right around the corner please sign up If you wish to participate. We have our Riders Party coming up September 28<sup>th</sup> come out and have some fun celebrate our accomplishment of the past year as we raise funds for our Veterans and their families. Long range we all working towards Special Olympics, we have Luau Run in October. We just had our 1 year anniversary Bike Night and look forward to have our 2<sup>nd</sup> Halloween Bike Night is actually going to be on Halloween. We have some Rip Off Fun Runs coming up should be loads of fun, come to next Riders meeting for details. Lots of other events posted on the Bulletin Board and FaceBook we'll keep you updated best we can. Always in need of Volunteers please help out give those you are always stepping up a break.

Until then keep an eye on your emails, If your not receiving emails let us know so we can confirm your address. Email is one of our best forms of communication to keep ever one informed, we're also doing our best to post info to Riders Facebook Page as well as on the Riders Bulletin Board.

Rubber side down shinny side up, be safe in your travels see ya soon.

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





Barry Roberts chaplain@al I 17.com



Danny Buckley chaplain@al117.com

# Post 117, Chaplain's Corner

Did you know that Post #117 has two Chaplains at your beck and call ? (Barry Roberts and Danny Buckley). And did you know that both are Ordained Ministers for which have full powers of their respective church affiliation thus are able to offer many services above and beyond the scope of an ordinary Chaplain.

We are here to serve you, our members in what means possible. If you need assistance in the area of weddings , funerals, shut-in or hospital visitation, as well as spiritual guidance then we are here to serve you. Please feel free to contact one of us or by email, calling the Post (321) 729-8089) and leaving a message. Email: chaplain@al117.com

Barry Roberts (863) 661-9999 During business hours or Danny Buckley (321) 305-9965 24/7.



Wanda Colopy Canteen Manager

canteen@al117.com

# Post 117, Canteen Manager

Canteen Report

We are improving the canteen having different draft beer special every Monday all day 20 OZ for \$1.75. On Wednesday all day different drink special for \$2.00.

The bartenders are now coming up with their own drink special or shot special on the shift they are working.

Football fast approaching us starting on Sunday Sept 08, 2019. We will be running a drink special and a beer special during football. The Tiki also will be doing specials during football.

Come out and visit Post 117 to see what kind of drink and beer specials we are now doing in the canteen.

More improvements will be done in the canteen.

We now have a suggestion box if you have any idea's for the canteen please put them in the suggestion box. The suggestion box is black and located on the Legion board as you come in the back door. The forms are next to the box.

It is an honor and pleasure to be your canteen manager at Post 117.

For God and Country



MaryAnn Spellman Junior Chairman

# Auxiliary Unit 117 Future Leaders "Junior's"

Greetings all,

Yes, it's that time of year again for our Post Family Future Leaders to do what they do best, help support our veterans and our community.

Our Jr's had a great year and did so many amazing things last years. 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 Linda Shipley to enroll any girls, or SAL Squad Commander Randy Chilcott for the boys. The membership dues are \$8.00 for the year for all Junior

On Tuesday September 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm we would love to invite all our Future Leaders to attend our Auxiliary meeting where all our Jr's will be presented with a Jr member pin. Please note, after the Jr's receive their pins, they will need to leave the meeting, it you plan on attending the meeting that night, please make arrangements to have the children picked up. Although we would love to have our Jr's stay for our general meeting, we can-

not have anyone under 17 attending.

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. I will 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 I<sup>st</sup> meeting with be held on Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 @ 11am in the Post hall, we will have a few special guests attending to talk to our Jr's about their time in the Military, and what they love about being members and officers at of our Post. Our October

meeting date will be announced at the September meeting.

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

inform everyone. We hope to see everyone there.

For God & Country,

MaryAnn Spellman

Junior Chairman, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 117

<b>Post Meetings • • • Post Meetings • • • Post Meetings • • • Post Meetings</b> 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

# Friday Night Dinners and Entertainment

Date	Host	Menu	Entertainment
6 September	Riders	Spaghetti & Meatballs, Salad and Dessert	Leather & Lace
13 September	SAL	All You Can Eat Fried or Baked Fish, Coleslaw, Hush Puppies and French Fries	TBD
20 September	AUX	TBD	Music By Scott
27 September	Post	Octoberfest-Jaeger Schnitzek, Zigeuner Schnitzel	SAX West
4 October	Riders	TBD	TBD
II October	SAL	All You Can Eat Fried or Baked Fish, Coleslaw, Hush Puppies and French Fries	TBD
18 October	Post/Early Bird	Baked Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Peas, Roll& Butter	TBD
25 October	AUX	TBD	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! 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 (canteen@all17.com) 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
I		

# **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)	
POW/MIA Flag	\$30
SAL T-Shirts (Red or Blue)	\$10

### AUX Items For Sale

# 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

# 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



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Mondays in September 20oz Draft Beer Specials \$1.75 September 2nd Bud Light September 9th Nichelob Ultra September 16th Nichelob Amberbock September 23rd Budweiser September 30th All draft beer we have on tap \$2 Two for One does not apply.

All other 20oz drafts are \$2.75

Post	117 Weekly Food Specials for September
	Does not include Friday Dinners by Family Members)
Tuesday Sep 3rd	Grilled Rueben and fries 5-7 p.m.
Wednesday Sep 4th	Wings 5-7 p.m.
Thursday Sep 5th	Grilled Rueben and fries 5-7 p.m.
Sunday Sep 8th	NFL Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1- 430 p.m.
Tuesday Sep 10th	Taco Night 5-7 p.m.
Wednesday Sep 11th	1 <sup>st</sup> Responders Free Lunch by SAL 11am all others \$6, Wings 5-7 p.m.
Thursday Sep 12th	Bacon Cheeseburger and Irles 5-7 p.m.
Sunday Sep 15th	NFL Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-430 p.m.
Tuesday Sep 17th	SAL BIG AZZ Birgers 5-7 p.m.
Wednesday Sep 18th	Air Force Birthday Cake at 430 pm, Wings 5-7 p.m.
Thursday Sep 19th	Meatball Sub and fries 5-7 p.m.
Sunday Sep 22nd	NFL Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-430 p.m.
Tuesday Sep 24th	Meatball Sub and fries 5-7 p.m.
Wednesday Sep 25th	Wings 5-7 p.m.
Thursday Sep 26th	No food ( Riders cooking outside )
Friday Sep 27th	Post Dinner Oktoberfest- German meal 5-7 p.m.
Sunday Sep 29th	NFL Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-430 p.m.

Wednesdays in September Drink Specials \$2.00 September 4th Frozen Margaritas September 11th Frozen Pina Colada's September 18th Frozen Pina Colada's White Russian's September 25th Frozen Mudslides Two for One does not apply.

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# Wednesday September 11th, 2019 Ceremony at 1300 hrs

Squadron 117 and the American Legion Family provide Lunch for the First Responders of Palm Bay Starting at 11 am

First Responders Eat Free All others \$6

Volunteers for Serving, Providing Sides and Driving to Deliver please sign up with Millie Donovan

Riders Providing Escort Please Sign up with Riders Director Marty Cooks Sign up with SAL Commander Randy Chillcott







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