

AMERICAN LEGION CHARLES F. THOMAS IV POST 117
189 VETERANS DRIVE • PALM BAY, FLORIDA 32909 (321)729-8089



The Thomas Times

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What's Going On

November 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Post 117 Campout with music on Saturday the 2nd and Sunday the 3rd. Also, "Huge Meat Raffle" on Sunday at 12pm for the benefit of the Veterans Fishing Trip in 2020.

November 5th

American Legion Post 117 Veterans Luncheon at 12pm at Post Hosted by Fountainhead Memorial.

November 9th

City of Palm Bay Veterans Day Parade. Parade starts at 9am at City Hall and ends at Post 117. Official Ceremony with many dignitaries after the parade and then a Public picnic.

November 10th

Marine Corp 244th Birthday. Cake at 12:30pm.
American Legion Auxiliary 100th Birthday. Cake at 4pm.

November 12th

"Special Thank You" to Veterans at Odyssey Jr/High School at 9:15am.

November 16th

Post 117 Family Meeting at 11am.

November 23rd

Juniors Harvest 1-6pm.

November 25th

Auxiliary Unit 117 Birthday

November 28th Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Dinner from 1-4pm.

December 7th Pearl Harbor Day

City of Palm Bay Holiday Light Parade. Starts 6:30pm at Eastern State College to City Hall. This year's theme is "Stars and Stripes in Lights". We will be honoring America, our military, and veterans on this Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

December 14th

Children's Christmas Party 11am-1pm

Bartenders Christmas Party in the Tiki 6pm with music by Jimmy D.

December 25th Christmas Day

Christmas Dinner 1-3pm.

Post 117 will close at 6pm.

December 31st

New Years Eve pot luck with music by Jimmy D.

Happy New Year!



Post 117 Directory Auxiliary Officers

American Legion Officers

CommanderBruce Thurber
 1st Vice Commander.....Gene Pilot
 2nd Vice Commander.....Terry Struven
 3rd Vice Commander.....Bob Swinski
 Adjutant.....Jeff Colopy
 Finance OfficerGene Baker
 Chaplain.....Barry Roberts
 Assistant Chaplain.....Danny Buckley
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Ed Milnor
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Donna Swinski
 HistorianBill Davidson
 Judge Advocate.....Chris Hamrick
 Service Officer.....Chris Hamrick
 Service Officer.....Kevin McGarry
 Executive Committee.....Leo Belanger
 Executive Committee.....Ed Carbin
 Immediate Passed CommanderGene Baker

President Diane Tomlin Wood
 1st Vice President..... Linda Shipley
 2nd 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

Sons of the American Legion Officers

Squadron CommanderRandy Chilcott
 1st Vice Squadron Commander ..Bruce Walkowiak
 2nd Vice Squadron Commander .Tom Wood
 AdjutantBruce Thurber
 Finance OfficerDon Bilger
 ChaplainGeorge Aichele
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Tony Gannon
 Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms.....Terry Cox
 HistorianAndy Campbell
 SAL Advisor.....Bruce Thurber

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

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

Ways & Means Committee

Chairman: Bob Swinski
 Members: Marty Spreadbury
 Randy Chilcott Guy Savage
 Tom Wood Bill Davidson
 Diane Wood Terry Struven
 MaryAnn Spellman Wanda Colopy

House Committee

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

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>*

Canteen Committee

Chairmen: Bob Swinski

Members:

Jeff Davis Kerry Baker
 Les Leiner Randy Chilcott
 Sheila Benard Tom Wood



Commander's Corner

Bruce Thurber
Commander,
American Legion
Post 117

commander@all17.com



The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veteran's organization devoted to mutual helpfulness.

As we enter the busiest time of the year at the post, we are going to need many volunteers. We start off with the Veterans Day weekend and the Parade on November 9th and then Veterans Day on the 11th. Our 2nd Family meeting will be held at 11am on November 16th.

Thanksgiving will be celebrated with our annual dinner on the 28th followed by the black Friday post beautification detail. December brings us the Christmas Season.

We have the District Meeting and the Light Parade on Saturday the 7th, the Bartenders Christmas Party on the 14th. Christmas Eve we have a potluck and Christmas Day our Family Dinner.

Finally, New Year's Eve will be Potluck with Jimmy D entertaining us. During this time please be Safe. To bring us luck in the New Year on January 1st, 2020 we will have Black Eyed Peas, Collards and Corn Bread.

Starting on the 1st of January all Bartenders are required to check everyone's membership card as you must have a 2020 card to purchase alcohol. Please respect the fact that this is a Law and their job.

Lastly the American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The organization belongs to the people it serves and the communities in which it thrives.



*Diane Tomlin Wood
President, Unit 117*

auxiliary@al117.com



Unit 117 American Legion Auxiliary

September and October have passed. What a busy time with the success of 9/11, Murder Mystery, Space Coast Honor Flight Recruitment Dinner, District Picnic, ABC school, the Son's Luau and of course Halloween. Want to reach out and thank everyone for their dedication and volunteering for all these events. Without your support we could not be the great Unit we are and family of 117.

Bingo is back in full swing with Millie D. The fall programs have started. The holidays are upon us with the upcoming events in November and December (Veterans parade, food baskets, Junior Fall Festival, Children's Christmas Party, the gift tree and many more activities).

Please check the calendar for dates and times. This is the time for giving and volunteering. Look for our special raffles for our holiday families in need. Please volunteer a few hours to support our veterans, children and community.

Our meetings are every third Tuesday of the month. December (12/17) is our own Auxiliary party with a very short meeting then it is exchange gift game and good fellowship. Bring a dish and join in the festivities.

I just want to wish everyone a safe and blessed holiday. Thank you again for your support.

For God and Country,
Diane Wood - President



Randy Chilcott
Commander
Squadron 117

sal@all17.com



Squadron 117, Sons of the American Legion

I would like to thank all of you that help out with the First Responders lunch. A total of 195 meals were delivered to first responders and 23 meals were sold at the post. Thank you to the legion family for helping out with the luau ride and making it a success even with bad weather!

The SAL has put together a gun raffle with all proceeds going to Special Olympics of Brevard, 10 dollars a ticket and only 400 tickets being sold.

If you have not paid your 2020 dues please do so ASAP, if we don't get membership dues we don't have the ability to make as many donations to support our Veterans.

Our next District meeting will be held at Post 318 on December 7, 2019 at 11am.

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. I wish you and your family a safe and happy Holiday Season.

See ya'll around the Post!



Tom Wood
S.A.L. 2nd Vice



I just want to thank all the family members for the great support on Saturday, Oct 19th, with the Luau supporting Special Olympics. We had a very awesome day! Big thanks to the Riders especially Marty Spreadbury for the great job he did. Shout out to Louie for the delicious roasted pig. Thank you all!!



Chapter 117, American Legion Riders

My Fellow Legion Riders,

Well cooler weather is slowly coming if we could just get it to stop raining. Shout out to all for making the extra effort to come out and support our rides greatly appreciated!

It's a busy season the next couple months we have Camping Weekend Nov 1st – 3rd entertainment planned for all weekend and the Veterans Day Parade & Picnic coming right up on Nov 9th. NVHS Run and ABATE Toy Run are both on Sunday Nov 17th and Richard Phillips Biker Down has their 3rd annual Butterfly Release on Nov 24th. With Thanksgiving on the way the Nov 28th don't blink it'll be Christmas before you know it.

Sunday December 1st is the Shriner's Annual Toy Run. On Saturday Dec 7th, we have the ALR 12th District meeting here at Post 117 in the hall. Breakfast snacks will be available and we're planning on grilling burgers n' dogs after the meeting join us in the Tiki. The following weekend Dec 14th "Santa's Coming to Town" for Kid Christmas Party our shortest escort on record. Did you blink yep Christmas is right around the corner now.

Don't forget our monthly meetings always the first Thursday of the month. We can always use volunteers for Steak Shoot, Friday Dinner and Sunday Breakfast & Afternoon.

Big SHOUT OUT to Mick & Rick as they man the grill for Bike Night and HUGE THANK YOU to Tiffany & Shannon for their Friday Dinner Bartender Invasion.

Until then keep an eye on your emails, if you're not receiving emails let us know so we can confirm your address it's our best forms of communication in keeping ever one informed. We also do 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.



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



Marty Spreadbury
Director,
Chapter 117

ridersdirector
@all117.com





Wanda Colopy
Canteen Manager

canteen@all17.com

Post 117, Canteen Manager

The canteen has added a new bartender to the staff. Her name is Stephanie. Please welcome her when you see her working in the canteen or tiki.

We have added another item to the snack menu. We now have a nacho machine fresh nacho's and cheese for only \$1.50. If you want extra cheese .50 cents or nacho's chips .50 cents. Come check it out you will enjoy the nacho's and cheese.

The tiki has a new ice beer chest. It holds 96 bottles of beer covered in ice. It will keep the beer nice and cold for the beer drinkers.

Angie on Monday's will have a blue plate special. It starts on November 04. Come out and enjoy the food with a cold beverage purchased from the canteen. Each Monday Angie will have a different special. The price will vary.

The bartenders are now coming up with their own drink specials to improve the canteen. Please support the bartenders. The holidays are approaching us, and we will have drink specials for the holidays.

If you have any idea's for the canteen please fill out the form, and put it in the suggestion box to improve the canteen. The box is located in the canteen next to the membership box's. It is a black box and it is labeled.

Any complaints about the canteen or a bartender **MUST BE IN WRITING**. This way it can be handled by the canteen committee that we now have in placed. This is backup paperwork to resolve the problem or issue. There are 6 members on this committee (2) Legion (2) SAL (2) Auxiliary, and Bob Swinski 3rd vice over see's this committee. Also we enjoy getting complements about the canteen, canteen manager, bartenders. Please have a safe and a great holiday.



Barry Roberts
chaplain@all17.com



Danny Buckley
chaplain@all17.com

Post 117, Chaplain's Corner

Hello everyone. In a matter of just a few weeks the holiday season will be upon us as we will be celebrating both Thanksgiving and Christmas. Please keep in mind that on Thanksgiving Day as you gather together around the laden table that you give thanks to God for every blessing that he has bestowed upon you and your family throughout the previous year. And if you doubt that God has not blessed you then I suggest that you do this simple test, and that is to take a sheet of paper and draw a line down the middle and label one column good and the other bad. Now list the good and bad things in the appropriate columns. I guarantee you that good will out weight the bad.

The other holiday is Christmas. Unfortunately for many is all about the twinkling of lights and decorations, buying and receiving/giving of gifts. We as Christians or Spiritual people know that is not what Christmas is all about. We celebrate the birth of God's son Jesus Christ and we must not lose sight of that. Also let us not forget our

Jewish members who will be celebrating their holiday known as Hanukkah which means Dedication and is often called the "Festival of Lights" with the lighting of the Menorah. 7 candles with the middle one representing the Sabbath. It is a time for all to be of good cheer. Let's make this our Family goal during these two holidays.

Email: chaplain@all17.com

Barry Roberts (863) 661-9999 During business hours or

Danny Buckley (321) 305-9965 24/7.

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



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@al117.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

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

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



RV/Tent Fall Campout Party

Post 117



November 1st, 2nd & 3rd

20 Sites Available

\$20.00 per Site



Post Family Cookout

Signup Sheet in the Canteen

Campfire After Dark



Sunday 11/3/19
DJ Doc Holiday



Live on stage Saturday 2-6



Meat Raffle
Sunday
12 PM

For Details Contact Andy

More Details Coming Soon

NOV.05th

**American Legion
Post 117**

VETERAN'S LUNCHEON

Presented By:

Fountainhead Memorial
Tuesday, November 5th at 12:00pm

189 Veteran's Dr SE, Palm Bay, FL 32909
Please RVSP Sheila Luke at 321.768.0776

MEAT RAFFLE

Huge Meat Raffle

When: Sunday November 3, 2019
Where: American Legion Post 117 Tiki Bar
Time: Ticket Sales 12:00pm to 12:30
Raffle Starts at 12:30PM

FUN!

FUN!

7 tickets for \$20 good for the whole raffle

Big Meat round!

Mystery Meat Round

Breakfast Round

Steak Round

Cash Raffle at the end 70/30

- Prizes include:**
- Whole pork Tenderloin
 - 10lb tube of ground beef
 - Whole chickens
 - Steaks
 - Brats
 - Whole Beef Tenderloin
 - Big Chuck Roast
 - Bacon
 - Sausage
 - And much more!

FUN!

All Proceeds go to the SAL Veterans Fishing Trip

2019 VETERANS DAY PARADE
SAT NOV 9, 2019
Parade begins at 9am

Join Us for the first Veterans Parade in Palm Bay

Congressman Posey is Grand Marshal

Parade starts at Palm Bay City Hall (120 Malabar Rd, Palm Bay 32907)
Travels East on Malabar and ends at American Legion Post 117 (189 Veterans Dr. Palm Bay, 32909)

Participation Spots Available

American Legion Post 117
189 Veterans Dr. SE, Palm Bay, FL 32909

Contact: Bruce Thurber at 321-750-1067 // commander@al117.com
Florida Tax Exempt Certification: #85-801390295C-2 FEI/EIN: 59-2417391

Veterans Picnic
Nov 9th
American Legion Post 117
189 Veterans Drive Palm Bay
Following the Veterans Parade

Guest Speakers	Presentation of Colors by
US Congressman Bill Posey	AFTAC Honor Guard
Brig General Schiess	National Anthem by
Rep Randy Fine	Atomic Blue
Sherriff Wayne Ivey	
Other Local Officials	

The Public is invited to Join Us
 1986 Daytona 500 winner Geoff Bodine will
 show his 2010 Olympic Gold Medal Bob Sled

VVB Traveling Museum
Food and Entertainment!
 No outside food or Beverages



Special Invitation



Odyssey Jr/Sr High School has invited all Veterans to attend a Special Thank You Event on November 12th at 9:15 am
 1350 Wyoming Drive SE
 RSVP: Jeff Colopy



Marine Corps 244th Birthday
November 10th 2019



Post 117 Family Meeting
Saturday
November 16th
11 AM

Due to the success of the Family Meeting
 We are having our 2nd meeting
 Hopefully with a bigger turnout



Thanksgiving Dinner
28 November 2019

*Turkey, Dressing, Potatoes,
 Vegetable, Roll & Butter
 Dessert*

*Buffet Style Service
 in Hall
 Serving 1 to 4 pm*

*Free
 To Post
 Members*



Christmas Dinner
*Ham, Mashed Potatoes,
 Vegetable, Roll & Butter, and
 Desserts*

*Buffet Style Service
 Serving 1 to 3 pm*



2019 Holiday Light Parade

This year's theme is
**"Stars & Stripes in Lights" Honoring
 America, our Military & Veterans on this
 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day**

Parade will be December 7th, 2019 6:30pm

"a date which will live in infamy"



**December 7th 1941
 Pearl Harbor**



AMERICA
the Beautiful