

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



The Thomas Times

Happy New Year!

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What's Going On January

Saturday 11th

Chilli Cook Off with judging at 4pm.

Saturday 18th

Children and Youth Fundraising Dinner 4-7pm along with Basket Raffle.

Sunday 19th

Oratorical Contest in the Hall 11am.

Friday 24th

Honor Guard Recognition Ceremony in the Hall 7pm.

Saturday 25th

Brandon Thurber Memorial Run-KSU 10am.

February

Saturday 1st

Special Olympics Fundraiser and Run.

Sunday 2nd

American Legion National Commander visit and dinner.
 Super Bowl Party

Saturday 8th

Four Chaplains Ceremony and Run.

Thursday 13th, Friday 14th, Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th,

Post 117 Campout.

Saturday 22nd

Clifford Treese Memorial Run and Auction.

See fliers on pages 10, 11 and 12 for more detailed information.



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 Rowena Milnor

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

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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>*

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

What a great 2019 we had. We have been in the news several times, on Radio and TV for the things we do. From National we received the American Legion Children First Guardian Award, the Chamber of Commerce made us Business of the Month for November.

We have had schools recognize us with a Luncheon, Bus Trips to the Post and posters thanking us.

Patriot Day was an outstanding success taking care of our first responders.

The first ever Palm Bay Veterans Parade although rained out the festivities were great. Congressman Bill Posey visited the post thanking our veterans for their service and interacting with the children.

General Schiess 45th Space Wing Commander spoke on the future of Space and our Department Commander reminded us of the sacrifices of Veterans and Active Duty Military and the reason the American Legion exists.





*Diane Tomlin Wood
President, Unit 117*

auxiliary@al117.com



Unit 117 American Legion Auxiliary

It is the start of a new year, welcome 2020. Holidays are over and all the mad rush has come to a slow pace now.

The auxiliary focuses on our veterans and their families, children and community. We are proud to support and serve the Legion family. Our chairs will be announcing any special events that we will be promoting. As always, we collect for shipments going overseas for active veterans with our National Security program.

A big shout out to our Juniors contributing to the food baskets and the Angel tree for the holidays. They did a good job. Community service had a big task of all those holidays food baskets and we thank everyone that contributed to this great annual service. All the children parties were a great success. I am very proud of all our chair people, officers and members for all the hard work and volunteering that they do in order for us to be able to support all the programs that we do, thank you.

I welcome all the new members at 117. Any of our officer will be glad to answer or get the answer to the questions or concerns you may have. Remember if you do not have your 2020 card you will lose your Post 117 privileges. Get those dues in and if you have already renewed, thank you for your support. Let's rev it and get those memberships in.

In closing, I am lucky and blessed to have such a great family at 117 (legionnaires, sons, riders and our auxiliary).
For God and country... Diane



Randy Chilcott
Commander
Squadron 117

sal@all17.com



Squadron 117, Sons of the American Legion

Welcome to 2020! I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! The Special Olympics Run is almost here and we need all the help we can get to surpass last year's goal. I need all the legion family to help out with this great cause. If you can volunteer in any way, contact me or Tom Wood.

Membership is going well and we have been meeting all our goals but still haven't hit 100%. This month we should see a lot more renewals because those that haven't renewed yet will be unable to access the post canteen or tiki.

Our next District meeting will be held at Post 126 Jensen beach on February 29, 2020 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.

See ya'll around the Post!



Tom Wood
S.A.L. 2nd Vice



It's getting close to that time of the year. Special Olympics will be gearing up for February 1st.

January we will be raffling off a propane gas griddle to raise funds for Special Olympics. It will be drawn on February 1st the day of our big event.

We are for volunteers. Everybody that does not have their gun raffle tickets, we still have a few left so get your tickets.

Thank you all for your support.
Special Olympics Chairmen



Marty Spreadbury
Director,
Chapter 117

ridersdirector
@al117.com



Chapter 117, American Legion Riders

As we close 2019 we wish You & Yours a Safe n' Healthy "Happy New Year". In closing 2019 and starting 2020 here's a bit of reflection on what we accomplished in just the last six months of 2019. From May to November You rode 49,000 miles for Charities, Fallen Comrades and sometimes just for fun, we logged 4,960 hours of Volunteer work (those of you who've volunteered we can't Thank You enough), and finally we've raised and donated \$5,100.00 to various charities and folks in need. Give yourselves a pat on the back those numbers are by no means something to be taken lightly lot of hard work reflected there. We Thank all our AL 117 Family Members & Riders for your support and continued patronage .

As January 2020 is upon us, we'll continue to Serve and Support Veterans and Their Families. This month coming up, we Honor one of our True Hero's "**Brandon Thurber**" as we ride in his memory to support his favorite Charity NHVS on January 25th help us make this an unforgettable event, personally I'd like to see it become an annual fundraiser in Brandon's name for NHVS.

February is going to be a busy month; we have Special Olympics Run on Saturday the 1st. ALR Summit starts on the 6th and runs thru to the 8th lots of great information and just plain fun be there if you can. Also, on Saturday the 8th we have "Four Chaplain's Day" celebration in the Hall @ 117 preceded by an Honor Ride to the Four Chaplain's memorial in Sebastian. Then on Saturday the 22nd we'll have our 2nd Annual "Cliff Treese" memorial ride with benefits going to "Commander Charity of choice" this year Commander Rick Johnson's choice is "COTA" a fantastic charity to help children in need of organ transplants.

Along with all the events we work to support don't forget about those things right here at Post 117. We have our regular Rider's meeting first Thursday of the month followed by Rider's Steak Shoot in the Canteen, also the Tiki will be open. Come help us plan our events, volunteers always needed, play Road to Sturgis as we hang out and enjoy the evening. The Friday following our Thursday meeting is Rider's Dinner come out and support us as we work diligently in the kitchen to serve you a great meal. Don't forget the Last Thursday of the month is "Bike Night" Tiki is open with Music by our own "ALR 117 Celebrity DJ Doc Holiday", Grilled Goodies, Road to Sturgis, New Merchandise Sales and just loads of fun. We do this for you please come out and support ALR 117 you don't have to be a Rider to join in the fun **All are Welcome**.

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 form of communication to keep everyone 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.



Wanda Colopy
Canteen Manager

canteen@all117.com

Post 117, Canteen Manager

We are continuing to make improvements to the canteen. Canteen now has a new freezer it was donated by a veteran. Our freezer for the canteen was on its last legs expected it to go out any day. **Thank you Gerald Wolf for the new freezer. It is greatly appreciated.**

The Tiki is now open every Thursday night. Come out and enjoy the Tiki. The Tiki opens at 5pm on Thursday.

On Mondays starting January 06, 2020 will be having Jam Music from 6pm-9pm. Come out and enjoy the music.

On Wednesdays starting January 08, 2020 will be having stick bingo in the canteen from 1pm-4pm. Please come out and support the post. It is a lot of fun. It is a new game for the post.

Super Bowl Sunday February 02, 2020 we will be having drink specials and beer specials starting at 6pm. Please bring a dish to share with everyone. It will be pot luck. It will be a fun evening, and enjoy watching super bowl with your friends. Cheer on your favorite team to win.

Come out and support our Post 117.

For God and Country



Matt Zirwas
Honor Guard
Commander

Post 117, Honor Guard Commander

The Post honor guard has had a busy month in November. We had 3 celebrations of life, 2 funerals and on Veterans Day 7 ceremonies. Post 117 has a dedicated Honor Guard and one of the best in Department. I'm proud to be their commander. We would also like to thank the Legion Riders for their support by escorting us to all 5 Assisted Livings. Matt Zirwas Honor Guard Commander





Barry Roberts
chaplain@all117.com



Danny Buckley
chaplain@all117.com

Post 117, Chaplain's Corner

Happy New Years everyone !!. Hope you enjoyed the holiday season. I finally found a New Years resolution that I know I can keep and that is ...**Not To Make One, Lol.** Well we're off to a new year and what a wonderful opportunity to start over from scratch. The old is gone.

As the Bible teaches us in **Isaiah 43:18 (NIV) "Forget the former things, and do not dwell on the past"**. Ladies and Gentlemen now is the time for reconciliation not just with others but with our Heavenly Father. God is calling you. He's calling you from a life of wasted years. Scripture teaches us in **Psalms 86.5 (NIV)..."for you, Lord, are good, and ready to FORGIVE, abundant in loving kindness to all who call upon you."**, And in **Romans 10:13 (NIV) "for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved"**. Both myself and Chaplain Barry are here to help you in your spiritual walk with God.

Please don't hesitate to call upon us. We are here to serve you, God, and Country. Communion and Baptisms are available upon request and keep in mind your actions are always kept stickly confidential.

And finally, the Chaplains would like to invite the entire Family of Post members to the annual Four Chaplains Day Ceremony on Saturday February 8th at noon in our social hall. Have a blessed day gang.

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".

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





**Lunch
Specials**

Blue Plate Specials

Mondays in January

\$3.50

A variety of Specials Served while they Last

- January 6th:** Philly Cheese Steak with Onions & Peppers (optional) along with Chips & Pickle
- January 13th:** Meatball Sub with Chips & Pickle.
- January 20th:** Taco Salad
- January 27th:** Rubeen Corned Beef, Sauerkraut, Thousand Island with Chips & Pickle

Post 117 Weekly Food Specials for January

(Does not include Friday Dinners by Family Members)

- Wednesday Jan 1st**Bruce's Good Luck Blackeyed Peas, Greens and Corn Bread 1pm-3pm.
- Thursday Jan 2nd**Chicken Tenders and Fries 5-7pm.
- Sunday Jan 5th**Breakfast 9-11:30am
Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-4:30pm.
- Tuesday Jan 7th**Grilled Rubeen and Fries 5-7pm.
- Wednesday Jan 8th**Wings Night 5-7pm.
- Thursday Jan 9th**Chicken Tenders and Fries 5-7pm
- Sunday Jan 12th**Breakfast 9-11:30am
Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-4:30 pm.
- Tuesday Jan 14th**Taco Tuesday Night 5-7pm.
- Wednesday Jan 15th**Wings Night 5-7pm.
- Thursday Jan 16nd**Chicken Tenders and Fries 5-7pm
- Friday Jan 18th**Chicken Parm (In the Hall) 4-7pm.
- Sunday Jan 19th**Breakfast 9-11:30am
Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-4:30 pm.
- Tuesday Jan 21st**SAL Big AZZ Burgers 5-7pm.
- Wednesday Jan 22th**Wings Night 5-7pm.
- Thursday Jan 23rd**Chicken Tenders and Fries 5-7pm.
- Friday Jan 24th**Post Prime Rib Dinner 5-7pm.
- Sunday Jan 26th**Breakfast 9-11:30am
Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-4:30 pm
- Tuesday Jan 28th**Jo Jo's Famous Empanadas 5-7pm.
- Wednesday Jan 29th**Wings Night 5-7pm.
- Thursday Jan 30th**Rider's Bike Night Food outside.
- Friday Jan 31st**Scouts Dinner 5-7pm.

January Entertainment

7-11pm

- Monday's JAM Session 6-9pm
- Wednesday's Music with Alvin 7-11pm
- Friday 3rd: Karaoke with Alvin
- Saturday 4th: Music by Scott
- Friday 10th: Southern Thunder
- Saturday 11th: Karaoke with "Hoosier Daddy"
- Friday 17th: Eric Lee Webb Band
- Saturday 18th: Karaoke with Chuck
- Friday 24th: Leather & Lace
- Saturday 25th: Karaoke with "Hoosier Daddy"
- Friday 31st: SAX West

Post 117 Weekly Food Specials for February

(Does not include Friday Dinners by Family Members)

- Sunday Feb 2nd**Breakfast 9-11:30am. Kitchen not open after 11:30am. Super Bowl party and Pot Luck. All food donations appreciated 5pm-till? National Commander's dinner in the Hall 6pm.
- Tuesday Feb 4th**Ham & Cheese Panini and Fries 5-7pm.
- Wednesday Feb 5th** Wings Night 5-7pm.
- Thursday Feb 6th**Chicken Tenders and Fries 5-7pm.
- Sunday Feb 9th**Breakfast 9-11:30am
Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-4:30 pm.
- Tuesday Feb 11th**Taco Tuesday Night 5-7pm.
- Wednesday Feb 12th**Wings Night 5-7pm.
- Thursday Feb 13th**Chicken Tenders and Fries 5-7pm
- Sunday Feb 16th**Breakfast 9-11:30am
Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-4:30 pm.
- Tuesday Feb 18th**SAL Big AZZ Burgers 5-7pm.
- Wednesday Feb 19th**Wings Night 5-7pm.
- Thursday Feb 20th**Chicken Tenders and Fries 5-7pm.
- Sunday Feb 23rd**Breakfast 9-11:30am
Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-4:30 pm
- Tuesday Feb 25th**Jo Jo's Famous Empanadas 5-7pm.
- Wednesday Feb 26th**Wings Night 5-7pm.
- Thursday Feb 27th**Rider's Bike Night Food outside.
- Friday Feb 28th**Post Baked Ziti Dinner 5-7pm.



Sponsored By



Chili Cook Off
January 11, 2020
4:00 PM Judging

Who will be the Post 117

Chili Champ

ENTRY FEE: \$10

TASTING FEE: \$3

2020 Post 117
Oratorical Contest
11am Sunday
January 19th 2020



CHICKEN PARMIGIANA



Supporting Pillar #4
Children and Youth
Saturday January 18th
American Legion Post 117
4pm - 7pm

\$8

Proceeds will benefit Children and Youth Programs of the American Legion.

VETERANS DEFENSE AMERICAN YOUTH

189 Veterans Drive, Palm Bay, FL

321-729-8089

Honor Guard Recognition



Ceremony

Friday

January 24th

7 PM



BRANDON THURBER

Memorial Run for Homeless Veterans

Saturday January 25th, 2020

American Legion Post 117
189 Veterans Drive Se
Palm Bay, FL 32909

Registration at 9a.m.
KSO 10am
Last rider in at 3p.m.

Cages are welcome

American Legion Post 117
American Legion Post 81
American Legion Post 163
American Legion Post 348
American Legion Post 200
Amvets Palm Bay
American Legion Post 117

Entertainment by Doc Holiday
and MacKenzie Carey

RIDER - \$10.00
PASSENGER - \$5.00

Raffles - Live Music -
Hamburger and Hotdogs \$5.00 Breakfast Sandwiches \$3.00

Proceeds to benefit NVHS \$50.00 low hand \$25.00 High hand

Dinner with National Commander Bill Oxford Feb 2nd 2020

Cocktails at 6 Dinner 6:30

Tickets \$10 proceeds will go to The Child Welfare Foundation

Jagersnitzel-Spatzel-Vegatable-Salad
Dress Casual it is Superbowl Sunday

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 1ST 2020

Special Olympics Florida Brevard County

POKER RUN

REGISTRATION 9AM AL Post 117
FIRST BIKE OUT 10:30 LAST BIKE IN 2:30

1. AL POST 81 2909 US HWY 1
2. CABANA SHORES 5240 US HWY 1
3. LOU'S FILLING STA 411 E NEW HAVEN
4. CAMP HOLLY 9744 US-192
5. AL POST 117

ALL WELCOME
CAGES & BIKES
\$10 RIDERS
\$5 PASSENGERS

VENDORS WELCOME OPEN TO PUBLIC

PLATTERS \$5
SIDES INCLUDED

BREAKFAST
SANDWICHES @ 8:30
\$3.00

50/50
RAFFLE

Entertainment by
Bervard's Favorite
DJ

For more Info call: Tom 321-508-1629
Hosted by Sons of American Legion Squadron 117
American Legion Post 117, 189 Veterans Drive, Palm Bay, FL

American Legion Post 117 Monday Night - Men's Night - Jam Session!

JAM session

*Monday Nights from 6-9 PM
Beginning Jan. 6, 2020

*Men's Night - **Drink Specials!**
*Guest are Welcome!

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

(321) 729-8089