

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



# The Thomas Times

Post Directory	2
Commander's Corner	3
Unit 117 Auxiliary President	4
SAL Squadron 117 Commander	5
Legion Riders Chapter 117 Director	6
Canteen Manager	7
Meetings	8
Merchandise & Services	9
Fliers & Events	10/11



## What's Going On

### March

#### Saturday 7th

Chowder Cook Off noon-4pm

#### Saturday 14th

12th District Picnic at Post 117 11am-4pm

#### Sunday 15th

Auxiliary Unit 117 Membership Social 11am-1pm

#### Tuesday 17th

St. Patrick's Day Dinner by 40&8/Le Femmes 2-7pm in the Hall

#### Saturday 21st

Medal Of Honor Ride-In and Fundraiser 11am-till?

#### Sunday 22nd

Bob Humann Celebration Of Life in the Hall noon-4pm

### April

#### Saturday 11th

Children's Easter Party in the Hall 11am-1pm

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



## Post 117 Directory Auxiliary Officers

### American Legion Officers

Commander .....Bruce Thurber  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander.....Gene Pilot  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander.....Terry Struven  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander.....Bob Swinski  
 Adjutant.....Jeff Colopy  
 Finance Officer .....Gene Baker  
 Chaplain.....Barry Roberts  
 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

President ..... Diane Tomlin Wood  
 1<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..... Open Position  
 Executive Committee..... Kathy Belanger  
 Executive Committee..... Pat Luckey  
 Executive Committee..... Linda Lanier

### Sons of the American Legion Officers

Squadron Commander .....Randy Chilcott  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Squadron Commander ..Bruce Walkowiak  
 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

### 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

*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@all117.com

What a great passed few months for the Post. We were honored with a visit from the National Commander Bill Oxford. As of February 1<sup>st</sup> 2020, Post 117 has supported each of the Four Pillars, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism and Children & Youth.

Our candidate for Oratorical has won the District and Eastern Area competitions and is moving on to Department. We are sending two boys to Boys State, sponsored 2 Scouts for Summer Camp, 100 Palm Bay Children will participate in Hooked on Fishing Palm Bay, we are sponsoring Youth Basketball Teams in Palm Bay. Provided a Free Breakfast to 120 Children and their families chosen to participate in the Shop with a Cop program of the Palm Bay Police. The run and picnic held in my Grandsons name raised \$2572 for NVHS. The Post 117 Family took best themed float in the Holiday Light parade. Our Sons of the American Legion Squadron has raised the highest ever donation to Special Olympics in the Department of Florida. Our Auxiliary Unit has exceeded expectations in all 11 of the programs they support.

Our Legion Riders support every function and event that the Post Family sponsors and many other functions throughout the state of Florida at their own expense riding hundreds of miles to benefit the Legion Family. Another outstanding program of the post is Honor Guard a group of volunteers who honor deceased veterans, provide honors in respect of our Nations Colors, visit Veterans in assisted living facilities and provide honors at local schools and business's.

On the maintenance side beams over the front door replaced, the rotted building panels replaced, the building has been painted and the signs replaced. Wi-fi has been upgraded and over 1000 volunteer maintenance hours have been put in by the House Committee and other volunteers.

Thank you, 117 Family,  
Bruce Thurber, Commander





*Diane Tomlin Wood  
President, Unit 117*

*auxiliary@al117.com*



## Unit 117 American Legion Auxiliary

It is election time! Our first and second round nominations are in March and April. The final round is in May. At that time elections are held. I encourage everyone to get involved, run for an office. All current and past officers would love to answer questions and support your interest in any of the offices held. The election team will be floating around the post and encouraging members to run. Nominate and vote for your 2020/2021 team.

We are having a membership/social on March 15<sup>th</sup> at 11am. That is a good time to come out and talk to the current (and past) officers to find out exactly what we do for our veterans, families and our community. This is a good opportunity to learn about all the programs we as a Unit support and to look into to chairing for the next year. Come join us for a brunch and some good fellowship.

Spring is upon and that means Easter is just around the corner. The children Easter party will be on April 11<sup>th</sup> and then we have Spring Event on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April, "the 80's Party". Our spring fling basket is coming out first week of March. I am sure MaryAnn has some great surprises in the basket. The basket is to support all the great programs we have.

Check the calendar for all the events around the post family. There is always something going on at Post 117. We have a great family and support system as shown by the support that SAL Squadron 117 did with Special Olympics this year. Congrats gentlemen.....

In closing, I quote "There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer" – General James H. Doolittle.

For God and Country  
Diane Wood – President Unit 117



Randy Chilcott  
Commander  
Squadron 117

sal@all17.com



## Squadron 117, Sons of the American Legion

I want to thank Tom Wood and the entire legion family for making this year Special Olympics a HUGE SUCCESS! We raised \$17,656.00 in donations and \$13,508.00 in-kind donations making for a total of \$31,164.00. This is a all time high.

If you are interested in holding a squadron office let someone in the squadron know so they can nominate you. Offices up for election are Commander, 1st vice, 2nd 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 10, 2020 second round nominations are April 14, 2020 election of officers is May 12, 2020.

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. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice



Hello family members, it is that time again. I would like to thank everyone who help with Special Olympics. Unit 117 Auxiliary made all the baskets with a special mention to Kathy Belanger, Nancy Richert and Barbara Simons. We had an awesome year! I want to thank my wife, Diane, for all of the support she gave me. I could not have done it without her. I would like to thank Marty and Guy, the awesome support the Riders gave. Squadron 117 out did themselves this year, lots of hard work and dedication from all my brothers.

Thank you all

Tom Wood – Chair of Special Olympic and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice



*Marty Spreadbury*  
Director,  
Chapter 117

*ridersdirector*  
*@all117.com*



## Chapter 117, American Legion Riders

Hello Riders, Wow the first 2 months of 2020 have gone by already, but we've been busy. Thank You All for Your support!!

Remember our up coming March 5th meeting is the first round of Officer Nominations for ALR 117 2020 - 2021. March 14th we have the District Picnic, Live Music, Food and Fun ride in and join us here at Post 117. This year will be the 79th Anniversary of Daytona's Bike Week March 6 – 15. On March 21st USA River Rats, Ride In fundraiser for Medal of Honor Memorial here at Post 117. March 26th ALR 117 Bike Night happening in the Tiki and on March 29th 3 Angels Ball for All Bowling at Shore Lanes 12 -5pm.

April 2nd is our monthly Riders Meeting and final round of Officer Nominations for ALR 117 2020 -2021. The Department of Florida Children & Youth Picnic will be hosted by Post 1, April 4th . April 11th Eastern Area Legion Riders Rally, Okeechobee AL Post 64 10am - 4pm. Leesburg Bike Fest April 24th – 26th and April 27th - May 2nd FL ALR in State Unity Ride. ALR 117 Bike Night happening April 30th.

Looking into May for you long range planners May 3rd is the Wall Escort from Cocoa to Wickham Park. Monday May 4th at the Wall Wreath laying and Opening Ceremonies for the Reunion. May 7th – 11th is The 33rd Annual

Vietnam and All Veterans Reunion at Wickham Park. May 16th is the Bin Run IX ending at Post 117. Post 117 All Families End of Year Party happening May 30th, live music by "Last Call Band", games raffles and food come out join the fun.

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

We are in dire need of Breakfast volunteers for Sunday March 8th, please give us a hand.

Please attend the meetings remember first round of Officer Nomination is March 5th at our regularly scheduled meeting.

### **Volunteers for the Last 2 Months THANK YOU!!**

#### **January**

Steak Shoot: Gene Pilot & Crew

Friday Dinner: Ed, Row and Ed Jr.

Sunday Breakfast: Marty, Sue, Brenda & Mikey.

Bike Night: Neala & Sue Merchandise, Lorraine Raffles

#### **February**

Steak Shoot: Leo & Crew

Friday Dinner: Slingshot, Lorraine, Nancy, Chris, Mike, Eddie

Sunday Breakfast: Marty, Sue & Guy

Bike Night: Lee on the grill, Sue & Neala Merchandise & 50/50, Lorraine Raffles

Until our next chance to ride together keep the rubber side down shinny side up, be safe in your travels see ya soon.



Wanda Colopy  
Canteen Manager

[canteen@all117.com](mailto:canteen@all117.com)

## Post 117, Canteen Manager

We are continuing to make improvements to the canteen. The bartender staff we have now are doing awesome job. Please let them know that you are pleased with their service. It is great when the bartenders get compliments from our members and guest.

I would like to thank my husband Jeff Colopy for redoing the chair and bench on each side of the front door.

On Monday's mens night with having jam music from 6pm-9pm has improved business in the canteen.

On Wednesday's ladies night come out and enjoy the music by Alvin. Come out and line dance with the ladies.

The tiki is open every Thursday night at 5pm. Come out and support the tiki on Thursday nights.

If you have any idea's or suggestions to improve the canteen or tiki put it in the suggestion box which is located by the back door. I am always looking for new idea's and suggestions to make this the best canteen and tiki at post 117.

Come out and support our post.

For God and Country  
Wanda Colopy



**Post Meetings ••• Post Meetings ••• Post Meetings ••• Post Meetings**

- Legion Meeting, 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 pm**
- Legion EC Meeting, 2nd Saturday, 10:00 am**
- 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



**Post 117 Weekly Food Specials for March**

*(Does not include Friday Dinners by Family Members)*

**NO dinners on Thursday's**

- Sunday Mar 1<sup>st</sup> .....Breakfast by Ed 9-11:30am. Super Bowl party and Pot  
Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-4:30 pm.
- Tuesday Mar 3<sup>rd</sup> .....Grilled Rueben and Fries 5-7pm.
- Wednesday Mar 4<sup>th</sup> .... Wings by Terry 5-7pm.
- Sunday Mar 8<sup>th</sup> .....Breakfast 9-11:30am  
Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-4:30 pm.
- Tuesday Mar 10<sup>th</sup> .....Taco Tuesday Night 5-7pm.
- Wednesday Mar 11<sup>th</sup> ..Wings by Mike 5-7pm.
- Sunday Mar 15<sup>th</sup> .....Breakfast 9-11:30am  
Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-4:30 pm.
- Tuesday Mar 17<sup>th</sup> .....40&8/Le Femmes Corned Beef Cabbage Dinner
- Wednesday Mar 18<sup>th</sup> ..Wings by St. Mic 5-7pm.
- Sunday Mar 22<sup>nd</sup> .....Breakfast 9-11:30am  
Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-4:30 pm
- Tuesday Mar 24<sup>th</sup> .....SAL Big Azz Burgers and Fries 5-7pm.
- Wednesday Mar 25<sup>th</sup> ..Wings by Mike 5-7pm.
- Friday Mar 27<sup>th</sup> .....Post- Broiled Sea Food Platter Dinner 5-7pm.  
Shrimp, Scallops, Fish, Crab Cake, Rice, Salad & Roll
- Sunday Mar 29<sup>th</sup> .....Breakfast 9-11:30am  
Sunday Kitchen Wings and Shrimp 1-4:30 pm.
- Tuesday Mar 31<sup>st</sup> .....Chicken Tenders and fries 5-7pm.

**Mondays in March  
20oz Draft Beer Specials  
\$1.75**

***Mar 2nd Bud Lite***

***Mar 9th Yuengling***

***Mar 16th Michelob Ultra***

***Mar 23rd Amberbock***

***Mar 30th All Draft Beer***

***we have on tap \$2***

**Two for One does not apply.  
All other 20oz drafts are \$2.75**

March 2020 Entertainment

- Friday March 6<sup>th</sup> : Music by Jimmy D.
- Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup> : Music with Scott
- Friday March 13<sup>th</sup> : Music by Michele Wood
- Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup> : Karaoke with Ann Heeb
- Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> : Eric-Lee-Webb Band
- Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup> : Karaoke with Jimmy D.
- Friday March 27<sup>th</sup> : Leather and Lace
- Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup> : Karaoke with Chuck

**Wednesdays in March  
Drink Specials \$2.00**

***Mar 4th Frozen Pina Coloda's***

***Mar 11th Frozen Strawberry Daiquiris***

***Mar 18th Frozen Choc/White Russians***

***Mar 25th Frozen Mudslides***

**Two for One does not apply.**

# Chowder Fest

And

# Cook Off

Enter your Favorite Chowder for a chance to win  
Free Drinks

1st Place 12 Drink Cards

2nd Place 6 Drink Cards

3rd Place 3 Drink Cards

March 7th, 2020

Noon till 4pm

All you can eat Chowder

\$5

## MEDAL OF HONOR PARK

1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL SPRING FLING FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2020

AMERICAN LEGION POST 117, PALM BAY

11 A.M. - UNTIL ?

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - FAMILIES WELCOME!!

DRIVE  
IN  
POKER  
RUN  
\$5 PER  
HAND



BOUNCE HOUSE  
FOR  
KIDS

CORN  
HOLE  
TOURNAMENT

Festivities: Food, Drinks, and Raffles - Entertainment by: Doc Holiday

ALL DONATIONS AND PROCEEDS WILL BE USED TO BUILD & MAINTAIN THE MEDAL OF HONOR PARK, WHICH HONORS ALL RECIPIENTS OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR (OUR NATIONS HIGHEST AWARD) & HONORS ALL VETERANS.

Medal of Honor Park to be built at Veterans Memorial Center, Merritt Island, FL  
Donations: Cash or Checks Payable to: Medal of Honor Park  
501(C)(3) #59-3070304

On Behalf of the Medal of Honor Park,  
We "Thank You" for your Generous Donations

For more information contact:  
Flame @ (321)652-0000 or Santa @ (321)752-0631

This Fundraiser Event is Hosted by: USA River Rats & American Legion Post 117

# 12th District



Picnic

March 14th 2020

11am till 4pm

Post 117, Palm Bay

For More Information Contact Wayne Mulligan 860-919-0061 or  
Dennis Mallon 772-342-6415



DOC WILL ROCK THE HOUSE



RIDE IN



High Hand \$50  
Low Hand \$75

# Celebration of Life

Sunday March 22nd

noon to 4

American Legion Post 117

189 Veterans Drive SE, Palm Bay, FL32909



Bob Humann

12th District SAL Chaplain