

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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We are still in Phase 2 due to the Corona 19 virus. There is no indication as to when we will move to Phase 3.

Food services has been very successful. Check the bulletin board for daily soup specials and food specials. Post Family members are back providing Friday dinners, Sunday breakfast and Sunday afternoon food. Wednesday's we still have 50 cent wings.

Construction of the Pavilion next to the Tiki Bar has started and should be completed in 2 to 3 weeks.

Happenings

Show-Me-The-Money game is starting in September. The game will be the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Thursday of the month from 7-9pm in the Hall. The Tuesday game will not start until a later date.

September 11th-First Responders Picnic. Food will be distributed to Palm Bay First Responders.

October 31st-Childrens Halloween Costume Party 11am to 1pm at the picnic area.

(Check pages 10 & 11 for more flier information)



Post 117 Directory

American Legion Officers

CommanderBruce Thurber
 1st Vice Commander.....Gene Pilot
 2nd Vice Commander.....Ray Wright
 3rd Vice Commander.....Jimmy Donovan
 Adjutant.....Gene Baker
 Asst. Adjutant.....Tony Kirby
 Finance OfficerGary Benard
 Chaplain.....Donna Walkowiak
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Donna Swinski
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Pamela James
 HistorianJennie Chavis
 Judge Advocate.....Chris Hamrick
 Asst. Judge Advocate.....Charlie Christy
 Service Officer.....Kevin McGarry
 Executive Committee.....Leo Belanger
 Executive Committee.....Ed Carbin
 Executive Committee.....Dave Fox

Auxiliary Officers

President MaryAnn Spellman
 1st Vice President..... Sheila Benard
 2nd Vice President..... Sheila Cline Burns
 Treasurer Pat Luckey
 Secretary Donna Walkowiak
 Sergeant-at-Arms Beverly Hall
 Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms..... Terry Struven
 Chaplain..... Barbara Simons
 Historian..... Mary Lindsey
 Executive Committee..... Millie Donovan
 Executive Committee..... Kerry Baker
 Executive Committee..... Brenda Miskow
 Past President..... Diane Wood

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..... Chris Hess
 Assistant Director..... Jeff Cox
 Secretary Sheila Cline Burns
 Finance Officer..... Kim Oaks
 Chaplain..... Donna Walkowiak
 Sergeant-at-Arms Brian Yancey
 Historian..... Open Position
 Road Captain..... Tim Morris
 Membership..... Edie Cortez
 Merchandise Edie Cortez

Honor Guard

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

Ways & Means Committee

Chairman: Jimmy Donovan
 Members: Chris Hess
 Randy Chilcott Jeff Cox
 Jennie Chavis Bill Davidson
 MaryAnn Spellman Sheila Cline Burns
 Ray Wright Steve Chavis

House Committee

Chairman: Leo Belanger
 Members: Tom Wood
 Terry Doiel
 Andy Campbell
 Jerry Pucel

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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: Dave Fox

Members:

Jeff Davis Kerry Baker
 Tom Giampino Randy Chilcott
 Sheila Benard Steve Chavis



Commander's Corner

*Bruce Thurber
Commander,
American Legion
Post 117*

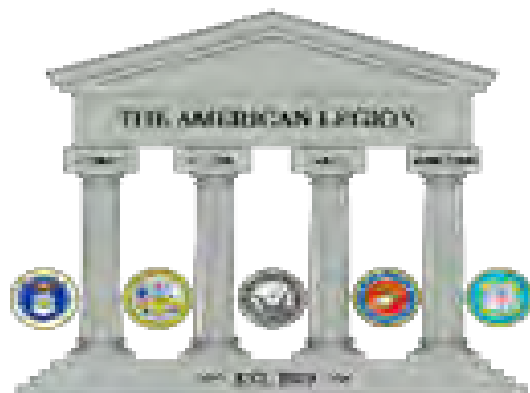
commander@all117.com

As we move into the busy time of the year, we are seeing the Pavilion, our new tables have started to arrive and many of our American Legion Family members are returning. Unfortunately, we are still limited to 50% building capacity which hurts our fundraising efforts. Each of the organizations has a limited ability to raise funds for the community events that they sponsor. Most of their funds will now come from dinners, 50/50's and raffles please support their efforts so we can again be the best Americanism Post in the Department.

In the month of September, we have many events beginning with our Labor Day Picnic, Patriot Day (9/11), Commanders Social, Early Bird Dinner, and more. The District meeting is September 19th at Post 189 and everyone is welcome to attend it is not just for officers. Although they are your representatives you still have a voice at these meetings. Now that the early bird cutoff has been reached membership we still need to RENEW-REINSTATE-RECRUIT for our family.

Our Department Commander was able to get our voice heard because of the membership numbers. To continue having a strong voice with our political leaders' membership is important as it translates into votes.

It is now time to begin working our programs. Americanism, Baseball, Boys State, Blood Donor, Children and Youth, Disaster Preparedness, Employment, Law and Order, Oratorical, POW/MIA, Public Relations, Religious Emphasis, ROTC, Shooting Sports, School Medals, Scouting, Social Media, Special Olympics, Youth Law Cadet. If interested in assisting, please let the Chairperson know.





MaryAnn Spellman
President, Unit 117



Unit 117 American Legion Auxiliary

Greeting Family,

Hoping everyone is doing well though this trying time. We have started this year off in a very unusual way. We have hit several bumps along the way, although it has been different, it has not stopped us from doing what we do best, helping our Veterans, the community and our Legion Family Members.

Our Chaplin Barbara Simons has been very busy, sending well wish plants to members. Barbara wears many hats for our Unit, we are so grateful for all she does. Last month she threw on her Education Chairman hat, and along with Post 117 3rd Vice Jimmy D, they loaded up and delivered school supplies to one of the schools that we adopted this year, GREAT JOB!

We had an amazing Auxiliary week last month; we raised money to go towards Auxiliary programs. We had a great turnout of volunteers show up to help, and we had a great time. If you are available to help, no need to ask if we need help, please just show up. No Volunteer will ever be turned away; there is always room, and need for Family.

I would like to share some GREAT news. Starting September 10th, 2020, The Auxiliary will be hosing **SHOW ME THE MONEY** in the Post Hall on the 2nd 3rd and 4th Thursday of the month from 7-9. The Kitchen will be open until 8pm. Seating will be spread out, as we will be practicing Social Distancing for the safety, and wellbeing of our members. All proceeds will towards Auxiliary programs, we will announce where the monies will go to each month.

Reminder, Auxiliary annual dues need to be paid by September 10th, 2020 to be eligible for the Early Bird Dinner taking place on Friday September 25th, 2020. If you have any question, please reach out to our 1st Vice / Membership Chairman Sheila Benard.

Please do not forget our monthly meeting held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Post hall. We have some BIG plans for this year, and would love your input, come join us and bring your ideas.



MaryAnn Spellman
Jr's Chairman



Legion Family Future Leaders (Juniors)

Hello All,
I hope this finds everyone well. As you all know, this years has started off not the way we would have all liked. Due to the circumstances we are not able to have the fun meeting we normally do with our Jr's.

With that said, I am so very proud of Family Future Leaders. Last month I read a post on FB from our Auxiliary Department President Ann Smith. There was a WWII Veteran celebrating his 111th Birthday in Louisiana, they were requesting cards be sent to him. I put this request on our Future Leaders page asking if any of our Jr's wanted to make a card. Well, with the help of the parents / grandparents our Future Leaders made the most BEAUTIFUL cards, with birthday wishes and thanking him for his service.

I was able to send Mr. Lawrence Brooks 12 cards. This right here showed me, they really are our true Future Leaders and will always be there to show love and support to our Veterans. GREAT JOB Jr's.

We will be having our Annual Kids Halloween Costume Party on Saturday October 31st 11am – 1pm. The party will be held out in the picnic area, as we are social distancing.

There are also some other things we have in the works for our Future Leaders to keep them involved. Please watch the Future Leader FB page for more information that will be posted as we finalize these plans. If you are not a part of the FB page, contact me to be added. We will also post flyers and notifications at the post and here in the newsletter. We will do the best we can to keep everyone posted on all future events for the Jr's.

I would like to wish all our Jr's the best of luck for the school year, as we are in very trying times. Just remember you are Future Leaders, you got this!

If you have a child / grandchild between ages birth to 18 and would like to be a part of this amazing program. Dues are \$8 for the year. Girls will be signed up with Auxiliary, please, contact Sheila Benard boys will be SAL, please contact Randy Chilcott.



Randy Chilcott
Commander
Squadron 117

sal@all17.com



Squadron 117, Sons of the American Legion

The new membership year for 2021 dues have started please pay your dues ASAP, the cutoff date for the early bird dinner is September 11th.

The First Responders lunch/dinner (9-11) hosted by the SAL this is a legion family event all volunteers are appreciated. Please come out and enjoy a BBQ chicken meal. All First Responders eat for free.

Tom Wood is heading up the Special Olympics committee again this year more details to come in my next newsletter.

Our next district meeting is at post 189 in Sebastian on September 19th registration is at 9am meeting is at 10am. The district picnic will be held at Wickham Park on September 29th.

As always we need volunteers for Friday night dinner, Sunday breakfast and Sunday lunch, 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!



Chris Hess
Director
Chapter 117

Chapter 117, American Legion Riders

Hello fellow Riders, our 20/21 year is underway. Not without some obstacles, the Covid 19 issue has certainly caused many of our programs and events to be ether cancelled or postponed. Please keep in mind, that we as a program of the American Legion are still under phase two of the of the operational guidelines issued by the State of Florida.

We are currently having meetings and making plans for a large event for January 2021. The event will have a Poker Run along with food and events, ending at Post 117. The details are still being worked out. A meeting was held a few weeks ago to get a plan put together, and the second meeting will be held on Friday, August 28, 2020, 3:30pm at Post 117. Details will be published as the information becomes available. In the meantime we will continue to make some plans for Fun Rides and Plaque rides to area post locations.

Also, for several years we have enjoyed Sunday Fun Rides. There is an open invitation for anyone who wants to ride, to show up, at the Post for Sunday Breakfast. We will then decide where to ride and set the stops. This usually turns into a 5 to as many as 15 bike events.

Thank you, Ride Safe
For God and Country!



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





Post Meetings ••• Post Meetings ••• Post Meetings ••• Post Meetings

- Legion Meeting, 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 pm
- Legion EC Meeting, 2nd Sunday 12 noon
- 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, 3rd Monday, 6:30 pm
- 40 & 8 Voiture 1621, 4th Tuesday, 7:00 pm
- La Femmes, 1st Wednesday, 7:00 pm
- Ways & Means Committee, 1st Monday, 6:00 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)\$25
- 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



2020 First Responders 9-11 Picnic

Volunteers Needed

- Help on 9-11 to box meals
- Side Dish Donations
- Drivers to Deliver
- Riders to Escort

Honors our First Responders of Palm Bay



POSTS 394 AND 117 COMMANDERS SOCIAL

Approximately 10 years ago Post 394 was formed due to bad blood between members. The Commanders have decided it's time to mend the fences and begin working together, for the Four Pillars of the Legion. The Commanders are inviting everyone to the events with one at each Post. Let's all get together for the mutual benefit of all our members and The American Legion.

**Event #1 at Post 117
Sept 12th**



On the Bike pad till 4pm

**Event #2 at Post 394
Sept 26th**

Both events start at noon

Food and Entertainment

Social Distancing is required



Squadron 117 SAL Friday Dinner September 11th 2020

- Grilled Chicken 1/4**
- Baked Beans**
- Coleslaw**
- and More**

First Responders
Eat Free



\$7

American Legion Post 117

Trick or Treat



Kids Halloween Costume Party
October 31st 2020
11am - 1pm

Food, Games, Prizes and Treats.

Party to be held out in the Picnic area, due to social distancing



Sign up sheet is in the Canteen



Kitchen Menu



Hamburger & Fries	\$5
Cheeseburger & Fries	\$5
Hot Dog & Fries	\$4
Shrimp with Fries	\$6
Chicken Tenders	\$4
BLT & Fries	\$5
Grilled Cheese & Fries	\$4
Grilled Ham & Cheese & Fries	\$5
Sub	\$6
Salad	\$6
Chicken Wings	\$8
French Fries	\$2
Onion Rings	\$3
Fried Mushrooms	\$3.5
Fried Cheese Sticks	\$3.5
Jalapeno Poppers	\$3.5
Broccoli Cheese Bites	\$3
Fried Green Tomatoes	\$3
Onion Pedals	\$3
Tater Tots	\$3

Now Available From the Kitchen



**Soup is now available
from the kitchen
For \$3
Also Subs and Salads
For \$6**

All You Can Eat



**Breakfast in the Hall
9 am till 1130 am**

Eggs your way	\$7	Potatoes
Omelets		Corned beef hash
Bacon		Biscuits & Gravy
Sausage		And Specials



September 10th 2020

7pm to 9pm

Come Join the FUN!

We will be in the Post Hall, arrive early to get a seat as we will be Social Distancing and will have limited Seating.

The Kitchen will be open until 8pm.



All Proceeds Including tips will go to Auxillary Programs



Each month the designated program will be announced