

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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September/October

We went from Corona 19 Phase 2 to Corona 19 Phase 3 on Friday September 24th.

The Post is fully open but we still request everyone to maintain "Social Distancing".

Show-Me-The-Money is back on Tuesday's 1-3pm and also now on the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Thursday nights from 7-9pm.

Men's & Ladies nights are back. Ace of Spades has not returned yet.

The Pavilion has been completed. It looks great. We've had a birthday party, Kid's Halloween Trunk and Treat and Adult Halloween Party using the Pavilion. It's a great addition to the Post.

November/December

Veterans Day parade Saturday Nov. 7th with picnic at the Post following the parade.

Veterans Day celebration Wednesday Nov. 11.

Post family Campout Nov. 20th, 21st & 22nd. Signup sheet on the bulletin board.

Thanksgiving Dinner Thursday Nov. 26 1-4pm.

Bartender's Christmas Party in the Tiki Saturday Dec. 12th 6pm-till?
Music by Jimmy D.

Kid's Christmas Party with Santa Saturday Dec. 19 11am-1pm.

Christmas Day dinner 1-3pm. **Post closes at 6pm.**

New Years Eve Party with Pot Luck. Music by Jimmy D.



Post 117 Directory

American Legion Officers

Commander.....Bruce Thurber
 1st Vice Commander.....Gene Pilot
 2nd Vice Commander.....Ray Wright
 3rd Vice Commander.....Jimmy Donovan
 Adjutant.....Tony Kirby
 Finance Officer.....Gary Benard
 Chaplain.....Donna Walkowiak
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Donna Swinski
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Pamela James
 Historian.....Jennie Chavis
 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 Commander.....Randy Chilcott
 1st Vice Squadron Commander..Bruce Walkowiak
 2nd 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.....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.....Shelby Kennedy
 Merchandise.....Shelby Kennedy

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@all17.com

As we approach the Holiday season, we can look back to the beginning of our 2020-2021 membership year and see all the great things accomplished. Thousands of dollars in school supplies were distributed to the 7 Title one schools in Palm Bay. We had another great 9-11 First Responders meal program. We have been able to give Veterans Family's over 80 gallons of milk and 500 pounds of produce and dried goods. For the Community we sponsored the Hunt for Sasquatch with the City of Palm Bay Parks and Recreation. For us with the help of Guy Savage and his friend Bobby we completed the Pavilion after many stumbling blocks. Now it is time to prepare for the Holiday's. We will have our annual Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinners at the Post and as always volunteers are needed.

I would like to welcome our 29 new legionnaires to Post 117 and ask everyone to show them what a great family we have. We will be participating in the Veterans Parade on November 7th with a follow up event at the Post. Also, the Palm Bay Light Parade is December 5th.

Since St Patrick's we have been extremely limited on the activities we could have. We are now beginning to bring things back to normal. The event book is beginning to fill up for January, February, and March. It will be great to get back to what we do best, fund raising for the Community.

As members are at home a lot more and spending more time on social media. There are a lot of negative postings both founded and/or unfounded. We need to focus on positive thoughts instead of the consistently negative comments from certain individuals. As our Department Commander has stated we welcome constructive criticism and often there are more factors that you are may not aware of. Be part of the solution and not the problem. I have attached The American Legion's Social Computing Guidelines from National on page 10.





MaryAnn Spellman
President

auxiliary@al117.com



Unit 117 American Legion Auxiliary

Greetings Family,

I hope this find you and yours well. Unit 117 has been doing some great things for our veterans and community these past couple of months. Along with our Post 117 Family, we had another successful year as we honored our 1st responders on 9/11. Thank you to all that donated sides, cooked, and helped deliver the meals. Unit 117 collected baby items to be donated to female Veterans that are getting ready to have babies, thank you to all that donated this great cause.

As we now move into fall, we have several events coming up, and before we know it the holidays will be here. Unit 117 will be raffling off an AMAZING USA basket, to help with the cost of holiday baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas for families in need, this will also help with the children's Christmas party and the angel tree. We will be collection rapping paper again this year starting the weekend of Thanksgiving there will be a drop box on the Post hall. If you have, or know a child that you would like to add to the Angel Tree, forms will be available starting Friday, 11/27/2020 this will also be the day we will be putting up, and decorating the Christmas Trees in the Canteen and Hall. All are welcome to help as always.

Children's Christmas Party is scheduled for December 19th, 2020 from 11 am – 1 pm. Please keep in mind, due to the COVID anything can change. We try to do our very best to keep everyone updated on any changers and new events through Facebook and the Post bulletin board. if you are not on our Face Book page, please join now for all updates and events.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 117 Palm Bay, Fl.

Reminders, Auxiliary General Meeting will be held each month on the 3rd Tuesday at 7pm in the Post Hall.

Volunteers are always needed for Friday Dinner, Sunday Breakfast and Lunch. Please reach out to our 2nd Vice Sheila Cline – Burns if you would like to help.

We are also playing Show me the Money Every Tuesday in the Canteen from 1-3pm, and 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Thursday in the hall from 7-9pm.

Please remember, if you have not paid your dues yet, they need to be paid by December 31st, 2020. If you have any questions, or would like to pay your dues, please contact our 1st Vice / membership Chair Sheila Benard.

Everyone, please stay safe through this trying time. Hoping to see everyone soon.

For God & Country.



MaryAnn Spellman
Jr's Chairman

auxiliary@al117.com



Legion Family Future Leaders (Juniors)

Greeting all,

I hope this finds all our future leaders and their families. We have not really been able to do a whole lot this year due the pandemic. We are working on getting a zoon meeting set up so all our future leaders can see each other and share how they are doing, and what they have been up to. We will also be going over a few things for the kids to do so that we can send holiday cards to our Veterans in nursing homes. Information for this call will be posted on the Future Leaders Facebook page, if you are not a part of this page, please send me a friend request so I can invite you to join the page. This is a secure page, and only invited members will be able to join. We will also be sending out emails, please make sure we have your email address you can send that to

maryannspellman9@gmail.com

The Children's Christmas Party is scheduled for Saturday December 19th from 11am – 1pm this will be held out in the new pavilion. Please note this could change at any time due to Covid. Again, please watch Facebook for updates on all events, they will also be posted on the bulletin board in the canteen at the Post.

If you have a child or a grandchild who is not yet a Jr member, please get them signed up to become one of our amazing Family Future Leaders. The dues for all Jr's ages birth to 18 is \$8. Girls will join under Auxiliary, contact our 1st Vice / Membership Chair Sheila Benard. Boys will join under SAL, contact 1st Vice / Membership Bruce Walkowiak.

Wishing you and yours a great Holiday season.

For God & Country



Randy Chilcott
Commander
Squadron 117

sal@all17.com



Squadron 117, Sons of the American Legion

I would like to thank all of you that helped out with the First Responders lunch it was a great success again.

For Veterans Day this year the post will be holding a special ceremony on Saturday November 7th after the parade the SAL will be serving either a hamburger or hotdog with baked beans for \$5.00. November 11th will be our traditional ceremony with a potluck lunch to follow. Please come out and support those who have served this great nation. Thank you to our veterans and their family members.

Starting now thru February 6, 2021 we are seeking donations from businesses for our Special Olympic Poker Run on February 6th. If you can help in anyway let Tom Wood or me know.

Our next district meeting is at post 40 in Fort Pierce on December 12th registration is at 9am meeting is at 10am.

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. I would like to wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season.

See ya'll around the Post!



*Donna Walkowiak
Chaplian*

Chaplain@all17.com

Chaplain's Corner

As we all know the year 2020 has presented us with challenges we never expected. Fear and isolation has ruled and has kept us apart. I call for Prayer from our members for our Post Families, The Post, Community and Country. During this time we are faced with emotional and financial challenges. Not being able to hold our large fundraisers to support our causes, we need to Pray for our ability to reach out and assist them as they too are impacted by Social Distancing. Many have tested positive and I ask for prayer for their full recovery and that the cases be mild with no lasting effects. We have many members that are compromised and have wisely stayed away.

I want them to know we miss them and continue to pray they stay well and will be able to soon rejoin us at our Post home. If you haven't heard from someone who is compromised and isolating please message or call them for a wellness check. It's hard to be alone with all this fear around us. Depression is on the rise.

Our Chaplains board has posted too many we have lost in these past months of Covid-19 when we could not be together to comfort those left behind. Pray for their families. Some could not even be with their loved ones during their final days, because of Covid-19.

I ask that we pray for our Great Country in these troubled times. Pray that we come through this stronger as a Nation of God loving peoples, working together regardless of our differences. That we unite as Americans and work for the greater good. Keep our First responders and active duty military in your prayers. They are under attack, on the front lines and need our support.

Pray for the Family of Barbara Flaherty having lost her daughter and Son in law; that they can find peace and closure.

Special request for prayers of healing and comfort for the following persons: Gene Baker, Gary Sendi, Len Herman, Harry Turcott, Jim Carnright, Duane Venable and Tom McCausland.

If there is anyone you would like to have on the prayer list please email me at Chaplain@ALI17.com and I will... as you request either ask for prayer at the appropriate meetings, add them to the list here in the Chaplains Corner of the newsletter, post for prayers on our facebook page under Chaplain's Corner.



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".

September 2020
 Diane and Tom Wood
 Sheila and Gary Benard

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

Social Computing Guidelines

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide practical advice to guide and protect Members of The American Legion, The American Legion, and others in the social computing space available on The American Legion website and on other online communications networks. The guidelines are as follows:

1. Know and abide by The American Legion's principles when participating on social computing networks.
2. Understand that you are personally responsible for any content you publish, regardless of whether or not you believe your publication is "anonymous." You should also understand that once published, content is immediately public and perhaps permanently available to others.
3. Do not misidentify yourself or your relationship with The American Legion.. Make it clear that you are speaking for yourself and not on behalf of The American Legion or any other entity that has not authorized you to do so.
4. Respect all relevant laws, including copyright and defamation laws.
 1. Copyright infringement is a serious matter and can be very costly. The general law of copyright gives copyright owners the exclusive right to reproduce, distribute, creative derivative works, and publicly perform and display their works. There are exceptions to this general rule, but these exceptions are often misunderstood. As a good rule of thumb, you should not necessarily assume that you may use content created by others simply because:
 1. you believe the content is in the public domain;
 2. the original content is publicly available elsewhere;
 3. your use is for the purpose of criticism, commentary, education;
 4. the content is newsworthy; or
 5. others are using the content without apparent consequence.
 2. To protect from allegations of copyright infringement, consider seeking written permission from copyright owners to use their content. Also, consider linking to original content rather than copying the content as linking generally does not implicate the exclusive rights of copyright owners.
 3. Defamation is generally any false communication that harms a person's reputation; decreases the respect, regard, or confidence in which a person is held; or induces disparaging, hostile, or disagreeable opinions or feelings against a person. Defaming others is against the law and can have serious consequences.
5. Respect the privacy of others. Divulging private information of others can be a criminal offense.
6. Respect others. Do not publish content that is defamatory, obscene, pornographic, abusive, offensive, profane, or otherwise violates the rights of others.
7. Demonstrate proper consideration regarding topics that may be considered objectionable or inflammatory, such as politics and religion.
8. Do not plagiarize or mislead others as to the source of content. As a general rule, you should never quote more than short excerpts of someone else's content and you should always cite the author. When possible, provide a link to original content.

Saturday November 7th

American Legion Post 117
189 Veterans Drive
Palm Bay

Veterans Picnic

FOOD

Hamburger or Hotdog with sides

ENTERTAINMENT

Doc Holiday

**Ceremony to Honor Veterans
At Noon**



Raffles
50/50



Wednesday, November 11

American Legion Post 117
189 Veterans Drive
Palm Bay

Post 117 Family Potluck

Ceremony at Noon

Please bring a dish to share



ENTERTAINMENT

Doc Holiday

Saturday Nov 7th 1700 hours Birthday Ceremony



Post 117

All Welcome

RV/Tent Fall Campout Party

Post 117



November 20th 21st, 22nd 2020

Doc Holiday
Friday 3-7
One the

20 Sites Available

\$20.00 per Site

Post Family Cookout

Signup
Sheet in
the
Canteen

Campfire After Dark



Live on stage Saturday 2-6

**SOUTHERN
THUNDER
DUO**

Along with
Scott

Meat Raffle
Sunday
12 PM
In the Tiki

For Details Contact MaryAnn or Andy



***Thanksgiving Dinner
26 November 2020***

***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 in Hall
Serving 1 to 3 pm***





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

