



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

The Thomas Times

9-11-2001



20th Anniversary of that fateful day
Saturday September 11th, 2021
Ceremony at 1300 hrs

Post Directory	2
Commander's Corner	3
SAL	4
Auxiliary	5
Juniors	6
Chaplains Corner and Riders	7
Meetings	8
Merchandise & Services	9
Event Fliers	10
Event Fliers	11

Squadron 117 and the American Legion Family provide Lunch for the First Responders of Palm Bay Starting at 11 am

First Responders Eat Free All others \$8

Volunteers for Serving, Providing Sides and Driving to Deliver please sign up with Millie Donovan

Riders Providing Escort Please Sign up with Riders Director Jeff Cox

Cooks Sign up with SAL Commander Andy Campbell

Doc Holiday noon to 5pm



Post 117 Directory

American Legion Officers

Commander.....Bill Davidson
 1st Vice Commander.....Gene Pilot
 2nd Vice Commander.....Ray Wright
 3rd Vice Commander.....Jimmy Donovan
 Adjutant.....Bruce Thurber
 Finance Officer.....Gary Benard
 Chaplain.....Donna Walkowiak
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Donna Swinski
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Jeannie Perry
 Historian.....Jennie Chavis
 Judge Advocate.....Bob Swinski
 Service Officer.....Kevin McGarry
 Executive Committee.....Ed Carbin
 Executive Committee.....Jesse Suelter
 Immediate Past Commander.....Bruce Thurber

Auxiliary Officers

President.....MaryAnn Spellman
 1st Vice President.....Sheila Benard
 2nd Vice President.....Sheila Cline Burns
 Treasurer.....Brenda Miskow
 Secretary.....Kim Oaks
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Beverly Hall
 Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms.....Shellee Hutchins
 Chaplain.....Barbara Simmons
 Historian.....Dawn Burgess
 Executive Committee.....Mille Donovan
 Executive Committee.....Teresa Linton
 Executive Committee.....Sandy Huff

Sons of the American Legion Officers

Squadron Commander.....Andy Campbell
 1st Vice Squadron Commander..Bruce Walkowiak
 2nd Vice Squadron Commander.Jeff Cox
 Adjutant.....George Aichele
 Finance Officer.....Don Bilger
 Chaplain.....Mathew Hanline
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Terry Cox
 Historian.....Alvin Hill
 SAL Advisor.....Bruce Thurber

Legion Riders Officers

Director.....Jeff Cox
 Assistant Director.....Brian Yancey
 Secretary.....Sheila Cline Burns
 Treasurer.....Kim Oaks
 Chaplain.....Leah Guljord
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Stan Wood
 Historian.....Open Position
 Road Captain.....Eric Spellman
 Membership.....Shelby Kennedy
 Merchandise.....Shelby Kennedy

Honor Guard

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

Ways & Means Committee

Chairman: Jimmy Donovan
 Members: Jeff Cox
 Andy Campbell Brian Yancey
 Jennie Chavis Bill Davidson
 MaryAnn Spellman Ray Wright
 Brenda Miskow Sheila Cline Burns

House Committee

Chairman: Jess Suelter
 Members: Tom Wood
 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: Bob Swinski

Members:

Jeff Davis Kerry Baker
 Tom Giampino
 Sheila Benard Steve Chavis



Commander's Corner

*Bill Davidson
Commander,
American Legion
Post 117*

commander@al117.com

The 2021-2022 Post 117 Family Officers were installed in July and are already working hard. We are off and running for September/October.

In the next few weeks we expect the electrical work for the Pavilion and Grillzilla to be completed along with water at Grillzilla. Remodeling of the kitchen has started. All the old cabinets are going to be removed and open shelving will be installed. Most of the counter tops will be replaced with roll around tables.

We are getting a fare amount of new members signing up for all Legion family.

We will have our 9-11 Ceremony at 1pm and the First Responder lunch/deliveries will start at 11am. It's hard to be leave that it's been 20 years since the fateful day.

Private Hall/Pavilion rentals are growing over the next month. This is very exciting.

The Legion/SAL membership portal is working better. There are still a few issues but those are being worked on.



Andy Campbell
Commander
Squadron 117

sal@all17.com



Squadron 117, Sons of the American Legion

Hello Everyone! For those of you that don't know me let me introduce myself. I am Andy Campbell incoming 117 Squadron Commander and have been a member of SAL Squadron 117 for about 6 years now. Just to give you a little background about myself. I have been involved in Veterans organizations for about 15 years now. In Wisconsin I founded the Sons of AMVETS Department for the state.

For those of you that do know me let me know how I am doing so far as we have a lot of activities going on around the post and I would like feedback on these things or how we can make things better!

My officers and I are using these next full months to get organized and plan all of the events that are coming up like Special Olympics and 3 Angels Ball and of course planning the Veterans Fishing trip for next year

Peter Puzzo has been a great District Commander and I am looking forward to meeting with him throughout the year. He has been a great leader in our district thus far and I am sure he will only continue to help our district be a leader in the state!

As we move forward, and folks begin renewing their memberships for the upcoming year please put your email address on your membership application so that I have way of communicating with our entire group of SAL members

Let's try to get to 100% by the end of the year!

Make sure to watch the TV's in the post and the bulletin board for upcoming events!

I can be reached at 117squadroncmdr@gmail.com

Thanks and God Bless,

Andy Campbell



MaryAnn Spellman
President

auxiliary@al117.com



Unit 117 American Legion Auxiliary

Greeting family,

We started our year off with a great Auxiliary week last month; we raised money to go towards Auxiliary programs. If you are available to help with Friday night dinners, and, or Sunday Lunch in the kitchen.

Please contact Auxiliary 2nd Vice Sheila Cline.

Thank you to all the volunteer that came out to help our Family Future Leasers build their new playground, I also want to thank all that donated to the Jr's for this project. This could not have been possible without all of you. On Sunday September 12th, 2021, at I am the Jr's would like to invite everyone out to see the new playground, they will be placing an American Flag and a plaque on the Playground and want to share this will the whole legion family.

Once again, this year, Post 117 Family will be delivering meals to all our 1st responders, Auxiliary is requesting sides to be donated. If you would like to donate a side, or help prepare to go meals, please contact Millie Donovan.

I would like to share some GREAT news. Unit 117 Auxiliary will be doing a **SPECIAL STEAK SHOOT** this month, on Thursday September 23rd at 7pm. Come out and join the FUN! All proceeds will towards Auxiliary programs.

We be having our Annual Adult Halloween Party Saturday October 30th 6pm to? We will be having this out in the Pavilion. As always bring a dish to share.

Kids Halloween Costume Party on Saturday October 30th 1pm – 3pm. The party will be held out in the Pavilion. Sign up sheet will be posted in the canteen.

Adult Halloween Party Saturday October 30th 6pm to? We will be having this out in the Pavilion. As always bring a dish to share.

Reminder, Auxiliary annual dues need to be paid by October 2nd, 2021, to be eligible for the Early Bird Dinner taking place on Friday October 29th, 2020. To pay your dues, or 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 Thursday 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 President, Unit 117



MaryAnn Spellman
Chairman

auxiliary@al117.com



Unit 117 Juniors

Hello Family,
I hope this finds everyone well. I want to start off with some EXCITING news. The Post Playground is up, with the help and support of our amazing volunteer, donations, and our Jr's determination to get this project complete, we can now say, it looks AWESOME!

Calling all Family Future Leader, On Sunday September 12th, 2021, at 11am the Jr's will be placing an American Flag along with a plaque on the new playground, they would like to share this with the whole post family, come out and show our Family Future leader some LOVE. We have some cool things in the works for our Future Leaders this year 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 start another year of some trying times. Just remember you are Future Leaders, you got this!

Annual Kids Halloween Costume Party on Saturday October 30th 1pm – 3pm. The party will be held out in the Pavilion. Signup sheet will be posted in the canteen.

If you have a child / grandchild between ages birth to 17 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 Beard boys will be SAL, please contact Andy Campbell.

Warmest Regards,
MaryAnn Spellman

Unit 117 Jr Chairman



*Donna Walkowiak
Chaplian*

Chaplain@all17.com

Chaplain's Corner

First and Foremost I extend my deepest condolences to the families of the military personnel that were lost in Afghanistan, our newest Gold Star families. May God comfort them at this time of loss. As we see the cloth of our nation being unraveled I ask we all look to the Lord to restore the cohesion we once had as Americans. Today we are a nation of special groups pitted against each other as never before. Divide and conquer. I hope we will all ask the Lord to once again Bless this Wonderful Nation made of so many diverse peoples, all created in his image.

We have come together to celebrate Freedom and unity in a melting pot Nation to be American without a hyphen. We must once again become "E. PLURIBUS UNUM" Of many one. I implore God to unite us together as our enemies are now stronger than ever and their desire to take us down has been emboldened.

As Covid-19 cases are again on the rise, I pray the Lord will protect us. We can only pray that God will heal anyone that falls ill. These days are testing us and our faith. We must turn to him for strength and truth. I pray you all stay well.



Riders Chapter 117

As we are finally getting back to normal as normal as can be right now, the last three benefit runs has raised our community and people at our post nearly \$75,000.00 and with the add off Palm Bay police department we where able to make to our destination safely. To honor them we presented them a plaque. We have more rides to come! September 11th food escort for the first responders, Sep-

*Jeff Cox
Director*



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

- Legion EC Meeting, 3rd Wednesday, 6:00pm
- Legion Meeting, 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 pm
- SAL Meeting, 2nd Wednesday, 6:30 pm
- Auxiliary EC Meeting, 2nd Monday, 6:30 pm
- Auxiliary Meeting, 3rd Thursday, 7:00 pm
- Legion Riders Meeting, 1st Thursday, 6:30 pm
- Legion Riders EC Meeting, 3rd Monday, 6:00 pm
- Ways & Means Committee, Last 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 2021
 Diane and Tom Wood
 Sheila and Gary Benard
 June 2021
 Thomas and Stacy Gaume

Hall/Pavilion Rental

Our Post Hall or Pavilion are 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

MERCHANDISE SALES

Legion Items For Sale

Men's Tee (Gray/Black, Red/Gold, Black/White, Black/Red)...\$15
 Men's Polo with pocket (Black, Red and Burgundy).....\$35
 Women's Shirts (Red, Black, Teal, Burgundy and Purple).....\$20
 Legion License Plate.....\$5

Riders Items For Sale

(For special orders contact Riders Merchandise Person)

Men's Tank Tops (Black)\$10
 Men's T-Shirts\$20
 Hoodies..... \$30
 Long Sleeve (Black)\$20
 Ladies V-Neck.....\$20
 Small Riders Patch\$10
 Medium Riders Patch\$20
 Large Riders Patch\$40

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
 Black Half Staff Ribbon\$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

Services currently provided at Sharon's home.

Contact Sharon at (321) 403-1216 for appointment and directions.

September Entertainment

Wednesday 1st-Jimmy D.
 Friday 3rd-Scott
 Saturday 4th- Chris Bates
 Wednesday 8th-Jimmy D.
 Friday 10th-Double Trouble/Ann Marie
 Saturday 11th-No karaoke until further notice
 Wednesday 15th-Alvin
 Friday 17th-Ana & Dave
 Saturday 18th-Jimmy D.
 Wednesday 22nd-Jimmy D.
 Friday 24th-Scott
 Saturday 25th-No karaoke until further notice
 Wednesday 29th-Jimmy D.



Huge Meat Raffle

When: Sunday Sept. 5th, 2021
Where: American Legion Post 117 Tiki Bar
Time: Ticket Sales 11:00pm to 11:45
Raffle Starts at 11:45PM

FUN!

7 tickets for \$20 good for the whole raffle

2 Grand Prizes to be announced ^{Confidential} the day of the Raffle

FUN!

Big Meat round!

Prizes include:
 Whole pork Tenderloin
 5 lbs of ground beef
 Whole Chickens
 Steaks
 Wisconsin Brats
 Chuck Roasts
 Bacon
 Wisconsin Sausage
 And much more!

Mystery Meat Round

Wisconsin Cheese!

Wisconsin Steak Round

Cash Raffle at the end 70/30

All Proceeds go to the Veterans Fishing Trip

October Entertainment

Friday 1st-Tony Lawrence
 Saturday 2nd-Chris Bates
 Wednesday 6th-Jimmy D.
 Friday 8th-Double Trouble/Ann Marie
 Saturday 9th-No karaoke until further notice
 Wednesday 13th-Jimmy D.
 Friday 15th-Scott
 Saturday 16th-Alvin
 Wednesday 20th-Alvin
 Friday 22nd-Ana & Dave
 Saturday 23rd-No karaoke until further notice
 Wednesday 27th-Jimmy D.
 Friday 29th-Jeff Krick
 Saturday 30th-Halloween Party no entertainment inside

Special Picnic Sunday

**September 5th
 lunch starting at 12noon.**

***Pork Loin donated
 by Chris Hamrick***



3-7pm

Bring your favorite side to share

Tiki opens 11am



**Monday
Sept 6th
12-4**

Hamburgers and Hot Dogs
by the Post

Bring your favorite side to
share

Tiki Open 12 to 6pm

A benefit run for
Palm Bay
Great Leaps Academy
Donations are greatly appreciated
Sensory craft and art items needed
Meeting at post 117 9:30am

\$10 Rider
\$5 Passenger
Music by
Doc Holiday



Hamburgers and hotdogs
50/50 raffle
Sept. 18th
KSU 10:30
Stops are
Malabar Moe's Siggys
Palm Pub Back to
Maggie's Post 117



9-11



IN HONOR
AND REMEMBRANCE

**Saturday September 11th, 2021
Ceremony at 1300 hrs**

Squadron 117 and the American Legion Family provide Lunch for the
First Responders of Palm Bay Starting at 11 am

First Responders Eat Free All others \$8

Volunteers for Serving, Providing Sides and Driving to Deliver please
sign up with Millie Donovan

Riders Providing Escort Please Sign up with Riders Director Jeff Cox

Cooks Sign up with SAL Commander Andy Campbell



Noon-5pm



Cutoff

Saturday October 2nd

Dinner

Friday October 29th

Menu will be posted later