

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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Veterans Day Parade
November 6th
Thanksgiving Dinner
Thursday the 25th
1-4pm

Post Cleanup Day
Nov 25th

Kids Christmas Party
Dec 18th 11am-1pm

Christmas Day Dinner
1-4pm Post Closes at 6pm

Campout Weekend
Dec 31st-Jan 2nd



Post 117 Directory

American Legion Officers

CommanderBill Davidson
 1st Vice Commander.....Gene Pilot
 2nd Vice Commander.....Ray Wright
 3rd Vice Commander.....Jimmy Donovan
 Adjutant.....Bruce Thurber
 Finance OfficerGary Benard
 ChaplainDonna Walkowiak
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Donna Swinski
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Jeannie Perry
 HistorianJennie Chavis
 Judge Advocate.....Bob Swinski
 Service Officer.....Kevin McGarry
 Executive CommitteeEd 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 CommanderAndy Campbell
 1st Vice Squadron Commander ..Bruce Walkowiak
 2nd Vice Squadron Commander .Jeff Cox
 AdjutantGeorge Aichele
 Finance OfficerDon Bilger
 ChaplainMathew Hanline
 Sergeant-at-Arms..... Terry Cox
 HistorianAlvin 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:
 Ed Milnor
 Clinton Mason
 Donna Walkowiak

Dawn Hanner
 Bruce Walkowiak
 Rowena Milnor
 John Petticchie

Ways & Means Committee

Chairman: Jimmy Donovan
 Members:
 Andy Campbell
 Jennie Chavis
 MaryAnn Spellman
 Brenda Miskow

Jeff Cox
 Brian Yancey
 Bill Davidson
 Ray Wright
 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@all17.com*



Commander's Corner

*Bill Davidson
Commander,
American Legion
Post 117*

commander@all17.com

We are off and running. Lots of activity in September and October with Pavilion rentals and Hall rentals. Fundraising has started with SAL's Meat Raffle, Palm Bay PD SWAT fundraiser. We had an excellent turn out for the 20th 9-11 Ceremony. As I said in the last newsletter it's hard to believe that it's been 20 years since that fateful day. Scout Troop 117 refurbished the Memorial Brick area and what a fantastic job they did. You need to take a look at it. Membership is growing with lots of new members across the Legion Family. We will have a float in the Palm Bay Veterans Day Parade on Saturday November 6th. The Post theme for the float is Honoring Woman Veterans.

It is my sad duty to report that we have lost 4 Legionnaires, Jack Dudek (COL 11/27/21), Fred Platt (COL 10/31/21), Gene Baker - Passed Post Commander (COL 12/12/21) and Bob Wiseman - Passed Riders Director (COL 11/14/21). Celebrations of life are also posted on our bulletin board.



Andy Campbell
Commander
Squadron 117

sal@117.com



Squadron 117, Sons of the American Legion

Hello everyone! Where has this year gone?? We have had a lot going on this year! Once again, our American Legion family has gone above and beyond these last couple of months!

In the last few months, we have had successful benefits. From the Autism run to the Swat Team Benefit raising donations in 5-digit numbers! Thanks to all that participated from the SAL. We were also able to secure enough money for next year's Veteran's fishing trip which will take place sometime in May of 2022.

The fish fry turnout has been amazing, and I would like to thank all that have been participating! We are averaging around 80 meals on our Friday night dinner. I would like to also thank the volunteers that have helped me along the way with this dinner. It wouldn't have been successful without you!

As we move forward in November and December, we will be concentrating on Special Olympics in Brevard County. Our goal is to raise at least \$7000 by the First weekend in February.

We will be doing different raffles to accomplish this goal:

Raffle for a Primo ceramic grill valued at over \$1000

Meat Raffle on January 2nd

A new shake of the day game in the canteen (Upon approval of the post)

A steak platter valued at \$150 (only 100 tickets sold at \$5 a ticket)

Membership is moving along, and we are at 38.6% of our goal which is where we needed to be at by the end of November, so we are a little ahead of our goals.

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

As we approach the holiday season, and we spend time with our families always remember those who have lost family and those that don't have family and try to help wherever you can

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, God Bless and Happy Holidays,
Andy Campbell



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. It's that time of year again, we have several events coming up, and before we know it the holidays will be here.

We will be making holiday baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas for families in need. If you would like to donate needed items, please contact Millie Donovan.



We will be collection wrapping 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, 11/26/2020 this will also be the day we will be putting up and decorating the Christmas Trees in the Canteen and Hall starting at 2pm. All are welcome to help as always.

Children's Christmas Party is scheduled for December 18th, 2020, from 11 am – 1 pm. Sign up sheet will be posted in the canteen.

Auxiliary General Meeting will be held each month on the 3rd Thursday 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,.

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.
Warm Regards,

MaryAnn Spellman Unit 117 President



Chaplain's Corner

As I write this, my heart is heavy. Our little Legion family has suffered hard losses. We have scheduled four celebrations of life. Our Lord is calling home our loved ones that have been suffering, to be in his care. The family members left behind to endure their absence are turning to us here at the Legion, as we ARE their extended family. Let's lift them up in prayer and reach out to them to meet their needs both emotionally and physically.

Donna Walkowiak
Chaplain

Chaplain@all17.com

Join us for these Celebrations of life to help in the healing process as we share fond memories and remember those no longer with us. Remember the day will come when we will all gather together again and enjoy each other's fellowship.

The holiday season is upon us. It is a very busy time for everyone and "NORMAL" has not returned. We face new challenges it seems every day. Everyone's finances will be getting tighter. We need to remember those who were already less fortunate in our community and do what we can to help them get through this season. It is meant to be a time of joy and celebration but many will struggle financially and emotionally this year. We need to pray that the Lord will watch over them, comfort them and provide them with the help they need. As a Post, when we set our mind to accomplish something we are a force. So much good comes from our actions, so much caring can be felt. I wish everyone a very blessed Holiday season and look forward to putting this 2021 behind us with 2020. I'm praying that 2022 will bring better times for the United States of America, our communities, our Veterans, and our families.

May God bless you and yours. I pray
this in God's Holy name. AMEN



Jeff Cox
Director

Riders Chapter 117

The riders had a great couple of months. We were able to do a benefit to help autistic children from the Great Leaps Academy in Palm Bay. We also had the great honor to do a run/benefit for the Palm Bay Swat Team and on December 5th we're doing a ride for children's toy run. Two wheels and four wheels welcome. Thank you all for continued support!



Kevin McGarry
Scouts Chairman

Scouts Corner

On Saturday October 16th Scout Troop 117 updated the Memorial Brick Garden. It was an all day project with lots of hard work by the Scouts. The blank brick pavers and sub base materials were donated by Surfside Paver's Inc of West Melbourne. One for the Surfside Pavers owners, Tony Truscello also worked and provided guidance on the project for about 4 hours. A Big Thank You to Tony! In addition to the pavers and other materials, the 2x6 Cedar border material was donated by Red at Brevard Lumber in Titusville. Thank You Red!

As you can see in the pictures, is looks fantastic.



Post 117



Troop 117





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.