

Year Book of
Charles F. Thomas IV Post No. 117
The American Legion
Palm Bay, FL 32909
For 2024—2025

By: Dana Jackson



Introduction

The Beginning of the American Legion Riders

In the fall of 1993 Chuck (Tramp) Dare shared a dream with then Post Commander (Polka) Bill Kaledas at the American Legion Post 396 in Garden City, Michigan. The idea came about to start a motorcycle association that would operate within the American Legion. The idea was to provide an atmosphere whereas Post, Auxiliary and S.A.L.. members, who shared an enthusiasm for motorcycles, could come together. It was meant to be a family oriented group.

Not knowing how to start this group up, and stay within the scope of the American Legion, a letter was written to then Department Adjutant Hubert Hess. In his November 19th, 1993 reply he stated that it "Sounds like a great idea". In this letter, and follow-up phone conversations, he gave us instructions on how to manage this program at our Post. He also provided us information on how to get approval for the use of the American Legion Emblem. We then sought to get this program recognized through our Post Membership. The idea was brought up at our Post meeting to have our Post sponsor the group to be known as the "American Legion Riders". It was passed by our members and thus became the birth of the first American Legion Riders group.

We started with just a small group. Within a few months we grew to nineteen members. We worked on developing a set of by-laws to help us to provide structure to our group. We designed an emblem for the American Legion Riders. This emblem, contained within its design, the emblem of the American Legion. Working closely with our Department Adjutant we were able to gain approval, by the national headquarters of the American Legion, to have our emblem manufactured for our group. This emblem is worn today by Legion Rider groups throughout the country and nation.







Introduction

We did such things as putting on a "Bingo" at the VA Hospital, putting on fundraisers for local charities, participating in motorcycle "runs" to raise money for charity and participation in ceremonies and parades. We did have some Post members who thought, in the beginning, that we would be just a bunch of "Bikers". After seeing the kinds of things we did, we gained a lot of respect in both the American Legion community as well as our own community.

In 1996 we had an article published about the American Legion Riders in the American Legion National publication of the "Dispatch". An article in the American Legion Magazine soon followed up this article. In about 1996 "Tramp" moved to Texas, where he did a great job of promoting the Legion Rider program there. Today, there are groups of American Legion Riders throughout the country.

Who benefits from forming an American Legion Riders Group?

We all do!!!! Many of the groups, in existence today, have all had stories where some of their Post members were a little reluctant to let a group of "Bikers" in to their Post. After seeing what these groups were doing for the American Legion their opinion soon changed. Not only did the Post welcome them, but in most cases did what they could to help support their efforts, by participating in some of the groups fundraising events. There are also many stories where the American Legion Riders group worked in conjunction with the Post to sponsor a program. The Post was glad to have their help and the Riders were honored to be asked. We were able to break down some barriers. Just because one person wears a leather motorcycle jacket and another wears a golf shirt and slacks, we now know that we can work together to promote the aims and purposes of the American Legion.. We have done it, and everyone involved was able to see the benefit.



Introduction

As stated, it is to be able to work with the Local Post to assist in promoting the American Legion. Membership, Membership!! Literally every Post program of the American Legion Riders has brought in members that may not have joined the American Legion were it not for the Riders program. The Riders program has been able to spark a new interest to join the American Legion. Some of these members, who joined for the Legion Rider program, have gone on to serve as Officers within their Post. Conversely, we have also had Post members go out and purchase motorcycles just to join the Riders. There was one story from a Post that recently started an American Legion Riders group. It advertised for the first meeting of the group. They originally intended for only about six or seven members to show up to the first meeting. When the meeting started they had several people wanting to join, nine of these people were joining the American Legion that night so that they could become members of the Legion Riders. Have you had a program that has brought in that many new members in one night lately? Pure enjoyment!! The program was designed to have people work together and enjoy themselves. It may be a group of Riders working on a fundraiser for a local charity, it may be just a warm summer evening ride together or maybe just sitting at the Post sharing stories. It's all about members working together and playing together – it is there for them to enjoy.

Bill Kaledas





Charles F. Thomas IV 6/13/46—4/8/71 HQ & SVC BTRY, 3RD BN, 319TH ARTILLERY, 173RD ABN BDE, USARV Army of the United States



Charles F. Thomas IV in Vietnam



Charles F. Thomas IV ROTC



Portrait by Doris Thomas (Mother of CPT Thomas)

FOFOFOFOFOFOFOFOFO

Charles F Thomas IV

ON THE WALL: Panel W4 Line 113

PERSONAL DATA:

Home of Record Palm Bay, FL Date of birth: 06/13/1946

MILITARY DATA:

Service: Army of the United States

Grade at loss: 03
Rank/Rate: Captain
ID No: xxxxx5720

MOS/RATING: 71193: Field Artillery Unit Commander

(Airborne Qual)

Length Service:

Unit: HQ & SVC BTRY, 3RD BN, 319TH

ARTILLERY, 173RD ABN BDE, USARV

CASUALTY DATA:

Start Tour: 01/04/1970
Incident Date: 04/08/1971
Casualty Date: 04/08/1971

Age at Loss: 24

Location: Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam

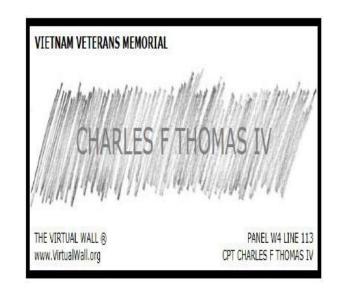
Remains: Body recovered

Casualty Type: Hostile, died outright

Casualty Reason: Ground casualty

Casualty Detail: Artillery, rocket, or mortar

Data accessed: 4/30/2015







American Legion Post 117 189 Veterans Dr SE, Palm Bay, FL 32909









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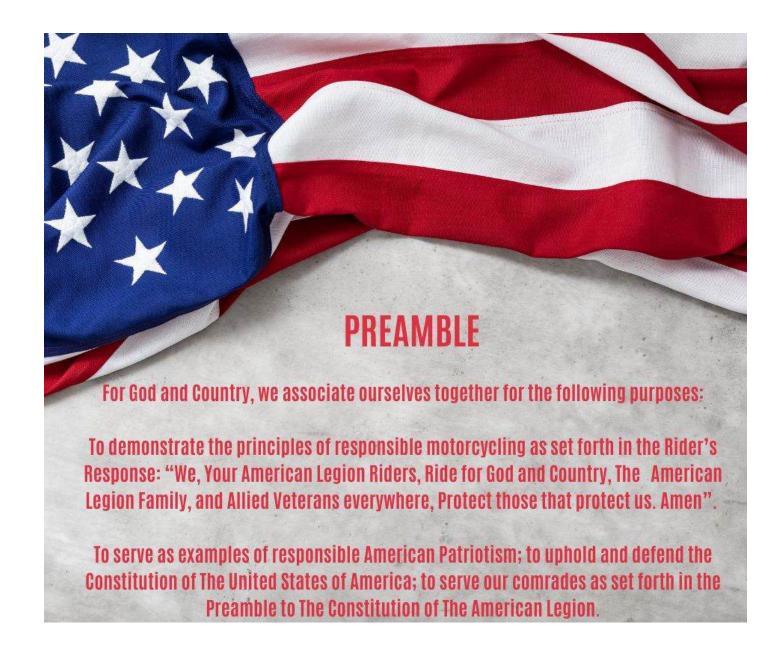


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Who We Are!

We are the American Legion Riders, Florida, Chapter 117 of The American Legion, Charles F. Thomas IV, Post 117, 189 Veterans Drive, Palm Bay, Florida, 32909.

The American Legion Riders is not an M/C, and does not practice M/C rules or regulations. The American Legion Riders is family oriented, just as its parent organization: The American Legion.

The American Legion Riders are members of the American Legion, Sons of the American Legion and the Legion Auxiliary who are also motorcycle enthusiasts. The American Legion Riders were formed...

- To participate in parades and other ceremonies that are in keeping with the aims and purposes of the American Legion.
- To promote motorcycle safety programs and to provide a social atmosphere for American Legion members who share the same interest.
- To use our association to promote and support programs of the American Legion.







American Legion Rider Oath

"I _______, do solemnly pledge myself; to perform faithfully and impartially; the duties of the office; in the American Legion Riders Chapter _____; that I am about to assume; And I Further pledge; I will support the goals and principals of The American Legion; I attest that I am not a member of; and do not subscribe to; the principles of any motorcycle club or group; opposed to our form of government."



RIDERS CREED

F

Riders dedicate themselves to the success of the American Legion. I know that, through my efforts, I can make a difference.

I alone am responsible for myself and to my fellow riders. I will conduct myself with the highest degree of integrity and honor.

D

Deeds, not words, create change. I will persevere against any and all things that prevent my success. My resolve and strength will overcome all obstacles.

E

Each rider is first a member of the American Legion Family. I will actively participate in willingly support their endeavors.

R

Readily will I join other riders in activities and events which support our missions. I will do so gladly knowing I volunteered to be an American Legion Rider.

S

Success is the only acceptable conclusion. I will allow nothing to dissuade me or impede me from service to my family, community, country and especially our Veterans.









Post Everlasting



GONE RIDING

Don't cry for me, I still ride free, with the wind upon my face, leather in black, the sun on my back, a priceless gift of God's grace.

I'll never grow old, on these streets of gold, chasing a majestic sunset, and I still recall, how I love you all, sweet memories I won't forget.

And when your road ends, we'll meet again, inside the Pearly Gates, and we'll laugh awhile and go ride for miles, but for now, Heaven can wait.

When you do get here, don't shed one tear, and think that I'm in hiding, just search Heaven's shore, where engines roar, and you'll find that I've gone riding.

Author: David Ritter







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Post Calendar June 2024

June 2024



Rev.0

Charles F. Thomas IV American Legion Post 117

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	steamed shrimp 1pm-4: BOGO Drinks; Free Poo Money 1-3pm —Last ticket sold at 7:2 It BOGO Drinks; \$1 Win Jusic Entertainment Fric	I All Day Opm g Night ; Entertainment	June is PTSD / June 27th—P1	Pool Tournament 1pn Karaoke-Mark Canada 6:30-10:30pm		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
SAL Veteran Fishing Trip 5:30am Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5pm Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Show-Me-The-Money-1p Tacos 5-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	\$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Vince 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Riders Meeting 6:30pm	Rider's Dinner 5-7pm Prime Rib Jimmy D 6:30-10:30pm	Private Event (P) Joe Calautti 6:30-10:30pm
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Honor Guard Practice 10a Junior Award Ceremony 12p Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5pm Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Aux EC Meeting 6pm Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Azz Burgers 5-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	\$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Women Veterans Day SAL Meeting 6:30pm Jimmy D 6:30-9:30pm	Dept Convention 13-16 Charlie F. Thomas IV Birthday Pool Tournament 1pm 40&8 7pm	Aux Dinner 5-7pm Nancy's Ribs Flag Day 249th Army Birthday 4:30pm Will The Thrill 6:30-10:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Private Event (P) Private Event (H) Karaoke—Chuck 6:30-10:30pm
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Father's Day Brunch 10am-12pm Shrimp & Wings 1-5pm Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Rider's EC Meeting Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Show-Me-The-Money-1p Tacos 5-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Legion EC 6pm Legion Meeting 7pm \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Alvin 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Auxiliary Meeting 7pm Tim Bobanic Guest Supervisor of Elections	SAL Fish Fry Dinner 5-7pm Vince 6:30-10:30pm	Karaoke/DJ—Willie 6:30-10:30pm
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29
23rd-Installation of Officers 12pm 23rd No Kitchen 30th Honor Guard 10a 30th Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5pm Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Ways & Means 6pm Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Azz Burgers 5-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	\$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Chuck 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Rider's Bike Night 6-9pm	Post Dinner 5-7pm Ray's Roladen Alvin 6:30-10:30pm	Private Event (P) June Birthday 6pm Vince 6:30-10:30pm



The American Legion, Department of Florida 105th Statewide Convention Orlando, Florida June 13-16, 2024





Chapter 117 Rider's Historian Dana Jackson & District 12 Rider's Chairman/Chapter 189



(Front to Back) John Rubino, District 12 Rider's Chairman-Chapter 189, Amy Kolacz Rubino—Chapter 189, Kyle Nash, and Jeff Cox-Chapter 117, Stephen Follett-Chapter 40, Brent Jackson, Chapter 117







Capture the Plaque June 22, 2024 Palm Bay, Melbourne, Cocoa Fl

Rider's heading out for lunch and Capture the Plaque!





Plaque retrieval from Post 81, Melbourne





Outgoing Rider's Ass't Director Kyle Nash and Director Jeff Cox

13 Bikes, 18 total, RT 1251 miles, 22.5 hours, Total In-Kind donations \$2621.70



Installation of Officers June 23, 2024—June 15, 2025

Incoming Director
Ass't Director
Secretary
Treasurer
Chaplain Brian Yancey
Sergeant-at-Arms
Historian
Road Captain
Membership
Merchandise Robert Smith



Dan Martin, D12 Commander, District 12 Rider's Chairman John Rubino and Chapter 117 Rider's Director Robert Smith



D12 Rider's Chairman swearing in Riders. Far Left Rider's Director Robert Smith. Bobby Dye, Finance Officer, Sheila Cline, Secretary, Dave Bolduc, SGT-At-Arms, Brian Yancey, Chaplain.





Post Calendar July 2024

JULY 2024 Rev.1



Charles F. Thomas IV American Legion Post 117

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6pm-close	Show-Me-the-Money 1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Tacos 5-7pm Ace of Spades 7:30pm	\$1Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close DJ Jimmy D 6:30 - 9:30pm	4th of July Celebration Vince 1-4pm Riders Meeting 6:30pm (Cancelled)	Riders Dinner 5-7pm Chicken Cordon blue Jim Moy 6:30-10:30pm	DJ Alvin 6:30-10:30pm
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Junior's Meeting 12p Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5pm Scouts Mtg 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Kitchen Open 11a-2p Men's Night 6pm-close Aux EC Meeting 6pm Scouts Mtg 7-9pm	Show-Me-the-Money 1p Kitchen Open 11a-2p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Big AZZ Burgers 5-7pm Ace of Spades 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close SAL Meeting 6:30pm DJ Chuck 6:30-9:30pm	Kitchen open 11a-Zp Pool Tournament 1p Auxiliary Steak Shoot 7pm 40&8 7pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p SAL Dinner 5-7pm Fish Fry DJ Jimmy D 6:30-10:30pm	Food Pantry 10a-12p Pool Tournament 1p Karaoke Mark Canada 6:30-10:30pm
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Honor Guard Practice 10a Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5pm Scouts Mtg 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Kitchen Open 11a-2p Men's Night 6pm-close Riders EC Meeting 6p Scouts Mtg 7-9pm	Show-Me-the-Money 1p Kitchen Open 11a-2p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Tacos 5-7pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Legion EC 5:30pm Legion Meeting 7pm \$1Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close DJ Alvin 6:30 - 9:30p	Kitchen open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1p Aux Meeting 7pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Auxiliary Dinner 5-7pm Will the Thrill 6:30-10:30pm	Pool Tournament 1p Family Meeting 10am Vince 6:30-10:30pm
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5pm Scouts Mtg 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Kitchen Open 11a-2p Men's Night 6pm-close Scouts Mtg 7-9pm	Show-Me-the-Money 1p Kitchen Open 11a-2p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Philly cheese 5-7pm Ace of Spades 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Vince 6:30 - 9:30pm	Kitchen open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1p Rider's Bike Night 6pm-9pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Legion Dinner 5-7pm Sauerbraten DJ Ken Nixon 6:30-10:30pm	Food Pantry 10a-12p July Birthday 6pm Karaoke Chuck 6:30-10:30pm
28	29	30	31	Canteen Opens 10am		1012
Honor Guard Practice 10a Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5pm Scouts Mtg 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Kitchen Open 11a-2p Men's Night 6pm-close Ways & Means 6pm Scouts Mtg 7-9pm	Show-Me-the-Money 1p Kitchen Open 11a-2p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Tacos Ace of Spades 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close DJ Will The Thrill 6:30-9:30pm	Sunday: Full menu and steamed Shrimp 1pm—4:45pm Monday: Men's Night —BOGO Drinks; Free Pool All Day Tuesday: Show-Me-The-Money 1-3pm Ace of Spades — Last ticket sold 7:20pm Wednesday: Ladies Night-BOGO Drinks; \$1 Wing Night Friday: Friday Dinner; Entertainment Friday & Saturday Private Event: Pavilion (P); Hall Rental (H)		





Newsletter (July/August 2024)



Jeff Cox,Director, Chapter 117

ridersdirector @all 17.com



Chapter 117, American Legion Riders

Fellow Legion Riders,

Let me start off by saying thank you for a Great year as your Director. I couldn't have done it without you. It take everyone to make the Rider's Program a success.

May and June were good months for the Riders. The first Friday is Riders dinner and thank you to those who stepped up to work in the kitchen. The last Thursday of the month, we do Bike Night and always a good time to get out and have a fresh cheeseburger as well as to listen to some music and relax. The riders will still continue to do Bike Night and Friday dinners.

Welcome to all the returning and new Officers.

*Director -Robert Smith

*Assistant Director — Stan Wood

*Secretary — Shiela Cline

*Finance Officer —Bobby Dye

*Chaplain — Brian Yancey

*Safety Officer — Spencer Reinking

*Road Captain — Spencer Reinking

*Sergeant-at-Arms — David Buldoc

*Historian — Dana Jackson

*Member/Merchandise— Vacant

Have a GREAT year & thank you again,

Jeff Cox Director





Operation Naughty or Nice Christmas in July July 20, 2024 Orlando Florida





Antonio Santos



Karen Labrecque-Ortiz (Post 117) and Glenn Weyant (Post 200)

3 bikes, 5 total, RT 1030 miles, 52.5 hours = Total In-Kind Donations \$1489.28



David Smitley



Brent & Dana Jackson

Capture the Plaque July 20, 2024 Orlando Florida



Dana Jackson, David Smitley, Karen Labrecque-Ortiz, Antonio



Brent Jackson, FDVA Rep, Glenn Weyant, and Dana Jackson visit with FDVA Representative while visiting Post 242



Dana Jackson, Karen Labrecque-Ortiz, Antonio Santos, Brent Jackson and David Smitley capturing the plaque



Antonio Santos, David Smitley, Glenn Weyant (Post 200), Karen Labrecque-Ortiz, Dana Jackson, and Brent Jackson capturing the plaque at Post 22.







Post Calendar August 2024

August 2024 Rev.1 LEGION

==AMERICAN

Charles F. Thomas IV **American Legion Post 117**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Canteen Opens 10am ever	y day			1	2	3
	amed shrimp 1pm-4:45pm DGO Drinks; Free Pool All Da	av		Kitchen Open 11a-2p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p	Pool Tournament 1pm
Tuesday: Show-Me-The-Me Ace of Spades — Wednesday: Ladies Night B	oney 1-3pm Last ticket sold at 7:20pm 80G0 Drinks; \$1 Wing Nigh sic Entertainment Friday & S	t; Entertainment	Pool Tournament 1pm Riders Meeting 6:30p Be The One	Rider's Dinner 5-7pm Jimmy D 6:30-10:30pm	Private Event (H) 5-9p Karaoke-Mark Canada 6:30-10:30pm	
A	S S	6	7	8	9	10
Honor Guard Practice IVa	Whether Court 11- 2-	ž .		5	7	Food Pantry 10a-12p
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p 234th Coast Guard Tribute & Cake 4:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Azz Burgers 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30p	\$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1pm Legion EC 5:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p SAL Dinner 5-7p Fish Fry	1000111101101120
340		Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Jimmy D 6:30-9:30pm	40&8 7pm	Ken Snyder 6:30-10:30pm	Joe Calautti 6:30-10:30pm
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Preseason Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Aux EC Meeting 6pm Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Tacos 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close SAL Meeting 6:30pm DJ Chuck	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1pm Auxiliary Meeting 7pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Auxiliary Dinner 5-7p Country Fried Steak Vince	Pool Tournament 1pm D12 SAL Post 394 9a DJ Alvin 6:30-10:30pm
18	19	20	6:30-9:30pm		6:30-10:30pm	
10	19	20	21	22	23	24
Honor Guard Practice 10a Junior's Meeting 12p Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Preseason Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Rider's EC Meeting Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Azz Burger 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Legion Meeting 7pm Vince 6:30-9:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p National Convention 23-29 Aug Legion Dinner 5-7p Pork Chops & Gravy DJ SK1 6:30-10:30pm	Food Pantry 10a-12p Karaoke—Chuck 6:30-10:30pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5pm NFL Football Preseason Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Ways & Means 6pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Cuban Sandwich 4:30-7p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Troop 732 Dinner	D12 SAL Post 394-9a August Birthday's 6pm
	Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Ace of Spade 7:30pm	DJ Alvin 6:30-9:30pm	Rider's Bike Night 6pm-9pm	Will The Thrill 6:30-10:30pm	Jimmy D 6:30-10:30pm

\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0

The 19th American Legion Legacy Run August 21—25, 2024 Independence, Missouri to New Orleans, Louisiana



1 Bike, 2 Total, 7044 miles, 1082 hours, In-Kind donations \$26,863.62.



Brent and Dana Jackson at the Legacy Run Finish Line in New Orleans.



Police Officers that escorted the Legacy Run with Dana & Brent Jackson.



Department Commander Chris Hamrick welcoming the riders back from the Legacy Run.







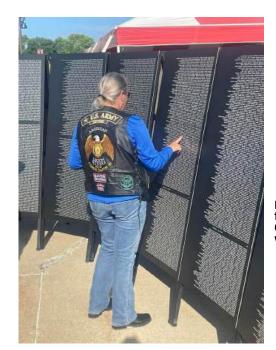
The 19th American Legion Legacy Run August 21—25, 2024 Independence, Missouri to New Orleans, Louisiana



"L" Flight



Hitchhikers Freedom Bear , Buc-ee & Dana Jackson



Dana Jackson, Rider's Historian finding our post namesake Charles F. Thomas IV on the



Post Calendar September 2024

September Rev.1



Charles F. Thomas IV American Legion Post 117

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Honor Guard Practice 10a Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Labor Day Kitchen Open 11a-2p Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Tacos 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Private Event (H) 7pm DJ Alvin 6:30-9:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1pm Riders Meeting 6:30p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Rider's Dinner 5-7pm Vince 6:30-10:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pn D12 AL@Post 117 9an Karaoke-Mark Canada 6:30-10:30pm	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Aux EC Meeting 6pm Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Azz Burgers 4:30- 7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p 9/11 Patriot's Day Ceremony Ipm \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close SAL Meeting 6:30pm DJ Chuck 6:30-9:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1pm Legion EC 5:30pm 40&8 7pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p SAL Dinner 5-7p Fish Fry Ken Snyder 6:30-10:30pm	Food Pantry 10a-12p Jimmy D 6:00-10:30p	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Honor Guard Practice 10a Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Rider's EC Meeting Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Constitution Day Show-Me-The-Money-1p Tacos 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Air Force B-Day 4:30p Air National Guard \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Legion Meeting 7pm Vince 6:30-9:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1pm Auxiliary Meeting 7pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Auxiliary Dinner 5-7p Fried Shrimp SK1 6:30-10:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm National POW/MIA Recognition Day 12p Karaoke-Chuck 6:30-10:30pm	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p Juniors Meeting 12pm NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Ruben 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Jimmy D 6:30-9:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1pm Rider's Bike Night 6pm-9pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Legion Dinner 5-7p Yagersnitzel Will the Thrill 6:30-10:30pm	Food Pantry 1a-12p Palm Bay Swat (P) 2p September Birthday 6:00pm Double Trouble 6:30-10:30pm	
29	30	Canteen Opens 10am ev					
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p Gold Star Mother's Day NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Cutoff Early Bird Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Ways & Means 6pm Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Sunday: Full menu and steamed shrimp 1pm-4:45pm Monday: Men's Night—BOGO Drinks; Free Pool All Day Tuesday: Show-Me-The-Money 1-3pm Ace of Spades — Last ticket sold at 7:20pm Wednesday: Ladies Night BOGO Drinks; \$1 Wing Night; Entertainment Friday: Family Dinner; Music Entertainment Friday & Saturday Trivate Event: Pavilion (P); Hall Rental (H)					







Newsletter (Sep/Oct 2024)

Chapter 117, American Legion Riders



Robert Smith, Director,

smittyþj@gmail.com

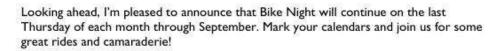
Chapter 117

Dear Riders,

As you may have heard, I have taken over as the new Riders Director. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the incoming officers for their willingness to volunteer and step up for the team. Your commitment is vital to our continued success!

I also want to take a moment to recognize the outgoing officers for their hard work and dedication, particularly Jeff Cox. Your contributions have made a lasting impact, and we truly appreciate everything you have done for us.

A special thanks goes out to Shannon Cox for organizing the dinner on Friday, August 2nd. It was a wonderful dinner!



Additionally, on September 11, we will honor our local heroes by delivering meals to our police, fire departments, and EMTs, just as we've done in previous years. It's our way of showing appreciation for their hard work and dedication to our community.

Thank you all for your continued support and enthusiasm. Let's make this upcoming year one of our best yet!

Ride safe. Robert Smith Riders Director



#capturetheplaque



\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0\$0

SSgt Tristan Wright Escort To Buggs Funeral Home September 7, 2024 Palm Bay, Florida



SSgt Wright's family headed into funeral home.



Palm Bay Police Department, 2nd from left Chris Livingston (Melbourne Police and Post 117 member and Mayor Rob Medina (Center)



Chapter 117 members departing for escort from Post 117



Escort for SSgt Wright.



The 9/11 Patriot's Day Rider's Food Escort to PD/FD/Hospital September 11, 2024 Palm Bay, Florida



Far left David Smitley, Palm Bay Hospital Staff, Dave Hall and Jeff Cox

delivering food to hospital staff.

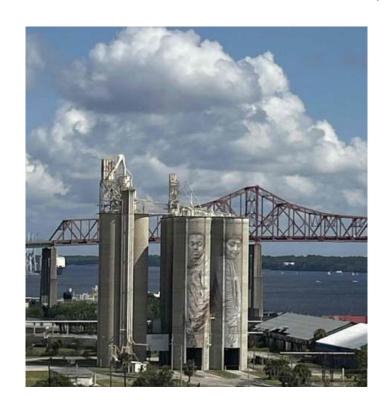
\$1102.35.



FF/EMT Brice Normoyle, Assistant Chief Bob Furci, Rider William (Pineapple) Whitney, Battalion Chief Nick Lamb, Dave Hall, Rider's Director Robert (Smitty) Smith delivering food to the Fire Department.



Florida's 4th Annual Seven Bridges POW/MIA Remembrance Day Ride September 21, 2024 Jacksonville, Florida





2 Bikes, 1 Car, Total 5, 2500 miles, 240 hours. In-kind donations\$6211.80





Glenn Weyant (Chapter 200), Karen Labrecque-Ortiz, Brent Jackson and Dana Jackson (front) participating in the POW/MIA Remembrance Ride. They are holding up pictures of Tim Morris who loved to take this ride.





Palm Bay Police Foundation & Palm Bay Swat Team Fundraiser September 28, 2024 Palm Bay, Florida

7 Bikes, 8 Total, 720 miles, 28 hours, In-Kind Donations \$840.36





Debbie Stabler wins a raffle.



Kim Oaks, Auxiliary President, winning a raffle basket.



Robert Smith, Rider's Director, winning flag made by Jesse Suelter



Post Calendar October 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Canteen Opens 10am every day Sunday: Full menu and steamed shrimp 1pm-4:45pm Monday: Meri Night—BoGO Drinks; Free Pool Ali Day Fuesday: Show-Me-The-Money 1-3pm Ace of Spades — Last ticket sold at 7:20pm Wednesday: Ladies Night BoGO Drinks; \$1 Wing Night; intertainment Friday: Family Drinner; Music Entertainment Friday & Saturday Private Event: Pavilion (P); Hali Rental (H)		1	2	3	4	5
		Be The One Kitchen Open 11a-7p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Tacos 4:30-7pm Healing Garden Mtg 6-7p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close DJ Alvin 6:30-9:30pm	Ritchen Open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1pm Riders Meeting 6:30p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Rider's Dinner 5-7pm Country Fried Steak DJ Chuck 6:30-10:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Eagle Scout Ceremony 12pm (H) October Birthday 6pm Karaoke-Mark Canada 6:30-10:30pm
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
SAL D12 Training 9a/10a Post 117 Hall Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Honor Guard Practice 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Azz Burgers 4:30-7p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close SAL Meeting 6:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1pm Legion EC 5:30pm (Cancelled)	Kitchen Open 11a-2p SAL Dinner 5-7pm Fish Fry (Cancelled) Terry's Lasagna 5-7pm	Food Pantry 10a-12p 2nd Annual Tom Wood Memorial Run for SO 11am
		Ace of Spade 7:30pm	DJ Jimmy D 6:30-9:30p	40&8 7pm	Jimmy D 6:30-10:30pm	Joe Calautti 6:30-10:30p
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p Aux Celebration of Life (P) Sue Tomsu (added) 12p Navy 249th Birthday 4:30p Juniors Meeting 12pm NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Columbus Day Ingenous People Day Kitchen Open 11a-2p Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Aux EC Meeting 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Tacos 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Sitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Legion Meeting 7pm DJ SK1 6:30-9:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1pm Auxiliary Meeting 7p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Auxiliary Dinner 5-7p Shrimp Scampi Will The Thrill 6:30-10:30p	Pool Tournament 1pn Early Bird Dinner 3-7pi (Vince) D12 Picnic @Post 81 11a-5pm Alvin 7:00-11:00pm
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Veteran Healing Garden Fundraiser 12-5pm Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Rider's EC Meeting 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Azz Burgers 4:30-7p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Vince 6:30-9:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1pm Auxiliary Steakshoot 7p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Legion Dinner 5-7pm Chicken Marsala Witches Hat 7pm DJ Alvin 6:30-10:30pm	Food Pantry 10a-12p Kids Halloween Party 1-3pm Adult Costume Party 6:30pm (Jimmy D) DJ SK1 6:30-10:30pm
27	28	29	30	31	Breast Cancer Awareness Month	
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close	Kitchen Open 11a-7p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Philly Cheese 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30p	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close	Halloween		
Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Ways & Means 6pm Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Will The Thrill 6:30-9:30p			





The 30th Annual Bruce Rossmeyer Ride for Children Benefiting Camp Boggy Creek October 6, 2024 Eustis, Florida



Glenn Weyant , Chapter 200 & Karen Labrecque-Ortiz, Chapter 117





1 Passenger 213 miles 8 hours



Glenn Weyant, Chapter 200 & Karen Labrecque-Ortiz, Chapter 117

Community & Family Block Party/Scavenger Hunt Benefiting Lin Marcheggiani October 6, 2024 Kissimmee, Florida



Lin & Joe Marcheggiani



Brian Yancey, Dana Jackson, Antonio Santos, Karen Labrecque-Ortiz, Glenn Weyant, & Brent Jackson



Brent & Dana Jackson for the Cornhole WIN!

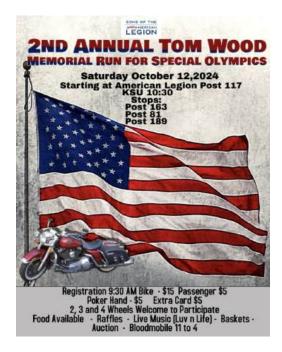


(Back) Brent Jackson, Dana Jackson, Glenn Weyant (Chapter 200), Karen Labrecque-Ortiz, Antonio Santos, (Front) Brian Yancey





The 2nd Annual Tom Wood Memorial Run for Special Olympics October 12, 2024 Palm Bay, Florida





24 Bikes, Total 35, 2618 miles, 136 hours, In-Kind Donation \$3844.38



Rocky Cirigliano, SAL Department Commander, Dan Wood, Greg Singler, Tony Gannon and SAL 1st Vice Bruce Walkowiak cooking in support of Special Olympics

10 people donated; 10 Units of Blood Each unit is separated into 3 components (red cells, platelets, and plasma which goes to 3 different patients. Once the 10 units are separated, it goes to 30 patients.



EDEDEDEDEDEDEDEDEDEDE

Tutus for Tatas Breast Cancer Awareness October 27, 2024 Clermont, Florida

Karen Labrecque-Ortiz and Dana Jackson







David Smitley, Dana Jackson, Glenn Weyant (Chapter 200) and Karen Labrecque-Ortiz





2 Bikes, 1 Car, 4 Total, 1464 miles, 52 hours, In-Kind Donation, \$1594.92





Glenn Weyant and Karen Labrecque-Ortiz



Dana Jackson

Glenn Weyant, Karen Labrecque-Ortiz, David Smitley and Dana Jackson



Post Calendar November 2024

November 2024 Rev.4



Charles F. Thomas IV American Legion Post 117

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Canteen Opens 10am every da Sunday: Full menu and steam Monday: Men's Night—BOGO Tuesday: Show-Me-The-Mone	ed shrimp 1pm-4:45pm Drinks; Free Pool All Day y 1-3pm	Nativ	e American Heritage	Month	Be The One Kitchen Open 11a-2p	Pool Tournament 1pm Mike Kelly Kids w/o
Ace of Spades —Last Wednesday: Ladies Night BOG Friday: Family Dinner; Music E Private Event: Pavilion (P); Hal	ntertainment Friday & Saturda				BSA Troop 732 5-7pm Will The Thrill 6:30-10:30p	Xmas (P) DJ Alvin 6:30-10:30pn
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Honor Guard Practice 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Election Day! Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Tacos 4:30-7pm Healing Garden Mtg 6p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Vince 6:30-9:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Pool Tournament 1pm Riders Meeting 6:30p	Ritchen Open 11a-2p Rider Dinner 5-7pm Chicken Fried Steak Double Trouble 6:30-10:30pm	Veterans Day Parade 10a Food Pantry 10a-12p Celebration of Life- Jersey John 1p (P) Joe Calautti 6:30-10:30p
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p Marine's 249th BDay 4:30pm NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Veteran's Day Ceremony 1pm Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Rueben 4:30-7p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close SAL Meeting 6:30pm DJ Jimmy D 6:30-9:30p	Pool Tournament 1pm Legion EC 5:30pm 40&8 7pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p SAL Dinner 5-7p Fish Fry Vince 6:30-10:30p	Pool Tournament 1pm Angels Bridging Gaps, Inc (P&H) 11a-3p Ellen Celebration of Lif 4pm-8pm Karaoke Chuck 6:30- 10:30p
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Rider's EC Meeting 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Azz Burger 4:30-7p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Legion Meeting 7pm Will The Thrill 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Private Event (H) 11-2p Auxiliary Meeting 7p	Fall Conference 22-24th Kitchen Open 11a-2p Auxiliary Dinner 5-7pm Shepherds Pie Sid Taylor Music 6:30-10:30pm	Fall Conference 22-24t Veteran Healing Garden Grand Openin 12-4pm (P) Food Pantry 10a-12p Karaoke Mark Canada 6:30-10:30p
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Fall Conference 22-24th Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Ways & Means 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Tacos 4:30-7p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close DJ Chuck 6:30-9:30pm	Happy Thanksgiving Dinner DJ SK1 1-4pm	Post Clean-up 10a Post Dinner 5-7p Vince 6:30-10:30p	Junior Harvest Fest 1-5pm D12 SAL Mtg PSL Post 318 WinterHawk Entertaimer Zak 6:30-10:30p Nov BDay 6p





Newsletter (Nov/Dec 2024)



Robert Smith, Director, Chapter 117 smittypj@gmail.com



Chapter 117, American Legion Riders

Hello Riders and Friends.

As we transition into the fall season, we want to share some important updates and upcoming events with you.

Bike Night Update:

Please note that there will be no more bike nights until next year. We look forward to resuming this beloved tradition in the spring!

Recent Events Recap:

We had the honor of escorting SSgt Tristan Wright on September 7th for the return of his remains and provided a funeral escort on September 27th. These events remind us of the sacrifices made by our servicemen and women.

On September 21st, we participated in the Palm Bay SWAT Ride and Benefit, supporting our local heroes and fellowship among riders. Thank you to everyone who joined and contributed!

Upcoming Events:

Looking ahead, we have several important events scheduled:

- Mike Kelly's Kids Without Christmas: Join us on November 2nd as we support this wonderful cause.
- Memorial Ride and Celebration of Life for John Minutillo: We will gather on November 9th to honor and celebrate John's memory.
- Veterans Day Celebration: On November 11th, we will escort the honor guard to local assisted living facilities to celebrate Veterans Day and show our appreciation for their service.

Thank You to Our Volunteers:

A heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers whose dedication and hard work make these events happen. Your support is invaluable!

Membership Renewal:

As a reminder, we are currently at a 40% renewal rate for 2024. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please do so at your earliest convenience. Your continued support is crucial to our mission!

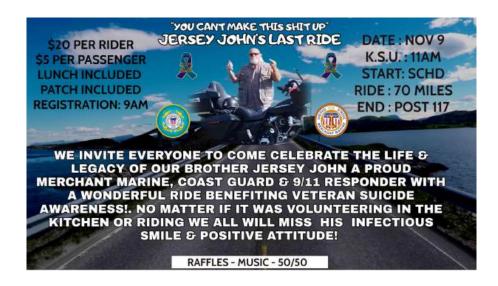
Thank you for being part of the Chapter 117 Riders family. Together, we honor our veterans and contribute to our community.

Ride safe, Robert Smith Riders Director





Jersey John's Last Ride Benefit November 9, 2024 Palm Bay, Florida





Delia Minutillo and John Minutillo



John Minutillo & Monica Deleon



Post Calendar December 2024

December 2024 Rev.0 LEGION

Charles F. Thomas IV American Legion Post 117

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
ı	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Be The One Post-Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Free Pool All Day Honor Guard Practice 6p Men's Night 6p-close Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Ass Burger 4:30-7p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Vince 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Riders Meeting 6:30p	Kitchen 11a—2p Rider's Dinner 5-7p Kitchen Fried Chicken DJ Chuck 6:30-10:30p	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Pool Tournament 1pm Palm Bay X-mas Parade 6p Karaoke w/Mark Canada 6:30-10:30p	
3	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Auxiliary EC 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Tacos 4:30-7p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close SAL Meeting 6:30pm Jimmy D 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Legion EC 5:30pm	Escort for Mike Dowdy Cape Canaveral KSU9:30 Kitchen Open 11a-2p SAL Dinner 5-7p Fish Fry Vince 6:30-10:30p	AL Mtng @Post 318 9a Wreaths Across America 4p Kids Christmas party (P) 11a-1p Bartender X-mas Party 5-6pm (Jimmy D) Double Trouble 6:30-10:30p	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 2-5p Wrapping toys (H) 7a-12p Mike Dowdy Celebration of Life 1-3p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Rider's EC Meeting 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Azz Burger 4:30-7p Riders Corn Hole 6:30p Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-7p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Legion Meeting 7pm DJ CHUCK 6:30-9:30p	Pool Tournament 1p Auxiliary Meeting 7p Christmas Party	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Auxiliary Dinner 5-7p Swedish Meatballs DJ SK1 6:30-10:30P	Pool Tournament 1pm DJ Will The Thrill 6:30-10:30p	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Christmas Eve	Christmas Ham Dinner 1-3:30pm Post closes at 6pm	Pool Tournament 1pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Post Dinner 5-7p Meatloaf SAL Camping Weekend DJ Alvin 6:30-10:30p	Food Pantry 10a-12p December Birthday 6p SAL Camping Weekend Will The Thrill 6:30-10:30p	
29	30	31	Canteen Opens 10am every day Sunday: Full menu and steame	d shrimp 1pm-4:45pm			
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30p SAL Camping Weekend SAL Meat Raffle 1p	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Ways & means 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p SAL Camping Weekend	New Year's Eve Vince & Jimmy D 6:30p-12:30a SAL Camping Weekend	Monday: Men's Night-BOGO Drinks; Free Pool All Day Tuesday: Show-Me-The-Money 1-3pm Acc of Spades - Last ticket sold at 7:20pm Wednesday: Ladies Night BOGO Drinks; \$1 Wing Night; Entertainment Friday: Family Dinner; Music Entertainment Friday & Saturday Private Event: Pavilion (P); Hall Rental (H)				







Tim Morris's Toys for Patrick Space Force Kids Wrapping Christmas Presents December 15, 2024 Palm Bay, Florida





(Back to Front) TSgt Robert Ridgway, MSgt Elizabeth Powers, Dana Jackson, Chapter 117 Rider, SrA Niang Zo, and Lt Bryan Kuilian Rodriguez



Walmart (Malabar Rd) staff checking us out.



Sheila Benard (Auxiliary), Barbara Ward (Auxiliary) and Dana Jackson wrapped over 100 toys for the kids.



Post Calendar January 2025

January 2025 Rev. LEGION

Charles F. Thomas IV American Legion Post 117

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Canteen Opens 10am eve Sunday: Full menu and s	ery day teamed shrimp 1pm-4:45	pm	1	2	3	4
Monday: Men's Night—BOGO Drinks; Free Pool All Day Tuesday: Show-Me-The-Money 1-3pm			Be The One Kitchen Open 11-3pm \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close DJ Chuck 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Riders Meeting 6:30pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm Rider's Dinner 5-7pm Chicken Pot Pie DJ Will The Thrill 6:30-10:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm ALS Fundraiser (H/P) KSU 11:30; Casino Night 4-9pm Jeff Krick 6:30-10:30pm
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p Private Event (H) 1-4pm NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Honor Guard Practice 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Tacos 4:30-7pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-m-2pm \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close SAL Meeting 6:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Private Event (H) 4-9pm Legion EC @5:30pm @Tiki 40&87pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm SAL Dinner Fish Fry 5-7pm Joe Calautti 6:30-10:30pm	Food Pantry 10a-12p Aux—Liberty Park 11am Softball Fundraiser / Awards 2pm Karaoke Mark Canada 6:30-10:30p
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Auxiliary EC Meeting 6pm Scouts Meeting 7-9pm	Kitchen Open 11a—2pm Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Azz Burgers 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-m-2pm \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Legion Meeting 7pm DJ Alvin 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Private Event 11-1p (H) Auxiliary Meeting 7pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm Aux Dinner 5-7pm Nancy's Famous Ribs Vince 6:30-10:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm District 12 Dinner 5pm Spaghetti Zak Winterhawk Entertainment 6:30-10:30pm
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Junior's Meeting 12pm Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Riders EC Meeting 6pm Scouts Meeting 7-9pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm Show-Me-The-Money-1p Tacos 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Ace of Spades 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Vince 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Private Event 11-1p (H) Rider's Steak Shoot 7pm	Post Dinner 5-7pm Pork Chops DJ Will the Thrill 6:30-10:30p	Food Pantry 10a-12p Benefit for Nancy KSU 10:30: Event 12-4pm January Birthday 6pm Karaoke Chuck 6:30-10:30pm
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p NFL Football Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Scouts Meeting 7-9pm Ways & Means 6pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm Show-Me-The-Money-1p Cuban 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close DJ Alvin 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Private Event 11-1p (H) Rider's Bike Night 6-9pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm Scout Troop 732 Dinner 5-7pm Vince 6:30-10:30pm	







Newsletter (Jan/Feb 2025)



Robert Smith, Director, Chapter 117 smittypj@gmail.com



Chapter 117, American Legion Riders

Dear Members and Friends,

As we step into the New Year, we would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to all who participated in our November and December events. Your support and dedication truly make a difference!

November Highlights: We honored our beloved member, Johnny, during his last ride on November 9th. Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate his life and legacy. On November 11th, our members escorted the Honor Guard to local assisted living facilities, providing a meaningful tribute on Veterans Day.

December Tribute: On December 13th, we paid our respects to Mike Dowdy by escorting his remains to Cape Canaveral National Cemetery. We appreciate all riders who joined us in this solemn duty.

Special Recognition: A special shout-out to Dana Jackson for her incredible contributions to our chapter and the post. Dana organized the purchasing and wrapping of several dozen Christmas gifts for the children of our service members for the Tim Morris's Toys for Patrick Space Force Kids, bringing joy to many during the holiday season. Thank you Barbara Ward and Shiela Benard from Auxiliary for helping to wrap.

Upcoming Events:

- January 4th: Join us for a ride and event benefiting Marc DeLong, who is battling ALS. Let's come together to show our support.
- January 23rd: Our monthly steak shoot will be held at the post at 7 PM. Come out for great food and camaraderie!
- January 25th: We will host a benefit event and ride for Nancy Richert to assist with her medical bills following open heart surgery. Your participation will make a significant impact.
- January 30th: Bike nights return! Join us on the third Thursday of every month starting this January.
- February 1st: Help us raise funds for the Special Olympics through a benefit ride.
 Details to follow, but mark your calendars!

Let's continue the momentum and spirit of camaraderie as we embark on this new year together. Your involvement is what makes our chapter thrive!

Ride safe, Smitty American Legion Riders Chapter 117



Nancy Richert's Benefit Ride/Fundraiser January 25, 2025 Palm Bay, Florida





Wayne "Doc" Holiday playing the tunes.



Rider's Director Robert Smith, Past Director Jeff Cox and Nancy Richert on her benefit ride.



Robert Smith winning a raffle basket.







Post Calendar February 2025

Special Olympics Benefit Run/Event February 1, 2025 Palm Bay, Florida

February 2025 Rev. LEGION



Charles F. Thomas IV American Legion Post 117

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Canteen Opens 10am every day						
Sunday: Full menu and steamed shrimp 1pm-4:45pm						
Monday: Men's Night—BOGO Drinks; Free Pool All Day Tuesday: Show-Me-The-Money 1-3pm Ace of Spades —Last ticket sold at 7:20pm						
Wednesday: Ladies Nigh Friday: Family Dinner; M			ent: Pavilion (P); Hall Ren	ital (H)		Ken Snyder 6:30-10:30p
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Full Kitchen Menu	Free Pool All Day	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm	Pool Tournament 1pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm	Pool Tournament 1pm
Shrimp & Wings 1-5p Four Chaplains KSU 9:30am/Ceremony 3:30pm	Men's Night 6p-close Honor Guard Practice 6p	Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm	\$1 Wing Night 1-7 pm Ladies Night 6p-close	Private Event 11-1 (H) Riders Meeting 6:30pm	Riders Dinner 5-7pm JoJo's Empanadas	National Vice Commander Visit Eastern Area Ball 3pm Jimmy D
Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Tacos 4:30-7pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	DJ Chuck 6:30-9:30pm		DJ Alvin 6:30-10:30pm	SAL District Meeting Post 22 9a/10a Vince 6:30-10:30p
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
No Kitchen	Free Pool All Day	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm	Pool Tournament 1pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm	AL District Meeting
Superbowl Sunday Potluck 5:30pm Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Men's Night 6p-close Auxiliary EC Meeting 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Azz Burgers 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	\$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close SAL Meeting 6:30pm DJ Jimmy D 6:30-9:30pm	Private Event 11-1p (H) Legion EC @5:30pm SAL Steak Shoot 7pm 40&8 7pm	Valentine's Day Party 6-10pm SAL Dinner Fish Fry 5-7pm Vince 6:30-10:30pm	Post 22 9/10am Girls State Interviews (I 10am Pool Tournament 1pm Karaoke – Chuck 6:30-10:30pm
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Full Kitchen Menu	Free Pool All Day	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm	Pool Tournament 1pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm	Aux-Vet Girls Rock 12-2
Shrimp & Wings 1-5p Private Event 4-8p (H) Private Event 10-6p (P)	Men's Night 6p-close Rider's EC Meeting 6p	Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Tacos 4:30-7pm	\$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close	Private Event 11-1p (H) Auxiliary Meeting 7pm	Auxiliary Dinner 5-7pm	February Birthday 6pr
Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Legion Meeting 7pm DJ Alvin 6:30-9:30pm	Advantary Weeting 7pm	Joe Calautti 6:30-10:30pm	Zak Winterhawk Enter 6:30-10:30pm
23	24	25	26	27	28	
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p	Free Pool All Day	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm	Kitchen Open 11am-2pm	Pool Tournament 1pm	Post Dinner 5-7pm Shrimp & Sausage Gumbo	
Junior's Meeting 12pm	Men's Night 6p-close Ways & Means 6pm	Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Philly Cheesesteak	\$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close	Private Event 11-1p (H)		
Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Scouts Meeting 7-9p	4:30-7pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Vince 6:30-9:30pm	Rider's Bike Night 6-9pm	Will The Thrill 6:30-10:30pm	





Rider Eric Spellman winning a raffle basket.



14 people donated; 14 Units of Blood Each unit is separated into 3 components (red cells, platelets, and plasma which goes to 3 different patients. Once the 14 units are separated, it goes to 42 patients.



42 Bikes, Total 51, 3009 miles, 229.5 hours, In-Kind Donations \$6,107.00





Four Chaplains Sunday/Monument Visit February 2, 2025 Sebastian, Florida





Robert Smith, Kim Oaks, Bobby Dye, Donna Walkowiak, Bruce Walkowiak and Dave Hall

The 9th Annual American Legion Rider Summit Feb 12—15, 2025 Orlando, Florida





Robert "Smitty" Smith, Chapter 117 Rider's Director attending the initial briefing at Rider's Summit.



Robert "Smitty" Smith, Chapter 117 Rider's Director, John Rubino, D12 Rider's Chairman-Chapter 189, Stephen Follet, Chapter 40, and Mrs. Rubino—Chapter 189







Post Calendar March 2025

March 2025 Rev.1 LEGION

Charles F. Thomas IV American Legion Post 117

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Canteen Opens 10am every day Sunday: Full menu and steamed shrimp 1pm-4:45pm Monday: Men's Night—BOGO Drinks; Free Pool All Day Tuesday: Show-Me-The-Money 1-3pm Ace of Spades — Last ticket sold at 7:20pm Wednesday: Ladies Night BOGO Drinks; \$1 Wing Night; Entertainment Friday: Family Dinner; Music Entertainment Friday & Saturday Private Event: Pavilion (P); Hall Rental (H)						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Honor Guard Practice 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p Aux (H) CBL	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Philly Cheesesteak 4:30-7 Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p S1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Jimmy D 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Riders Meeting 6:30pm Officer Nominations Private Event 11-1p (H) SAL Camping	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Riders Dinner 5-7pm Stuffed Peppers SAL Camping /Doc Holiday 3-7pm Jimmy D 6:30-10:30pm	Food Pantry 10a-12p Private Event (P)/4pm SAL Camping –Jimmy D DJ Alvin 6:30-10:30pm
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p Private Event (H) 4-8pm SAL Camping Weekend/ Meat Raffle	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Auxiliary EC Meeting 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Azz Burgers 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close SAL Meeting 6:30pm 1st Officer Nominations DJ Chuck 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Private Event 11-1p (H) Auxiliary Steak Shoot 7p Legion EC @5:30pm 40&87pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p SAL Dinner Fish Fry 5-7pm Vince 6:30-10:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm District 12 Picnic Post 11 AL 106th Birthday/Doo Holiday SK1 6:30-10:30pm
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 2-5p COL Barbara Simons 1pm Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Rider's EC Meeting 6p Officer Nominations Scouts Meeting 7-9p St Patty's Day/Jimmy D Corned Beef & Cabbage \$15	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Tacos 4:30-7pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Legion Meeting 7pm 1st Officer Nominations DJ Alvin 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Private Event 11-1p (H) Auxiliary Meeting 7pm 1st Officer Nomination	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Auxiliary Dinner 5-7pm Fried Shrimp Joe Calautti 6:30-10:30pm	Food Pantry 10a-12p Richard Phillips Down Biker Fund BDay Bash P&H 12-3pm Will The Thrill 6:30-10:30pm
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29
23rd Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p 23rd Juniors Meeting 12pm 30th Post Full Kitchen 23/30 Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close 24th Ways & Means 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Reuben 4:30-7pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p S1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Scouts 1177pm Vince 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Private Event 11-1p (H) Private Event (H) 4-5pm Rider's Bike Night 6-9pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Post Dinner 5-7pm Shepherd's Pie Will The Thrill 6:30-10:30pm	Project Vet Relief Fund- raiser 12p-5pm (H)(P) March Birthday 6pm Karaoke Chuck 6:30-10:30pm





Newsletter (Mar/Apr 2025)



Robert Smith, Director, Chapter 117 smittyþj@gmail.com



Chapter 117, American Legion Riders

Dear Members and Friends,

As we welcome the spring season, we are excited to share updates and upcoming events for our chapter. Thank you for your continued support and participation!

Recent Highlights:

- January 23rd: Our Riders Steak Shoot was a success! A big thank you to Nancy Richert and Kim Oaks for facilitating this event and to everyone who attended.
- January 25th: We held a benefit ride and fundraiser for Nancy Richert, and we are grateful to all who came out to support. Your generosity makes a significant difference!
- January 30th: Bike Night returned with enthusiasm! Thanks to Doc Holiday for the live music and Spencer Reinking for the fantastic food. Bike Nights will now be hosted on the last Thursday of each month, so mark your calendars!
- February 1st: We participated in the Special Olympics fundraiser and ride, where an impressive 41 bikes and over 50 people came together. Thank you for your dedication and support!

Upcoming Events:

- Officer Nominations: It's that time of year again to consider new chapter leadership.
 Nominations for officers will start at the next Riders meeting. If you're interested in stepping up, let someone know for a nomination!
- March 22nd: We will be hosting the Richard Phillips Down Biker Fund Birthday Bash.
 This is a significant event, and we need as many volunteers as possible to help with setup and bike parking. Your support is crucial!
- Bike Week: From February 28th to March 8th, we will host several rides to Daytona.
 Stay tuned for ride announcements!
- March 29th: Join us for the Project Vet Relief benefit and ride, an important event aimed at helping to end veteran suicide.
- April 5th: We will have a Children and Youth benefit and ride, with more details to come soon.
- Instate Unity Ride: From April 7th to 12th, one of the routes will make a stop at Chapter 117 on April 9th. I hope to join for part of that route, so let's plan for a great welcome!

Special Thanks: We would like to extend our appreciation to Shelby Kennedy, Lisa Meeks, and Bob Garry for facilitating Riders Cornhole every Tuesday evening. Special thanks to Shannon Cox for cooking the excellent meal for January's Riders Dinner, and to Jocelyn Lugo (Jo Jo) and her kids for preparing February's dinner. Both meals were outstanding and highly appreciated by our members!

Thank you once again for all the amazing efforts our volunteers contribute every day. Together, we make a difference!

Until next time, Ride Safe! Robert "Smitty" Smith Rider's Director



Richard Phillips Down Biker Fund 8th Birthday Bash March 22, 2025 Palm Bay, Florida





Robert Smith, Rider's Director, helping to park bikes and cars during event.



Everyone having a good time.

Project Vet Relief: Suicide Prevention Fundraiser March 29, 2025 Palm Bay, Florida



Dave Hall painting-by-thenumbers donated by #Paint22







Mary-Ann Spellman painting-by-the numbers donated by #Paint22



40 Bikes, Total 61, 4880 miles, 244 hours, In-Kind Donation \$6946.68



10 people donated; 10 Units of Blood Each unit is separated into 3 components (red cells, platelets, and plasma which goes to 3 different patients. Once the 10 units are separated, it goes to 30 patients.



Larry Roberts, Project VetRelief Board Member



53 5.



Post Calendar April 2025

April 2025 Re

LEGION

Charles F. Thomas IV American Legion Post 117

April 2	U25 Re	ev.2	<u>.EGION</u>	American Legion Post 117		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	Thursday	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Canteen Opens 10am every day Sunday: Full menu and steamed shrimp 1pm-4:45pm Monday: Men's Night — BOGO Drinks; Free Pool All Day Tuesday: Show-Me-The-Money 1-3pm Ace of Spades — Last ticket sold at 7:20pm Wednesday: Ladies Night BOGO Drinks; \$1 Wing Night; Entertainment Friday: Family Dinner; Music Entertainment Friday & Saturday Private Event: Pavilion (P); Hall Rental (H) April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month		1	2	3	4	5
		Be The One Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Tacos 4:30-7pm Ace of Spades 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close DJ Chuck 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Riders Meeting 6:30pm 2nd Officer Nominations Auxiliary-Proclamations at City Hall 6pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Riders Dinner 5-7pm Country Fried Steak Aux Dept President Visit Will The Thrill 6:30-10:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Department Children & Youth Picnic (H&P) 12-5pm Veterans Healing Garden Gardening 101 10a-12pm Karaoke Mark Canada 6:30-10:30pm
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 2-5p Steve Lumm Celebration of Life 1pm Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Auxiliary EC Meeting 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p In-State Unity Ride 7-12	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Big Azz Burgers 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Ace of Spades 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close SAL Meeting 6:30pm 2nd Officer Nominations In-State Unity Ride Post 117 (1505-1535) Visit Jimmy D 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Legion EC @5:30pm (Cancelled) 40&87pm	SAL Dinner Fish Fry 5-7pm New DJ / Karaoke Joe Barrera 6:30-10:30pm	Veterans Healing Garden Gardening 101 10a-12pm DJ Alvin 6:30-10:30pm
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p Honor Guard Practice 10am Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Rider's EC Meeting 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Tacos 4:30-7pm Ace of Spades 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Legion Meeting 7pm 2nd Officer Nomination Will The Thrill 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Auxiliary Meeting 7pm Officer Nomination	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Auxiliary Dinner 5-7pm TBD Jimmy D 6:30-10:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Veterans Healing Garden Gardening 10.1 10a-12pm Junios Spring Fling & Easter Party (H&P) 1-5p Adult Easter Party 6:30pm Karaoke Joe Barrera 6:30 -10:30pm
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Happy Easter Easter Brunch 11am-3pm Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Scouts Meeting 7-9p	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Big Azz Burgers 4:30-7pm Ace of Spades 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Alvin 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Rider's Bike Night 6-9pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Post Dinner 5-7pm Seafood Medley Will The Thrill 6:30-10:30pm	Veterans Healing Garden Gardening 101 10a-12pm Department Commander's Homecoming (H&P) 12 -5pm April Birthday 6pm Karaoke Chuck 6:30-10:30pm
27	28	29	30			
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-5p AL DCC Post 117 10em	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Ways & Means 6pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm	Kitchen Open 11a-2p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close			



In-State Unity Ride April 6—12, 2025 #Western Route—Pensacola



Brent Jackson, Chapter 117, Lynn Givens, Chapter 81, Mike "JD" Givens, Chapter 81, Glenn Weyant, Chapter 200, Dennis Mallon and Stephen Follett Chapter 40, Middle row Hector Dietsch, Chapter 394, Karen Ortiz-Labrecque, Chapter 117, Dana Jackson, Chapter 117 and Front Row Astrid Dietsch, Chapter 394. Mike Cunningham, Chapter 40, also rode but not in picture.

Gulf County Veterans Memorial Park at Beacon Hill - Western Route









In-State Unity Ride Rally April 12, 2025 Clearwater, Florida



Bobby Dye, Finance Officer, giving Jim Wineland a check for \$20,000 for PVR



Monica Deleon, Jim Wineland, and Bobby Dye. Monica gave Jim a check for \$8000



Bill Davidson, Kim Oaks, Bobby Dye, Robert Smith, David Bolduc, Antonio Santos, Brent Jackson (Front) Monica Deleon and Dana Jackson



ALR Chapter 117 Officer Nominees 2025-2026 April 20, 2025 Palm Bay, Florida

> ALR Chapter 117 Officer Nominees 2025-2026

Director: Robert Smith

Vice Director: Stanley Wood

Secretary: Sheila Cline

Treasurer: Bobby Dye

Chaplain: Brian Yancey

Sgt. at Arms: David Bolduc

Road Captain: Eric Spellman

Installation of Officers July 2, 2025 @6:30pm







Post Calendar May 2025

==AMERICAN May 2025 Rev.2 LEGION

Charles F. Thomas IV American Legion Post 117

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Canteen Opens 10am ever				1	2	3
Tuesday: Show-Me-The-Ma Ace of Spades — Wednesday: Ladies Night E Friday: Family Dinner; Mus	OGO Drinks; Free Pool All Da oney 1-3pm Last ticket sold at 7:10pm OGO Drinks; \$1 Wing Nigh ic Entertainment Friday & S	t; Entertainment		Be The One Pool Tournament 1pm Riders Meeting 6:30pm Private Event (H) 11a-1p	Kitchen Open 11a—2p Riders Dinner 5-7pm Meatballs Vince 6:30-10:30pm	Pool Tournament Ipm Derby Day 4pm SAL DCC Post 394 9-12p Private Event (H) 3-7pm Karaoke-Mark Canada 6:30-10:30om
Private Event: Pavilion (P);	5	6	7	8	9	10
Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-4:45p Wall Escort KSU 8:30 Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day VVB Wreath/Opening Ceremony Wickham Park 6pm Men's Night 6p-close Scouts Meeting 7-9pm	Ritchen Open 11p-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Big Azz Burgers 4:30-7pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	St. Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close	Pool Tournament 1pm Legion EC @5:30pm 40&8 7pm	Kitchen Open 11a—Zp SAL Dinner Fish Fry 5-7p DJ Will The Thrill 6:30-10:30pm	Massing of Colors 11a Wickham Park Private Event (H) 6-11pm DJ/Karaoke Joe Barrera 6:30-10:30pm
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
SAL Mother's Day Brunch 10a-12p Shrimp & Wings 1-4:45p Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day 36th Reunion Closing Ceremonies 5pm Men's Night 6p-close Auxiliary EC Meeting 6p Scouts Meeting 7-9pm	Kitchen Open 12p-2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Tacos 4:30-7pm Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 12p-4:30p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close SAL Meeting 6:30pm Jimmy D 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Auxiliary Meeting 7pm Nominations & Election	Auxiliary Dinner Meatloaf 5-7 pm Joe Calautti 6:30-10:30 pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Vince 6:30-10:30pm
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Honor Guard Practice 10a Full Kitchen Menu Shrimp & Wings 1-4:45p Junior Meeting 12pm Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-close Ways & Means 6pm Scouts Meeting 7-9pm	Kitchen Open 12p—2p Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Big Azz Burgers 4:30-7pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 12p-4:30p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Legion Meeting 7pm DJ Alvin 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm	Post Dinner 5-7pm Shepherd's Ple DJ/Karaoke Joe Barrera 6:30-10:30pm	Flags on Veteran Graves—Fountainhead 8a/KSU 7:45a Private Event (H) 3-7pm Private Event (P) 1-5pm DJ Chuck 6:30-10:30pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
No Kitchen Boys Scout BBQ SAL Meat Raffle 1pm Scouts Meeting 5-6:30pm	Honor CPI Thomas Fountainhead Ceremony KSU 8:30/9a Assisted Living Visit Memorial Day Ceremony 1pm Free Pool All Day Men's Night 6p-Close Scouts Meeting 7-9p SAL Gun Raffle 12 om	Kitchen Open 12p-2p Flag Retrieval Fountainhead Sam Show-Me-The-Money-1p Riders Corn Hole 6:30pm Cuban 4:30-7pm Ace of Spade 7:30pm	Kitchen Open 12p-4:30p \$1 Wing Night 1-7pm Ladies Night 6p-close Vince 6:30-9:30pm	Pool Tournament 1pm Rider's Bike Night 6-9pm	Dinner TBD Jimmy D 6:30-10:30pm	May Birthday 6pm SAL Veterans Fishing Trip 5a Private Event (H) Don Hanafin Celebration of Life 12-4 (P) DJ Alvin 6:30-10:30pm





Newsletter (Mar/Apr 2025)



Chapter 117, American Legion Riders

American Legion Riders Chapter 117 Newsletter

Dear Riders and Friends,

We have had an incredibly successful few weeks here at American Legion Riders Chapter 117, and I am excited to share our achievements and upcoming events with

Robert Smith, Director, Chapter 117 smittyþj@gmail.com

Recent Events:

- . On March 22, we hosted the Richard Philips Down Biker Fund Birthday Bash at Post 117. This wonderful event raised funds to support a great cause, and we thank all who attended and contributed.
- . On March 29, we organized the Project Vet Relief Benefit Ride, rounding out our efforts to combat veteran suicide. Your participation helped make a significant
- . On April 5, we joined the Children and Youth Benefit Ride, raising money for youth programs that will support the next generation.
- On April 12, our In-State Unity Ride concluded at the Orange County Choppers Road House in Clearwater, Florida. Several of us rode to Clearwater to present the money we raised over the year for Project Vet Relief. We are proud to announce that we raised an impressive \$26,756 to help end veteran suicide. Thank you all for your dedication and efforts toward this crucial cause!

Upcoming Events:

- . On May 4, we will be escorting the Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall from the EFSC campus in Cocoa to Wickham Park in Melbourne.
- . On May 5, there will be opening ceremonies for the All Veterans Reunion, also at Wickham Park. We encourage everyone to attend and show your support!
- . On May 26 (Memorial Day), we will ride to Fountain Head Cemetery to honor our post's namesake, Charles F. Thomes. Following this tribute, we will escort our Honor Guard to local assisted living facilities to help them celebrate Memorial Day.

Officer Nominations: I am proud to announce that the officer nominations are complete, and I will serve as your Riders Director for another year. Your officers for the 2025-2026 term are:

- ⇒ Director: Robert Smith
- ⇒ Vice Director: Stanley Wood
- ⇒ Secretary: Sheila Cline
- ⇒ Treasurer: Bobby Dye
- ⇒ Chaplain: Brian Yancey
- ⇒ Sgt. at Arms: David Bolduc
- ⇒ Road Captain: Eric Spellman

A special thanks goes out to all the volunteers who dedicate their time to make our chapter a success. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Smitty

Riders Director, Chapter 117



The 37th All Veterans Reunion Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall Escort May 4, 2025 Melbourne & Cocoa, Florida







David Smitley, CH117, Angela Blackford Ritchey, CH81, Dana Jackson, CH117, Robert Smith, Rider's Director CH 117, Ken O'Reilly & Lynn Buhr O'Reilly, CH 81, Brent Jackson, CH 117, Karen Labrecque-Ortiz, CH 117 & Glenn Weyant, CH 200



William "Pineapple" Whitney, CH117



CH117 departing Post 117 for wall escort





The 37th All Veterans Reunion Wreath Laying Ceremony Wickham Park May 5, 2025 Melbourne, Florida



PPC Bill Davidson, David Bolduc, Robert Smith, Rider's Director, Auxiliary President Kim Oaks

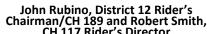


Dana Jackson, Rider's Historian & Brent Jackson













Boots on the Ground May 9, 2025 Daytona & Jacksonville, Florida



1000 miles, 120 hours



Dana Jackson, Rider's Historian & Brent Jackson



Back: John Scannell, Chapter 394, Kevin Coughlin, Chapter 394, Brent Jackson, Chapter 117, Hector Dietsch, Chapter 394, Angie Coughlin, Chapter 394, David Luzader, Chapter 394, Front: Dana Jackson, Chapter 117 and Astrid Dietsch, Chapter 394 members stopped at Buc-ees for fuel on their way to Boots on the Ground event.



Lin Marcheggiani's Last Ride May 22, 2025 Cape Canaveral, Florida

Many AL Rider Chapters came together to bid farewell to Lin Marcheggiani.



Dana & Brent Jackson, Chapter 117





2 Riders, 2 passengers 672 miles, 28 hours



Antonio Santos, Chapter 117

Glenn Weyant, Chapter 200 & Karen Labrecque-Ortiz, Chapter 117





American Flags on Veterans Grave Fountainhead Cemetery May 24, 2025 Palm Bay, Florida



Charles F. Thomas IV, CPT, Army, Vietnam



Rider's Chaplain Brian Yancey and Rider's Director Robert Smith placing flags at veterans grave



Rider Doc Holiday showing his respect to our lost veterans after placing an American Flag on their grave.



Memorial Day—Honoring of Charles F. Thomas IV Fountainhead Cemetery May 26, 2025 Palm Bay, Florida







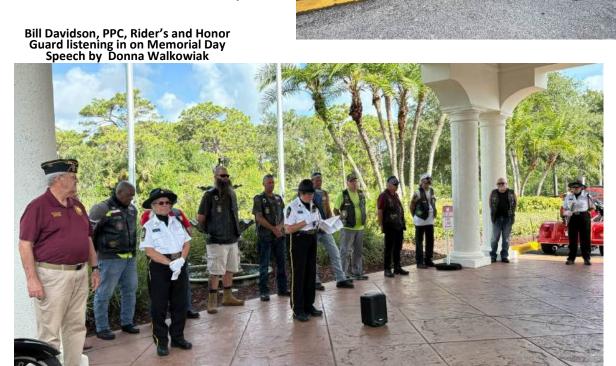
Chapter 117 Rider's and post member supporting the Post and Honor Guard Mission with an escort to Charles F. Thomas IV grave site for a Memorial Day Ceremony.



Rider's Honor Guard Escort to Assisted Living Facilities May 26, 2025 Palm Bay, Florida



Far Right Back: Jack Miller, Chaplain Brian Yancey, Danny Keithline, Dave Hall, James Jankovic, Kenneth Brody, Jeff Cox





Rider's Tuesday Night Cornhole 2024-2025 Palm Bay, Florida





Tyler Ward and Rockie Webb Thipphayoth
Took 2nd Place



Steve Hunt won in mailbag



Michael Migliara and Jeff Doidge Took 1st Place





Rider's Bike Night 2024-2025 Palm Bay, Florida



Rider's and other members enjoying the burgers and hot dogs.



Ass't Rider's Director Stan Wood taking everyone's money.



Spencer Reinking serving up the burgers & dogs. Robert Smith has overwatch.



Rider's Historian Dana Jackson, Sgt-At-Arms David Bolduc & Patti Bolduc



Contribution









Α

ALR Chapter 117 Officer Nominees 2025-2026 58

American Flags on Graves—Fountainhead Cemetery 65

American Legion Chapter 40 18, 56

American Legion Chapter 81 56, 61

American Legion Chapter 117 18, 30, 32, 35, 36, 38, 61, 63, 64, 66

American Legion Chapter 189 18, 62

American Legion Chapter 200 23, 24, 32, 35, 36, 38, 56,61, 64

American Legion Chapter 394 56, 63

American Legion Post 22 24
American Legion Post 81 19
American Legion Post 117 7, 30
American Legion Post 163 24
American Legion Post 242 24

В

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