



Emerald Coast VFW Post 10555 ALL-AMERICAN POST JOURNAL

WINNER OF 2ND PLACE AWARD, DEPARTMENT POST NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION AWARD 2014

Volume 9, Issue 8

GO VFW, STAY VFW!

August 2015

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Emerald Coast Post 10555
17680 Ashley Drive
Panama City Beach, FL 32413
(850) 249-3025
www.vfwpost10555.com



VFW Post 10555 News: Ken Waringa, Commander

For those that haven't heard, we are not getting an AT&T cell tower. They called and said the engineers wanted a site closer to the beach. We were really hoping this would come through to help the post financially. For the year ending 30 June this year we lost just over \$4700.00. While any loss is bad, this past year we put in new LED flagpole lights and replaced 2 A/C units, so overall it wasn't a bad year. If you have any home A/C issues I highly recommend A Superior Air Conditioning Company on Ashley Drive. They have replaced all A/C units at our Post. The last unit was priced at \$4200 but they knew the most we could go in accordance with our By-Laws is \$3000, so they gave us a *huge* discount and installed it for \$3000 to honor us as Veterans..

We have a busy schedule coming up in August so keep an eye on the calendar. August 15th we are doing our regular birthday party at Sims State Veterans Home. On the 22nd we have our district 17 meeting in Parker then we are doing a Steak Night at the post. This event will be by advance ticket sales only, the cut off will be after our membership meeting August 22nd. This way we can plan for how many steaks we need to purchase. Again you must buy tickets in advance; there will be **NO** ticket sales after the 22nd. Labor Day we will be hosting our regular picnic, with Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, BBQ and sides for \$5.00. As always we will need your help to make these events happen.

Please Come Out and Support YOUR Post! Remember Our Veterans and Those Deployed!

KEN WARINGA

[PS CLICK HERE FOR THE LATEST STATE BULLETIN](#)

VFW Ladies Auxiliary Status: Kitty Dye, President (kdye8918@yahoo.com)

July has already come and gone and it was a hot one. The Auxiliary helped with the Independence Day Celebration and held it's monthly Fish Fry. We approved two new members to the Auxiliary. I need to tell you if you don't already know it that as of August 20 we will be The Auxiliary and we will probably begin accepting male applications. The applications will have to be approved just like any other applicant as they will not be allowed to transfer memberships from the Men's Auxiliary. We are getting ready for the School Of Instruction in Orlando early in August and hopefully will learn more about the new changes. Some of the members will be going to the airport to help in the Military Welcome Room. I did this in July and think that it is a really good opportunity to better serve our veterans. This next year looks very exciting so please watch the calendar for events. Two of our members, Jan Pollard and Emily Smith are under going testing and or treatment for cancer. Please keep them in your prayers. Contact me if you need a ride at 234-8918. ***Until next time, Stay Safe and Cool, Kitty Dye***



American Legion Update: Post 402 Commander Jim Bowers (scootin1923@yahoo.com)

Attention American Legion Post #402 ,we are having another busy couple of months getting all members to renew their memberships.We are having an early bird for renewals in by October 5th,meeting.All the members that has renewed and new members we will have a free steak dinner for them during the month of October.We also have got our Charter for the Legion Riders submitted to the State and National just waiting for the return.We almost have all the members together for the Sons Of The Legion to submit their paperwork for the Charter.As you can see it is building a new chapter to the Legion family and to our Post.We need volunteers for the Legion dinner and Bingo on August 21st and to follow we have Legion Riders Bike Nite on the 28th. As you'll can see we are getting the members from all the entities now we just need the volunteers to come and help with all of our events would be much appreciated.Don't forget our Legion meeting is August 3rd .at 18:00 hrs. and the Sons of the Legion will have it the same night. The Legion Riders will be Meeting the first Tuesday of every month starting this August.

Until next month Keep our Veterans in our Hearts, Thank You And God Bless America! Jim Bowers, American Legion Post Commander

At the August DEPT of Florida VFW School of Instruction: INFORMATION!

- New Post Service Officer, John Kittler, went to the Service Officer School of Instruction
- Repeat District 17 Commander, Don Buchanan and outgoing Senior Vice Commander Tom Randall went to the Saturday session and heard a lot about this year's Membership Program, the day-to-day operations at the Post Canteen; the Veterans Village and the new Auxiliary.
- New Auxiliary is to be gender neutral, August 21st. Men's Auxiliaries will continue, some have voted to immediately fold and join the AUX. Now every eligible spouse and relative of a US Combat Veteran will be welcomed to the VFW Auxiliary.
- Tom spoke to the membership about Members-at-Large. Florida has nearly 10,000 of them, 8,331 of our comrades are paid members. We are going to try to be inclusive with them, too and invite them down to our posts. Do you know these comrades? They are Life Members at Large living at the Beach: George Biondi; Kirk Belmont; Mike Cain; Roy Fansler; Salvatore Mattaliano; Paul Paustian; Harry Sweezey;Le Roy Wierzchowicz; Philip Young. Bring them to your post, show them who we are!

A Message from our Precocious Post Manager: Billie Jones (vfw10555@knology.net)

The month of July has flown by and August is here!! Last month we had the hall floor stripped and a new coat of wax was up on and does it ever look great – looks like we had a complete new installation of flooring. Longer process to do than was expected but the result is well worth it. The meeting room for the LAVFW was also done, and what a difference to look at. Also the bar dishwasher is up and running – now working on the walk in cooler lights. Slowly but surely the “fix it” list is getting completed. Thanks to everyone involved in the process.

We still have open seating for members to come out enjoy a cool beverage and meet with your friends. The August calendar is full with bingo, cards, pool, karaoke, good food and much more for your pleasure. There will be a Steak night on Saturday August 22, you will need to purchase a ticket from the bartender to attend. LAVFW will also be preparing their famous fish and chicken for their followers. I will let everyone know if you did not make it out in July for bike night you missed a great spaghetti dinner sponsored by American Legion 402 for \$5.00!! No bike needed, just you. ***Best Regards, Y'all! Billie Jones Post Manager***



VFW Post 10555 Quartermaster's Two Cents Rob Smith (robfsmith127@gmail.com)

Hi Everyone, We are in the midst of another brutally-hot Florida summer and I hope you all will stop by to enjoy our nice and cool Canteen and a cold beverage. The Canteen is especially cool now since we just had to replace the air conditioning unit. A Superior Air Conditioning, a business located right here in our business park, installed the unit and gave us a great deal. They also will be taking over the maintenance of all our units, saving us about 50% from what we were paying. Its just another way we are trying to reduce our operating costs. Junior Vice Commander and Adjutant Anna Miner is forming an Anniversary Committee to organize our Post's 35th Anniversary, coming in February 2016. If anyone has any photos or ideas for this grand event, please let her or any one of the Post officers know. If you'd like to help the committee, please let her know. **See You Around Our Post! Rob**

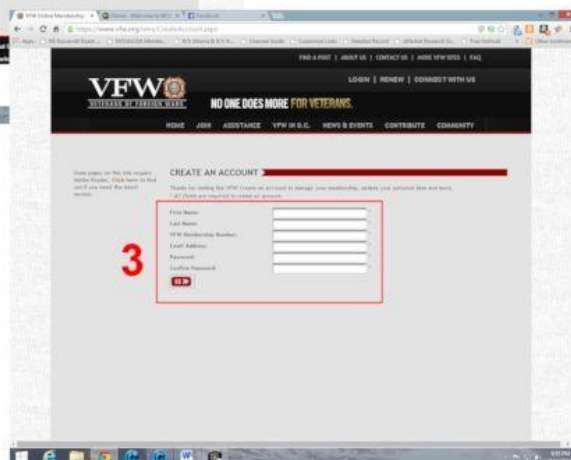
MEMBERSHIP COUNTS! GO VFW, STAY VFW! Thomas Randall, Asst Director, Membership trandall@flvfw.org

Please help the new Post Membership Chair, Matt, with membership this year. If you have VFW-eligible friends, neighbors, family, sign them up. It's easy. August 21st, the Auxiliary becomes inclusive, sign up your eligible family members. If you are an annual member here at 10555, renew before your renewal date or please consider Life Membership. If you are a Life Member, please consider Legacy Life Membership. Matt is also the new Senior Vice Commander. Congrats! Call if I can help you STAY VFW! 850-703-7636



How do you create a personal online account at <http://www.vfw.org>? With your membership card in hand, follow these three easy steps:

1. Access the home page, click "LOGIN"
2. Click "Create an Account"
3. Fill in the blanks and Click **GO >>**



VFW ELECTS NEW NATIONAL COMMANDER

BIEDRZYCKI CALLS 'SERVICE TO OTHERS' VFW'S MOST IMPORTANT MISSION

July 22, 2015

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (July 22, 2015) — The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) concluded its 116th National Convention by electing Pittsburgh-native John A. Biedrzycki Jr. as its new national commander.

Biedrzycki served in the U. S. Army from 1967-1970. He served in Korea with the 7th Infantry Division, and his decorations include Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and Korean Defense Medal. He is a VFW Legacy Life Member and served in elected and appointed positions at the Post, County, District and Department (state) levels prior to his elections to national office. He has been a member of the VFW for 46 years, having first joined the VFW at Post 418 in McKees Rocks, Pa., in 1969.

In his [acceptance speech](#) the VFW's new leader called on the organization's nearly 1.4 million members to recommit themselves in service to others, which was one of the primary reasons his organization's founders formed in 1899, and formerly merged here in Pittsburgh in 1914. He also urged everyone to consider how much poorer the country would have been had the VFW never existed.


"If not for the VFW, who in our communities will help organize and participate in patriotic salutes to our nation and remember those who serve or fell?" he asked. "If not for the VFW, who will help America's veterans and troops navigate the complex VA claims system, or ensure their individual needs are properly take care of? And if not for the VFW, who will give a collective voice on Capitol Hill against all the noise generated by 30,000 registered lobbyists who, other than lip service, don't have the best interest of veterans, service members and families first on their agendas?"

While addressing convention delegates, Biedrzycki had high praise for the work being done by VFW members in communities across America. He cited several examples of projects and programs that well-illustrate the VFW's mission to stand up for veterans, service members and their families. A retired high school history teacher, Biedrzycki also stressed that "freedom isn't free" – something America tends to forget.

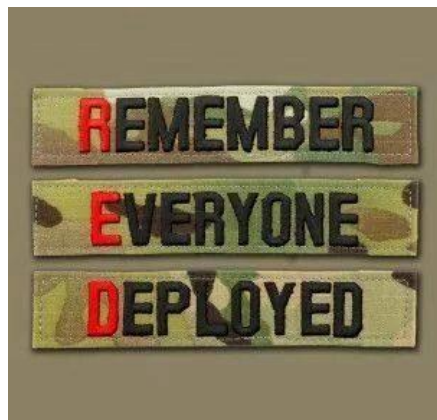
"The success of America was built on the service and sacrifice of many Americans, but our continued freedom falls squarely on the shoulders of those who wear the uniform. Everyone in the VFW understands that," he remarked.

During his tenure he will log thousands of miles within the U.S. and internationally to promote the VFW, veterans' issues, and quality of life initiatives for active-duty, Reserve and Guard members, and all their families. Also elected were Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Brian J. Duffy of Louisville, Ky., and Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Keith E. Harman of Delphos, Ohio. Biedrzycki will lead under the theme Loyalty, Honor and Service for the ensuing year; values that have long-guided the VFW and its new national commander alike.



August 2015						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	R.E.D. FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK 		Sign up for this calendar by email at vfw10555@knology.net	WHERE TO FIND US 17680 Ashley Dr Panama City Beach, FL 32413 (850) 249-3025		Remember Every Deployed (RED) Shirt Fridays. Wear a red shirt to show support of our troops.	1 VFW Bingo 1 PM
2	3 Legion Officer Mtg. 5:30 PM Legion Mtg. 6 PM	4 Men's Pool 1-5 PM Legion Riders Meeting 6 PM	5 Miller Light Cans and Coors Light Cans only \$1.00	6 Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM	7 VFW Wings \$5.00 5:30 - 6:30 VFW Bingo 6 - 8	8 Legion Bingo 1 PM VFW/LAUX School of Instruction
9	10	11 Men's Pool 1-5 PM Entertainment Com. Mtg. 4:30 PM Officer Mtg. 5 PM House Committee Mtg. 5:30 PM	12 Miller Light Cans and Coors Light Cans only \$1.00	13 Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM	14 LAUX Officer Mtg. 2 PM LAUX Fish Fry \$9.00 5:30-6:30 Karakoe 6 - 9	15 LAUX Bingo 1 PM SIMMs Visit 2:00 Hall Rental after bingo
16 Pool Tournament 8 Ball 2 PM \$2.00 to play Win up to \$20 Bar Tab	17	18 Men's Pool 1-5 PM Gen. Membership & LAUX Mtg. 6 PM	19 Miller Light Cans and Coors Light Cans only \$1.00	20 Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM	21 Legion Barbecue \$5.00 5:30 - 6:30 PM Legion Bingo 6-8 PM	22 Legion Bingo 1 PM VFW District Meeting Steak Night, must buy tickets in advance
23 Post Closed for Clean-up. Come out and help!	24	25 Men's Pool 1-5 PM	26 Miller Light Cans and Coors Light Cans only \$1.00	27 Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM	28 Legion Riders Bike Night Neal James 6 to 9 PM	29 VFW Bingo 1 PM
30	31					

EDITOR'S NOTE: This Calendar of Post/AUX/Legion events is painstakingly developed at the House Committee Meeting every second Tuesday of the month. EVERY member of our units in good standing is welcome to attend that or any other committee meeting and EVERY member of our units in good standing is welcome to reserve the hall (Fees are charged for private parties, that is to say any event not open to all). For hall fees/reservations, contact the Post Manager, Billie Jones, at the Post 850-249-3025. **When all else fails, JUST STOP BY! PLEASE!**





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Carol E. Hertz
Volunteer Coordinator
carolhertz@bellsouth.net

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