



Emerald Coast VFW Post 10555

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

NEW Hours of Operation
1200-2100hrs/NOON to 9PM
EXCEPT SUNDAYS
1400-2200hrs/2-10PM

APRIL CANTEEN ACTIVITIES

TUESDAYS: Billiards!

WEDNESDAYS: Big Al! Hot Dogs!
Meat Raffle! Happy Hour All Day:
BRING A FRIEND FROM 3-6PM

THURSDAYS: Cards! Ms. Cues!

FRIDAYS: Food! Music or Bingo!

SATURDAYS: Bingo!

SUNDAYS: Food! Jam Sessions!

FRI 5th - LAUX Officer MTG

SAT 6th - Camp Helen Spring
Fling 1000-1400 (10AM-2PM)

SUN 7th - POST FIELD DAY 0900
(9AM) POST CLOSED UNTIL 1600

MON 8th - 1630 (4:30 PM)
Entertainment Committee/Post
Cadre Meeting Follows

TUES 9th - 1700 (5 PM) House
Committee MTG

THURS 11th - 1630 (4:30 PM)
Meet at the Hathaway Bridge to
cheer the Wounded Warrior
Parade

FRI 12th - 1730 (5:30 PM) Flag
Retirement Ceremony

SUN 14th 1830 (6:30 PM)

MON 15th - 1800 (6 PM) MAUX
Meeting

TUES 16th - 1800 (6 PM) General
Membership & VFW/LAUX
Meeting

COMMANDER'S CALL

Comrades and Sisters, we have had a successful winter, but our finances are still an issue. If we start to slide backwards again we will have to take drastic actions to keep Our Post afloat. That is the last thing we need to do. There are a few things we are going to try this month to see if we can get some new faces in here. So please support these events. We have also filed a claim with BP, but we cannot depend on that outcome for our future.

At our last meeting, we had nominations for next year's Officers: Commander-Ken Waringa, Senior Vice-Tracey Lopez, Junior Vice-Rob Lopez, Quartermaster-Rob Smith, Judge-Ana Miner, Chaplain-Larry Striblin, Surgeon-Vacant, and 3rd Year-Trustee Don Buchanan. As you can see, we have another solid cast of Officers. We do need someone to step up for the Post Surgeon. Please review the requirements and be at the next meeting or provide me a letter if you cannot be at the meeting.

We are collecting for our next visit to Lake City. If you have any travel toiletries, lap blankets, donations or hardback books we would gladly accept them. The Ladies Auxiliary has the Dick and Jane display up to help in our efforts. With your help, it will be another very rewarding trip in July.

I would like to thank all who made the Sims Veteran home visit a huge success. By all accounts, the folks there had a great time.

See you at the meeting. I hope that I will see you at the Triple Nickel before then!

DON BUCHANAN, Post Commander bdon520@knology.net
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Ladies Auxiliary Status: Kitty Dye, President (KDYE8918@YAHOO.COM)

Well the New Year is definitely winding down. We will soon be electing new officers. Our winter friends are leaving for home and things are slowing down. We will be having a Fish Fry April 12th with a flag retirement at 1730 hrs. (5:30 PM). If you have any old national flags that need to be properly destroyed please bring them to the post. The music provided that night will be Karaoke with Deke. He is lots of fun. We will be sharing a "Low Country Boil" event with the post on April 14th, \$8.00 per plate, and prior to the Jam Session. For those that do not know, a "Low Country Boil" is potatoes, corn, sausage and shrimp all cooked together with secret spices and it is VERY good! We will be having new musicians coming in. We initiated five new members at the last regular meeting and we now have two Kittys in the Auxiliary. Please continue to bring comfort items in for the next Lake City V.A. Hospital visit.

Best Regards, Kitty Dye, President Ladies Auxiliary 10555

The Right Arm with the Right Stuff: Post SVC: Tracey Lopez (TRACEYT35@MSN.COM)

Spring is in the air! As many of our Northern friends begin to return home, I would like to say safe travels and thank you for all of your support at the post! We look forward to seeing all of you again in the fall! In addition, thank you to everyone who came and help make all of the March events successful, especially of you who came out to support the Volunteer Appreciation Day!!! Once again, April is going to be a very busy month and I hope to see all of you for all of the great events we are going to have. Something new we are going to try this month is the "Bring a Friend to the Post" on Sundays and Wednesdays – we would like to see some new faces around the post, as well as all of our regulars. Please come support all of the events – the only way the post is going to be successful is for our members to show their support through active participation.

Quartermaster Corner: Ken Waringa (KCWARINGA@YAHOO.COM)

GREETINGS, Spring break is pretty much finished and our Northern guests have gone home. As we discussed at the meeting, we are going to have to make some drastic changes at the post if we want to stay open. Last year we lost between \$3000 and \$4000 most months and we cannot continue to lose this much money and stay open. The last three months with the Northern guests have been good, but not enough to sustain the losses we have the rest of the year. Years ago we did not have to pay for the janitorial services or yard care that we pay for now. As the Commander is always saying, we just cannot get volunteers for anything anymore. With this in mind, we are going to have to make some changes. We are going to print some flyers and distribute them around the industrial park inviting people to come to the post on Wednesday afternoons. We will have a member there, so they will be our guests with the hopes that they will join one of our organizations. If you would like to be a host at one of these events please let the Commander or I know. Anyone in the VFW, Men's and Ladies Auxiliary can be a host and bring guests to the post. Another change is we will probably be closing the post one or more days a week. We are going to look at sales over this next month and make a decision which days to close at our next house committee meeting. If anyone has ideas how to increase revenue or decrease expenses please let me know. See you around the post!

And Post Service Officer Wallace Stacy (WALLY88@KNOLOGY.NET) Says:

Hello to my brothers and sisters of "Ten Triple Nickel". We all know how bad the VA has failed Veterans, based on recent reports in the news media and reports from our national veterans organizations that represent us in Washington!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I can never express my true feelings, since I may offend those that elect people that do these things to us! Therefore, remain tuned to the media that gives you the most comfort in what they are reporting.

Having said all that I must remind you that the Lake City VA Hospital visit is near and dear to our hearts!!! I will be in Europe for the month of April and not at the meeting so, I ask you to please consider a financial pledge to support this effort. I offer you the same thing I offered in 2012, I will start the fund-raising with a donation of \$25.00 and ask my "Brothers and Sisters" to do the same!!! We must make this work for the "Veterans and their "Loved Ones". emember we are the "TEN TRIPLE NICKEL"

Until next time, Wally

Words of Inspiration from our Chaplain, Larry Striblin (PAPAREDMAN@YAHOO.COM)

Praise him from whom all blessings flow, praise him all creatures here below...Well, Easter is a major holiday for many of us and I was glad to be able to celebrate it with my family knowing that we, as a VFW family, made a significant effort and a grand showing at the Clifford Chester Sims State Veterans Nursing Home last month. On March 9th we really had a great time putting on a Birthday Party for the veterans who reside there including our own Life Member Ken Algar. While the band our Post Service Officer Wally Stacy arranged for kept the music going and members of the Post, LAUX and MAUX entertained the residents in the activities room I went around to the rooms with the shut ins and brought them as much good cheer as possible. The post is considering sponsoring this event on a quarterly basis and I believe it is a good and righteous way to remember our aging warriors as they rememebr the good old days while they are residents at Sims Veterans Home. THANK YOU , THANK YOU, THANK YOU to all who participated, planned or helped out for this event. *May God Bless Us, Our Veterans and our Nation. Larry*

A Message from Post Manager: Billie Jones (POST10555@KNOLOGY.NET)

GREETINGS! Spring has sprung and our northern friends are leaving for home. March was a grand month for 10555. The Saint Patrick's Day event was exceptional with great food, music and fellowship. April at the Post will still have many events for all members. Fish Fries, Jam Sessions and of course just getting together with friends for laughs, support and drinks, this is the place to be! New hours for the post on Sunday will be only 1400 (2PM) and the Jam Session at 1900 (7PM). Be sure to check your April Calendar for all scheduled upcoming events. Please support your post and auxiliaries at VFW 10555 and remember, please, that all of our bartenders are volunteers. Hope to see you there soon! BEST REGARDS, BILLIE JONES

House Committee Chairman News: Rob Lopez

Greetings from the House Committee! I want to thank all those that supported our dinner for our Northern friends! We will miss them but look forward to the fall and their return! (Editor's Note: Leave the Snow Home, Please) I would like to point a few key events in the upcoming month. In April, we have the Camp Helen Spring Thing on Saturday April 6th, a Post Field Day on Sunday the 7th. We are lining up on the Hathaway Bridge during the Wounded Warrior Parade on Thursday the 11th, Flag Retirement on Friday the 12th, and a Low Country Boil on Sunday the 14th, so please come out and support your Post and Auxiliaries! Don't Forget - as always, we have many Friday night events! I look forward to seeing you around our VFW post!

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