



# VFW 10555 GREAT AMERICAN POST JOURNAL

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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

Hours of Operation  
12 Noon to 9 PM  
7 DAYS A WEEK

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### Don Buchanan, Commander

Wally Stacy, Senior Vice Commander  
Rob Lopez, Junior Vice Commander  
Ray Seale - Adjutant  
Brian Freeman, Quartermaster  
Meyrle Peppler, Judge Advocate  
Tommy Welch, Chaplain  
Jim Phelps, Surgeon  
Dick Gribble, Trustee 3 yr.  
Rob Smith, Trustee 2yr.  
Ken Gregory, Trustee 1yr.  
Open - Service Officer  
Ray Seale, Membership Chairman  
Rob Lopez, House Committee Chairman



## COMMANDER'S CALL



We are trying to get folks involved at the Post. The first thing we should do when someone new comes in is welcome them and then find out their affiliation. If they are not a member, talk our place up and see if they can join. Our goal is to get as many new members as possible this year. We want to bring in new blood to get involved at the Post. It is so much easier to put on events when you have people to help and be involved with what the VFW is about. **GET INVOLVED!!** So your help in this matter would be greatly appreciated. I am very proud to be a part of this organization and I will do all I can to move us forward. Check the calendars for all events.

I am still looking for members to step forward to take on the following committees: Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Boy Scout and EMT of the Year. It should not be the same few as always. Thanks to Jim Foreman for stepping forward for the Policeman of the Year. I encourage our barstool commanders to get involved. Do something positive for the Post and the Veteran!!!

We should have the engineering plans in hand for presentation at the next meeting. This will enable us to move to the next step. I would like to have a decision, yea or nay, in the not too distant future. This is a major

decision so the more members we get to the meeting to make the decisions the better. We normally have the same 15 to 20 who make the decisions for the Post. I encourage all to attend. I will try to keep the meetings short and on point.

We will be doing our annual cleaning of the floors on August 22. We are looking for new lawn maintenance and kitchen clean-up crew.

The MAUX will be serving breakfast on Wednesday's through the month of August from 7-9am for a small fee. August 5th, we will have tacos and draft beer for \$1.00. We will have Ladies Day every Thursday with \$.75 reduction in pricing.

See you at the meeting. Hopefully I will see you before then!!

Don



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## Quartermaster Corner — Brian Freeman

I've been quite busy this month, so this will be short. Please see the calendar for events and please be sure to renew your membership ASAP!

I look forward to seeing you at the August meeting.  
 Brian

## Ladies Auxiliary News - Jenny Freeman, President

Thanks to Maddie, June Bug, Lien and Pat for representing the Ladies Auxiliary here at our Post when they went down to Lake City, I was part of the Cooties and we would go twice a year to visit the Veteran's Hospital and Nursing Home. When visiting, we brought lap robes, socks, stuffed animals and chit books. The veterans use the chit books to buy in their store at the hospital. A very special Thank You to Maddie for those 50 handmade lap robes you made for the visit. I know you made many veterans very happy and cozy with them. We usually play bingo and feed them some type of treat. It is a very rewarding experience. The Cooties organization has pretty much retired in our area, so our Post decided to deep their dates and continue going once in July and in December. If anyone is interested in going to Lake City in December, please let us know at our meeting.

Starting in August, the Ladies Auxiliary will be sponsoring the monthly Fish Fry and Baked Chicken. We are having to raise the price to \$10.00 per person for now. Due to the high cost of food in a tourist town, we have hardly been breaking even these last few months. We hope that the prices will start to drop after Labor Day and that we'll be able to drop our prices back down. We would appreciate your support during this bump in the road and hope to continue to see a good turnout and our dinners. The money we make goes toward our veterans programs that serves the

veterans in Florida. The Ladies Auxiliary is required to contribute a minimum of \$2000.00 to these programs based on the size of our Post. The ladies work very hard at our events, so I hope we continue to see support from the Post for our functions during this year.

We have a new State President and along with that, we will have new programs required for the new year. I will be attending School of Instruction July 29th-30th. There I will learn what the State President's programs will be along with the requirements for the LAVFW, so please be sure to attend the August 16th meeting. All the officers have come up with some ideas and dates for functions to raise money for these programs. If you can't make the meeting, watch the calendar and support the events.

Last, but not least, July is the first month of our new year and I'm happy to say we are at 84% for membership. Carol has told me that the membership cards for the members who have already paid for the year are in the mail. Thanks to those already paid up. It shows your support for the LAVFW and our Post. It takes a team to work at making it to All State again this year.

I really hope to see everyone at the August meeting.  
 Jenny Freeman

## Men's Auxiliary Memo - Bill McGrath, President

Our Post's Fish Frys have been going on about a year now. The Men's Auxiliary thanked Dick, Danny, Bob and Bear for their hard work at these monthly events by presenting each with an embroidered VFW Men's Aux. shirt. In addition, we honored "Chef Bear" at the general membership meeting for his dedicated cooking skills. Bear was presented a desk set to commemorate his year of hard work and great cooking. Thanks, Bear!

You'll notice the August calendar is really loaded. Included is a 7-9am breakfast every Wednesday for the month of August. The Men's Auxiliary will provide the breakfast with Jimmy cooking and I'll assist. I'll need some of our retired members to come and help out. This event will be open to the public and is designed to get new people in the Post, hand out calendars so they can see the many events taking place and, hopefully, think about joining our family. So this is a de facto membership drive, but we are not going to push pamphlets in the faces of our visitors. We'll simply let them look around, see the Post and the

upcoming events, and hope they have some interest in joining. Therefore, it will be nice if our members come out and enjoy the company of our new guests and make them feel welcome. Warmth, comfort and friendliness will suffice - that's what we're selling. Come be our Post "Wal-Mart Greeters".

I've been asked by many people if we are having another Oktoberfest this year. The answer is Absolutely! We have the gala tentatively scheduled for Sunday, October 23rd, at 1pm. We can't firm the date up until we get a commitment for the band, but plan on attending. It was great fun last year. I'll have firm dates and info in next month's newsletter.

Until next time,  
 Bill McGrath

## Upcoming Events....

We are trying out some new things this month. We hope we get a good turnout. On Mondays, we'll be trying our hands at Wii bowling. It's good exercise and lots of fun. Men will also have their day to shoot pool on Tuesdays so come on out. The MAUX will be providing breakfast on Wednesdays from 7-9am for a small fee. This will also be open to the public, so invite all your friends and neighbors and meet us there.

Ladies, we're giving you a special day. Thursdays will

be Ladies Day with drinks at \$.75/off. Just one more reason to come on out. Also we'll be adding Bingo for a couple of Friday nights - we'll see how it goes.

Come out and enjoy the fun and also feel free to come and help us out with any of the events coming up.



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## A Message From ..... Canteen Manager - Kitty Dye

Well, what can I say. IT'S HOT, REALLY HOT!! However, it is cool in the canteen, the beer is cold and the drinks are still cheap.

August looks like a pretty full month with lots of special events. Come in and enjoy the Wednesday morning breakfasts, Sunday poker and extra bingo on a couple of Fridays.

Let's hope that it cools off a little next month.

Till then, keep smiling and make people wonder what you think is so funny!

Kitty Dye, Canteen Manager





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**Important Dates To Remember**

- 5th - 6-8pm-Taco Night \$1/tacos & draft
- 6th - 7-11pm - Band for entertainment
- 8th - 5pm-Entertainment Committee Meeting
- 9th - 5pm-House Committee Meeting
- 12th - 5pm-Fish Fry with Riptide
- 13th - Karaoke after Bingo
- 15th - 6pm-Men's Auxiliary Meeting
- 16th - 6pm-Gen. & LAVFW Membership meetings
- 19th - 6pm-Bingo
- 20th - 7pm-till? - Band for entertainment
- 26th - 6pm-Bingo
- 27th - Open House
- Mondays - 5-8pm - Wii Bowling
- Tuesdays - 1pm-Men's Pool
- Wednesdays - 7-9am - Breakfast
- Thursdays - Ladies Day - \$.75/off all drinks



**mike frimet**

**850.233.6070  
fx 850.233.6030**

**18100  
panama city beach pkwy.  
panama city beach,  
florida • 32413  
mv.48144**