

# Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10555 and American Legion Post 402 Newsletter



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

**Six organizations  
working together to  
help veterans.**

Emerald Coast American  
Legion Post 402  
17680 Ashley Drive  
Panama City Beach, FL 32413  
(850) 249-3025

## The Perception of the Post Manager

This is the last newsletter for 2016 – the year has really flown by! Take a look at the December calendar, we have several events scheduled, Big Al will be starting his Wednesday visits on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 2PM. Darts are starting up, come out and try your skill. We are having the Post Toys for Cops Christmas Party on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, bring an unwrapped gift or \$5.00 to get in the door. Robin Ray will play from 5:00 – 8:00PM. Cards are still held on Thursday nights starting at 6:PM, be on time. The Post will be open Christmas Day from 1:00-6:00PM. We will be having a pot luck dinner starting at 4:00PM. Be on the lookout for a signup sheet in the canteen. Sign up to bring your favorite dish or dessert. The Post will be open until midnight on New Year's Eve. There will be appetizers provided by the Post, and those attending are encouraged to bring a dish to share. There is no charge to attend.

MERRY CHRISTMAS to all! Jack

## VFW Post 10555 News: Ken Waringa, Commander

This year sure has flown by. We were approached by Channel 7 News about a project the Library of Congress is conducting. They are collecting veteran's stories and archiving them. If you have a family member that wants to hear your story they can access it at the web site. Channel 7 has offered to record the veteran's stories and submit them to the Library of Congress. The web site is <https://www.loc.gov/vets/>. There are very specific guidelines about what has to be recorded in the interview, and it should last at least 30 minutes. This is a chance to share your experiences and save them for future generations. If you are interested let me know and I'll contact our person at channel 7 to set up the interviews.

If you are an annual member you still have time to renew and qualify for our Life Membership drawing. Any annual member that renews before December 31<sup>st</sup> will be entered in the drawing. We will draw the winner at our January meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday. If you know a member that is in a nursing home, or having issues that paying the dues will be a hardship please let us know. We have funds to cover situations like this to keep these members active.

**We NEED bingo callers from any organization to help us at the post. If you are willing to donate a bit of your time to call bingo please let me know.**

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

# **PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO REMEMBER ALL THOSE SERVICE MEMBERS THAT ARE DEPLOYED.**

## **VFW Auxiliary: Kitty Dye, President**

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. I hear the one at the Post was really good. December started off with a bang. The annual Christmas Party and Toys for Cops went very well. I can only estimated the amount of toys that were donated but it looked like between \$400.00 and \$500.00. We filled the back of the police truck. We have more to do for this program as we have a Christmas basket to be given away 12/9, and we are still receiving toys. Everyone seemed to have a good time. Music was provided by Robin Ray and the Auxiliary prepared the food.

If you have not renewed your dues or wish to get a life membership, please do so ASAP. Life membership goes up in January.

At an emergency meeting we approved \$200.00 for shoes for children in need. These will be purchased at Show Carnival as they are having a 30% off sale on all shoes 12/9-12/12. Hutchison Beach Elementary has turned in 9 names to get shoes.

Our next meeting is 12/20, hope to see all of you there.

**Kitty Dye, President**

## **American Legion Update: Post 402 Commander Jim Bowers**

Hello Fellow Legionnaires. We've had a busy year this year with all of our Legion Family up and running! Our membership stands at 104%, thanks to all of you for getting us there. We still have members who haven't renewed, let's up the numbers! Our events this month include the Post Toys for Cops Christmas Party on the 3<sup>rd</sup> (bring an unwrapped gift or \$5.00 to get in the door); the Legion, Sons, and Riders meetings on the 5<sup>th</sup>; the Ladies Auxiliary meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup>; Legion Bingo on the 10<sup>th</sup>; the Anchorage Children's Home Poker Run also on the 10<sup>th</sup>; the Riders are involved in a Toys for Tots run coming by the Post on the 11<sup>th</sup>; Sons Dinner and Bingo on the 16<sup>th</sup>; Riders Food and Bingo on the 23<sup>rd</sup>; the Ladies Auxiliary Bingo on the 24<sup>th</sup>; and Legion Dinner and Bingo on the 30<sup>th</sup>. The Post will be open from 1:00-6:00PM on Christmas Day with a pot luck dinner starting at 4:00PM. Look for a signup sheet in the canteen. The Post will be open until midnight on New Year's Eve. The VFW will provide appetizers. There is no charge, but I'm hoping you'll bring a dish to share and ring in the New Year. I hope all members of the Legion Family have a MERRY CHRISTMAS and Happy New Year!

**Remember: Keep our Veterans in our Hearts, Thank You and God Bless America!**

**Jim Bowers, American Legion Post Commander**



### **American Legion Riders, Director Jeff Dralle**

Hello fellow Legion Riders #402,

It has been an outstanding year for our Riders from our Rides and Support of our Legion families. We were able to help a lot by our Rider events and fallen and downed Brother and Sisters through the continuing help and camaraderie of the Riders. Our Bike Nites and volunteering at Harley to our Dinners and Breakfast for rides. We have raised a lot of help for the Children and youth activities to riding toy runs to help the less fortunate. This month of December we have the Cops for Kids run Dec. 11th and Anchorage Children's home ride December 10th to help to great organizations to succeed in all they do. We have the ALR Summit coming up in Cocoa Beach for training for offices in the Rider organization January 19-22. All welcome to attend. So until next year have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Remember keep the rubber side down and the sunny side up as always God Bless America.

**Asst. Director Jim Bowers**

### **Sons of American Legion Post 402, Commander Greg Trammell**

Holiday Greetings to you all. Hope you had a great Thanksgiving full of wonderful food, family and friends as I did. The Christmas season is now upon us. More food, family, and friends. We need to be reminded to treasure every moment because time is a gift, not guaranteed. Enjoy these times. During the holiday season we need to remember and pray for the ones serving, the veterans who have served, and their families for the sacrifices they are making and have made for our country. I appreciate you and honor you all. Let us never forget the real reason for the Christmas season. The birth of Jesus Christ our Savior and the sacrifice He made for us all. May he keep us all safe during the holiday season.

May God bless and keep us safe

Commander

The Sons of the American Legion

Greg Trammell

### **American Legion Post 402 Auxiliary, President Linda Bowers**


The American Legion Auxiliary has been very busy before and after receiving our Charter in June. We have our upcoming Inaugural Patriot Run/Walk on October 8th. We have many sponsors and are looking forward to making this an annual event to help our Soldiers, Veterans and Community. Several of us have attended workshops and District meetings where we have learned a great deal of information about our organization and all the various ways that we can make a difference for Veterans. We hope to host one at our Post in the future to us help learn more as well as promote our wonderful Post Family.

We are excited about Bike Week coming up and to continuing helping out with Bike Nights and reaching out to our Community and other Posts and Units.

For God and Country,

Linda Bowers,

President, Unit 402

DECEMBER 2016						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	R.E.D. FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>WINTER HOURS:</b> Sun. 1-6 PM Mon. 12-9 PM Tues. 12-9 PM Wed. 12-9 PM Thur. 12-9 PM Fri. 12-9 PM Sat. 12-9 PM	<a href="#">Sign up for this calendar by email at vfw10555@knology.net</a>	<b>WHERE TO FIND US</b> 17680 Ashley Dr Panama City Beach, FL 32413 (850) 249-3025	<b>LIKE US ON FACEBOOK</b> 	<b>1</b> Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM	<b>2</b> VFW Food 5:30 - 6:30 Bingo 6 - 8	<b>3</b> VFW Bingo 1 PM Post Christmas Party Toys for Cops 5:00 Robin Ray 5-8
<b>4</b> Happy Hour All Day Hall Rental	<b>5</b> VOL Mtg 3 PM Legion Mtg 6 PM Legion Riders Mtg 6 PM	<b>6</b> Men's Pool 1-5 PM	<b>7</b> Pearl Harbor Ceremony 4 Big AI 2:00 Legion Aux Mtg 6:00	<b>8</b> Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM Darts 6 PM	<b>9</b> AUX Officer Mtg. 2 PM AUX Fish Fry \$9.00 5:30 - 6:30 PM Karaoke 6 - 9 PM	<b>10</b> Legion Bingo 1 PM Anchorage Ride 10:00
<b>11</b> Happy Hour Pool Tournament 1:30 Toys for Tots Run 2:00	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Men's Pool 1-5 PM Entertainment Com. Mtg. 4:30 PM Officer Mtg. 5 PM House Committee Mtg. 5:30 PM	<b>14</b> Happy Hour All Day Big AI 2:00	<b>15</b> Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM Darts 6 PM	<b>16</b> SAL Food 5:30 - 6:30 Bingo 6 - 8	<b>17</b> Hall Rental No Bingo
<b>18</b> Happy Hour All Day	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Men's Pool 1-5 PM Gen. Membership & AUX Mtg. 6 PM	<b>21</b> Happy Hour All Day Big AI 2:00	<b>22</b> Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM Darts 6 PM	<b>23</b> Riders Food 5:30 - 6:30 Bingo 6 - 8	<b>24</b> Legion AUX Bingo 1 PM
<b>25</b> Christmas Post open 1 - 6 Pot Luck 4:00	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Men's Pool 1-5 PM	<b>28</b> Happy Hour All Day Big AI 2:00	<b>29</b> Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM Darts 6 PM	<b>30</b> Legion Food 5:30 - 6:30 Bingo 6 - 8	<b>31</b> New Year's Eve Post open until Midnight

Ernie Pyle once wrote:

Remember the American Combat Infantryman, the wind, rain and mud boys. The guys NO WAR can be won without!

WHEN FREEDOM IS GONE – NOT MUCH ELSE WILL MATTER...

I know why men who have been to war yearn to reunite. Not to tell stories or look at old pictures. Not to laugh or weep. Comrades gather because they long to be with men who once acted at their best, Men who suffered and sacrificed, who were stripped of their humanity. I did not pick these men. They were delivered by fate and the military. But I know them in a way I know no other men. I have never given anyone such trust. They were willing to guard something more precious than my life.

(Author Unknown)