



Emerald Coast VFW Post 10555 GREAT AMERICAN POST JOURNAL

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COMMANDER'S CALL



**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

Post Activities

- MONDAYS- Darts!
- TUESDAYS-Billiards! Ms. Cues!
- SATURDAYS- Bingo!
- WEDNES DAYS- Big AI! Hot Dogs! Meat Raffle!
- THURSDAYS – Cards! Happy Hour!
- FRIDAYS – Food (See List)!
- SUNDAYS – Jam Sessions!
- 4 JAN – Wine/Cheese Tasting, Silent Auction: T Wayne Fundraiser
- 4 JAN Wings Then VFW Bingo
- 7 JAN – Entertainment Committee/Post Cadre Meeting
- 8 JAN – House Committee
- 11 JAN – VOL Country Night Subs/Sandwiches Then Music
- 13 JAN – VFWLA Fish Sandwiches
- 14 JAN – VFWMA Meeting
- 15 JAN – VFW/VFWLA Meeting
- 18 JAN – Fish Fry Then Music
- 21 JAN MLK, Jr. Day
- 25 JAN Build-A-Burger, Then Bingo
- 26 JAN – VFW District 17 Meeting Marianna Post 12046 then Scottish Night w/ Heavy Hors D'Ouerves
- 27 JAN – Anniversary of Signing of Vietnam Peace Accords

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and are looking forward to a prosperous New Year.

I would like to thank all of you that made this past visit to Lake City a huge success. We had a huge outpouring of goods and money this time unlike any other visit. We will start collecting again in the near future. Another home we need to pay attention to is Sims nursing home (Editor's Note: Clifford Chester Sims State Veterans Nursing Home in Springfield). It is a local home that houses some of our members as well as other Veterans. We have been remiss for way too long. Our Chaplain and Tom Randall are coordinating with them to get something done in the very near future.

Comrades the push is on again for membership. As of the end of the year, we still have many of our continuous members who have not renewed. Those folks will not be entitled to enjoy our Post until they renew. We are at 90% and should be much further along. If you know someone that is eligible, invite them in, show them around and see if you can get them to join. There is a big push by State to maintain those which we already have on the rolls. As always active duty personnel get one year free.

I am still looking for E-mail addresses to send out newsletters and calendars. If you have an e-mail address please forward it to the Post at post10555@knology.net. The email is only used for Post purposes I am trying to build an active data base of our members. Your information will not go beyond Post and we do not send junk mail.

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

DON BUCHANAN, Post Commander bdon520@knology.net

P.S. We have a Facebook group named "Emerald Coast VFW Post/AUX 10555". Look for me or for "Thomas Randall" on Facebook and we will add you to that group where we post events and pass the word between ourselves for any urgent issues. It is not a public group.

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Quartermaster Corner: Ken Waringa (kcwaringa@yahoo.com)

Greetings and Happy New Year. We have just completed switching over to new accounting software that should save us a few thousand dollars each year. I've been working with the VFW State inspector to get everything set up correctly and I think now we are on the right path. We're still looking for members to renew their memberships. I'm going to start cutting off the key cards of the people that have not renewed their membership. Remember, you must be a member or guest of a member to use our post. If your membership is out of date and you come to the post you may be denied service, so get your renewals in now. VFW members can just make a check to VFW Post 10555 and leave it with the bartender. Our membership is one of the lowest in the country, only \$23.00 a year so renew now. We have a lot planned at the post in January so come out and support your post.

A special thanks to Tom Randall (Thomas_Randall@mediacombb.net) for taking over the newsletter and Rob Smith for taking over our official web site <http://vfwpost10555.com/>. See you around the Post.

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

The month of December was a very busy month for the Ladies Auxiliary. We did a Fish Fry with excellent turnout, a jam session with the Post, and Toys For Tots. We took in a lot of great toys and \$191.00 in cash donations. We had a carryover from last year of \$95.00. Pat Morris was our representative at the Lake City visit, which I understand was very rewarding. We initiated two sisters into the Auxiliary, one new and one who has been a member and never initiated. Commander Don and I met at Surfside Middle School to present the Patriots Pen Awards and at Arnold High School to present the Voice of Democracy and Teacher of the Year Awards. Our prayers go out to our sister, Carol MacDonald. She had had surgery and her husband passed away. Here's hoping the Christmas brought each of you peace and you have a new year that brings you happiness and prosperity.

Kitty Dye, President

House Committee Chairman News: Rob Lopez

Greetings from the House Committee! Happy New Year to you and yours! 2012 was a challenging year for the post and we need to renew our efforts in supporting the post by coming out and supporting events but more importantly to participate! 2013 will be an exciting year and we all need to re-double our efforts to gain new members! Any suggestion you have please use the suggestion box in the canteen and we as your committee will address your concerns. Do the right thing and sign/date your suggestions! Again I want to thank you all for your support of the House Committee and I look forward to working with you!

Senior Vice Commander Says: Tracey Lopez (traceyt35@msn.com)

Hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas!!! December was a very busy, yet heartwarming month – the Ladies Aux had their Toys for Tots event and some of us got to go brighten the patients' lives with our semi-annual trip to the Lake City Domiciliary and VA Hospital. This year, we'd like to start getting donations earlier for the Lake City trip, so if you have any stuffed animals, lap blankets or toiletries you'd like to donate, please get with me or Wally Stacy – if you're at the store and can pick up a pack of socks or a tube of toothpaste – everything is helpful and much appreciated! The January calendar is so full, I had a hard time fitting everything in and keep it to one page. We've got so many events being put on by the post, MAUX, LAUX and Volunteers, so please come out and support these events. I wish everyone a very Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you around the post!!!

A Message from Post Manager: Billie Jones (post10555@knology.net)

Happy New Year everyone, it doesn't seem possible that another year has come and gone. December was a great month for the Post and many good times were had by everyone who took the time to be a part of the "10555". Our "Northern Friends" are back in full force and are contributing to the success of our Post.

January's calendar is loaded with many opportunities for you to have fun and fellowship with your friends and Post family. January will see the return of the very popular "meat raffles". Just to name a few more; the Sunday night Jam Session, Darts, Pool, "Big Al" on Wednesday afternoons, Bingo, Fish Fry, "Build-A-Burger, and The Burns Dinner, plus many more. Come on out and have fun, fellowship, and support your VFW. The entertainment at your Post is some of the best on the beach.

Take a few minutes to remember our members who we lost this past year, they will be missed. Remember that our bartenders are volunteers and please treat them with courtesy and respect. I look forward to 2013 with great anticipation and hope it will be the best year ever for each and everyone of you and Post 10555.

Newsletter Editor: Tom Randall (Thomas_Randall@mediacombb.net)

I am new to the post, not new to the VFW. Likewise, this is not my first newsletter. I hope to assist the post and our auxiliaries to grow and thrive as units of the very best veterans' service organization, our Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Please let me know what information you would like to see added to the newsletter and I will ask our cadre if we can put it in here. Speaking of improving the post, I am going to add my two cents as a former district commander to what our Commander has said about Membership. If you are a skeptical comrade that believes themselves to be out of touch with the post, call me and I'll give you my pitch about how each and every one of us matters. You are missed. Each and every one of us has a busy life but we have to remember we are a veterans service organization and we must not leave any comrade or sister behind. If you haven't been to the post lately because you or the ones you love have been ill or, God forbid, have died, please let the Chaplain or Service Officer or the Cadre know so we comrades and sisters may reach out and help if needed. When we joined the VFW or VFWLA, all of us had a reason to join or a comrade who asked us to join. We confirmed our belief in our brothers-and-sisters-in-arms and pledged our loyalty to each other, our post/auxiliary and to this great republic. Please revisit your reason and in this new year consider returning to the post and help it continue its good works and join us for social activities. We'll be glad to see you! Aloha, T.R.



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