



# Emerald Coast VFW Post 10555 ALL-AMERICAN POST JOURNAL

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July 2013

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)

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

## JULY CANTEN ACTIVITIES

TUESDAYS: Billiards!

WEDNESDAYS: Happy Hour All Day: BRING A FRIEND FROM 3-6PM

THURSDAYS: Cards! Ms. Cues!

FRIDAYS: Food! Music or Bingo!

SATURDAYS: Bingo!

SUNDAYS: Post Open 2PM:  
Evening Jam Sessions **CANX**

**INDEPENDENCE DAY THURS 4<sup>TH</sup>:**

VFW/LAUX Picnic 3-5; PATRIOTIC RALLY; Suede Nash Music 3-6

SAT 6<sup>TH</sup> MAUX Breakfast 8-11AM

MON 8<sup>TH</sup> American Legion Post 402 MTG

TUES 9<sup>TH</sup> MEETINGS!

Entertainment Committee 4PM;  
Post Officers 5PM; House Committee Follows

FRI 12<sup>TH</sup> LAUX Fish Fry 5:30PM  
Music by Jade & Jewel 6-9PM

MON 15<sup>TH</sup> - MAUX Meeting 6PM

TUES 16<sup>TH</sup> - 6 PM General Membership MTG; VFW/LAUX Meetings follow

FRI 19<sup>TH</sup> VFW Build-a-Burger 5:30 PM

**LAKE CITY VA DOMICILIARY TRIP 12-14 JULY. PLEASE CONTINUE TO DONATE YOUR PERSONAL ITEMS FOR THOSE VETERANS AND CONSIDER DONATING JUST A LITTLE MORE \$\$ TO THE EFFORT. TIMES ARE HARD, YES INDEED BUT THESE VETERANS NEED OUR HELP AND SUPPORT.**

**THERE BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD GO YOU AND I, COMRADE!**



## VFW Post 10555 News: Ken Waringa, Commander ([kcwaringa@yahoo.com](mailto:kcwaringa@yahoo.com))

As I write this month's newsletter article, I'm sitting in a hotel room in Seal Beach, CA, having missed my first meeting as Commander. We recently attended the Department of Florida State Convention. Our National Commander, John Hamilton, attended the conference. He is going to bring before the National Convention to raise the National dues by \$10.00. Our Post's VFW dues are currently \$23.00 a year. Of that \$23.00, \$19.50 goes to National and \$3.50 remains at our post. If the raise is approved at the National Convention, we will have to pay \$29.50 to national when an annual member renews or we get a new member. Obviously we'll need to raise our annual dues, probably to at least \$35.00, but this will need to be approved by the membership before it goes into effect. The raise in national dues will probably be effective 1 January 2014. If you are considering a life membership I highly recommend you purchase it as soon as possible. I believe the price of a life membership is tied to the National Annual dues, so we expect them to go up as well. On a sad note we have had to discontinue the Sunday jam session due to lack of participation. We just can't continue to pay \$180 for entertainment when the total taken at the canteen for the day is only \$235.00. I hope we can resume the jam sessions this fall.

**See you around the post. KEN WARINGA, Post Commander 10555**

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

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

We just returned from the State Convention in Orlando and I can truthfully say that it was very good. The auxiliary received a Platinum Award for Cancer Aid and Research and First Place in the Legislative Program. I want to thank Jenny Freeman personally for the great bill she wrote. There was a wonderful patriotic rally held at the convention that was very well attended. We liked it so much that we plan on doing something similar for our Fourth of July Picnic. That picnic will be a joint effort with the post. A note on membership, any new member or renewing Annual Member of our Auxiliary who joins or renews between now and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Picnic will be entered in a contest for I remain

**Sincerely Yours, Kitty Dye, President Ladies Auxiliary 10555**

## VFW Men's Auxiliary Update: Bill McGrath, President ([billmcgrath6@yahoo.com](mailto:billmcgrath6@yahoo.com))

The Men's Aux is once again starting regular weekly breakfasts. We had many people ask us to offer the breakfasts on the weekend, so more people could come out and support the effort. The new schedule will be the first Saturday of every month starting July 6th. We've made some changes to the menu too. Now, if you prefer not to eat a full breakfast, you can have a sausage and biscuit for \$1.50. We'll expand on that too, and add egg, cheese, etc. if there is a demand for this short type of breakfast. In addition, I'll try to bake something fresh periodically to enhance the meal. Last week at the bake sale we baked fresh cinnamon buns. Next weekend maybe something new and different, so come out and try our great breakfast.

I'd like to thank the MAUX members who traveled to the SIMS veteran's home last weekend. We certainly appreciate your service. I want to especially thank Robert Heil who provided entertainment for the visit. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed his wonderful presentation.

**Until next time, regards, Bill McGrath, President Men's Auxiliary 10555**





**VFW Post 10555 Quartermaster's Corner, Rob Smith ([baltorob@comcast.net](mailto:baltorob@comcast.net))**

Now that the State Convention is over and the new officers have taken their positions, it's time to get busy with the new Post year. As you all know, our Post made All-State and All-American, and congratulations go out to all those who made that possible. The Save Our Post fundraising effort is going very well and there is a thermometer graphic in the hall that shows the progress we've made so far. Also, we've received many responses to the questionnaire that was sent out and have compiled your requests and suggestions. The officers and other interested persons will be meeting soon to incorporate these suggestions to make our Post better for you. As we move into the summer months, we've decided to discontinue the Sunday jam sessions for the summer as revenue from those events was dwindling. But we have lots of other things planned so watch the calendar and come out and enjoy the Post!

*Until next time, Rob Smith*

**EARLY BIRD LIFE MEMBERSHIP CONTEST**



- Are You an Annual Member of Emerald Coast VFW Post 10555?
- Are You Aware Annual Dues May Increase By \$10/year?
- Renew Your Dues During July and Have Your Name Entered Into a Life Membership Contest!
- Drawing to Be Held at the August General Membership Meeting, So Yes, You Must Be Present To Win! (Bring Your Renewal Receipt Showing Renewal Dated 1-31 July With You.)

*For any questions about Membership including how to upgrade to a Life (or Legacy Life) Membership or how to set up an annual auto renewal, see SVC Tracey Lopez, Quartermaster Rob Smith, or Adjutant/Surgeon Tom Randall.*

**A Message from Canteen Manager: Billie Jones ([vfw10555@knology.net](mailto:vfw10555@knology.net))**

Happy "Summer Time" to all. It is definitely hot and humid in Panama City Beach and no better way to beat the heat than to come by your post and have a cooling beverage. As you may already know, The Emerald Coast Post is now also home to American Legion Post 402. If you have any friends that are American Legion members let them know they are welcome here and tell them to come out and experience our great facility. Highlights from our July calendar include a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Picnic with music by Suede Nash. Come out for a Patriotic Rally and enjoy the afternoon. Picnic from 3-5 and the music from 3-6. You will still have time to make it to your favorite fireworks show. The MAUX will be serving breakfast on Sat. July 6 from 8-11 AM. The LAUX will be having a Fish Fry on Fri.. July 12, chicken will also be available if fish is not your cup of tea. Tickets are needed for this event, so them from the bartenders early so you don't miss out. VFW Build-a-Burger will be on Fri. July 19 from 5:30 to 6:30 PM followed by B-I-N-G-O. Bingo on Saturdays starts at 1PM. On Sat. July 27 Bingo will be followed by music from Robin Ray from 3-6 PM. Be sure to check your calendar for other events which are going on in July. Come out and support your Posts, visit with old friends and make some new ones. **Remember that our bartenders are volunteers and please treat them with courtesy and respect, Billie**

**Post Surgeon for the Hospital Committee ([Thomas\\_Randall@mediacombb.net](mailto:Thomas_Randall@mediacombb.net))**

We are going to visit our brother and sister Veterans at the Lake City Veterans Administration Domiciliary on July 12, 13 and 14. Our Post Service Officer, Wally Stacy, started our fundraising for this event at the May meeting and there is still time to add your own donation. Please designate your check "Lake City VA Trip". It is only with your continued donations of money and donations-in-kind that our Post and Auxiliaries can continue these important visits to comfort and aid these Veterans in need. At the time of the writing of this newsletter, we were on our way to the Clifford Sims State Veterans Home in Springfield for a birthday party for the veterans residing there including our own Ken Algar and Lucius Elwell. These local visits are now scheduled quarterly and are very rewarding. Please contact our Post Chaplain, Larry Striblin or I if you have questions about our planned events or if you can offer a donation or, perhaps, donations-in-kind to offset the expenses of our trip to Sims. **Thank-You Kindly for all you do for Veterans in Need! Tom**



**Legionnaire News From The Office of the Commander: Bill McGrath ([billmcgrath6@yahoo.com](mailto:billmcgrath6@yahoo.com))**

*Greetings! This is the first newsletter input from the Beach's newest Veteran's Service Organization. We want to thank the VFW for allowing American Legion Post 402 to take up residence at their location here on Ashley Drive in Panama City Beach. We look forward to a great relationship with the VFW, and will certainly assist the Post in its extremely important "Save our Post" effort. I'm Bill McGrath the first commander of our post. I'm also president of the Men's Auxiliary at the post. I'll do everything I can to get the new American Legion post going while still supporting our great Men's Auxiliary. We may even try a couple of joint events in the future. Looking forward to working with all of you.*

**Regards, Bill McGrath – Commander Post 402 American Legion..**

**On Point – VFW Senior Vice Commander Tracey Lopez ([traceyt35@msn.com](mailto:traceyt35@msn.com))**

Hope everyone is able to stay cool this summer – one way to do that is to come to the post!!! June was a very busy month and July looks to be shaping up that way as well, so please come out and support our post. Some of us are going on our semi-annual trip to the Lake City Domiciliary and VA Hospital in July and we need donations, 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! If you would just like to donate money, you can drop off cash or a check made out to VFW Post 10555 and put "Lake City" on the For line. We're finishing up the design of our brick board and, hopefully, can start taking orders for the bricks within the next few weeks. We've got so many events being put on by the post, MAUX, and LAUX, so please come out and support these events. I look forward to seeing you around the post!!!

**Thank You For Your Assistance with the July 12-14<sup>th</sup> Lake City Trip, I appreciate it! Tracey**

**Photos from our Visit to the State Convention June 13-16th**

*The First Unofficial Meeting of Incoming Leadership: VFW 10555, American Legion 402, MAUX 10555, & LAUX 10555 as the new Post QM looks on and wonders: "Who's Going To Pay For All That?"*



**PATRIOTIC RALLY!**



*Post Quartermaster Ken Waringa, State Commander Wayne Carrignan, Post Commander Don Buchanan, and National Commander-in-Chief John Hamilton at the Presentation of VFW Post 10555's Second Consecutive All-State Honor Presentation.*



**DON BUCHANAN: WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINE, OUTSTANDING, DEDICATED, ALL-AMERICAN LEADERSHIP OF OUR POST! BZ!**



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## DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THESE VFW BENEFITS? (ALL ARE HOT LINKS)

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- [TRAVEL SERVICES](#) (ASK FOR PAM RUSSELL)
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