



# 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  
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[www.vfwpost10555.com](http://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  
Ray Seale, Junior Vice Commander

Ken Waringa, Adjutant

Ken Waringa, Quartermaster

Meyrle Pepler, Judge Advocate

Tom Welch, Chaplain

Dick Myers, Surgeon

Rob Smith, Trustee 3 yr.

Ken Gregory, Trustee 2yr.

Fred Niederberger, Trustee 1yr.

Dale Kiel, Service Officer

Ray Seale, Membership Chairman

Jim Foreman, House Committee Chairman



## COMMANDER'S CALL



We are trying to get folks involved at the Post. Our entertainment committee has been very busy keeping the calendars full. We now need you to come out and enjoy. We have our monthly Fish Fry, a flag retirement ceremony, Father's Day Lunch and the State convention this month. Of course, we still have our normally scheduled events. Check the calendars for all the events.

The proposed building expansion plan is out for engineers' drawings. This will enable us to get accurate bids on the expansion. We should have more info as the months go by. I would like to have a decision yes or no 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 try to keep the meetings short and on point.

Our 2011-2012 officers are in place. They will take office after the State convention. I expect this to be a very productive year. We will be calling for your help in different endeavors throughout the year. If you can help, please do so when asked. I don't like depending on the same few for everything. Damn it! Get involved, that's all I ask!!! If you have an e-mail address, please forward to Post

at [post10555@knology.net](mailto:post10555@knology.net). I am trying to build an active database of our members. Your info will not go beyond the Post.

Our membership did not hit the mark this past enrollment year. We have some good ideas to help our cause. I am looking for folks to help recruit. This is the last year that National will allow the Post to give free membership to Active Duty military members. So I request all members to do what you can to promote the VFW and our Post. Get Motivated! Thanks.

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

Don



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## Quartermaster Corner — Ken Waringa

Another month gone and you can tell summer is upon us. We signed a maintenance agreement for our heating and air conditioning system. On their first inspection, they found three units not operating properly and have 2 of the 3 working again. You should notice a difference in the temperature around the Post. The House Committee also passed a motion to do away with the Canteen Manager position and hire a Post Manager. We're still working on the new duties, but we will

have one person responsible for the operation, maintenance and management of the Post. Like the Canteen Manager did, this new person will report to the House Committee.

Since Brian takes over in June, this will be my last newsletter. I hope everyone gives Brian the same support you've given me this last year. See you around the Post.

Ken

## Ladies Auxiliary News - Jenny Freeman, President

Every May, we nominate and vote to give a life membership for the VFW National Home for Children to a very deserving member. This year the nomination and membership has been awarded to Jacki Foreman. She has worked very hard for our Auxiliary and the Post. She is my chairwoman for winter Wednesdays meat raffles and bingo on LAUX days. She is someone I trust and completely depend on and am proud to have her as my Senior Vice this upcoming year. Congratulations, Jacki! Remember to have a chance at a life membership, you must attend meetings.

June is going to be a slow month, so it's a great time to enjoy our beautiful beach.

Our monthly chicken and fish fry will be held on June 10th.

On June 22nd, Carol MacDonald and I head down to Daytona Beach for our State of Florida yearly convention.

We have worked very hard as an auxiliary this year and

have earned the status of All State. Our membership is a big part of making this, so when you receive your membership renewal please send it in as soon as possible. Once everyone is renewed, then we work on getting 100% of our reports and programs done for the year. Our entire LAUX District 17 has made All State. We will have a lot to celebrate in Daytona Beach

Being Senior Vice of our District, I've been to a couple of Posts to do audits. I try to bring what makes us such a strong Auxiliary to the ones I see having difficulty. We have such a great team and I want to thank the LAUX for making our Post stronger. It makes me very proud to be a member here.

Hope to see you around the Post,

Jenny Freeman

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

You've probably noticed that we've upgraded the computer at the Post with a high-end desktop with lots of memory, wireless technology and a 23-inch LCD monitor. The big screen is a great addition as now I don't have to squint over the laptop. We've moved the laptop to the office as we store all the Men's Auxiliary records on that PC. The new PC was donated by one of our generous members. Thanks from all of us.

We also recently added a new color printer to the PC. This is an ink jet printer that uses expensive cartridges. Because so much copying was being done on it, I was replacing the cartridges every week. Don't get me wrong; we want you to continue to use the printer. However, we didn't expect so much use as a copier. Therefore, we've purchased a wireless monochrome laser printer/copier capable of 12,000 copies a month. I think this will hold up much better for copying.

We've also received permission from the House Committee to remove the speakers from the floor by the stage and move them to the ceiling. We feel this will give us more space for the entertainers to set up their own equipment.

This June, I'll be off to the VFW State conference again. As you know, I've been very involved in securing District recognition for the Men's Auxiliaries. We've asked the National VFW for a rule change to allow us to set up districts. Our Florida

delegation has actively supported us in this effort and presented the rule change the past two years. Both times the request failed to get the super majority required to pass. This year I'm going to take a different approach. I'm asking the Men's Auxiliary presidents to petition each of their state VFW members to add a state addendum to the rules to allow State recognition (at the district level) of the Men's Auxiliaries. Perhaps if our state agrees to recognize us, other states will do the same. I don't know if the Florida VFW can make such an addendum to the National rules at the state level, but it's certainly worth investigating as acquiring the needed support from other states has been our problem. I believe state recognition would give us the attention needed to show the opposing states that we are not trying to alter their state organization, but are simply seeking to participate within our own state.

Lastly, I will be carrying a check to the state conference to present to Director Lugo of the Ft. McCoy Veterans' Home. The amount raised is \$1800.00. Thanks to all the organizations for helping and especially to the anonymous individuals who generously added to the donation. We are truly grateful.

Until next time,

Bill McGrath

## Activities...

We're having our monthly Fish Fry on the 10th. Tickets are \$9.00 each. Please get them early so we can determine the amount of food needed.

There will be a flag retirement ceremony on the 14th at 3pm.

Father's Day Dinner will be on the 19th for only \$5.00 for ladies as fathers eat FREE!

Our State of Florida convention is being held in Daytona

Beach beginning the 26th.

The Beach Bay Optimist Club will be holding a spaghetti dinner on the 24th. This is a fund-raiser for the BBO, so please come out and support this community and children oriented group.

Bingo w/ hot dogs are every Saturday!!!

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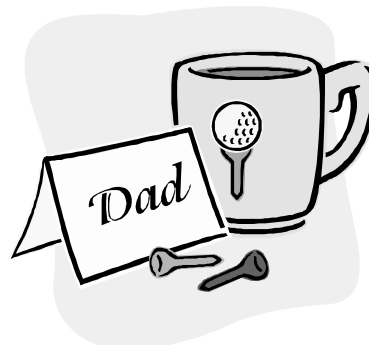
## A Message From ..... Canteen Manager - Kitty Dye

Things are about the same around the Canteen. Happy Hour is Monday through Friday from 2-5 pm and we always have weekly specials.

Remember to tip your bartenders. They work hard for you.

If you have a complaint, please tell me or use the suggestion box. Thanks.

Kitty Dye, Canteen Manager





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**Important Dates To Remember**

- 10th - 5-6:30pm - Fish Fry w/Riptide - \$9.00
- 13th - 5pm - Entertainment Committee Meeting
- 14th - 3pm - Flag Retirement Ceremony
- 5pm - House Committee Meeting
- 19th - 1-2pm - Father's Day Dinner \$5.00 for all but Fathers are FREE!
- 20th - 5pm - Men's Auxiliary Meeting
- 21st - 6pm - General Membership & Ladies Auxiliary Meetings
- 24th - 5-6:30pm - Beach Bay Optimist Spaghetti Dinner Fund-raiser w/entertainment. \$\$ - TBA
- 26th - Florida State VFW Convention-Daytona Bch
- Saturdays - 1pm - Bingo - Hot Dogs!!



**mike frimet**

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