



Emerald Coast VFW Post 10555 ALL-AMERICAN POST JOURNAL

Volume 8, Issue 3

March 2014

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



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

As Spring approaches we will see our Northern Guests start heading home. I hope you all have safe trips home as we look forward to seeing you again in the fall. With our Northern Guests leaving things will start to quiet down at the post. We still have a full calendar for this month so come out and be a part of our post. The Navy Support Activity started a new "Meal and a Movie" program for their single sailors one Sunday a month at the Liberty Locker on base (behind the C-Street Café). All local veterans' service organizations were asked to support this worthy effort; VSOs like us are asked to provide a meal for twenty-five and be ready to provide mentorship and camaraderie for these young men and women in uniform who are not all Navy as you might expect. March 9th is the trial date for the Triple Nickel to provide this support and we plan on doing a spaghetti dinner to be ready by 2:30 PM. The Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries are doing this in April and May, thank you for your support. This is an excellent opportunity to get the word out about our organization to these younger service members while sharing them the wealth of our knowledge and giving them the comfort of knowing that their service and sacrifice is valued by those whom have gone before them. We have a couple events coming up that we'll need help with: The B-I-N-G-O Board has to be hung in the Hall; The roof continues to leak and needs repair urgently; The property needs Spring Cleaning. In April we are going to close the post on a Sunday TBD for an All Hands Field Day. We did this last year and we had a great turn out, so please come out and give us a hand for these events. Watch your E-mail Inbox for announcements of dates. The last thing is at our meeting in March we will be accepting nominations for officers to run your post for 2014/2015. If you want a say in how things are done at your post please come out and volunteer your services to help run our All American VFW Post. **See You Around OUR POST!**

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

Hello Ladies. February, though short, was quite busy month. We had another successful Friday Fish Fry, assisted with Volunteer Appreciation Day, assisted with the Casino Day at the Post and catered a luncheon for the Red Hat Society at the Garden Club. We approved two new members and we are at Medallion Level in membership. This is due in large part to the efforts of our Treasurer and Membership Chairman, Mary Kilzer. So Far, 24 Patriotic Citizen Awards have been handed out in Panama City Beach by our Chaplain, Jane Brewer with assistance of Post 2nd Year Trustee Meyrle Pepler, and we have begun handing out double flag pins as part of the "Waking Up American Pride" program. We have lost two sisters recently, Mia Moody and Ginger Kitner. Sister Ginger was a life time member and Sister Mia joined several years ago. Bear can no longer cook for us at the fish fries and I want to thank him for the hours that he put in helping us. Additional help is needed in the kitchen on fish fry nights so if you can help please let me know. There is a Wine and Cheese tasting on March 8 from 2:30 to 5 or so. There will be music by Hurricane Harold. Donations of wine and cheese are needed. This is a fund raiser for the incoming State Commander. If you have donations please have them at the Post by March 6.

If you need a ride to meetings please call me at 234-8918.

Until next time, keep warm and be safe. Kitty Dye, President





**VFW Men's Auxiliary and American Legion Update: Bill McGrath, President/Commander
(billmcgrath6@yahoo.com)**

Finally some warm weather! I planted tomatoes, so that is a sure indication that we'll have another frost! Oh, well, I took a chance and planted them early, so we have tomatoes twice a year in May and December having planted again in September.

Just a brief word about membership – The Men's Auxiliary has a large group of unpaid annual members. If you are a part of this group, please get your membership renewed as soon as possible. Contact Robert Heil or go online to vfw.org and set up your own online account for membership dues transactions. On paper we have over 100 members yet over one third have not yet renewed

As you well know, we discontinued monthly breakfast last month. That was mostly due to the lack of participation not only of those who came to the hall to eat but also those who did not take the time to come to prepare the meal. We are down to four members who regularly do all the cooking, set up and lean up for our MAUX events. All four are suffering from burn out. We need other MAUX members to step up if only once or twice. This dearth of assistance resulted in the cancellation of MAUX events for March. That is unfortunate not just for us in the MAUX but for the other units of the Post. Our next major event will be serving breakfast Thursday through Saturday during Thunder Beach May 1st to 3rd. I will do the cooking but please call me and let me know that you can help with the serving line or cleaning or whatever it takes to make this a success. The Thunder Beach riders/bikers really enjoyed their breakfast last time, they are looking forward to and probably plan on returning for breakfast again. Let's work together to keep up our MAUX!

For the Legion, we continue to do our Friday BBQ one Friday per month and we will continue as long as there are folks turning out for the Friday Bingo. There have been a couple of Fridays that had more participation than did Saturday Bingos so we're doing something right. The dinner is a bargain at \$5 with a great pork sandwich and homemade side with chips. We may even smoke a couple of chickens next month to add variety. Come Out and Enjoy!

Until next time, come out, enjoy and lend a hand, Regards Bill McGrath

A Message from Canteen Manager: Billie Jones (vfw10555@knology.net)

The eyes of March are upon us and another newsletter to be written!! February is a month that is way too short and filled with many events and March is off to a big bang with a "Booze Cruise" on Saturday the 1st which will start at our post and travel to nearby VFW posts in 1st District for a visit and refreshments. For those members that cannot make the trip we will have Bingo at 1PM. Come out and see our new bingo machine where you should never miss a number as they light up on a big board. March is the last month to come out on Wednesdays and hear Big Al and the group of musicians that play with him for this year. If you have not attending this event yet now is the time to put your dancing shoes on and enjoy the music.

As canteen and post manager I would like to thank everyone that supports the posts and the auxiliaries by volunteering their time or by attending events. I know we all are busy in our lives today and commitments to meet – thank you members for the success we have had this winter and hope it will continue. Come in and play men's pool on Tuesdays or Miss Cues on Thursdays or join the pool tournament on a Sunday which will be posted on the monthly calendar.

Reba, Gail, Esther, Cindy and Jacii are eager to see your smiling faces and serve you. Remember "tips" are appreciated!

Best Regards, Billie



VFW Post 10555 Quartermaster's Corner, Rob Smith (baltorob@comcast.net)

In the past few newsletters, I have been writing about the Post Supporters boards in the back hall and asking you all to consider purchasing a brick to commemorate your own or a loved one's service. Since then, we've been able to put up another six and I currently have three more waiting to be sent to the brick maker. Those will get sent as soon as I receive three more orders, as the brick maker asks that we send them in groups of at least six. And, since the brick maker is at least a 45-minute drive from the post, it saves fuel for us that go pick them up.

In other news, January was a good month for the Post financially in that we were able to post a net profit despite having to purchase a new three phase air conditioning unit for the kitchen. Thanks to everyone that comes out and enjoys the canteen and the events that are held at the Post. We hope our Northern Guests are enjoying their stay here and look forward to them returning next year.

See you at the Post! Rob

NOTES from the Adjutant, Tom Randall (AdjutantVFWPost10555@gmail.com)

- Nominations for post officers open at the next meeting; they remain open until April when we have our elections. Elected officers must submit proof of eligibility (e.g. DD-214) to the Adjutant prior to the May installation of officers. Officers relieve last years officers after the department/State Convention in June, this year it is in Jacksonville. See Section 216 and 217 of the 2014 National Bylaws, page 69.
- Elected officers include Commander, Senior Vice-Commander; Junior Vice-Commander; Quartermaster; Chaplain and Trustees. Their duties are found in Section 218 on page 70 of the 2014 National Bylaws that have been amended to delete Judge Advocate and Surgeon from the ranks of elected officers. Here are some unwritten traditions that the majority of posts honor:
 - Senior Vice Commanders are second in command, but they also usually chair the Membership Committee.
 - Junior Vice Commanders are third in command, they often serve as chair of the Program Committee or the House Committee.
 - Quartermasters often serve as Adjutant-Quartermasters in smaller posts, they often serve as chair of the Budget and Finance Committee. In larger posts with canteens such as ours, the Quartermasters duties are so large as to preclude any additional duties.
 - Trustees often serve on Budget and Finance Committees since, after all, they and they alone are Comrades entrusted with full accountability for funds expended.
 - Chaplains serve as a type of resource officer, that is to say we count on them to invoke a divine blessing at our meetings and ceremonies but often they also serve as a co-chairman of a Hospital Committee with the Surgeon, now appointed, and they are charged with keeping up with comrades in distress or in hospital.
- Appointed officers include Adjutant, Judge Advocate, Officer of the Day, Post Service Officer and Surgeon
 - Adjutants prepare all correspondence and maintain all records for the post including records of incorporation and copies of all orders and correspondence received.
 - Judge Advocates serve as Parliamentarians, they keep the post straight with regard to ensuring the post follow the rules of order found in Demeter's Manual of Parliamentary Law and Procedure and that any disputes in the post are handled fairly and equitably in accordance with the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure Ritual.
 - Officers of the Day (Officer of the Deck?) typically act as gatekeepers, that is to say they ensure members in attendance are members in good standing (i.e. card carrying members with dues paid) and often act as ushers escorting guests or new members to the meeting hall.
 - Post Service Officers advise and "assist members of the post, their widows or orphans and other worthy cases brought to their attention in obtaining rightful entitlements from federal and state governments." There is a separate manual for PSOs that explains how to get the job done IAW VFW policy.
- ***NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS IN PCB THAN THE EMERALD COAST VFW!***

**PRESIDENT OBAMA TO AWARD MEDAL OF HONOR TO 24 ARMY VETERANS American Forces Press Service**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21, 2014 – President Barack Obama will award 24 Army veterans the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry during a White House ceremony March 18. These veterans will receive the Medal of Honor in recognition of their valor during major combat operations in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War, according to a White House news release. Each of these soldiers' bravery was previously recognized by award of the Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second highest military award. That award will be upgraded to the Medal of Honor in recognition of their gallantry, intrepidity and heroism above and beyond the call of duty.

In 2002, Congress, through the Defense Authorization Act, called for a review of Jewish American and Hispanic American veteran war records from World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War, to ensure those deserving the Medal of Honor were not denied because of prejudice, according to the release. During the review, records of several soldiers of neither Jewish nor Hispanic descent were also found to display criteria worthy of the Medal of Honor. The 2002 Act was amended to allow these soldiers to be honored with the upgrade -- in addition to the Jewish and Hispanic American soldiers. The President will award the Medal of Honor to:

- Spc. 4 Santiago J. Erevia will receive the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions while serving as radio telephone operator in Company C, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) during search and clear mission near Tam Ky, Republic of Vietnam.
- Staff Sgt. Melvin Morris will receive the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions while serving as commander of a strike force drawn from Company D, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, during combat operations against an armed enemy in the vicinity of Chi Lang, Republic of Vietnam, on September 17, 1969.
- Sgt. First Class Jose Rodela will receive the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions while serving as the company commander, Detachment B-36, Company A, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces during combat operations against an armed enemy in Phuoc Long Province, Republic of Vietnam, on September 1, 1969.

The President will posthumously award the Medal of Honor to the following individuals who distinguished themselves by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving during the Vietnam War:

- Sgt. Candelario Garcia will receive the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions while serving as an acting team leader for Company B, 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division during combat operations against an armed enemy in Lai Khe, Republic of Vietnam, on December 8, 1968.
- Spc. 4 Leonard L. Alvarado will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously for his courageous actions while serving as a rifleman with Company D, 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) during combat operations against an armed enemy in Phuoc Long Province, Republic of Vietnam, on August 12, 1969.
- Staff Sgt. Felix M. Conde-Falcon will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously for his courageous actions while serving as an acting Platoon Leader in Company D, 1st Battalion, 505th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division during combat operations against an armed enemy in Ap Tan Hoa, Republic of Vietnam, on April 4, 1969.
- Spc. 4 Ardie R. Copas will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously for his courageous actions while serving as a Machinegunner in Company C, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division during combat operations against an armed enemy near Ph Romeas Hek, Cambodia, on May 12, 1970.
- Spc. 4 Jesus S. Duran will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously for his courageous actions while serving as an acting M-60 machine gunner in Company E, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) during combat operations against an armed enemy in the Republic of Vietnam on April 10, 1969.

The following individuals distinguished themselves by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving during the Korean War:

- Cpl. Joe R. Baldonado will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously for his courageous actions while serving as an acting machine gunner in 3rd Squad, 2nd Platoon, Company B, 187th Airborne Infantry Regiment during combat operations against an armed enemy in Kangdong, Korea, on November 25, 1950.
- Cpl. Victor H. Espinoza will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously for his courageous actions while serving as an Acting Rifleman in Company A, 23d Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division during combat operations against an armed enemy in Chorwon, Korea, on August 1, 1952.
- Sgt. Eduardo C. Gomez will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously for his courageous actions while serving with Company I, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division during combat operations against an armed enemy in Tabu-dong, Korea, on September 3, 1950.
- Pfc. Leonard M. Kravitz will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously for his courageous actions while serving as an assistant machine gunner with Company M, 5th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division during combat operations against an armed enemy in Yangpyong, Korea, on March 6 and 7, 1951.
- Master Sgt. Juan E. Negron will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously for his courageous actions while serving as a member of Company L, 65th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division during combat operations against an armed enemy in Kalma-Eri, Korea, on April 28, 1951.
- Master Sgt. Mike C. Pena will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously for his courageous actions while serving as a member of Company F, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division during combat operations against an armed enemy in Waegwan, Korea, on September 4, 1950.
- Pvt. Demensio Rivera will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously for his courageous actions while serving as an automatic rifleman with 2nd Platoon, Company G, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division during combat operations against an armed enemy in Changyong-ni, Korea, on May 23, 1951.
- Pvt. Miguel A. Vera will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously for his courageous actions while serving as an automatic rifleman with Company F, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division in Chorwon, Korea, on September 21, 1952.
- Sgt. Jack Weinstein will receive the Medal of Honor posthumously for his courageous actions while leading 1st Platoon, Company G, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division in Kumsong, Korea, on October 19, 1951.



MARCH						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK 	Sign up for this calendar by email at vfw10555@knology.net		WHERE TO FIND US 17680 Ashley Dr Panama City Beach, FL 32413 (850) 249-3025			1 Booze Cruise 9 AM (Post open 8-9 AM) \$25 Vol Bingo 1 PM
2	3 Darts 1-3 PM Volunteer Mtg. 3 PM Legion Officer Mtg. 5:30 PM Legion Mtg. 6 PM	4 Men's Pool 1-5 PM FOOLS 5 PM	5 Big AI 2-5 PM Legion Meat Raffle 2 PM	6 Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM Darts 6:30 PM	7 VFW Wings \$5.00 5:30 - 6:30 PM VFW Bingo 6 - 8 PM	8 MAUX Bingo 1 PM Wine & Cheese Event \$6.00 2:30 - 4:30 PM Hurricane Harold 3 - 5 PM
9 Bunco 2 PM VFW NSA Liberty Locker Dinner 2:30 PM	10 Darts 1-3 PM	11 Men's Pool 1-5 PM Entertainment Com. Mtg. 4:30 PM Officer Mtg. 5 PM House Committee Mtg. 5:30 PM	12 Big AI 2-5 PM LAUX Meat Raffle 2 PM	13 Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM Darts 6:30 PM	14 LAUX Officer Mtg. 2 PM LAUX Fish Fry \$9.00 5:30-6:30 PM Jade N Jewel 6-9 PM	15 Legion Bingo 1 PM
16 Pool Tournament 1 PM	17 St. Paddy's Day MAUX Mtg. 3 PM VOLS Irish Dinner \$10.00 5 - 6 PM Brian Cairns 6-9 PM	18 Men's Pool 1-5 PM Gen. Membership & LAUX Mtg. 6 PM	19 Big AI 2-5 PM VOLS Meat Raffle 2 PM	20 Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM Darts 6:30 PM	21 Legion Bar-b-que \$5.00 5:30 - 6:30 PM Legion Bingo 6-8 PM	22 Laux Bingo 1 PM
23 Bunco 2 PM	24 Darts 1-3 PM	25 Men's Pool 1-5 PM	26	27 Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM Darts 6:30 PM	28 VFW Build-a-burger w/fries \$5.00 5:30 - 6:30 PM VFW Bingo 6-8 PM	29 VFW Bingo 1 PM Optimist Dinner \$6.00 5:30-6:30PM Jade N Jewel
30	31					

EDITOR'S NOTE: This Calendar of Post/AUX/Legion events is painstakingly developed at the House Committee Meeting every second Tuesday of the month. EVERY member of our units in good standing is welcome to attend that or any other committee meeting and EVERY member of our units in good standing is welcome to reserve the hall (Fees are charged for private parties, that is to say any event not open to all). For instance, last month Post Chaplain Larry Striblin's birthday party (with a 50's and 60's Rock-n-Roll theme, BTW, a welcome change of music style) was held in the hall and was a big success. Sister Mary Striblin took full advantage of a cancelled event and decorated the Hall and when the event was over got the Hall cleaned up and ready for the next event. If you need to rent the hall, contact the House Committee prior to its monthly meeting or as soon as you know what date you need the hall.

It's About Time For THE Semi-Annual VFW Post 10555 YARD SALE, scheduled for 3 May 2014.

Let's get the word out for contributions!! This is a great fundraiser for the post, it also gets you into the Spring Cleaning mode, and we know you have "STUFF" you want to donate! For Information Contact Anna Miner



SALTY SUE'S SEAFOOD, OYSTERS, STEAK & BBQ RESTAURANT
1790 PANAMA CITY BEACH PKY., PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL 32408 P.O. BOX 234488
OPEN 11 AM TUE. TO SUN AND WE WILL BE OPEN 7 DAY STARTING MARCH 1ST.

itb
intothebluepcb.com
Tony Banks
c: (850) 890-2377
o: (850) 588-7376
tony@intothebluepcb.com
4032 Thomas Drive, Suite C
Panama City Beach, FL 32408

Hours of operation:

Tuesday- Thursday: 11am- 8pm
Friday- Saturday: 11am- 9pm

Closed on Sundays and Mondays

We Cater Too!

Early Dinner * Dinner * Po-Boys
Sandwiches * Daily Lunch Specials
Seafood * Oysters

\$.50 for To Go Orders

10% DISCOUNT WITH MILITARY ID

Come on down and join us at Bayou on the Beach!

For more information, Please feel free to give us a call: 850-249-3478



MAD HATTER MUFFLER & AUTO CENTER
Fritz Garrett
234-5253
506 Thomas Drive PCB, FL 32408
MV 38083

VETERAN SHUTTLE, LLC
\$30 to ECP Airport from Panama City Beach up to 4 People...No Hidden Fees!
850-424-8904
Airport, Condo's, Night Clubs, Restaurants, Weddings & More!
www.VeteranShuttle.us
VeteranShuttle@gmail.com

Jeannie's
ONE STOP DINER
14664 Front Beach Road
Panama City Beach, FL
850-230-4342

Low Price Auto, Inc.
(850) 769-7988 or (850) 832-5000 Cell
Proudly Serving Bay County Since 1988
Easy In House Financing on MOST VEHICLES
Low Price Auto, Inc. located in Panama City, FL is a locally owned and operated buy here pay here car lot. We have been financing vehicles to good folks in Bay County for well over 33 years. We strive to treat our customers with courtesy and respect from the initial sale to handling any late fees when the vehicle is paid for. By handling your auto loan in house we are able to overcome any past credit issue that has prevented you from obtaining the car, truck, or SUV you desire. If you have a steady job, the proper down payment and have been in the area for over a year... You are qualified. Give us a chance to earn your business, you will be glad you did!
Hours of Operation:
MONDAY-FRIDAY: 9 AM-5:30 PM
SATURDAY: 10 AM-2 PM
SUNDAY: CLOSURE BY APPOINTMENT
Email: info@lowpriceauto.com
2805 W. 15th Street, Panama City, FL 32401

Lincoln
Bay
Lincoln-Hyundai-Mitsubishi-Ford
Dodge-Chrysler-Jeep
THOMAS A. SPENCER
Sales Representative
641 W. 15th Street
Panama City, FL 32401
800-553-0892
(850) 785-1591
Fax: (850) 215-7726
Cell: (850) 624-4230

SeaBreeze Winery
THIS IS REAL LOCAL WINE.
FREE TASTINGS EVERYDAY.
SeaBreeze Winery
920

THESE ADS ARE PUBLISHED IN CONSIDERATION OF A \$150 DONATION TO THE POST AND WILL RUN JAN-JAN... 2014 DONATIONS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED AT THIS TIME. CONTACT THOMAS RANDALL, EDITOR 850-703-7636



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

EMPLOYMENT · EDUCATION · HOUSING · HEALTH · FIND HELP · MONETARY BENEFITS · WOMEN VETERANS · DISABILITIES