



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
(850) 249-3025
www.vfwpost10555.com

Hours of Operation
12 Noon to 9 PM
7 DAYS A WEEK

IMPORTANT DATES

- 3rd - 3-6pm-LAUX Wine & Cheese w/Martino & Tirado
- 5th - 3:30pm-VOL Meeting
- 7th - 12-2pm-VFW, MAUX, LAUF Snowbird Appreciation Lunch.
- 9th - 5-6:30pm-LAUX Fish Fry w/The Bluenotes 5:30-8:30pm - \$10/Adv. Or \$12/at the door.
- 12th - 4:30pm-Entertain. Committee Meeting.
- 5:30m-Officers Mtg.
- 13th - 5pm-House Committee Meeting
- 17th - 5pm-VOL St. Paddy's Day Party w/Sons of the Beach @ 6pm \$12.00
- 18th - 8-10am-VFW Breakfast—\$6.00
- 19th - 6pm-MAUX Meet.
- 20th - 6pm-Gen.Member. & LAUX Meetings
- 25th - 11:30-12:30PM-\$1 VFW Hot Dogs w/Free Movie "North by Northwest" @1pm



COMMANDER'S CALL



We will be looking for members to step up to run for Post officers at next month's general membership meeting. We will also be looking for a Service Officer to replace Tracey. She has a full-time job that will take up a huge chunk of her time.



As many of you know, Becky will no longer be able to do our newsletter. We are looking for someone or someplace to take this over. If you have any ideas, let Ken or I know. This is a valuable part of getting information out to our members.



Remember, we do have a website where the information is displayed - www.vfwpost10555.com. There may be a month lag in getting the newsletter mailed again, so be patient with us.

We have a full month of events scheduled at the Post, so check your calendars or the marquee out front. I ask that our members police those who come through our doors. If they have a door card, it is a good bet that they are a member. If they don't, welcome them and politely ask to see a membership card. Remember, mem-



bers of the VFW, LAUX and MAUX can have as many guests as they want. We have a guest book on the daily draw table that must be

signed by your guest! This will keep us in compliance with ATF. On Wednesday, the back hall is rented, so only a member and one guest. Any additional will have a small fee.

We have yet to get our long tables back, so we will be installing a surveillance system in the very near future. This will help keep our losses under control. I believe it is very wrong that someone would take from an organization that helps folks!



Do something positive for the Post and the Veteran!

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

Don



Quartermaster Corner — Ken Waringa

Well, spring break is upon us and our northern visitors will be departing soon. Have a safe trip and we are looking forward to your safe return next year.

We recently had an ATF inspection at the Post. The only thing they commented on was we didn't have a visitor's log, which we now have. If you bring in a visitor, please sign them in. As previously stated, VFW, MAUX & LAUX members can bring any number of visitors to the Post. Another thing we found out is that we can get a license to open the Post to the public three times a year for a \$25.00 fee for each event. This license is good for three consecutive days. We are going to take advantage of this opportunity and we're looking at May for the first event. Details are being worked out, but we'll need all organizations to pitch in to make this successful.

On a sadder note, we have been having a rash of thefts from the Post - everything from food to liquor to tables. This is your Post, people. If you're stealing from the Post, you are hurting everyone associated with the Post. If you can't afford to buy food, don't steal it - contact me and we'll get you some help. If you borrowed tables for a function, please return them. We are also taking some other actions to curb the thefts, like locking the kitchen. If you have an event and you rearrange the tables, don't leave them under the pavilion, put them inside the shed. If you leave them outside, you are responsible for them.

Hope to see you around the Post,

Ken



Ladies Auxiliary News - Jenny Freeman, President

March 3rd we are having a Wine & Cheese Party for \$6.00 per person with the band Martino & Tirado from 3-5:30pm. This is a fund-raiser for cancer grants and cancer aid research. In January alone, we gave out 96 cancer grants in the State of Florida to our LAVFW members. The average grant is about \$500, but if you're having to travel for your treatment and you're out of work, every little bit counts. We are asking all of our members at the Post to donate wine and cheese and to buy a ticket for the event. We will be accepting donations on March 3rd from 12 noon to 2pm. If you are not able to make, donate or attend the party, a donation of any kind will be gladly accepted.

March 9th is our chicken and fish fry for the month. Tickets are \$10/advance and \$12.00 at the door. We will

serve food from 5-6:30pm and The Bluenotes will be providing music entertainment until 8:30pm. This event is a fund-raiser for Veterans and Family Support.

April 12th is Post 10555 LAUX 25th Anniversary. This is a BIG celebration for us. We're very proud of the work we have done and what we have accomplished thru the years. We will celebrate by having a nice dinner at one of our local restaurants at 5pm that day. **The LAUX will pay for 1/2 of the meal with the MEMBER paying the rest. Members are responsible for all drinks.** If you would like to attend, contact Kitty Dye, 234-8918 or 814-5364, no later than March 16th. She will have all details.

God Bless,

Jenny



Men's Auxiliary Memo - Bill McGrath, President

The MAUX reached a milestone this year. In January, we reached one hundred members. Unfortunately, that number will soon decrease to a number far below that peak as many members have not renewed their memberships for 2012. In the past, non-renewal is often due to relocation and not providing a current mailing address. If that's the case, please contact me or one of the other officers with your new address.

In addition to our numeric growth, our personnel increases helped strengthen the Post and our treasury. All the more reason to pay your dues...we need your money...just kidding. Our increased resources are also a result of many events the MAUX sponsored at the Post in 2011. With profits from these events, we are now able to write a monthly check to the Post and send checks to VFW Veterans Home and local charities.

We continue to try to improve our Post and in the near future will add to the speaker and lighting system making

our Post one of the prominent entertainment venues among the VFW community. Thanks to all who have supported us and may we have an even better 2012.

One last very important item - one of our members will donate five Boston Butts to the MAUX in March. That is enough to feed about 100 people some really great barbeque. Sometime in April or May, I would like to put on a benefit for Ft. McCoy using the donated pork. We would add the sides and provide entertainment at no cost. We would simply ask for a donation and all monies would go to the Veterans Home. I'll try to get Colonel Lugo to come up for the event and would like to put him and his family up on the beach. Do any of you have a condo on the beach you would like to donate for this cause? Let me know. Thanks.

Regards,

Bill McGrath



Musings from the House Committee...

Greetings from the House Committee! We have had several events at the Post so far this year and many have been highly successful! I want to thank the MAUX & LAUX as well as the VFW membership for all of your support!

As the Commander stated in his letter, we have some issues regarding Post equipment and other things leaving our building. I hope all will fully support our efforts in installing a camera system to deter these breaches of trust.

Jim Foreman and many of the rest of us suffered a loss in February with the passing of Donna Meek. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jim and the many family and friends of Don-

Donna.

We also have the opportunity to host a breakfast and lunch for some of our local Veterans who attend Gulf Coast State College and FSU-PC - more to follow on this event! I challenge all of us to do more for the Veteran and I hope this year we can double our efforts in this area. As I stated last year, we have done a good job at getting new members, but we can all do more. I have new VFW 10555 fliers and I can send them out or print them for anyone who will take some time to hand them out.

Rob



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A Message From Post Manager - Walter Rainey

Well, folks, it seems as if it is just about that time. As our winter season starts to unwind and our northern guests prepare to head back home, we will be saying goodbye to many of our dear friends. I have to say that I have enjoyed making new friends and wish you all safe travels home. And needless to say, we are all looking forward to your return next year.

This certainly does not mean that our locals need to be scarce, too! Make sure to keep coming in and enjoying your Post and Canteen and the camaraderie. Even if our numbers are smaller, we still know how to have fun!

Please remember to be nice to your bartender as they are

unpaid volunteers and are here to serve you.

See you at the Post!

Walter

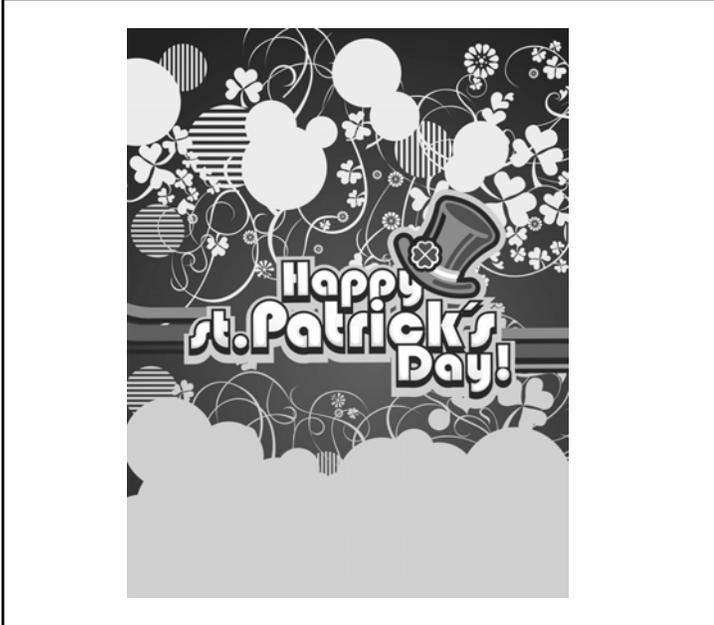




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Veterans of Foreign Wars
Emerald Coast Post 10555
17680 Ashley Drive
Panama City Beach, FL 32413
www.vfwpost10555.com




mike frimet

850.233.6070
fx 850.233.6030

18100
panama city beach pkwy.
panama city beach,
florida • 32413

mv.46144