



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

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Brian Freeman, Commander

Ray Seale, Senior Vice Commander
Dale Kiel, Junior Vice Commander
Maris Atchison, Chief of Staff
Don Buchanan, Adjutant
Don Buchanan, Quartermaster
Ken Algar, Judge Advocate
Tom Welch, Chaplain
Dick Myers, Surgeon
Ken Gregory, Trustee 3 yr.
Fred Neiderburger, Trustee 2yr.
Ken Waringa, Trustee 1yr.
Service Officer, Dale Kiel
Membership Chairman, Ray Seale

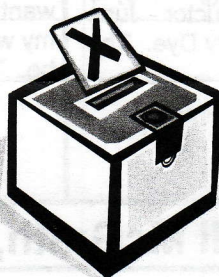
COMMANDER'S CALL



I would like to thank everyone that is running for an office for stepping up and volunteering to take an active part in the op-

eration of our Post.

This year we will be holding elections in a ballot format on the first day of May. You **MUST** be present to vote. The polls will be open from noon until 6pm so come on out and let you vote be counted!



The following members are running for office:

Commander - Don Buchanan
Senior Vice - Wallace Stacy
Junior Vice - Brian Freeman and Ray Seale
Quartermaster - Ken Waringa
Chaplin - Tommy Welch
Judge Advocate - Ken Algar and Meyrle Peppler
Surgeon - Dick Myers and Bradley (Rocky) Burns

3 Year Trustee - Rob Smith

2 Year Trustee - Ken Gregory

1 Yr. Trustee - Fred Niederberger

There will be a blank space in each office column to write in a name if you feel that person would take the office.

Thanks to everyone that has shown their support these last two years. I couldn't have done it without your help.

Brian



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Quartermaster Corner — Don Buchanan

We have met our membership goal. We are now at 104.1 percent. Thanks to all involved with this achievement. We have a strong chance of making All State. Brian has met all the report requirements and now we have the membership. It's up to the judges now.

Now it is time for you to come out and enjoy the Post. We have many new items to enjoy thanks to the Men's Auxiliary and Post purchases. We have a new sound system, Wii game sys-

tem, large screen TV, etc. So if you live in close proximity, come out at least once a month to enjoy.

We need you to get involved!!! We still have the same core group of individuals doing the things up here. We want new faces to assist in the Post activities and decision making. The meeting is on the third Tuesday of the month. Look at the calendar for events to enjoy. Hope to see you soon.

See you at the meeting....Don

Ladies Auxiliary News - Betty Sharpe, President

April has been a pretty good month with the exception of having to file taxes. The Easter Brunch went very well. So far, we haven't heard any complaints. There was something for everyone... scrambled eggs, ham, fried chicken, veggies, biscuits and gravy and strawberry short cake. I want to thank everyone who helped out. We will probably be hosting Father's Day. This will be discussed next month.

We elected new officers at the last meeting. The new officers are: President - Jenny Freeman; Sr. Vice President - Jo Seale; Jr. Vice President - Maddy Niederberger; Treasurer - Carol MacDonald; Conductress - Betty Sharpe; Chaplin - Marge Honey; Guard - Sara Cain; 3rd Year Trustee - Rosemary Fearon. Appointed positions: Patriotic Instructor - June Marginot; Historian - June Baker; Secretary - Kitty Dye. The new officers will be installed at the next meeting.

We initiated a new member, Christina Deason, into the Auxiliary.

Our Auxiliary made All State this year, with 3 over 100%. Thank you, Carol, and all the members who recruited new members.

The District meeting is being held here on May 8th and the LAVFW will be doing the lunch. All members are encouraged to attend the District meeting. We will also be electing new District officers.

The Men's Auxiliary will be sponsoring a membership drive on May 16th. The LAVFW will be assisting with the food.

Let me close by saying how honored I feel and how much I have enjoyed being your President for the past two years. I want to thank everyone for the support you have given me as my work kept me from being as active as I would have liked to be. Thank you again and please come out and support your new officers.

Betty Sharpe, President

Men's Auxiliary Memo - Bill McGrath, President

We finished planning for the membership drive on May 16th. We have \$400 allocated for meats. We'll serve burgers, brats, maybe tamales, and I may supply some chicken and sausage gumbo. The LAVFW has agreed to supply the sides (always great) and the VFW has already secured a very good band. The band (with 2 vocalists and 5 members) has only played at our Post once, but everyone liked them so be sure to come out with your dancing shoes on. We also plan on having a "Super 50/50" raffle. We'll raffle the money, of course, but we plan to have additional "draws" for all the remaining visors, golf balls, and 2 beautiful gift baskets and more! We're going to meet again on May 8th at 1pm to make sure everything is going according to plan. Bring a guest to the event! It's all Free! We need your support! If you have anything that says VFW on it, please wear it - we need to be visible. Lunch will be served from 12:30-2pm with the music from 2-5pm.

We also allocated money to purchase a new mixer/amp to go with the new speakers, stage lights and dance floor light we already purchased. Dave, our resident engineer, suggested we not buy the inexpensive mixer, but to allot enough money to get a high end device which can do far more than just amplify microphones. We approved the money.

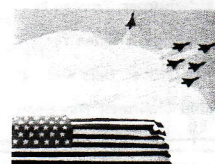
We voted to send Beach Services another \$200. This service is staffed by volunteers and 100% of donations reach the needy on the beach. We also decided to buy a 32 inch LCD TV to upgrade one TV in the canteen.

Needless to say, our purchases for the rest of the summer will be extremely limited as our resources will be rather low. However, we are here to serve the VFW and our community. I hope you enjoy our additions to our Post and stand behind our support of our local charities.

One other note not related to the meeting - I fabricated a special cable which will plug into our mixer/amp. With the cable, you can plug in an iPod or other audio player. I thought that might be useful for special functions where we need to play specific music, such as military music, or Irish music on St. Patrick's Day, wedding music, background music, etc. I tested it with my iPod and it sounded good and had plenty of volume (I was able to rattle the bottles in the canteen :-).)

Until next month....

Bill McGrath



Musings From The House Committee Chairman - Jim Foreman

Don't forget to come out and cast your ballot for officers on the 1st of May. Your vote DOES count. If you don't vote or come to meetings, you have no right to _____! Also on the 1st is Derby Day starting at 4pm. Snacks and the Derby on the big screen - don't miss it!

There will be NO BINGO on the 8th. We are hosting the District 17 meeting that day. Get you tickets early for our Mothers Day Lunch on the 9th and the Steak Dinner - with live music - on the 14th. These will go fast!

Bring a friend, co-worker or neighbor and come to our membership drive on the 16th. There will be food, live music and a silent auction on all of our excess items - too many to mention. Come out and make a fun day of it.

See ya around the Post!

Jim



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Panama City Beach, FL 32407

A Message From Canteen Manager - Kitty Dye

Things at the Canteen have gone fairly smoothly this past month. We have added a couple of new liquors to the mix - Tequila Rose and Sambuca.

We hosted a going away party for Jack Byers who is moving to Dothan, AL to be near his family.

I want to thank Tom and Jan Pollard for the great job they did cleaning the Canteen floors. I almost thought we had new tile.

May 1st is Kentucky Derby Day. There will be Mint Juleps on special.

The Post membership has decided to do away with the popcorn machine. We will have a microwave and bags of popcorn for sale. The current machine is getting some age and has had

to be repaired twice in the last year or so. It is also time consuming and hard to clean.

The Canteen will be closed on Sunday, May 2nd, for our yearly clean-up day. Anyone wishing to help is invited to do so. Come for an hour or whatever time you can spend. All help will be greatly appreciated.

The Canteen will also be closed on May 8th during the District meeting, but should be open for business by 3pm (you might want to call). All members are encouraged to attend the meeting. I would like to remind everyone, suggestion slips must be signed and the Canteen is not the place to discuss business.

Kitty Dye, Canteen Manager

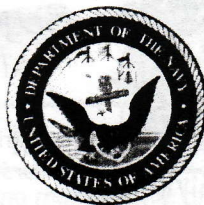


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Important Dates To Remember

- 1st - 12-6pm - Voting of Officers - **PLEASE VOTE!**
4pm - Derby Day on the Big Screen
- 2nd - **POST CLOSED** Yearly Clean-up Day
- 8th - 11am - District Meeting (**NO BINGO**)
- 9th - 12N-2pm - Mother's Day Lunch
- 11th - 5pm - House Committee Meeting
- 14th - 5-7pm-Steak Dinner Night
6-9pm-Music w/*South Bound*
- 15th - 3-6pm-Karaoke w/*Boogie Daddy*
- 16th - 12:30-5pm-Membership Drive-Silent Auction
2-5pm-Live Music w/*Sound Edition*
- 17th - 6pm - Men's Auxiliary Meeting
- 18th - 6pm - General Membership Meeting
- 29th - 3-6pm-Karaoke w/*Boogie Daddy*
- Saturdays - 7-9am - GI work party with free breakfast



mike frimet

850.233.6070
fx 850.233.6030

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

mv.46144