



Emerald Coast VFW Post 10555 ALL-AMERICAN POST JOURNAL

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Veterans of Foreign Wars
Emerald Coast Post 10555
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VFW Post 10555 News: Ken Waringa, Commander (kcwaringa@yahoo.com)

More of our Northern friends are showing up each week, we're glad to have them back. Please note the Entertainment Committee, VFW Officers Call, and House Committee meetings will be held Monday 10 November so we can properly observe Veterans Day on the 11th. In order to sign the book for the daily draw you must be at the post. Spouses cannot sign the book for each other if they are not present at the post. Things are starting to pick up, just look at our calendar. Note that our Veteran's Day Buddy Poppy Fund Drive will be at Wal-Mart on PCB Parkway 8AM to 4PM. Please let me know if you can support this Relief Fundraiser so we can help our brother and sister Veterans in need or distress. The Post will be open Thanksgiving Day from 12 to 6 with a Pot Luck Thanksgiving Meal with ham and turkey. If you plan to attend please sign up at the post so we know how many will be attending. There is no cost, just please bring a dish to pass. Thanks to Becca and Jason for heading up this Thanksgiving meal. I'd also like to congratulate Tom Randall on his appointment as a Special Aide-de-Camp to the National Commander in Chief John Stroud for 2014-2015. Congratulations Tom, well done. Some more high level recognition for our post.

Please Come out and support our post. [KEN WARINGA](#) PS [CLICK HERE FOR THE LATEST STATE BULLETIN](#)

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

What a great month October was; the weather for the most part was good. The Ladies Auxiliary assisted the Men's Auxiliary with their Thunder Beach Breakfast October 3, 4 and 5. The turnout for the Friday Fish Fry was great and we got to wear our Pink bras. We started collecting spare change at the meetings for Prostate Cancer, our District 17 designated cancer to support. The school supplies that were collected using our Dick and Jane were divided between two of PCB's elementary schools, Huntington Beach and Patronis. Both schools were very excited and appreciative. I would again like to thank two donors, one for their \$20 anonymous donation and the American Legion for their \$50 donation. There was lots of good food at the last Sunday Pot Luck. I helped, the Post with the food on Bike Night. Jenny Freeman, District President, Carol MacDonald, Mary Kilzer and I will be attending the Fall Round Conference in Orlando the last weekend of the month. Note that November's Friday Fish Fry in November will be the first Friday of the month. (NOTE: reduce confusion and assist the kitchen crew, starting with this Fish Fry we will no longer be holding advance fish fry tickets or selling any tickets after 6 PM the day of the Fish Fry. Thank You for understanding.) We will be distributing Buddy Poppies at the Wal-Mart at Pier Park on November 8th; if you can help please call me. We also need help cleaning the Ladies Auxiliary Room on the 12th at 1 PM. The Ladies Auxiliary will be providing lunch for the District 17 Meeting on Saturday the 15th. It would be very nice to have a good showing at the meeting. Of course it makes the Auxiliary look good but is also makes our District President, Jenny Freeman look good. We will be serving fried turkey and dressing and "fixins". Please make an effort to attend. Our Annual Bake Sale is 11/22 from 12-4 PM. Remember is doesn't necessarily have to be sweet things; last year we had bread and casseroles. We will be starting Bunco on the 23rd at 2 PM - Come and have some fun!

If you need a ride or would like to volunteer to help at any activity please call me at 850-234-8918 and Please remember to Get Out And VOTE! – Kitty Dye



**American Legion Update: Post 402 Commander Jim Bowers (scootin1923@yahoo.com)**

American Legion Post # 402 has had a very busy October with the Thunder Beach Adult Beverage booths with the VFW and our second Bike Night the 4th Friday of the month, with, of course, our great BBQ platters. Both of these events were a huge success. After our November 3rd meeting (1800 hours) we move right on to the Florida State American Legion Conference in Orlando from November 7-9th. We will have our BBQ on November 21st and B-I-N-G-O Sunday the 23rd. The Legion is hosting the Legion Riders for their Legionaries Unity Ride at the Post with a breakfast served from 9-11AM after which they begin their ride from Post to Post in the local Bay County area to show our mutual support for each other. Breakfast will be \$5 a plate and open to the Post; we invite all to attend these events. So until next month's newsletter, keep the rubber side down and the sunny side up and Always God Bless America!!!

Jim Bowers, American Legion Post Commander

Men's Auxiliary News For You: Robert Heil (nitefly50@aol.com)

Our members living away up North have begun to return to us and our Auxiliary and the Post will see more activity in the next few weeks. "Thank You!" to all that helped make the October Thunder Beach Breakfast event an overall success. The Men's Aux has addressed our labor shortage and we should be able to fully cover our own events in the foreseeable future. We have confirmed Russ Chandler for a couple of dates coming up in January and February, and we will have a lunch and his show. Glad to see the Post will be open for Thanksgiving this year.



See You at the Triple Nickel! Robert Heil, Entertainment Committee Chair and Treasurer, MAVFW

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

Another newsletter so here we go!! First of on my list is to remind everyone the Sunday November 2 is the end of daylight savings time so don't forget to change your clocks as we gain an hour "fall backwards." In November, the LAVFW's famous Fish Fry has been moved to the first Friday, November 7th with tickets will on sale at the canteen. They will be going fast and per their President, Kitty Dye, our Bartenders will not be holding any tickets behind the bar for anyone who calls so you need to come and pick them up and have them paid for!!

Please look at the November calendar for there have been some changes for this month only. The VFW District 17 Meeting will be held at Post 10555 on Saturday the 15th. Opening hours for the canteen will be 2 PM and there will be no bingo. The Sunday Pot Luck Dinner with karaoke are still successful and Bunco sponsored by the LAVFW is back the calendar. Come out, enjoy the new with the old events, and enjoy your Post.

Have you Heard? The VFW will be opened on Thanksgiving Day; hours will be 12-6PM. A Thanksgiving Pot Luck meal is planned for 3 PM; there will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. Sign up and bring your "special side dish" for that day. Hope to have more details soon.

The canteen is still serving sandwiches and various other items for your convince when a snack is needed. Your support for the canteen and the Post is appreciated and I know you may have different places to meet friends and have a cold beverage and I "Thank You" for choosing Post 10555. Our bartenders, Gail, Cindy, Shannon and Dallas thank you also and they appreciate your generous tips at the bar!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING – Hope to See You at the Post in November!. Billie Jones Canteen Manager



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

Well, once again we turn our clocks back an hour and that is the first hint that the Snowbirds will be flying in again soon to sunny Florida and returning to our Emerald Coast Post. We hope they had a safe trip down and a great time this winter! Not to steal the thunder from our Senior Vice Commander and Membership Chair Tom Randall (out to "sea" on the Gulf as usual), but our membership renewals are going pretty good and hope it continues. Our last membership contest to win a Life Membership was a mild success (Editor's Note: Rob won!) but only about 7 of the 40 or so members eligible for the drawing came to the October meeting. The membership voted to do it again. Any annual member that renews their membership between 1 November and 30 November will be entered into a drawing to win a Life Membership. The drawing will take place during the 16 December general membership meeting and you must be present to be entered into the drawing. We are really striving to reach 100% membership renewal by the end of the year; currently we are just a tad under 80%. So all the annual members out there reading this, please renew your membership!

See you at the Post! Rob Smith, Quartermaster and new Life Member

HAVE WE FORGOTTEN WHAT OUR MISSION IS HERE AT OUR POST?

ADAPTED FROM A FACEBOOK POST BY OUR STATE COMMANDER, T. WAYNE MARKHAM

- **WE ARE HERE TO SERVICE THE NEEDS OF OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES**
- **WE ARE HERE TO SHOW OUR RESPECT TO OUR MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS ALIKE**
- **WE ARE HERE TO ENGAGE IN FRIENDLY CONVERSATION WITH FELLOW VETERANS**
- **WE ARE HERE TO VOLUNTEER TOWARD THE IMPROVEMENT OF OUR POST**
- **WE ARE HERE TO SPEAK FAVORABLY ABOUT ALL OUR MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS**
- **WE ARE HERE TO SHOW RESPECT TO THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE THAT WE ALL ENJOY**
- **WE ARE HERE TO ATTEND ALL FUNCTIONS SHOWING RESPECT AND HONORING ALL VETERANS**
- **WE ARE HERE TO ATTEND ALL POST MEETINGS SHOWING PRIDE IN OUR POST**
- **WE ARE HERE TO ENJOY THE CONSTANT IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR POST**
- **WE ARE HERE TO GIVE THANKS AND SUPPORT TO ALL THOSE WHO WORK HARD TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR POST**
- **WE ARE NOT HERE TO JUST TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE LOW PRICE OF BEVERAGES**
- **WE ARE NOT HERE TO CONSTANTLY COMPLAIN ABOUT PETTY ISSUES**
- **WE ARE NOT HERE TO FORM CLIQUES AND SIT AT THE BAR ALL DAY BADMOUTHING AND DISRESPECTING OUR MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS**
- **WE ARE NOT HERE TO COMPLAIN ABOUT OR DISRESPECT OUR DULY ELECTED POST OFFICERS.**
- **WE ARE NOT HERE TO DISCUSS POST ISSUES AT THE BAR**

THE POST HOUSE COMMITTEE AND OUR DULY ELECTED POST OFFICERS ARE THE *ONLY* ACCEPTABLE COMPLAINT DEPARTMENTS. LET'S GETBACK TO EMBRACING OUR ACCEPTED MISSION AS A CHARTERED VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION



VOTE FOR THE EMERALD COAST VFW POST IN NOVEMBER – RENEW!

I hope that each of you members of the VFW; LAVFW; MAVFW; and our American Legion enjoy the benefits of membership in one of the units that share our Post Home at the Beach. When did you first join? My wife Margaret and arrived here two years ago and love it. What reasons did you have to come join this Post? While you reflect on that, who asked you to join the VFW, why did you pick it? My own qualified combat service first brought me to the VFW in 1991 through the insistence of a WWII Veteran who treated me as his equal though I was in the Rear with the Gear in KSA for Desert Storm. That meant the world to me, still does. Our membership, like the rest of the 1.9 Million members like you, gives us the right to participate in the life of the post as a voting member and access to *any* post for any and all activities. I fail to understand why any member would allow that bond, that relationship to lapse and not renew their dues. For the VFW an annual membership costs \$3 a month, paid once a year at \$36. Paid dues open the front door and puts out the Welcome Mat; expired members not invited in as guests are barred from the Post and its activities.

For a moment, consider what belonging to the Triple Nickel means on the social side of the life of the Post in recent weeks and months. We regularly have B-I-N-G-O; Fish Fries; Burger Nights; BBQ Nights; Bike Nights; Pool Tournaments; Pot Lucks, Cards; and Bunco. We have had great Picnics on Memorial Day; Independence Day; Labor Day. We had a HUGE Steak Night hosting the entire Department of Florida VFW. We have a strong Volunteer connection with guests that return to share in the life of our post every year and give in return. Oh, sure, we had a bad time last New Year's Eve with a great band (NOTE: next New Year's Eve will be better) and we have "lost money" on a few events but it's not about the money and it's worth every bit of often unappreciated labor that goes into each event. It is about our family and friends and brother/sister Veterans. It is about having a place to meet and greet one another knowing that each of us has a unique connection to each other, the military service we or someone else we are related to gave to this nation. We have a bond that is as unique as it is, well, special.

And then there is the reason we exist, doing right by Veterans. We visit Lake City V.A. Domiciliary; the Chester Clifford Sims State Veterans Home; and the Liberty Locker at NSA Panama City. We give hours of service to the airport's Military Welcome Center; we financially support the VFW National Home for Children; we sponsor VFW Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Essay contests; we back the VFWs National military Services and The VFW Veteran's Village. We support the Warrior Beach Retreat; Arnold High School's JROTC program. We help Comrades in need regularly... We are INVOLVED in the PCB community and the military community and we make a difference.


Yes, we can do more and we will do more but only if you cast your vote for your continued support of the VFW Post you chose to join. To you Annual Members of the VFW; I am personally asking you to "re-up". Yes, we live busy lives and can't get to the post for events or participate in every community service, but we should NOT leave your Comrades behind. Renew today. Call me directly (850-703-7636) if I can assist with questions about how to renew, how to upgrade to Life (or Legacy Life), or you need to know about how to recruit your friend or neighbor or work partners and colleagues. There's an app for all of that; there are online accounts to be had (<https://www.vfw.org>) that I can help you connect with but only if you cast your ballot and remain in the Post.

PLEASE, renew your annual dues NOW, help out at the Post when you can, come to meetings and do not hesitate to tell anyone who asks that you belong to the 10 Triple Nickel, the biggest, best and brightest Veterans Service Organization in Panama City Beach.

GO VFW, STAY VFW!

Contributed by Thomas Randall, Post Senior Vice Commander; District 17 Junior Vice Commander & Deputy Director for Membership, Northern Region, DEPT of Florida VFW



NOVEMBER 2014						
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		Remember Every Deployed (RED) Shirt Fridays. Wear a red shirt to show support of our troops.	1 VFW Bingo 1 PM
2 Remember clocks fall back	3 Volunteer Mtg. 3 PM Legion Officer Mtg. 5:30 PM Legion Mtg. 6 PM	4 Election Day Men's Pool 1-5 PM	5 Bring a Friend to the Post	6 Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM	7 LAUX Officer Mtg. 2 PM LAUX Fish Fry \$9.00 5:30-6:30 Karaoke 6 - 9	8 Buddy Poppies at Wal-Mart 8 - 4 Legion Bingo 1 PM
9 Pool Tournament 2:00	10 Marine Corps Birthday Entertainment Com. Mtg. 4:30 PM Officer Mtg. 5 PM House Committee Mtg. 5:30 PM	11 Veterans Day Men's Pool 1-5 PM Veterans Day Parade 9:30 Ceremony and Flag Retirement 3:00	12 Bring a Friend to the Post	13 Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM	14 VFW Build-a-burger w/fries \$5.00 5:30 - 6:30 PM VFW Bingo 6-8	15 District Meeting No Bingo Canteen opens at 2:00
16 Pot Luck Food 2 - 3 Karaoke 2:30 - 5:30	17 MAUX Mtg. 3 PM	18 Men's Pool 1-5 PM Gen. Membership & LAUX Mtg. 6 PM	19 Bring a Friend to the Post	20 Ms. Cues 2 PM Cards 6 PM	21 Legion Barbecue \$5.00 5:30 - 6:30 PM Legion Bingo 6-8 PM	22 LAUX Bingo and Bake Sale 1 PM
23 A.L. Unity Breakfast \$5.00 9 - 11 Bunco 2:00	24	25 Men's Pool 1-5 PM	26 Bring a Friend to the Post	27 Thanksgiving Post open 12 - 6 Pot Luck Meal 3:00. Sign up at the post.	28	29 MAUX Bingo 1 PM
30						

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 hall fees/reservations, contact the Canteen Manager, Billie Jones, at the Post 850-249-3025. **When all else fails, JUST STOP BY! PLEASE!**





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