



Emerald Coast VFW Post 10555

ALL-AMERICAN POST JOURNAL

Volume 7, Issue 10

October 2013

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

NEW Hours of Operation
1200-2100hrs/NOON to 9PM
EXCEPT SUNDAYS
Post Closes 1800 hrs/6PM

OCTOBER CANTEN ACTIVITIES

TUESDAYS: Billiards!
WEDNESDAYS: Bring-a-Friend (or Two!) to the Post
THURSDAYS: Cards! Ms. Cues!
WEEKENDS: Food! Music? Bingo!
TUES 1st-FOOLS Meeting 5PM
FRI 4th, SAT 5th-Thunder Beach Jam Fundraiser/Beer Tent Duty
Aaron Bessant Park 3-9PM?
SAT 5th - Yard Sale, 8-12 AM;
LAUX Bingo, 1PM
SUN 6th - 8-Ball Tourney 2:30-5:30 PM
MON 7th - AMERICAN LEGION Officer MTG 5:30 PM; American Legion Post MTG 6PM
TUES 8th - MEETINGS!
Entertainment Committee, 4:30 PM; VFW Officers; 5PM; House Committee 5:30PM
FRI 11th - LAUX Officer MTG, 2PM; LAUX Fish Fry, 5:30-6:30PM; Music by Robin Ray, 6-9PM
SAT 12th - VFW B-I-N-G-O, 1PM
SUN 13th - VFW Any Type of Card Games, 2:30-5:30PM
MON 14th - COLUMBUS DAY, MAUX Meeting, 6PM
TUES 17th - General Membership MTG, 6PM; VFW/LAUX Meetings follow
FRI 18th - VFW Wings, 5:30-6:30PM; VFW B-I-N-G-O, 6-8 PM
SAT 19th - MAUX B-I-N-G-O
SUN 20th - Spaghetti Dinner to Help Save Our Post, 12:30-1:30 PM; KARAOKE w/Jade-N-Jewel, 1-4 PM
THURS 25th Legionnaire BBQ, 5:30-6:30 PM; B-I-N-G-O, 6-8 PM
SAT 26th - Legionnaire B-I-N-G-O, 1 PM
SUN 27th - VFW Game Day 2:30-5:30 PM
THURS 31st - HALLOWEEN Party w/One Night Tribe, 7-11 PM



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

Another month gone by with our Northern friends starting to return next month. It will be good to see everyone again. If you haven't heard, our annual membership dues are going to go up from \$23.00 to \$36.00 on 1 January 2014. National raised their dues to us by \$10.00 so we had to raise ours as well. You will be getting a letter shortly addressing this increase. If you are an annual member and want to renew at the \$23.00 dues your renewal application must be processed by 31 December. This may also be a good time to consider a Life Membership. Life membership fees vary by age, details will be in the letter. Another change coming about 1 January is our bartenders will be paid employees of the post. This is being driven by IRS requirements. In the eyes of the IRS if we have a set schedule for a person and they receive compensation of any kind, including tips they are employees, not volunteers. This isn't something we really want to do, but a Post near Ocala was fined over \$26,000 by the IRS for back taxes, so we feel we must do this now. It's going to cost the post around \$1500.00 a month, but it's unavoidable, so you may see some changes in staff at the Post. Billie is working with the existing bartenders to see will stay and then she will be looking for additional bartenders as needed. Also, remember Billie is the Post Manager and is responsible for day to day operation of the post. If you have any issues please bring them up to Billie instead of just complaining at the bar. **See you around the post. KEN WARINGA, Post Commander 10555**

[PS CLICK HERE FOR THE LATEST STATE BULLETIN](#)

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

At the last meeting we announced that we made \$200.00 catering the Garden Club luncheons. We also did very well at the last fish fry. We have put POW/MIA Day posters in several businesses. One new member was approved. The group elected to charge new members who join in January and after, \$35.00 which will cover the current year and the next year. The Mexican Lunch was very good but did not attract many members. Our next "Support the Post" activity will be October 20th with a spaghetti dinner.

If you need a ride to meetings please call me at 234-8918 or 514-5364.

Until next time, Kitty Dye, President Ladies Auxiliary 10555

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

Hello Comrades,
Well, we're wrapping up another summer here on the Emerald Coast, time sure does fly. Summer is typically our lean time of year, and this summer has been no different. However, the Save Our Post events we've been having are definitely helping to keep our Post running and I want to thank all of you for your kind and generous support. As of the September meeting, Save Our Post functions have raised over \$15,000. There is a thermometer graphic in the hall that we'll keep updating to show our progress.

With the coming fall and the arrival of our Northern guests, we'll have more Save Our Post events and all of the organizations are planning some fun and interesting events. So check the calendar and come on out and enjoy your Post!

See ya 'round the Post! Rob Smith





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

Last month we lost one of our members – John Wilson. Most of you knew John as “Big John”. He was a charming man always seen with his wonderful wife at all our events. The Men's Auxiliary always looked forward to seeing John every winter, because we knew we could expect help at every event we put on in the winter. He helped out, not only at our events, but also the events put on by other organizations. Cooking St Patrick's Day corn beef and cabbage was a joy to him and a pleasure to the guests. We'll miss you John.

The Men's Aux put on a three day breakfast event in October for the weekend of Thunder Beach. We did very well, and would like to thank all those who helped out. We received much needed help from VFW members and LAUX. On the final day we actually ran out of some food, and had to make an emergency run to Winn Dixie. Thanks again to all who helped, and to those who came out to support this MAUX event.

This month our American Legion will once again put on a Friday BBQ and bingo. Try to come out and enjoy a great dinner followed by bingo. These Friday night events are growing, and in some cases the attendees at Friday bingo are greater than Saturday.

Until next month, Regards Bill

BREAKING NEWS FROM THE YARD SALE CHIEF OF STAFF: ANNA MINER

“VFW 10555 conducted a yard sale on Saturday, 5 Oct 2013 with significant results. By noon, \$1,102 was raised including the rental of five tables. A number of our renters donated their proceeds to the Post. My thanks to all who contributed and participated in the second semi-annual yard sale!”

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

Summer has passed and fall is knocking at our door! October brings Bike Week, MAUX Breakfast, Save Our Post Yard Sale and a Halloween party just to name a few. LAUX will have their famous Fish Fry on Friday October 11 with great music of Robin Ray. Sunday Hours 12 noon till 6pm are busy with Game Day, Pool Tournament and a Save Our Post event, but you will need to check the monthly calendar for times and dates of the events. Come out and support our Post 10555 you may find a new friend or meet up with some old ones.

The canteen is now serving sandwiches for your convenience ranging from \$1.50 to \$2.00. Check with the bartender on duty to see what types are available. Also we are selling shirts with the VFW logo on them and they are priced \$15.00 to \$25.00, men's and ladies. Coozie with the VFW and American Legion logo are being sold for \$3.00 – start your Christmas shopping early!

Not much more for this newsletter, you need to come out and join us. We appreciate each and everyone who continues to support Post 10555 and hope to see you soon.

Billie

Wanted: A Post Service Officer (AdjutantVFWPost10555@gmail.com)

Section 218 (a)(12) of the VFW Congressional Charter bylaws states that “The Post Service Officer shall assist members of the Post, their widows and orphans and other worthy cases brought to their attention in obtaining rightful entitlements from federal and state governments. The work of a Service Officer shall be performed in accordance with the instructions contained in the VFW Guide for Service Officers under the general supervision of the Department Service Officer. They shall perform such other duties as may be incident to the office and as may from time to time be required by the laws and usages of this organization or lawful orders from proper authority.” Having quoted that, I have been trained for this position and can safely say that it requires a lot of patience when working on claims but has limitations in that VFW Service Officers may only advise and act as an advocate on behalf of the veteran or family in need. Two worthy and excellent Post Service Officers have stepped down. Won't you please consider stepping up to help your comrades in need?



World War II Veterans Cross Memorial Barricades Despite Shutdown

WWII veterans don't let the shutdown stop them from entering their memorial. By ANNETA KONSTANTINIDES, JARED KOTLER AND NICOLE ROSSOLL, ABC News Oct. 1, 2013

A group of 92 Mississippi Gulf Coast Honor Flight Veterans refused to let a government shutdown stop them from entering the World War II memorial in Washington, D.C., this morning.

Though the memorial was technically closed due to the government shutdown that went into effect early this morning, they managed to enter the memorial and tour the site.

Reps. Steve King, R-Iowa, and Michele Bachmann, R-Minn., said in interviews that the gates were opened for the veterans to access the memorial.

The vets were taking part in the Mississippi Gulf Coast Honor Flight that was originally established in 2011 to help fly the state's WWII veterans to Washington D.C., free of charge, and provide tours so that they may see the memorials dedicated to honor their service.

Unfortunately, other veterans are not going to be as lucky as today's group. The WWII Memorial will be re-closed this afternoon and remain closed until funding is restored. National Mall and Memorial Parks Communications Officer Carol Johnson told ABC News the memorial will be shut down and cleared by Park Police.

Honor Flights scheduled for the month of October have been notified that the memorial will be closed until the federal government re-opens. A group of 100 veterans is still expected to arrive from Chicago tomorrow.

The Mississippi veterans arrived at Reagan National Airport around 10 a.m. They were scheduled to witness a bag-pipe procession and wreath-laying ceremony at the WWII memorial before departing to tour the Lincoln, the Korean and Vietnam War Memorials, the Iwo Jima Monument and Arlington National Cemetery.

In a letter to the president, released Sept. 30, Congressman Steven Palazzo, R-Miss., requested that the monument remain open to the public:

"It would be truly devastating to our veterans that travel great lengths to share this experience with family and friends and see a piece of their own history," he wrote. "I request that you immediately instruct the Department of Interior and National Service to ensure that veterans are not denied access to monuments on the National Mall in the case of a government shutdown. It is the very least we can do for our Greatest Generation who sacrificed so much on behalf of our country."

Palazzo tweeted today: MT @SenThadCochran No reason to make #shutdown worse than it must be. Let WWII #veterans visit memorial: <http://bit.ly/GzFi4n> @CongPalazzo. The National Republican Congressional Committee also joined the twitter conversation about this event, asking followers to "sign our petition to support our veterans storming the WW2 memorial despite the Democrats' shutdown."

Notably, GOP congressmen and women were not the only members out supporting the World War II veterans today. Democratic Sen. Tom Harkin was also at the memorial this morning lending his support to the group of veterans.

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Mississippi Gulf Coast Honor Flight World War Two veteran Wynon Stewart, left, and his Guardian, Cat Aguda display a piece of police tape removed from the WWII Memorial



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