



Volume 15 Issue 12

VFW Post 7721
800 Neff's Way
Naples, FL 34119
(239)455-7721
Email: post7721@vfwfl.org



June 2022

Commanders Letter

Congratulations to everyone in our VFW Post. This is the second year in a row that Golden Gate VFW Post 7721 has achieved All-State and All-American VFW Post status. It is my understanding this is the first time ever for us to achieve the momentous achievement of obtaining All-State and All-American two years in a row. Randy Cash, Jack Fulmer, and Tony Reyes will be going to the Florida state convention in mid-June to receive our awards. This outstanding achievement would not have been possible without the contributions of all of you.

Your Honor Guard Team performed eight ceremonies over the Memorial Day period. This does not count recons and practices. I don't know about everyone else on the team; but, by Monday evening I could hardly pick up my feet, particularly when wearing, what seemed like, Bates dress shoes that seemed like they were made of cast-iron.

Continued...



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We had a great Memorial Day ceremony at the Post organized by Tony Reyes and Tom Walker. Father Michael Orsi (always a big supporter of the VFW), from St. Agnes on Vanderbilt, wearing his Rolling Thunder vest with his Father's uniform, performed the blessings for the fallen and for our Post BBQ. In the meantime, Bob Miller and Mike Korbely arranged for a great BBQ, prepared by the Latin American Motorcycle Association (LAMA), and supported by members of the Post furnishing their favorite "tail-gate dishes". Thank you to everyone for participating in and supporting our VFW Post Memorial Day ceremony.

We have folded over 800 flags for retirement on Flag Day at Freedom Park. The Golden Gate H/S JROTC, under the direction of Sgt. Craig Dejaeger (a member of our Post), joined us, on their last day at school, to fold over 200 flags in one hour. The Flag Retirement ceremony will be Saturday, June 11, 2022, 9 AM, at Freedom Park, Golden Gate Parkway. Please join us for the ceremony and dedicate an American Flag for retirement in honor of a loved one.

Thank you for all you do for your VFW Post each and every day.

Dr. JB Holmes, Commander
Golden Gate VFW Post 7721



Sick Call

Henry Sanchez
Savannah Lehnhard
Sarah Jenkins
Sue Brennan
Michelle Faccioli



Taps





Hello My Comrades & Friends,

Hoping this letter finds you all well and happy.

First, I'd like to thank Mattie for decorating the canteen. Mike was also here, and spent hours outside spraying weeds and gardening around the flagpole area. Thank you!

Since this will probably be my last letter to you all, I'd like to reminisce back to when I first came to 7721. Johnny "Hoo-Rah" Kirchner was Commander. After 4 phone calls, Mattie & I finally found the Post. It was surrounded by trees & very well hidden. We came through the door and were met with applause. Everyone knew we were looking & finally made it! Johnny & us talked and laughed for an hour before we had to leave and made the promise that we'd be back. We returned a couple days later and I was introduced to Quartermaster Ralph Balzarano and he welcomed us to the Post. Ralph didn't drink, but we sat & talked for quite a while getting to know each other. We went back north for a couple of months and when I returned, I transferred my membership to 7721.

I was sitting in the middle of the bar one day and the fellow sitting next to me asked me what I thought of the canteen. I replied that I thought it was nice, but it didn't really reflect Naples. He asked me what I would change & do differently. We shook hands and he asked me to meet him the following day. When I came in the next day, he was waiting on me. He told me he liked my design plan and Sam Heath handed me a check for \$20,000 and said "do it." Sam said the only thing he wanted was a black granite bar top. By this time, I had quite a few friends including Fred Sexton. I sat down & drew up the plans and as we were getting ready to demo, Ralph came out and said we couldn't demo because the Military Ball was in six weeks. I assured Ralph that the canteen would be ready by then and we started the demo. Ralph took me to a tile house, where we purchased all the tile & hauled it back. Fred called in some carpenters, tile setters, etc and we finished the canteen a week before the Ball.

Steve Smith was our next Commander, and I was elected his Sr Vice. We were in agreement that the Post needed to be upgraded. By now, the canteen was full almost everyday, so we had some money to work with. We started by replacing all the A/C units as they went bad, and tiled the hallway and conference room. Steve also donated \$15,000 of his own money to remodel & bring the bathrooms to handicap standards.

Continued.....

Fred Sexton came in one day and told us the County wanted to put in a new access road to the gas station coming in from 951, and they wanted to buy a portion of our land. I believe Randy Cash was Commander at this time. We received the monies and Fred said he could work and get us an access road to 951, but we would have to supply money & labor. We were a little younger then and we had a great crew...Dewey, Grant, Fred, Geno, Victor and Redneck, just to name a few...and we got it done! Ralph purchased our big ConEx storage container and we set that. We then tore down our water shed to make room for our patio.

Redneck, aka Richard Bowman, took on the job of raising monies for our new flagpole and sign on 951. Thanks to his, and many other donations, the sign and flagpole were erected. I can't say "thank you" enough to all these great people, but one in particular stands out in my mind and his name is Sam Heath. Along with the canteen remodel, Sam has donated our shuffle board, pool table, and dart board. He also gave us money to purchase new ceiling fans, and bought tables & chairs. Just recently, Sam purchased the new bar stools and so much more. Sam has donated over \$100,000 over the years. Sam is a true friend of the Post and my Comrade. Thank you, Sam!

Every Commander we have had has done great things for our Post. Not forgetting JB Holmes, he and Randy Cash worked with Home Depot and secured donations for the new floors and chairs for the meeting rooms, a new roof on the building, and many other projects. Thank you for the many donations of people, too numerous to mention, that make our Post what it is today.

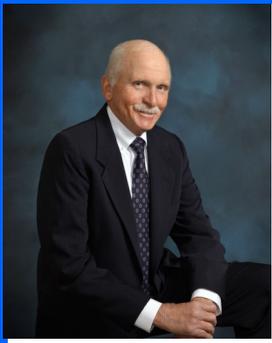
I have had the honor of meeting and working with some great people at VFW Post 7721, and am proud to call them friends. Sorry if I got a little windy, but I thought you should all know just some of the people who make this Post the great place that it is.

As always, Dee is making a great Sunday morning breakfast, and Tammie is doing some tasty lunches. Please come into the canteen and support your Post.

In closing, I wish God's Blessings be upon you, your families, and all the great men & women serving and protecting Our Great Nation

Fair Winds & A Following Sea
Bob Miller, Sr Vice
House Chairman

PS. I want to wish all our newly elected officers, as well as those returning, a very prosperous year. Good luck to all



Junior Vice

Our Post made sufficient progress during May 2022 in reporting our activities to achieve All-State status in the VFW Florida State Reporting System. Our next objective is to attain All-American status by mid-June. This is very achievable and can be attained primarily by increasing our total membership. I sincerely wish to thank those Post members who made this tremendous achievement possible through participation in our many events.

With the “retirement” of CSM Jim Burch, the Honor Guard team was in need of new leadership. Four members of the Post stepped up to continuously manage this activity with no real break in service. They are Gary Asztalos, Tony Reyes, Dave Ramos, and myself. CSM Burch provided an in-depth training session and turnover procedure to make certain there was no break in continuity. To that end, the mission was highly successful as the new leadership has already taken control.

May 2022 will be my last month’s tenure serving as your Post Junior Vice Commander. It has been a tremendously rewarding past year for me personally, and for that experience, I am extremely grateful. I will be moving up to be your new Senior Vice Commander in June 2022 and look forward to the many challenges and continuing to serve you as well as possible. There will be many challenges and learning opportunities in this new position. Hopefully, I will grow over time to better serve the Post. The Junior Vice Commander billet will be subsequently filled by a very capable young man, Tony Reyes. We are actively involved in the transition process and training which will continue through mid-June.

Respectfully –

Jack Fulmer

Post #772 1



Auxiliary President

Brothers and sisters of the auxiliary,

Hello everyone. I would like to thank everyone for an awesome job this past year! It was you that made this Auxiliary shine. Again, thank you I can't say it enough.

I would like to congratulate our new team of officers. I know you will do great things this upcoming 2022/2023 year.

If you want to know what's going on with me? Ask me! If you hear something from another person, it's probably not true! June 13th is our next meeting. June 16-19 is the conference in Orlando at the renaissance at sea world. Hope to see you there.

As always treat one another with kindness and respect. As I always say I'll see you at the post. Thank You Everyone again!

Respectfully,
Anthony Roupp
Auxiliary president.



Auxiliary Treasurer

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our membership year is almost at an end. We are not at 107.22%! Congrats to all who recruited new members this year and to those who have paid their annual dues. We have 312 members. There are 70 Annual Members and 242 Life Members.

You still have time to pay your annual membership dues. If not paid by June 30, 2022, you will cease to be members and have to reapply and show proof of eligibility.

On July 1st, I will be sending out the 1st annual membership dues notices. Please remember to make your \$35.00 check payable to VFW Auxiliary #7721. Let's try to be the first auxiliary to make it to 100% paid for the 2022-2023 membership year!!

I look forward to serving you as your Treasurer for another year.

Sincerely,
Theresa Mook
145 Teryl Road #4, Naples FL 34112
(239)298-1648 pasmagic1@yahoo.com

Post Surgeon's Letter:

Greetings Everyone,

I have been recently made aware that Tai Chi and Qi Gong are available through a process which I will reveal in this letter.

Tai Chi and Qi Gong are ancient Chinese arts that have proven to be a gentle form of exercise that improves flexibility, strength and balance while reducing stress. You need not be in top physical shape to do these exercises. In fact, many of these exercises can be done from a wheelchair.

The following is an email from Clayton Crosley. Clayton is well versed in how to acquire Tai Chi and Qi Gong services through the VA at no cost to many veterans.

If interested, I highly recommend you take advantage of these programs and enjoy the resulting improvements.

To your Health,
Ron Taylor

Good morning, Dr. Taylor! My name is Clayton Crosley, I am a US Army veteran, Tai Chi and Qigong Instructor and a VA Volunteer. I hope to clarify how the program works for the veterans to obtain Tai Chi services through the VAMC in FL.

The Tai Chi for Veterans Program is offered as a Community Care Network (CCN) or as a Care in the Community (CITC) service (Complementary Integrative Health Services-Tai Chi). A veteran must request the service through his Primary Care Physician (PCP) at the VAMC or appropriate VA Clinic. The Doctor will forward the request to the Office of Community Care (OCC) or the CITC. Once received it should take approximately three weeks for the veteran to be paired with a certified instructor. The process can be expedited by using the secure messaging option on the MyHealtheVet platform (a PCP has 72 hours to respond to the request). Not every VAMC is aware that this program exists and often they need some guidance as to where to find the consult. For Cosmina Lemoine's specific case the following language would be sent to the Doctor:

Thanks to the Mission Act, Tai Chi is now available as an official community care consult within VHA's CPRS system where local and online (telehealth) instructors are utilized the same as surgeons and specialists in the community. The consult can be found in the CPRS system then the Standard Episode of Care (SEOC) selected is Community Care Complementary Integrative Health (CIH)-Tai Chi. I would like to request an Official Community Care consult through the Mission Act. I would like to request that Cosmina Lemoine NPI# 1851988133 (a certified Tai Chi for Veterans instructor) be listed as my preferred provider. Cosmina is within VISN 8 and is fully credentialed in the VACCN and OPTUM networks. Please have the Office of Community Care or a Care in the Community (CITC) representative send her the consult.

Alternatively, you can fax the consult to (215) 330-5048. I thank you in advance in expediting this request.

I hope this clarifies the administrative processes to obtain services through the VA. If you have any questions, please call at your convenience 912-220-0373.

Kind Regards,

Clayton Crosley

US Army Veteran

VA Volunteer

VA Whole Health Committee Member

Hello Fellow VFW's Post-7721 Members,

Your VFW's Post-7721 has assembled a formal, "Ritual Team," which will conduct ceremonial functions in a way, that will effectively dramatize the basic principles on which the VFW's is founded and Post-7721.

The Ritual Team is looking for Post-7721 volunteers to be members of the Ritual Team.

Some of the duties of the Ritual Team are: Color Guards, Parades, Folding Flag of the United States & Meaning of each 13 folds, Honors Rifle Team Salutes, Memorials, Funerals, Presentation of a Wreath, Retiring Colors, and Bugler Sounding of Taps to name a few.

Volunteers will be trained, before performing in any ceremony, by skilled VFW's Post-7721 Trainers, who have been taught formally, by their different military services according to FM 3-21.5 Military Drill & Ceremony and within the VFW's Congressional Charter By-Laws Manual of Procedure Ritual.

The Post-7721 Ritual Team Captain is: Command Sergeant Major (Ret.) James Burch [Special Forces Group (AIRBORNE)]. The NCOIC's are J.B. Holmes (Air Force) for Folding Flag of the United States, and Bob Alasevich (Air Force & Marine) for Honors Rifle Team Salutes.

If you would like to volunteer to be part of Post-7721 Ritual Team, please inform myself or any of the Post-7721 Leadership. Remember, you do not have to attend all ceremonies.

My Home Phone: (239) 348-8641, and Home Email: CSMskyjumper1@yahoo.com.

Remember, Ritual Team, "Service is the essence of greatness. All great men and women became great because they gave their talent, ability, and time in the service of others."

Respectfully,

Command Sergeant Major (Ret.) James R. Burch, MBA
19th Special Forces Group (AIRBORNE)
Ritual Team Captain & Trustee
VFW's Post-7721
Naples, FL 34119



Funeral support for families, from the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, (VFW) Post-7721, Golden Gate, Ritual Team Honor Guard.

The VFW Post-7721, Golden Gate, Ritual Team Honor Guard provides military honors at all veteran funerals, memorial services, and celebrations of life, as requested by the families.

Public law, Title 10, United States Code, section 1491, provides: That all veterans who served their country in military service, under conditions not dishonorable, are entitled to military funeral honors.

The Department of Defense and the Veteran's Administration, have authorized veteran's organizations, such as the VFW, to conduct military funeral honors, at a veteran's funeral service.

The ceremony exemplifies, "Ceremonial paying of respect, and the final demonstration, of the country's gratitude to those who, in times of war and peace, have faithfully defended our nation."

This includes; an Honor Guard's 3-Rifle Volley, the Sounding of Taps, and the Ceremonial Folding and Presenting the Nation's Flag, with 3-Expanded Rounds, signifying the deceased veteran's sacrifice to Duty, Honor, and Country, to the family of the deceased.

While the VFW does not charge for these services, we do accept donations, the proceeds of which go to the support of our fellow veterans, families, and the community.

If our services are needed, please contact us, and we will be honored to support you.

Please contact:

J.B. Holmes, Commander, Post-7721: (239) 304-5258.

James Burch, Command Sergeant Major (Ret.), Honor Guard Captain: (239) 348-8641.

VFW Post-7721, Golden Gate, Naples, FL (239) 455-7721.

The VFW Post-7721, Golden Gate, Ritual Team Honor Guard, is very proud of its service, in presenting and displaying our nation's colors and associated unit flags at patriotic events and meetings.

The Ritual Team Honor Guard is comprised of volunteer members of VFW Post-7721, Golden Gate, and is distinguished by black and white uniforms, with black & yellow Aiguillette, black Ascot, Honor Guard Tab, and white Parade Belt. The Guard participates in many parades, events, and ceremonies honoring current active duty service members, veterans, and fallen comrades.

We stand ready to perform our last duty in conveying our gratitude and paying our final respects to a fallen comrade and take great pride in what we do!



Bikes For Tykes is looking for a few volunteers to repair bicycles. No experience needed, we will train you. No tools needed we will supply the tools needed....we just need your “bodies”preferably breathing, but we do have an air compressor if needed:):)

Our shop is open only on Wednesdays and Thursdays from Noon until 5PM....however you come when you can and leave when you gotta. You will like our crew. Come see the shop at 5950 Cope Ln, Naples, FL 34112 and I will give you the ‘nickle’ tour.

Please call Skip Rifle
Cell: 239-450-3366

PATRONS: You & your friends can help us in producing the monthly newsletter. A \$10.00 donation will put a name in either of these columns for 1 year. Mail your donation to VFW Post 7721 @ 800 Neff's Way, Naples, FL 34119. Make check payable to VFW Post 7721.

In Loving Memory

July 2022

**Jim Brennan
Randy Baum**

Patrons

July 2022

**Michelle Faccioli
Annette Ashner**

August 2022

Cadillac

September 2022/2023

Brian Donovan

March 2023

**Sam Heath
Joyce Heath**

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Please visit our new Facebook Page!
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HONOR A LIFE CREATE A MEMORY



2022 JUNE



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Lunch 11-2	2 Lunch 11-2 PM	3 Master Net-works 7:45 AM Lunch 11-2 PM	4 F. Hall Rental 4-9 PM
5 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM Hall Rent 3:30-7 PM	6 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM CCREC 6 PM	7 Lions 10:30-1 PM Lunch 11-2 PM FF 7 PM	8 Lunch 11-2 PM	9 House Meet 9 AM Staff Meet 10 AM Lunch 11-2 PM	10 Master Net-works 7:45 AM Lunch 11-2 PM	11
12 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM Hall Rent 3:30-7 PM	13 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM Rolling Thunder 7 PM	14 Lunch 11-2 PM Naples Fish Board 6 PM Post/Aux Meet 7 PM	15 Lunch 11-2 PM	16 Lunch 11-2 PM CC1013 7PM	17 Master Net-works 7:45 AM Lunch 11-2 PM	18 Defenders 10 AM
19 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM Hall Rent 3:30-7 PM	20 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM Bikes for Tykes 6:30 PM	21 Lunch 11-2 PM Lions 6:30 PM Naples Fish Club 6:30 PM	22 Lunch 11-2 PM	23 Lunch 11-2 PM	24 Master Net-works 7:45 AM Lunch 11-2 PM	25
26 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM A.B.A.T.E 11 AM Hall Rent 3:30-7 PM	27 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM	28 Lunch 11-2 PM	29 Lunch 11-2 PM	30		



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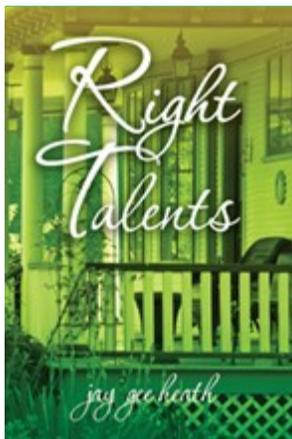
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Did You Know?
Joyce Heath (Sam's Wife) writes

Romance Novels

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also on Amazon or Kindle**



VFW Post 7721 Officers

Commander JB Holmes	239-304-5258	QM Randy Cash	239-249-2250
Sr. Vice Commander Bob Miller	330-429-5027	Chaplain/Judge Advocate Tom Swift	
Jr. Vice Commander Jack Fulmer	239-207-7290	Surgeon Ron Taylor	248-462-0801



House Meeting	1st Thursday	9:00 AM
Staff Meeting	1st Thursday	10:00 AM
Auxiliary Meeting	2nd Tuesday	7:00 PM
Post Meeting	2nd Tuesday	7:00 PM

VFW Post 7721 Auxiliary Officers

President Tony Roupp	239-601-4143	Treasurer Theresa Mook	239-435-7784
Sr. Vice President Carolyn Newland	239-451-8337	Secretary Veronica Gannon	239-247-0812
Jr. Vice President Veronica Gannon	239-247-0812	Chaplain	Rachel DiMiao
		Guard Mary Korbley	239-231-4200