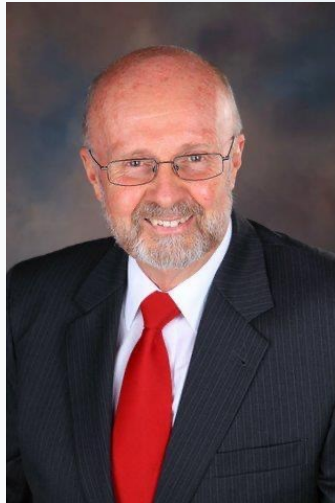




Volume 16 Issue 10

VFW Post 7721
13131 Collier Blvd.
Naples, FL 34119
(239)455-7721
Email: post7721@vfwfl.org



April 2023

As the 2022/23 VFW year works to a close it looks like we have become an All-State/All-American Post for the 3rd time in three years. We have successfully completed all programs and more. Thanks to your efforts, and Jr. Vice Cmdr. Tony Reyes's program administration, we have achieved number two status in VFW program points in our VFW division.

Regarding the always formidable task of recruitment, VFW Post 7721 has achieved 102% of our VFW assigned goal under the direction of Sr. Vice Cmdr. Jack Fulmer and Recruitment Chair Dick Miller. We have never exceeded goal this early in the VFW year before. Our VFW assigned goal was 605 members. In order to become All-American we needed 100% plus one member. In order to become All-State we needed 100% plus one percent. For our goal: Six new members equals approximately one percent. Thank you to everyone actively participating in recruitment. Our VFW Post would not have achieved such success without your efforts.

Continued...



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**PLEASE, HAVE ALL
ENTRIES IN FOR THE
NEWSLETTER BY THE
25TH OF EVERY
MONTH!**

Note: We need to continue our recruitment efforts to assist VFW District 13 in achieving recruitment goals. Some VFW District 13 Posts were severely impacted by Hurricane Ian; thus, their recruitment efforts have been seriously impacted. Even though we have achieved our Post goals we need to continue recruitment efforts in order to assist our District in achieving its goals.

Additional Note: VFW Members can recruit for the Auxiliary and the Auxiliary can recruit for the Post. Forms for both Members and Auxiliary are available in the Canteen.

Friday Fish Fry fund raising efforts to provide additional accoutrements for the *Fumeur Pavilion* have been very successful and they continue. A special thank you to all those who have volunteered to improve our Post for **all** members. There will be a special announcement regarding additional funding for the pavilion at the April Member Meeting. Please plan to attend.

Thank you for all you do everyday for your VFW Post.

Dr. JB Holmes, Commander
Golden Gate VFW Post 7721





Sick Call

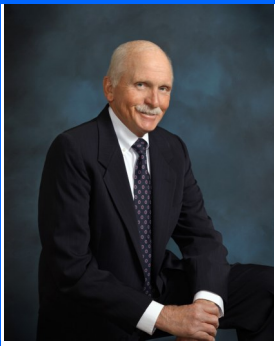
Savannah Lehnhard
Sarah Jenkins
Sue Brennan
Michelle Faccioli



Taps

Arnold Pepper
Tim McCaughtry
George Swanson





Senior Vice

Our membership rolls continue to increase as we near the end of March 2023. Our overall objective continues to be to grow our member numbers, build a stronger Post, and make a larger impact within our local community. Currently, for the month of March, we have grown to having 488 Life Members, 21 new members, 3 member reinstatements, and 107 continuous annual members. This gives us a total of 619 members. This means that we have qualified on the membership portion of the VFW Florida State grading system for both All State and All American status. This is a major accomplishment for our Post as we are the first Post in our District 13 to obtain this dual recognition status. Included in our new membership rolls for March 2023 is a 4-Star US Navy Admiral, Jerry Johnson. While on active duty, he served as the Assistant Chief of Naval Operations and was a Navy jet pilot who was a member of the elite honorary Tailhook Society. This marks our second 4-Star Flag Officer post member – US Army General Fred Franks, Commander of the Coalition forces in the Operation Freedom of Kuwait campaign, being the second.

We need to continually strive to expand our membership base. Many of our potential members are our neighbors and friends. Most are easily recognizable with their hats and shirts reflecting their military affiliation. Reach out to them and extend an invitation to join our Post. Always carry a blank membership form or two with you. You might be pleasantly surprised because you are the only person who ever asked them to join. Based upon our 2023 success with membership, there is no reason we can't expand our membership base to an even higher level.

The Post Honor Guard team continued to be actively engaged in performing military and civic ceremonies. During March, we performed 5 ceremonies. I will mention two of the more prominent. A memorial service was held for a WWII US Army Air Corps 1st Lieutenant, Joseph Innes. This ceremony was held at The Strand Golf and Country Club. A second service in which the Honor Guard participated was an official flag raising ceremony at the Moorings Park Grande Lakes community. The raising of the flag was performed on the community's recently erected flag pole. The Honor Guard performed 2 Commemorative Readings during the month. One was held on 24 MAR to commemorate the start of the Kosovo Campaign in 1999. The second reading was held on 31 MAR to commemorate the end of Operation Restore Hope in Somalia in 1995.

We continued to acknowledge deceased veterans in the state of Florida by making an appropriate entry into their online Memorial Guestbooks. During March, we posted 6 entries.

Respectfully –
Jack Fulmer
Senior Vice Commander
VFW Post #7721



Junior Vice

Greetings Comrades!

We begin this month with the arrival of Spring and soon the rainy season to follow. Our seasonal comrades will soon be returning home after an eventful and relaxing time in Collier County, and we wish them the best and to stay in touch. We look forward to their return. That said, Spring cleaning and gardening comes to mind with this time of year.

In addition to other events and activities, the Post had three Commemorative Tribute readings during March: The Kosovo Campaign, the Battle for Mogadishu, Somalia, and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Ceremony. The latter being one of our most important events of the year. A turnout of approximately 70 individuals came to listen to our Vietnam Veterans Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, Recognition Proclamation reading from our Governor, and the Commemorative Tribute Reading by one of our own. Our guest speaker provided insightful historical facts of her time during the war., and It was well received by the audience. Vietnam Veterans from the audience were recognized and received coins, pins, and a copy of the Governor's Proclamation. We will continue our busy schedule for April with our regular activities of bingo games on Monday, Magic show, Fish Fry on Fridays until the week after Easter (April 14), and other scheduled organizational members' meeting at the Post. Bikers' night will continue the last Thursday of the month, and our volunteer Post Service Officer continues to provide a service to Veterans on VA related topics, every Thursday 12-2 PM. No Commemorative Tribute Readings are scheduled for April, but the Honor Guard continues to conduct Memorials and Ceremonies throughout the County.

Most importantly April's Post and Auxiliary members meeting will hold elections for next year's leadership officers. We ask for all members able to attend to join us on Tuesday, April 11 and to cast their votes.

Regard to All,
Tony Reyes, Jr. Vice Commander VFW Post 7721



Auxiliary President

Auxiliary & Post Members

Happy Spring.... many of us look forward to the snowbird season ending with less traffic, no grocery store collisions and shorter traffic lights, but we will miss all our post snowbirds, safe travels north and see you in the fall.

Thanks to all who attended and volunteer to make record high attendance for this year's *St. Patrick's Day* a success. The post benefiting from lunches and dinners and the Auxiliary benefited from 50/50 and Raffle sales.

Our volunteers who helped make St. Patrick's Day are much appreciated, all events could not happen without everyone stepping up to help. Always need Sunday morning breakfast volunteers 8:30-noon, no experience necessary.

Auxiliary programs reports are due April 15, at the June convention all Auxiliaries are awarded recognition for all our efforts, in programs completed during the year.

Tuesday, April 11, 7pm-8pm – Important election night for 2023/2024 officers, mark your calendar to attend and vote.

June 15-18, 2023 – State Convention, at Renaissance Orlando, for Post & Auxiliary any member can attend.

Friday Night Fish Fry – March 24, 31, April 7, 5-7pm - \$15.00 pp

"Champions for Veterans" "Hearts that serve, Hands that Care"

Betty A. Bailey, President

Dept of Florida Chairperson – Buddy Poppy & National Home
District 13 Chaplain



Auxiliary Treasurer

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our auxiliary is at 107.37 paid membership for the 2022-2023 membership year. We have 252 life members and 83 annual members. Last year we had 312 members. We recruited 23 members this year and now have a total of 335 total members. Congratulations on a recruiting job well done! Anyone who has recruited 5 or more members will be receiving a pin from National Headquarters.

Annual members who are not in good standing because they have not paid their dues still have time to do so before June 30, 2023. If you do not pay your dues, you will have to reapply and show proof of eligibility.

If you are an annual member and are 80 years or older, the auxiliary will pay your dues. If you are in needs of assistance to pay your dues due to illness and/or financial hardship, please let me know and I will petition the membership to have your dues paid that year.

If you have any questions or concerns about the auxiliary membership or finances, please email or call me. I will be more than happy to speak to you.

Sincerely,
Theresa Mook

Treasurer/Membership Chairperson

145 Teryl Road #4, Naples, FL 34112

(239)298-1648

pasmagic1@yahoo.com

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 2023

**Jim Brennan
Randy Baum**

Patrons

July 2023

**Michelle Faccioli
Annette Faccioli**

August 2023

**Sarah Jenkins
Wayne Jenkins**

November 2023

Cadillac

September 2023

Brian Donovan

March 2024

Sam & Joyce Heath

**Website: www.vfwpost7721.org
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VFW Post #7721 Golden Gate**



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**NEW CONSTRUCTION
RENOVATIONS**



2023 APRIL



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Queen of Hearts 6 PM
2 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM LAMA 10AM Lost Riders 5 PM	3 Lunch 11-2 PM JWV 10:30 AM Bingo 1 PM Shuffleboard 6 PM Bikes for Tykes 6 PM	4 Lunch 11-2 PM Lions 10:30 AM FF 7 PM	5 Lunch 11-2 PM Scouts 7 PM Barbershop 7 PM	6 Lunch 11-2 PM	7 Lunch 11-2 PM Fish Fry 5-7 PM	8 Queen of Hearts 6 PM
9 Easter Buffett Breakfast 9-11:30 AM	10 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM Shuffleboard 6 PM Bikes for Tykes 6 PM Rolling Thunder 7 PM	11 Lunch 11-2 PM Post/Aux Meet 7 PM Naples Fish Board 6 PM	12 Lunch 11-2 PM Barbershop 7 PM	13 Lunch 11-2 PM	14 Lunch 11-2 PM	15 Defenders 10 AM Scouts 3 PM Queen of Hearts 6 PM
16 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM	17 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM Shuffleboard 6 PM Submarines 6 PM Bikes for Tykes 6 PM	18 Lunch 11-2 PM Naples Fish 6:00 PM Lions 6:30 PM	19 Lunch 11-2 PM Scouts 7 PM Barbershop 7 PM	20 Lunch 11-2 PM MOASWF Board Meet 3-5 PM CC1013 7 PM	21 NDA 9-2 PM Lunch 11-2 PM	22 Hall Rent 6-11 PM Queen of Hearts 6 PM
23 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM A.B.A.T.E. 11 AM	24 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM Shuffleboard 6 PM Bikes for Tykes	25 Lunch 11-2 PM Magic Flea Market 7 PM	26 Lunch 11-2 PM Barbershop 7 PM	27 Lunch 11-2 PM Bike Nite 6-8 PM	28 Lunch 11-2 PM	29 Scouts 3 PM Queen of Hearts 6 PM
30 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM						



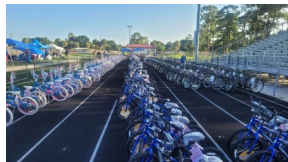
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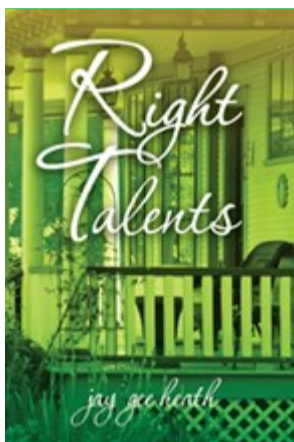
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Sr. Vice Commander Jack Fulmer	239-207-7290	Chaplain Jim Champion	
Jr. Vice Commander Tony Reyes	239-877-6105	Judge Advocate Frank Roberts	
		Surgeon Ron Taylor	248-462-0801



House Meeting	1st Tuesday	10:00 AM
Staff Meeting	1st Tuesday	11:00 AM
Auxiliary Meeting	2nd Tuesday	7:00 PM
Post Meeting	2nd Tuesday	7:00 PM

VFW Post 7721 Auxiliary Officers

President Betty Bailey	Treasurer Theresa Mook	239-435-7784
Sr. Vice President	Secretary Mary Ellen Cash	239-404-7003
Jr. Vice President Sue Craft	Chaplain Colleen Walker	
	Guard	