



VFW Post 7721  
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Naples, FL 34119  
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Email: [post7721@vfwfl.org](mailto:post7721@vfwfl.org)



**Commander  
Jack Fulmer**

**Volume 17  
Issue 2  
August 2023**

Here we are soon to enter August and the extreme heat and humidity of summer. I think I missed the memo that said summer started this year in July!

The Post had several significant events occur over the past 30 days that I would like to share. One was our participation in the Naples 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. As it worked out, the Collier County Sheriff's Office lead the parade with their Color Guard. Thus our Post Color Guard stood down. The Post team still had our trailer with bales of hay being pulled by Junior Vice Commander, Justin Baxter. The Color Guard team adapted and walked along the parade route and distributed small American Flags and poppies to the public. The Post Scout Troop carried the six branch service flags as planned.

**Continued...**

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

Carl Steinhoff of the Rolling Thunder Motorcycle Club, Florida Chapter 5, made a special award presentation to our Post during our 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. The awards consisted of six highly polished metal plaques, one for each of the six branches of the US Armed Forces.

When you have an opportunity to view these plaques, you will realize they are truly masterpieces of art. They will soon be placed in the Post in a special place of honor.

We lost one of our long time members of the Post this month, Sam Heath. Sam was a veteran of the Korean War. He was a dedicated member of the Post who supported us with being a moving force in bettering the Post both personally and financially. Those of you who have visited our Canteen will notice that each of the black barstools were purchased by Sam from his own personal funds. He loved the Post and that same love was returned by our members. A memorial ceremony is being planned for August 21 at the Post as requested by his wife, Joyce. More detailed information will be disseminated as they become known. I would be remiss if I didn't mention the passing of another Post member, Mike Galloway, a month or two ago. Mike was a loyal member of the Post and our local Marine Corps League, Detachment #063.

JB Holmes recently lead a work detail to clean out and remove unused and excess assets from the conex (external gray storage container) that we no longer need or use. He lead a five person detail team. To say that these individuals worked under duress would be an understatement. It was unusually hot and humid that day with team members working inside the metal sealed conex storage unit. Once the items that were to be discarded were removed, we hired a company to have it hauled away from our premises. There are insufficient words to thank these gentlemen for the extended effort to complete this task. They all have our gratitude and thanks.

Information was distributed by email a week ago regarding the next Collier-Lee County Honor Flight (Mission 25). This mission will focus on Gold Star Moms and Dads. This mission leaves and returns to the RSW airport September 30, 2023. If you are interested in participating either as a Guardian or Veteran being escorted, you can reach out directly to Dick Waite ([dwaite3043@gmail.com](mailto:dwaite3043@gmail.com)) for more details. Dick is the Send Off and Welcome Home Coordinator for the Collier-Lee County Honor Flight program.

We are continuing to research technology for the Post whereby remote members with either a smart phone and/or PC can livestream events at the Post. The most obvious event would be our monthly member meetings. This technology would provide real-time access for our seasonal members as well as others who are unable to attend in person. We are looking at several solutions for this initiative.

On November 10, one of our Post members, George Miserendino, will conduct a ceremony to honor the Marine Corps Birthday. More details will be provided once the planning is complete.

The Post has now successfully recruited a new Adjutant, Jairo Restrepo (JR). He has recently gone through a thorough turnover meeting with the outgoing Adjutant, Tom Walker. His first official meetings will begin with the August slate of Post meetings.

Jack Fulmer  
Post Commander

## Senior Vice



Greetings Comrades!

It's been a hot month in July with little rain, so we hope August proves to be more of a normal month for us in Southwest Florida. The Post will be busy in August with several activities planned, including our first Spaghetti dinner and live entertainment by "Lefty" on Aug 4 from 5 to 8pm. August 11 and 12 will be our Department Conference in Orlando followed by our District 13 meeting at our Post on Aug 19. A District level School of Instruction and Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen awards' discussion will follow District members meeting.

The Spaghetti (Pasta) dinner/entertainment initiative will be held the first Friday of Aug and Sept. In October, Post plans on returning to our seasonal Fish Fry dinners on the first Fridays of the month, and Post Pasta dinner will then be held the third Friday of the month. Please spread the word.

**Membership:** We started the new year July 2023-June 2024 with 645 members after VFW National accountants considered that our Post lost 20 members due to transfers or deceased members, and we were credited with 14 new members starting 1 July 2023. Membership drives and recruitment is one of the Post top priorities. Recommend that members voice this topic during other personal and Post activities.

**House:** We've placed two oscillating fans at the outdoor Pavilion, and we will start the first week in August running electricity to several locations to place an additional four ceiling fans as well and moving the VFW sign to its new location. Post plans on placing night lights, TV monitors, and screening thereafter.

Regards and Stay Safe,

Tony Reyes, VFW Post 7721 Senior Vice Commander

## Junior Vice



Greetings Comrades,

The month of August is upon us and with its arrival the start of a new school year for students in Collier County. August 10<sup>th</sup> is the first day of school for many kids in the area, including mine. The start of the school year marks the beginning of our Post's efforts with the Voice of Democracy (VOD), Patriot's Pen (PP), and JROTC scholarship programs.

If you have the blessing of grandkids, grandnieces or nephews that attend school in our area talk with them about the VFW scholarship money that is available to them. The young family that may live next door to you; speak to the parents about how the VFW provides scholarship money through patriotic-themed essays. We can all be ambassadors for the VFW in our community with regard to this. I intend to speak with my sons and their friends about these scholarships. Applications for VOD and PP must be turned in by October 31<sup>st</sup> so the window for entry is closing fast.

Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup> (5-7pm) is the Post's first presentation of Spaghetti Dinner Night. I will tell you all a secret. I've seen the kitchen staff experiment with meatball and sauce recipes over the last month in preparation for this event. I was even allowed to sample some of it and let me tell you, it will be delicious. I hope to see you there!

Lastly, I'll switch hats for a moment and put my Collier County Sheriff Deputy hat on to remind you that the start of school brings with it many safety concerns for our children. Be prepared for the roadways filled with school buses and young teenage first time drivers on their way to and from school. My oldest son starts driving to school this year for the first time! Be patient in the school zones as the first days of school bring some logistical chaos, every year, for every Collier County Public School property.

Be safe out there and stay hydrated in this heat!

Kind Regards,

Justin Baxter

Junior Vice Commander



## August 2023 Auxiliary Newsletter

Greetings,

The new year has started and the programs for Auxiliary 2023/2024 are on the website **vfwauxfl.org**, for complete information once logged into website click on programs and scroll down to each.

Every member can login and view the Department directory. From the menu on the top of the page, select – Members only. Your login is your Membership ID number, and your password is your last name (password is not case sensitive. (Same as you use for MALTA **malta.vfwauxiliary.org**)

Once you login you can access all information on the top dashboard for information on the Dept of Florida Auxiliary. The Malta website has information from the National Ambassadors program outline

Our Department President, Teresa Bachand's 23/24  
Theme – "Stand Up Speak Out"  
Motto – "It's nice to be Nice"  
Song – "Humble and Kind"  
Special Project – "MST" Military Sexual Trauma  
National President's Theme – "Banding Together for our Veterans



The planning committee has met to suggest events for the 23/24 year, and once approved by the House Committee, it will be presented to members for final vote.

***Volunteers are needed and appreciated: Sunday Breakfast, Event Chairpersons, membership drive, sponsorships, crafting or special skills anything you volunteer for helps.***

***Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 8, 6:30 check in 7-8pm meeting.***

**Betty A. Bailey, President, 7721 Auxiliary**

Dept of Florida Chairperson – Hospital Program  
District 13 Chaplain



## Auxiliary Treasurer

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Our auxiliary is already at 82.7% paid for the 2023-2024 membership year. Annual dues notices will go out on August, 1, 2023. I have no doubt that we will reach the 90% milestone before September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Please note that our dues have gone up to \$40 for the year. Make your check payable to VFW Aux #7721 and mail your dues to me using the self-addressed stamped envelope enclosed with the dues notice. If you would like to convert to a Life Membership, there is information enclosed with the due notice that tell you the amount you would need to pay based on your age.

Congratulations to all recruiters who earned their recruiter pins!! Keep up the good work and thank you!!

Sincerely,  
Theresa Mook

145 Teryl Road #4, Naples, FL 34112

(239)298-1648

pasmagic1@yahoo.com

### Sick Call

Savannah Lehnhard  
Sarah Jenkins  
Sue Brennan  
Michelle Faccioli

### Taps

Sam Heath



***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**

**August 2023**

**Sarah Jenkins  
Wayne Jenkins**

**November 2023**

**Cadillac**

**September 2023**

**Brian Donovan**

**March 2024**

**Sam & Joyce Heath**

**July 2024**

**Marian Nickel**

**Website: [www.vfwpost7721.org](http://www.vfwpost7721.org)  
Email: [post7721@vfwfl.org](mailto:post7721@vfwfl.org)  
Please visit our new Facebook Page!  
VFW Post #7721 Golden Gate**



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**NEW CONSTRUCTION  
RENOVATIONS**



# August 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Lunch 11-2 PM Lions 10:30 AM	2 Lunch 11-2 PM	3 House 9AM Staff 11 AM Lunch 11-2 PM	4 Lunch 11-2 PM  Happy Hour 5-8 PM Dinner/Music 5-7 PM	5 Happy Hour 5-8 PM  Queen of Hearts 6 PM
6 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM  Lost Riders 5 PM	7 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM  Bikes for Tykes 6 PM	8 Lunch 11-2 PM  Post/Aux Meet 7 PM	9 Lunch 11-2 PM	10 Lunch 11-2 PM	11 Lunch 11-2 PM	12 Happy Hour 5-8 PM  Queen of Hearts 6 PM
13 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM	14 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM  Bikes for Tykes 6 PM Rolling Thunder 7 PM	15 Lunch 11-2 PM  Lions 6 PM	16 Lunch 11-2 PM	17 Lunch 11-2 PM  MOASWF 3-5 PM	18 Lunch 11-2 PM	19 Defenders 10 AM Happy Hour 5-8 PM Queen of Hearts 6 PM
20 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM LAMA 10AM	21 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM  Memorial For Sam Heath 5 PM	22 Lunch 11-2 PM	23 Lunch 11-2 PM  Journey Home 5 PM	24 Lunch 11-2 PM	25 Lunch 11-2 PM	26 Happy Hour 5-8 PM  Queen of Hearts 6 PM
27 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM A.B.A.T.E. 11 AM	28 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM  Bikes for Tykes 6 PM PM	29 Lunch 11-2 PM  Magic Flea Market 7 PM FC Bass 7PM	30 Lunch 11-2 PM	31 Lunch 11-2 PM		





**OPERATION**  
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COFFEE, SWEETS, SOME  
WAR STORIES, AND LIES.



**Every Monday**  
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**Everyone is**  
**Welcome**



**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



**The Southwest Florida Magicians**  
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**Meets the last Tuesday of the**  
**Month @ 7 PM**  
**Guests are welcome**

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**HONOR A LIFE CREATE A MEMORY**

**Rolling Thunder, Inc.**



**Florida Chapter 5**  
**P.O. Box 1038**  
**Naples, FL 34106**



**Carl Steinhoff**  
*Chairman, Board of Directors*

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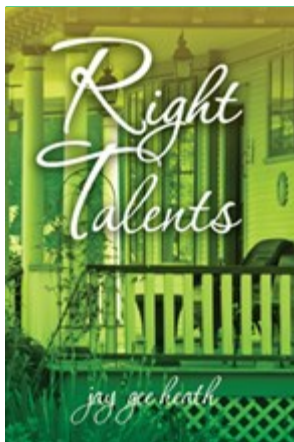
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**QM**  
**Randy Cash**                    **239-249-2250**

**Chaplain**  
**Gary Asztalos**

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**Ron Taylor**                    **248-462-0801**

**1 Yr. Trustee**  
**Frank Robert**

**2 Yr. Trustee**  
**Thomas Walker**

**3 Yr. Trustee**  
**Mike Ricci**



## *VFW Post 7721 Auxiliary Officers*

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**Sr. Vice President**  
**Sue Craft**                    **913-544-5255**

**Jr. Vice President**  
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**Treasurer**  
**Theresa Mook**                **239-298-1648**

**Secretary**  
**Mary Ellen Cash**        **239-262-8569**

**Chaplain**  
**Colleen Walker**        **239-285-7681**

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**1 Yr. Trustee**  
**Donna Sylvester**

**2 Yr. Trustee**  
**Georgia Izzo**

**3 Yr. Trustee**  
**Darlene Izzo**

<b>House Meeting</b>	<b>1st Thursday</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>
<b>Staff Meeting</b>	<b>1st Thursday</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
<b>Auxiliary Meeting</b>	<b>2nd Tuesday</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>Post Meeting</b>	<b>2nd Tuesday</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>