



VFW Post 7721
13131 Collier Blvd.
Naples, FL 34119
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Email: post7721@vfwfl.org



**Commander
Jack Fulmer**

**Volume 17
Issue 3
September 2023**

Here we are at the beginning of September and the peak of hurricane season. Hopefully, it will be a mild season as many Post members and their families continue to recover from Hurricane Ian.

Our Post hosted the quarterly District 13 Post and Auxiliary meeting on 19 AUG 2023. The total individuals in attendance was approximately 50. After the joint meeting session concluded, several attendees gathered outside the back auditorium for a Flag Retirement Ceremony. A ceremonial flag was retired accompanied by a reading of the flag retirement proclamation expressing the symbolism of this sacred ceremony. Many of the District Post's brought with them American flags to be retired. Two Scouts from our Post Scout Troop 25 retired several flags. The remainder of the flags brought to the District meeting were stored in our external Conex storage container. They will subsequently be given to a local Naples Fire Station that officially retires American flags. The conclusion of the District meeting consisted of a School of Instruction conducted by our Sr. Vice Commander. He spoke on the topics of Patriots Pen and the Voice of Democracy.

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

Continued...

A special birthday party was held this past month for Captain Wayne Smith, U.S. Air Force Vietnam veteran. Captain Smith enjoyed the celebration of his 80th birthday. The event was attended by many of Wayne's adoring friends and was a huge success.

The Post leadership team attended a Post Service Officer training course and a School of Instruction focused on numerous Post related administrative topics. The 2 day training session was held in Orlando during the period 18-19 AUG 2023.

Three memorial services were conducted this month. The major service was held in honor of Post member, Sam Heath. Sam was a veteran of the Korean War and served in the U.S. Air Force. Sam was a very dedicated member of the Post who gave freely of his time and financial support. The folded American Flag was presented to his wife, Joyce, at the conclusion of the ceremony. A second memorial service was held at the Fuller Funeral Home for Thomas Demes, a U. S. Army Vietnam veteran. The third ceremony was held for Staff Sergeant William Carey at the Palm Royale Funeral Home. Sgt. Carey was also a U. S. Army decorated Vietnam veteran.

The Post was represented at the America's 13 Tribute ceremony held in Punta Gorda 26 AUG 2023. This ceremony honored the 13 U. S. soldiers killed while U. S. troops were departing the airport in Kabul, Afghanistan. This event was held exactly two years after the withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Planning continues for several local Veterans Day ceremonies. The locations include Siena Lakes Retirement Community, Falling Waters community, the Women's Republican Club of Naples, Quail West Country Club, and the Vanderbilt Country Club. These ceremonies will be held primarily on 10 and 11 NOV 2023 and will mark the peak season of the Post Honor Guard activities.

Jack Fulmer
Commander

Senior Vice



Greeting Comrades!

We hope everyone is doing well and in great Spirits. As we enter the heighten period of Hurricane season and miss a direct impact from Hurricane Idalia, we also pray for those hit hard in the Big Bend area of Florida. Our Post is on standby to provide support to those in need.

We'll soon be announcing to the community their needs, but we anticipate water, tarps, and cleaning supplies will be part of the list.

Membership: Our goal for achieving All American and All State this year is 663 new annual/life members. We have obtained 27 new members to date and will need to recruit another 158 members to achieve this goal.

House Chair: Handrails were recently placed along the hallway leading towards the men and women bathrooms. A big thank you goes out to Mike Ricci for his hard work and effort in accomplishing this task. County permits for continuing work on our Pavilion have been completed, and we anticipate electrical work and movement of the VFW sign to take place the week of Sep 3.

Fish Fry begins on Friday, Sep 29 and will continue every Friday throughout the end of the season Mar/April 2024 with live entertainment as part of the program.

Regards and Stay Safe!

Tony Reyes, Senior Vice Commander and House Chair

Junior Vice



Greetings Comrades,

I hope this letter finds you all well and in good health. The Post is preparing for the arrival of our Northern members and friends. We can't wait to see you guys and tell you about how hot it has been here! There's plenty of sunshine left to go around, I can assure you.

We have had our first "grazing" from Hurricane Idalia. Thankfully, it was just a rain event for us. As I write this Collier County Sheriff's Deputies are on the ground in Florida's Big Bend area helping local first responders and emergency crews there. Please keep all of those first responders in your thoughts and prayers during this event. It is quite stressful to go through a direct hit by a hurricane and quite another level of stress to participate in recovery and relief efforts as a first responder afterwards. This storm should serve as wake up call to us here in Collier County. Prepare your home and your family for the hurricane season as it's proving to be another active one.

Switching gears, I would like to welcome you all to join me at 4715 Golden Gate Parkway (Golden Gate Government Complex) for our annual 9-11 Memorial Service on September 11, 2023 at 0930 hours. Members of the Collier County Sheriff's Office, Greater Naples Fire Rescue, Golden Gate Civic Association and Golden Gate High School will be present to honor and pay tribute to the 2,996 killed in the attack on September 11, 2001. This year will mark 22 years since 9-11.

I will end this letter by saying I look forward to seeing you at the post this month! There's always a good time to be had among friends there. If you have served in the United States Air Force, you owe us all a rendition of "Wild Blue Yonder" in celebration of the USAF birthday on September 18th. Happy Birthday USAF!

Kind Regards,
Justin Baxter
Junior Vice Commander



September 2023 Auxiliary Newsletter

Our Auxiliary is off with a great start recruiting new members since the start of the new year in July. Everyone can help recruit so we can achieve our goal of 100+%, recruiting can be done by Post members also.

Auxiliary School of Instruction in Orlando with programs introductions, Mary Ellen Cash – Dept. Patriotic Instructor and myself Hospital Chairman provided information for over 150 attendees for our programs. The SOI held training on the Secretary, Treasurer, Trustee positions and Reporting, all information available on website vfwauxfl.org

A Special award given from National Convention for our post being 2nd Place in the Southern division for the Buddy Poppy & National Home reporting was given by past president Cindy Estell to Betty a. Bailey. The southern division represents fourteen (14) states, a special honor for our Auxiliary.

The post house committee approved dates from auxiliary planning meeting for 23/24 year, chairmen will plan on more details mark your calendar for these dates:

Saturday, October 15 – Octoberfest Dinner/Dancing

Nov 6-10 Buddy Poppy week distribution: visiting Assisted Living, AVOW to honor Veterans. The Poppy distribution will be on Friday, Nov 10-day before Veterans Day.

Friday, December 15 – Christmas Party – Gift Exchange

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

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 12, 6:30 check in 7-8pm

Florida TAX FREE Holiday – August 26-Septbmer 8, 2023

(Dog/Cat Food, Laundry Detergent & Supplier, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Hand/Bar Soap, Cleaning products, Batteries, Smoke Detectors, Portable Generators, Non-Electric Food storage colliers for complete list.... floridarevenue.com/Disaster Prep)

Betty A. Bailey, President, 7721 Auxiliary

Dept of Florida Chairperson – Hospital Program
District 13 Chaplain



Auxiliary Treasurer

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The 1st Annual dues notice went out on July 1st. Three of those annual members have converted to life! There are presently 301 paid members. We had 5 new members voted in during our July meeting (3 life and 2 annual) and we already have 7 new members (6 life and 1 annual) to be voted in, so far, at our September meeting. We are at 88.27% paid for the 2023-2024 membership year. The milestone of reaching 90% by September 1st is within our reach!

Our auxiliary paid our yearly obligations, health and happiness dues, and our district dues in July. The office of the President and Treasurer have been bonded. The 990N E-Card was filed on July 1st with the IRS.

Thank you to the recruiters for the new member sign ups. Keep up the great work. All applications that are turned in should have proof of eligibility and the dues required. Make sure the applicant has entered their date of birth, has signed the membership application and correctly writes down their relationship to the eligible veteran. Their relationship must be: Husband/Wife/ Sons/ Daughters/ Widower/Widow/ Father/Mother/ Brothers/Sisters/ Grandfathers/Grandmothers/ Grandsons/Granddaughters. *Step-and adopted parents, children, siblings (and half-siblings), grandparents and grandchildren are considered the same as biological parents, children, siblings, grandparents and grandchildren and may join the VFW Auxiliary under their VFW-eligible veteran.* The eligible veteran must have foreign and/or sea service and served in a foreign war or conflict or and/or collected hazardous duty pay. Most veterans serving only stateside do not qualify.

If the eligible veteran is a member of #7721, that member may come in as an affiliated member and does not have to provide proof of eligibility. Life member transfers do not have to show proof of eligibility. If you need help with membership, please call or email me.

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



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 2024

**Jim Brennan
Randy Baum**

Patrons

August 2024

**Sarah Jenkins
Wayne Jenkins**

November 2023

Cadillac

September 2023

Brian Donovan

March 2024

Sam & Joyce Heath

July 2024

Marian Nickel

**Website: www.vfwpost7721.org
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Please visit our new Facebook Page!
VFW Post #7721 Golden Gate**



AUSTIN AKERS

Sales Supervisor

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**NEW CONSTRUCTION
RENOVATIONS**



September 2023



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



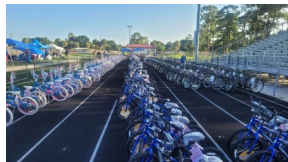
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Welcome



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Please call Skip Rifle
Cell: 239-450-3366



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HONOR A LIFE CREATE A MEMORY

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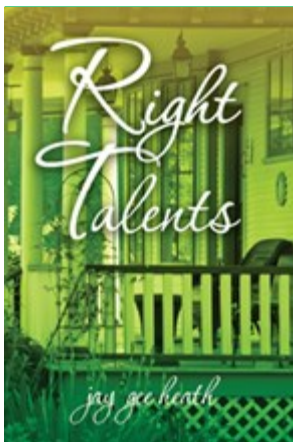
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Did You Know?
Joyce Heath (Sam's Wife) writes

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Justin Baxter

QM

Randy Cash 239-249-2250

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Gary Asztalos

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Frank Roberts

Surgeon

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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Betty Bailey 239-738-4199

Sr. Vice President

Sue Craft 913-544-5255

Jr. Vice President

Lois Bolin 239-777-2281

Treasurer

Theresa Mook 239-298-1648

Secretary

Mary Ellen Cash 239-262-8569

Chaplain

Colleen Walker 239-285-7681

Guard

Linda Ramos

1 Yr. Trustee

Donna Sylvester

2 Yr. Trustee

Georgia Izzo

3 Yr. Trustee

Darlene Izzo

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