

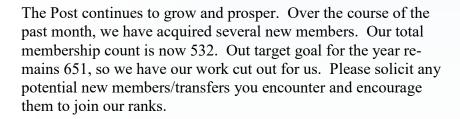


Jack Fulmer



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

Volume 17
Issue 5
November 2023



Recently, I had the distinct honor of presenting two of our members with Recruiter awards. The awards consisted of member pins given to honor their sustained efforts in recruiting new and reinstated members to our Post. These two individuals were Randy Cash and Tom Walker. These awards were sent to our Post from VFW National Commander in Chief, Duane Sarmiento.

The Honor Guard continues to flourish with an abundance of requests for our services. Since the last reporting period, we have received requests for five services. Notable among these was a flag replacement and retirement ceremony held at a private residence in Marco Island. A photo gallery of Honor Guard pictures taken at this event can be viewed on this website: https://www.rcscc.us/copy-of-about-us.

Continued...





Inside this issue

Commanders

Message

Senior Vice Message

Junior Vice Message

Auxiliary Presidents

Message

Auxiliary Treasurer Message

- Monthly Calendar
- Taps
- Sick Call
- Sponsors Ads

PLEASE, HAVE ALL ENTRIES IN FOR THE NEWSLETTER BY THE 25TH OF EVERY MONTH! This forthcoming Veterans Day is the Honor Guard's busiest time of the year. Memorial Day is our second highest-demand day for Honor Guard services. Between the two day period, 10-11 NOV, the Honor Guard has eight events scheduled. The elapsed time between events makes the movement of personnel and equipment extremely challenging. Planning for these events has been an ongoing project over the past several months with multiple site visits and meeting sessions.

A celebration of the 248th birthday anniversary of the United States Marine Corps will be held at the Post on 10 NOV. The schedule of events is listed below. Plan to attend this event and help the Post Marines celebrate their Branch birthday.

Two members of our Post, Quartermaster Randy Cash and myself, attended the VFW Department Fall Conference in Orlando during the period 20-21 OCT. Much useful information was gleaned from this event which will prove useful to us moving forward.

We are quickly approaching the deadline (31 OCT) for the submission of our Post candidate names for the Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Teacher of the Year, Lapinski Scholarship, Law Enforcement, Fire Fighters, and EMT awards program. Our Post has to have completed our local judging process by 15 NOV so the award selection names we chose can be forwarded to Department immediately thereafter. The Post also participates in awarding JROTC scholarships at each Collier County High School with a JROTC program.

Jack Fulmer, Commander



U.S.M.C 248TH Birthday & Commemoration of Korean War Marines

Hosted By George Miserendino, VFW Post 7721

Location: 13131 Collier Blvd, Naples, FL 34119

Date: 10 November-Marine Corps Birthday

Time: 14:30 Hours

Agenda

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Marine Corps Hymn
- Invocation ... Pastor Donald E. Treglown
- Marine Corps History, Culture & Heritage Presentations
 - 1. Recognition ... Korean War & Era Marines
 - 2. General Le Juene ... Bill Slepcevich
 - 3. History of the Purple Heart ... Norm Bertausen
 - 4. Marine Corps Historical Perspective ...

Jim Buchholtz

• Cake Cutting Tradition



Senior Vice



Nov 2023 Newsletter Inputs

Greetings Comrades and special welcome to our returning seasonal and new members! We hope everyone is doing well and in great Spirits. As we transitioned to cooler weather, lower humidity, and revisiting with friends, we are reminded why we especially enjoy Southwest Florida this time of year. November is a special month as we pay tribute to our Veterans on Veteran's Day, and our Post Honor Guard team will be busy conducting several memorial/ceremonial activities throughout the month. Our Fish Fry Fridays with entertainment continues, and we look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving with our friends and loved ones.

Membership: We are at approximately 82% membership (an increase of four percent since last month's newsletter input) and need to reach the goal of 102% for All American and All State by the end of the VFW year Jun 2024. Currently, we have 532 members (an increase of 22 since last month's newsletter input) and need 663 new annual/life members to reach that goal. We call upon all annual members to renew your membership and seek out new members as well.

House Activities: House Committee members continue to improve Post capabilities and services with the following: We are obtaining quotes from different contractors on installing rain gutters at our Pavilion and have purchased outdoor lights that will be installed shortly. Two outdoor heating lamps were donated to the Post and will be in place in cooler weather. A contractor will be disconnecting the VFW sign within a week, and it will be moved to its new position shortly thereafter. The Post has obtained a new contract that has greatly improve the speed and coverage of the internet throughout the building, and we are conducting research on improving the sound quality of the Canteen and other meeting rooms speaker systems. We performed our first monthly members internet Zoom session last month, and this service will continue with each following monthly meeting.

The Post has received a new updated version of the VFW Rules/Guidelines for the Operation of Clubrooms, Canteens, and Activities by Posts in the State of Florida. It covers a number of topics including Operations, Committee, Meetings, Personnel, Finances, Conduct, Suspension from Clubroom Privileges, Closed Periods, and Tax information. These Rules are posted on the Canteen bulletin board and throughout the Post. As a TEAM, we continue to improve our services that are provided to Members, Veterans, and Community guests. A special thanks goes out to the House Staff and Post and Auxiliary volunteers. Without their support, we would not be able to perform at the current tempo and successful rate. We continue to need additional volunteers, especially during large events/activities.

Regards and Stay Safe!
Tony Reyes, Senior Vice Commander/House Chair

Junior Vice



Hello friends,

I am excited to report to you, on this first day of November, we have met our goal to identify candidates for Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen. This year we will have well over 100 entries for Patriot's Pen! What a great turnout from the young people in our community. I see hope to be had for our Republic when so many of our children are found to be interested and engaged on this year's topic of "What Are The Greatest Attributes of Our Democracy?" Our contest judges will be identified in the coming days and I expect they will have their hands full finding a winner among so many contestants. Voice of Democracy has produced nearly a dozen contestants in our high school community and should be just as exciting to judge and identify winners.

I am also happy to report that VFW Post 7721 has identified nominees for Teacher of the Year, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, and Firefighter and EMS Personnel of the Year. These selfless public servants will be honored at our award dinner, Operation Steak Out, at the end of January 2024.

The holiday season of 2023 is fast approaching us on Thanksgiving Day in November, followed by Christmas Day in December. This is my favorite time of the year. I find myself reflecting on the year that has passed. Was 2023 a good year? Where are my family and friends and how are they doing? What am I thankful for this year?

The holiday season begins, appropriately, by celebrating veterans on November 11th. The post has a busy schedule of honoring veterans this year on Veterans Day. From the moment the sun rises on Veterans Days to the moment it disappears over the gulf we have events planned. What an honor it is to represent veterans in our community at these many events planned over that weekend.

Thankfulness should be on the minds of all of us during the month of November. Let me be the first to ask you in 2023, what are you thankful for? I am thankful for men like Dr. JB Holmes. He has tirelessly worked as a leader at this post with the Honor Guard to make sure Post 7721 represents veterans on Veterans Day this year. He has meticulously planned Veterans Day events out from start to finish and will most assuredly execute his plan to honor all veterans in our community, to the letter. I am thankful for our Auxiliary membership, led by Betty Bailey. They volunteer day in and day out to keep this post running smoothly. I have witnessed, first hand, their dedication to our post, our vets, our family. Our canteen and kitchen employees. You guys rock! This post is welcoming to all who enter thanks to you. Last but not least, I am thankful for our members. I call you brother, sister,...you gave of yourself to this nation. You have earned the right to be called a Veteran of Foreign Wars. Welcome home!

I will see you at the post!

Justin Baxter
Junior Vice Commander



November 2023 Auxiliary Newsletter

Dear post members,

Thank you for your service and we honor you on Veterans Day and all year long for your sacrifice to protect freedoms.

October 19-20 was the Auxiliary Fall Conference, which was attended by Officers Mary Ellen Cash – Dept. of Florida Patriotic instructor, her responsibilities coordinated the POW/MIA ceremony which the Post and Auxiliary participated, this year Mary Ellen contacted representatives from each branch of the service to be part of the beautiful ceremony. For myself as Hospital chairperson my power point presentation was outlining the goals and giving suggestions for the 23/24 goals of the program. Many new ideas for all auxiliary programs were presented, raffles where held for district decorated pumpkins, artwork, and each day a 50/50 drawing.

Congratulations to Mary Ellen for winning the Saturday 50/50 and donating to the president's special project. I was fortunate to win a special piece of Artwork that reflected the oil spill over the Arizonia ship in Pearl Harbor, such an honor since my father served in the Navy during the pacific conflict.

Octoberfest - special thanks to attendees and volunteers who made it a successful and fun event.

For many Auxiliary and Post events, we are fortunate to have several members step in and volunteer, I encourage everyone to support our post by attending events, volunteering to serve/set up/cleanup for events and keeping our post clean. The auxiliary is here to support the post in many ways, auxiliary members may not be available to volunteer, clean up for post events.

Important Dates:

Nov 6-10 Buddy Poppy week distribution: Coordinated visits with AVOW to assisted living and skilled nursing facilities to honor remembering Veterans.

The Poppy distribution will be on Friday, Nov 10-day before Veterans Day, Seed to Table, Cambier Park locations

November 14 – Monthly meeting – bring a dish to share

Betty A. Bailey, President, 7721 Auxiliary

Dept of Florida Chairperson - Hospital Program, Dist. 13 Chaplain



Auxiliary Treasurer

Hello Brothers and Sisters

Our Auxiliary has over 95% paid membership for the 2023-2024 membership year. If you are an annual member and have not paid your dues, please help our auxiliary reach the 100%+ 3 membership milestone. Send your dues \$40.00 check to me at the address below. Make your check out to VFW Auxiliary #7721. If you wish to convert to a life membership, please contact me via phone or by email to receive the dues amount you will need to pay.

Dues go to support our auxiliary members in helping our veterans and their families and our community. If are not paid by December 31, 2023, you will no longer be a member in "good standing". This means that you will not be eligible for the cancer grant, to vote at elections, and for other important benefits. If dues are not paid by June 30th, you will need to reapply and show proof of eligibility.

Thank you to all the recruiters. Anyone who recruits 5 members or more will be recognized by the Department.

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 Facciolli Tammie Place Mickey Brutto



Taps

Dan Brennan





<u>PATRONS:</u> 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

September 2024

Sam Heath

<u>Patrons</u>

November 2023

Cadillac

September 2023

Brian Donovan

March 2024

Joyce Heath

July 2024

Marian Nickel

August 2024

Sarah Jenkins Wayne Jenkins

Website: www.vfwpost7721.org

Email: post7721@vfwfl.org

Please visit our new Facebook Page!

VFW Post #7721 Golden Gate





November 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Lunch 11-2 PM Barbershop 7 PM Scouts 7 PM	House 9AM Honor Guard 11 AM Lunch 11-2 PM	3 Lunch 11-2 PM Fish Fry 5-7 PM Music-Country 5-8 PM	F. Hall 4:30-9:30 PM Queen of Hearts 6 PM
5 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM	6 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM	7 Lunch 11-2 PM Lions 10:30 AM FF 7 PM	8 Lunch 11-2 PM	9 Lunch 11-2 PM	10 Lunch 11-2 PM Marine Corp	11 BBQ 12-2 PM
Lost Riders 5 PM			Barbershop 7 PM Scouts 7 PM		Birthday 2:30 PM	Queen of Hearts 6 PM
12 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM	13 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM	14 Lunch 11-2 PM Lifeline 8-4 PM Naples Fish	15 Lunch 11-2 PM	16 Lunch 11-2 PM MOASWF	17 Lunch 11-2 PM Fish Fry 5-7 PM	18 Defenders 10 AM
Happy Hour 1-5 PM	Bikes for Tykes 6 PM Rolling Thunder 7 PM	Post/Aux Meet 7 PM	Barbershop 7 PM Scouts 7 PM	3-5 pm	Music by Anthony 5-8 PM	Queen of Hearts 6 PM
19 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM	20 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM	21 Lunch 11-2 PM	22 Lunch 11-2 PM Journey Home	23	24 Lunch 11-2 PM	25
LAMA 10AM Happy Hour 1-5 PM	Bikes for Tykes 6 PM Submarines 7 PM	Naples Fish 7 PM Lions 6 PM	5 PM Barbershop 7 PM Scouts 7 PM	CLOSED Happy Thanksgiving		Queen of Hearts 6 PM
Breakfast 9-11:30 AM A.B.A.T.E. 11 AM Happy Hour 1-5 PM	27 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM	28 Lunch 11-2 PM FC Bass 7 PM Magicians Assoc. 7 PM	29 Lunch 11-2 PM Barbershop 7 PM Scouts 7 PM	30 Lunch 11-2 PM		





OPERATION CHEWING THE FAT

1000 HRS TO 1200HRS MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

JOIN US FOR SOME COFFEE, SWEETS, SOME WAR STORIES, AND LIES.



Every Monday 1 PM 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
Association
Meets the last Tuesday of the
Month @ 7 PM
Guests are welcome

"Everyone Needs a little Magic in their life"

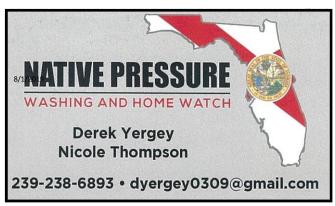












Patrick Eagen Sr

8/1/2019

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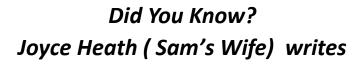


Lynette Russell Career Agent Gulf Coast MarketPoint

16964 Alico Mission Way Ste 200 Fort Myers FL 33908

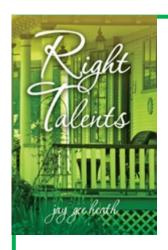
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2/10/2021



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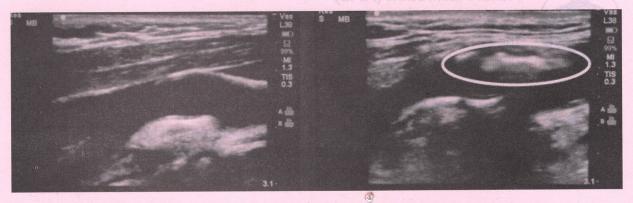
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Adults age 50+ and those 40 and older with one or more risk factors for cardiovascular disease should be screened.

¹Key Risk Factors include: *High blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, obesity, smoking, family history.

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Where: Naples - Golden Gate V F W Post 7721

When: Tuesday, November 14, 2023

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Sr. Vice Commander

Tony Reyes 239-877-6105

Jr. Vice Commander

Justin Baxter

QM

Randy Cash 239-249-2250

Chaplain

Gary Asztalos

Judge Advocate

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 Pinto

3 Yr. Trustee Darlene Izzo

House/Staff Meeting 1st Thursday 9:00 AM
Honor Guard 1st Thursday 11:00 AM
Auxiliary Meeting 2nd Tuesday 7:00 PM
Post Meeting 2nd Tuesday 7:00 PM