



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

**Commander  
 Jack Fulmer**

**Volume 17  
 Issue 6  
 December 2023**

It's that time of year when our northern members begin their "flight" back to sunny warm Florida. There is a distinct uptick in their presence at the Post. So, I'd like to extend our welcome to them and look forward to visiting with them throughout the winter months.

Our membership roster continues to grow and prosper since last month's newsletter. Our total membership count is now 550. The target goal for the year continues to be 651, so some heavy lifting remains. Please continue to solicit any potential new members/transfers and encourage them to join our Post.

We continue to receive donations at a steady pace. As you will recall, our Brother and huge Post supporter, Sam Heath, passed away recently. Sam left money earmarked for the Post in his final wishes. Sam's wife, Joyce, has already provided us with a substantial sum of money that has been applied towards the completion of the Pavilion. Joyce's sister, Janet, followed with another substantial donation in honor of Sam's passing. The Post is extremely grateful to Sam and his family, both immediate and extended, for continuing to provide financial support to improve our Post.

**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!**

The Italian-American Society in Bonita Springs held their November monthly meeting and luncheon at the Artichoke and Company restaurant. I was invited to attend as a representative from our Post. At the conclusion of the lunch, I was presented with a substantial donation by their President, Joanne Stark. We're very grateful to the Society for their kindness.

The Honor guard continues to flourish. We had 12 events during this month. The majority of these events were clustered around Veterans Day (10-11 NOV 2023). One of the more prominent events was the Women's Republican Club of Naples Federated held at the Hilton Hotel. The Honor Guard presented the Colors at the opening ceremony. The Honor Guard was led by a bagpiper. The Honor Guard also performed a flag folding ceremony to close the program. Byron Donalds was the guest speaker and presented each member of Honor Guard with a United States House of Representatives Challenge Coin. The Women's organization made a substantial donation to the Post for our services. A second event was held at the Siena Lakes Senior Living Facility. The Honor Guard performed essentially the same ceremony noted above at the Women's Club event. The Post was awarded a beautiful crystal plaque as an expression of their gratitude for our portion of their Veterans Day celebration. Finally, the Honor Guard performed the same ceremonies mentioned above for The Paseo, a new single-family residential community, in Ft. Myers. This event was a challenge for the Honor Guard team logistically as men and equipment had to be moved quickly back to Naples for Veterans Day events previously scheduled locally. Again, another substantial donation was made to the Post.

The quarterly District 13 meeting was held at the VFW Post 4174 in Lehigh Acres on 18 NOV 2023. Our Post attendees were: Tony Reyes, Justin Baxter, Mike Ricci, JB Holmes, and myself.

As the Post does each December, we will be placing wreaths on each of the veterans' graves at the Lake Trafford Cemetery in Immokalee. This is a joint effort with the American Legion Post 135, AMVETS, and "The 40 & 8". The event date is scheduled for 16 DEC 2023 at 10:00 am. Anyone wishing to sponsor a wreath can make out a check payable to [Wreaths Across America](#) with an amount being equal to \$25 per wreath or a multiple of \$25 if you wish to sponsor more than one wreath. The check can be given to the Canteen bartender.

Jack Fulmer  
Commander



## Senior Vice

Greetings Comrades!

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and is in great Spirits now that we are in the holiday season. We welcome our seasonal members and guests and look forward to passing the time with you. The Post and Auxiliary are planning special events during December and January 2024, and we welcome all to participate. See details below.

**Membership:** We are at approximately 85% membership and need to reach the goal of 102% for All American and All State by the end of the VFW year Jun 30, 2024. Currently, we have 553 members (an increase of 21 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 their membership and seek out new members as well. As a new initiative, Post leadership approved the waiving of fees for the first, new 20 annual members that submit their applications starting December 1, 2023. We are also planning a telethon-type of new membership drive at the Post and seeking volunteers for the event.

**House Status:** We continue to make progress with the outdoor Pavilion by moving the VFW sign, placing outdoor lights and space heaters, and the placement of rain gutters. No major issues with the infrastructure during the past month.

**Upcoming events:**

Annual Christmas Party, Friday, Dec 15 with a Prime Rib dinner, \$20.00 per person. Tickets must be purchased by Dec 12 and not available at the door. Voluntary gift exchange with a minimum \$20 gift. Music by Jeremy.

New Year's Eve party TBD.

Fish Fry Fridays with live entertainment continues through the season with the Dec 15 Prime Rib dinner exemption.

Honor Guard members' Appreciation Dinner, Jan 11, 2024, 6-8pm.

VFW Department Mid-Winter Conference: Jan 19-21, 2024, Orlando, FL.

Operation Steak-Out IV (VFW Post Annual Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Teacher of the Year, Law Enforcement, Fire Fighter, and EMT awards dinner), Jan 24, 2024.

Auxiliary sponsored events. Women's Self Defense Class, Monday Dec 11, 5-8pm. Need to sign up by December 8<sup>th</sup> at Post. Country and Western Night, Jan 13, 2024, 5 to 8pm. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Post is closed Christmas and open The day after, we will be open New Years Day.

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 Friday Fish Frys and large events/activities.

Regards and Stay Safe!

Tony Reyes, Senior Vice Commander/House Chair



## Junior Vice

Hello Friends,

I am here again to say hello and report on some developments at the post. Since I last wrote to you here the post has completed the judging of Voice of Democracy (VOD) and Patriots Pen (PP) and we have identified our winners. I would like to give a special thanks to MaryEllen Cash and Betty Bailey for their work with our scholarship programs at the post. None of that would have been possible without the help from our Auxiliary leadership. I learned quite a bit from these ladies about the selection processes and judging and I look forward to participating in these programs again next year. Our Senior Vice Commander, Tony Reyes, also completed the District 13 VOD & PP judging on Saturday, 12/2 at the Bonita Springs Post. I was able to tag along and assist. I'm happy to report some of our Post level winners also won at the District level. That will be very exciting news for the young people involved.

On Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, at 11am, volunteers are needed to help decorate the post with Christmas decorations. It's about time we start spreading some Christmas cheer around this place. We look forward to your help with that. I'm also looking forward to the Post Christmas party that will be held on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 5-8pm. A prime rib dinner will be served. Purchase your tickets (\$20.00) for that event now, it's coming fast.

Have yourself a Merry Christmas and I will see you at the Post!

Justin Baxter  
Junior Vice Commander



## December 2023 Auxiliary Newsletter

Dear post members,

Our auxiliary continues towards working on all our 23/24 program goals which are established each year by both the Department of Florida and National Auxiliary chairpersons.

For the Buddy Poppy program, auxiliary members Mary Ellen Cash and I were at Seed to Table on November 10, to distribute poppies and tell shoppers to remember our Veterans. In Cambier park on veterans day, both Theresa Mook and our "lady Liberty" Chantel Scherer distributed Buddy Poppies. Poppies are not sold; the VFW is the authorized distributor for the purpose of fund raising. Auxiliary donations given go directly to our relief fund to support obligations to the National Home, auxiliary members needing financial assistance, hospital work for veterans, national cancer aid, or other special purposes.

Our Hospital Program goals are recognizing women veterans, visiting Veterans in nursing homes/assisted living, special valentines for veterans' event, Volunteer recruitment, recognition, and support, during the entire year.

During the first week of November, the auxiliary partnered with AVOW by visiting eight (8) different facilities remembering 181 veterans, presenting them with a special thank you veterans' card, hugs, and candy kisses. It was a moving experience for many to see how much these special veterans appreciated recognition. Currently according to AVOW statistics there are 730 veterans in Collier county that are in residence of a nursing home/assisted living/memory care.

Auxiliary members assisted with post member George Miserendino for the 248<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the Marine Corps and recognition of Korean War veterans.

### ***Important Dates:***

Tuesday, January 9 – Joint VFW post meeting dates

Saturday, January 13 – Auxiliary Country & Western Night

Thursday January 19-21- Auxiliary winter conference - Orlando

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

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



## Auxiliary Treasurer

Hello Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The deadline for annual members to pay their dues is fast approaching. Please make your \$40.00 dues check out to VFW Aux #7721 and send it to me at the address below by December 31, 2023.

Please help the Auxiliary reach a milestone of 100% paid membership by November 30<sup>th</sup> and a milestone of 100%+3 by June 30, 2024. Our auxiliary earns recognition by the Department and earns a monetary award for such milestones. Your dues money goes to support our veterans.

If dues are not paid by December 31<sup>st</sup>, you will no longer be a member in "good standing". You will be unable to vote at meetings or during elections. You will be ineligible for the cancer grant or other auxiliary benefits. If dues are not paid by June 30, 2024, your membership will lapse and you will have to reapply and show proof of eligibility.

If you wish to convert to a life time membership, please call and I will assist you in doing so. I want to wish everyone a Very Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,  
Theresa Mook  
145 Teryl Road #4, Naples, FL 34112  
(239)298-1648



### Sick Call

Savannah Lehnhard  
Sarah Jenkins  
Sue Brennan  
Michelle Facciolli  
Katlyn Corlison



### 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**

**September 2024**

**Sam Heath**

**Patrons**

**March 2024**

**Joyce Heath**

**July 2024**

**Marian Nickel**

**August 2024**

**Sarah Jenkins  
Wayne Jenkins**

**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**



**AUSTIN AKERS**

*Sales Supervisor*

**(239) 877-9233**

[southernpoolssouth@gmail.com](mailto:southernpoolssouth@gmail.com)

**NEW CONSTRUCTION  
RENOVATIONS**



# December 2023



| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday  | Saturday                                       |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|--|
|  |  |  |  |   | 1<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br><br>Fish Fry<br>5-7 PM<br>Music by Dori & John 5-8 PM   | 2<br>F. Hall<br>2-4 PM<br>Queen of Hearts 6 PM |
| 3<br>Breakfast<br>9-11:30 AM<br>Happy Hour<br>1-5 PM<br>Hall 6-9 PM<br>Lost Riders<br>5 PM | 4<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br>Bingo 1 PM   | 5<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br>Lions 10:30 AM<br>FF 7 PM                            | 6<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br><br>Barbershop<br>7 PM<br>Scouts 7 PM                      | 7<br>House 9AM<br>Honor Guard<br>11 AM<br>Lunch 11-2 PM | 8<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br><br>Fish Fry 5-7 PM<br>Music By Duo<br>Ron & Linda  | 9<br>Queen of Hearts 6 PM<br>F. Hall 7 PM      |
| 10<br>Breakfast<br>9-11:30 AM<br><br>Hall 5-9 PM<br>Happy Hour<br>1-5 PM                   | 11<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br>Bingo 1 PM<br>Bikes for Tykes<br>6 PM<br>Rolling Thunder 7 PM<br>Self Defense Class<br>5-9 PM | 12<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br>Naples Fish Board 6 PM<br><br>Post/Aux Meet<br>7 PM | 13<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br><br>Barbershop<br>7 PM<br>Scouts 7 PM                     | 14<br>Lunch 11-2 PM                                     | 15<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br>Prime Rib<br>5-7 PM<br>Christmas Party<br>Music by<br>Jeremy 5-8 PM<br>Queen of Hearts<br>6 PM | 16<br>Defenders 10 AM                          |
| 17<br>Breakfast<br>9-11:30 AM<br>LAMA 10AM<br><br>Happy Hour<br>1-5 PM                     | 18<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br>Bingo 1 PM<br>Bikes for Tykes<br>6 PM<br>Submarines<br>7 PM                                   | 19<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br><br>Naples Fish<br>7 PM<br>Lions 7 PM               | 20<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br>Journey Home<br>5 PM<br>Barbershop<br>7 PM<br>Scouts 7 PM | 21<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br><br>MOASWF<br>3-5 pm             | 22<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br><br>Fish Fry 5-7 PM  | 23<br>Queen of Hearts 6 PM                     |
| 24<br>Breakfast<br>9-11:30 AM<br>A.B.A.T.E.<br>11 AM<br>Happy Hour<br>1-5 PM               | 25<br>CLOSED<br>"Merry Christmas"  | 26<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br><br>FC Bass 7 PM<br>Magicians<br>Assoc. 7 PM        | 27<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br><br>Barbershop<br>7 PM<br>Scouts 7 PM                     | 28<br>Lunch 11-2 PM                                     | 29<br>Lunch 11-2 PM<br><br>Fish Fry 5-7 PM  | 30<br>Queen of Hearts 6 PM                     |
| 31<br>Breakfast<br>9-11:30 AM  |  |  |  |   |   |  |





**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"**

**McLeran Enterprises Inc.**

**"terra logic"**  
**Complete Site Development**  
**from start to finish**  
**Clearing, Grading, Hauling**  
**Fill & Rock, Culverts.**

**Nevin McLeran (239)989-1311**

**DOWNING-FRYE REALTY, INC.**

180 Ninth Street South, Suite #300  
 Naples, Florida 34102  
 Direct: 239-961-6131 11/1/2020

**Thomas Hill, P.A., SRA, GRI, CRS**

Website: TomHillRealtor.Com  
 Email: tomhillrealtor@gmail.com

License# CGC1528802  
 CERTIFIED

**THE ORIGINAL SHUTTER GUY, INC.**

**Bruce Page**  
 Office: 239-200-1224  
 Cell: 239-778-4022  
 TheOriginalShutterGuy@gmail.com  
 3900 Mannix Drive, Unit #107  
 Naples Florida 34114  
 www.wedoshutters.com

STORM AND SECURITY  
 SALES - SERVICE - INSTALLATION  
 IMPACT WINDOWS AND DOORS

**FENETEX**  
 BY WINDOW & SCREEN

**NATIVE PRESSURE**  
 WASHING AND HOME WATCH

**Derek Yergey**  
**Nicole Thompson**

**239-238-6893 • dyerger0309@gmail.com**

8/1/2019

**Neptune Society™**  
 AMERICA'S MOST TRUSTED  
 CREMATION SERVICES®

**MARY C DIAMOND**  
 CERTIFIED PRE-ARRANGEMENT ADVISOR

P: 239.334.4594 | C: 239.920.3430 | F: 239.437.5385  
 E: Mary.Diamond@sci-us.com  
 6360 Presidential Ct Suite 1  
 Fort Myers, FL 33919

**Patrick Eagen Sr** 8/1/2019 **BATH FITTER**

Cell: 239-410-2933  
 patrickeagen@comcast.net

Fort Myers, Naples, Sarasota & The Florida Keys

VFW Post member

I have worked for BathFitter for many years.  
 Call me direct for a free estimate to update your bathroom.  
 Receive a military discount

**SWF ROOFING INC.**

**Frank Freeman**  
 Owner

O: 239.641.7663  
 F: 239.431.6552  
 E: sales@swfroofinginc.com  
 roofingandroofers.com

1173 Sun Century Road  
 Naples, FL 34110

LIC #LCC20160001614

**B&B MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS**  
 LLC CMC1250723

**HVAC**

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL  
 LICENSED & INSURED

**Kevin Baum** (239) 451-8150  
 Owner kevin@bbmhvac.com

Please Support our Sponsors!

America's Military &



Board of Directors  
**Dave Hinds**  
President

(614) 205-0357

500 Terminal Drive  
Naples, FL 34104  
davehindsusmc@yahoo.com

1st Responders Museum

M-SAT 12-4 [www.AMFRM.org](http://www.AMFRM.org) SUN 12-3

 Legacy Options<sup>SM</sup>

**Michael Whyte**  
Funeral Director

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 4376 Corporate Sq #1<br>Naples, FL 34104<br>Office 239.659.2009<br>Fax 239.659.2013<br>naples@legacyoptions.com | 12600 Trade Center Dr #1<br>Bonita Springs, FL 34135<br>Office 239.319.1195<br>Fax 239.319.1199<br>bonita@legacyoptions.com | 16850 Oriole Rd #1<br>Fort Myers, FL 33912<br>Office 239.219.1195<br>Fax 239.219.1199<br>fmyers@legacyoptions.com |
|---|---|---|

**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



elcid81@comcast.net  
239-955-1212

 **United Rentals**

Carl Steinhoff  
Territory Manager  
PGA Partner  
GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS  
GENERAL RENTAL

United Rentals  
557 Industrial Blvd  
Naples, FL 34104

tel: 239 643 5000  
cell: 239 229 0017  
fax: 239 643 7558  
csteinho@ur.com

GSA Contract Holder

unitedrentals.com

Licensed & Insured  
EC 13003189

Jason Kataras



**SOUTHSIDE ELECTRIC<sup>INC</sup>**

239-287-7612

southsideelectric@yahoo.com

Commercial • Industrial • Residential • New Construction •  
Remodels • Generators • Service Calls •



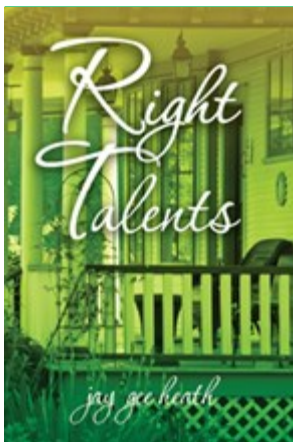
**Lynette Russell**  
Career Agent  
Gulf Coast MarketPoint

16964 Alico Mission Way  
Ste 200  
Fort Myers FL 33908

☎ 239 789 8696  
☎ 239 225 7783

**Humana**

LRussell16@humana.com



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

**Romance Novels**

**Available at [www.JayGeeHeath.com](http://www.JayGeeHeath.com)  
also on Amazon or Kindle**



## *VFW Post 7721 Officers*

**Commander**  
Jack Fulmer                    239-207-7290

**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*

**President**  
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

|                            |                     |                 |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| <b>House/Staff Meeting</b> | <b>1st Thursday</b> | <b>9:00 AM</b>  |
| <b>Honor Guard</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>  |