



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

**Commander
 Jack Fulmer**

Volume 17
Issue 7
January 2024

It's that time of year when we are locked into the doldrums of winter (Florida style). This implies chilly mornings and warm afternoons. This certainly beats the "deep" long cold winters experienced in the various northern areas of our nation. Now we fully understand the reason for the large influx of visitors to our community during the winter months. As many of them are visiting VFW members from other Posts, we extend our hand in friendship and embrace their visit.

We continue to add new members to our ranks. The target goal for the year for our Post is set at 651 by the Florida VFW Department. Our rate of new member additions is good, but we will still have to continue to recruit at an accelerated rate in order to achieve our recruiting goal. So, always be watchful for any new member possibilities you encounter and solicit them as a member for our Post.

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

Continued...



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

The judging for the District 13 Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen candidates was held at the Bonita Springs VFW Post #4274 on 2 DEC 2023. Judges from our Post were Tony Reyes, JB Holmes, and myself.

The Post Christmas Party was held on 15 DEC 2023. The event was extremely well attended. The gift exchange proved to be successful and was a delight to experience. It set the tone for the holiday season and everyone seemed to be enlightened with the Christmas spirit.

The Honor Guard has recently had a very busy schedule. We had three memorial ceremonies during this past reporting period. One each for Navy Lt. Peter Reifsnyder, Army Major Robert Dyer, and Army Sgt. Jim Channel. Two special ceremonies of significance were the Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day ceremony held at the Devoe Cadillac dealership on 7 DEC 2023. This event was co-sponsored with the local Wounded Warriors organization. A full military honors ceremony was conducted concluding with a folded flag presentation to a female WWII Army veteran. The second ceremony was the annual Wreaths Across America event scheduled for the morning of 16 DEC 2023. Because of the rain and cold conditions, the VFW portion of the event had to be cancelled. This was done as a precaution to avoid damage to the Honor Guard equipment (flags and rifles). The American Legion portion of the ceremony continued with the laying of the wreaths on the headstones of each grave. One member of our Honor Guard team, Steve Lapoint, played Taps for the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) at the Wreaths Across America ceremony held at the Marco Island Cemetery.

In closing, I'd like to wish all our members and their families a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year in 2024. May God protect us all and our great nation.

Jack Fulmer

Commander



Senior Vice

January 2024 Newsletter Input

Greetings Comrades! We hope everyone had a great Christmas, and we wish all a Happy New Year. As we settle down post holidays and begin to enjoy our great weather, allow me to highlight some of our upcoming events during January 2024, and we welcome all to participate.

Upcoming events:

- Monday Bingo: 1-4pm.
- Lunch M-F. Dinner Fridays with live entertainment continues throughout January and February. Please call for additional information. NFL Sunday Football Package on: watch your favorite team.
- Honor Guard members' Appreciation Dinner, Jan 11, 2024, 6-8pm.
- VFW Department Mid-Winter Conference: Jan 19-21, 2024, Orlando, FL.
- VFW Post 7721 Annual Awards Reception, formerly known as Operation Steak-Out is scheduled on Jan 24. This is the Post recognition of our Voice of Democracy (High School students), Patriots Pen (Elementary and Middle School students), Teacher of the Year, Law Enforcement, Fire Fighter, and EMT 2023 award winners. Auxiliary sponsored events. Country and Western Night, Jan 13, 2024, 5 to 8pm. Entertainment by Rex Rhoden "Hot Country Band." BBQ Chicken and Country Fried Steak Dinner buffet with trimmings. Tickets on sale now at \$20.00 per person by Jan 9. or \$25 at the door on the day of the event.

Membership:

We are at approximately 86.64% 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 558 members 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.

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.

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



Friday, January 5th
Spaghetti & Meatballs

Dinner 5-7 PM

\$12

Entertainment by Anthony

5-8 PM

50/50 Raffle

VFW Post 7721

13131 Collier Blvd.

Naples, FL 34119

239-455-7721



January 2024 Auxiliary Newsletter

Dear post members,

Happy New Year!

With each new year everyone starts off fresh with putting the last year behind them and looking forward to a new beginning for 2024.

It's a New Year, our auxiliary is making resolutions some which are new, and others will carry thru from 2023:

- *Recruit new members for Auxiliary goal is 100% +3 and the Post,
- *Attend and support special dinners and events.
- *Bring a friend for Sunday Morning Breakfast. - continue volunteering service.
- *Valentines' week – visiting Veterans in nursing and assisted living homes.
- *Volunteers always needed, just ask House Chairman or an Auxiliary Officer where help is needed for any event.
- *Recognizing volunteers for always supporting events.
- *Members attending Orlando conferences in January 19-21, June.
- *Reporting on all programs to meet year end goals, national due 3/31 and for department due by April 1, 2024.
- *Achieving 23/24 Circle of Excellence award for the Auxiliary
- *Hosting events to support fund raising for different events and projects.

If you are unfamiliar with auxiliary programs which we work with all year long, here is a recap of the national and department programs:

Legislative, Membership, Mentoring for Leadership, Scholarships, Youth, Veterans & Family Support, Americanism, Outreach, Buddy Poppy & National Home, Department Presidents Special Project (23/24 Military Sexual Trauma), Historian/Media Relations, Hospital, Extension & Revitalization.

Important Dates:

Tuesday, January 9 – Joint VFW post meeting dates

Saturday, January 13 – Auxiliary Country & Western Night – tickets by 1/9 \$20.00

Thursday January 19-21- Post & Auxiliary winter conference - Orlando

Betty A. Bailey, President, 7721 Auxiliary

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

Bann652@aol.com



Auxiliary Treasurer

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I want to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Our Auxiliary has reached the milestone of being over 100% paid for this membership year already. I am sure we will reach our goal of having 103+% membership paid as well. Congratulations to all the recruiters out there who worked so hard to achieve our membership goal so far.

If you have not paid your annual dues before December 31st, you will no longer be a “member in good standing”. You will not be able to vote at meetings or be eligible for the cancer grant and many other benefits . Please do not let your membership lapse. Dues must be paid before June 30th to remain a member of the Auxiliary. If annual dues are not paid by then, you will need to reapply and show proof of eligibility again.

Life membership dues is based on your age .If you are an annual member and wish to convert your membership to a life membership, please contact me and I will take care of it for you.

Thank you for all of your support.

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
Katlyn Corlison
Brad Sheldon



Taps

Tommy Byers
Renee Whisner



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 @ 13131 Collier Blvd, 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
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VFW Post #7721 Golden Gate**



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**NEW CONSTRUCTION
RENOVATIONS**



January 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Lunch 11-2 PM	2 Lunch 11-2 PM Lions 10:30 AM FF 7 PM	3 Lunch 11-2 PM Barbershop 7 PM Scouts 7 PM	4 House 9AM Honor Guard 11 AM Lunch 11-2 PM FC Bass 7 PM	5 Lunch 11-2 PM Dinner 5-7 PM Music-Anthony 5-8 PM	6 Queen of Hearts 6 PM
7 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM Happy Hour 1-5 PM Lost Riders 5 PM	8 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM Bikes for Tykes 6 PM Rolling Thunder 7 PM	9 Lunch 11-2 PM Naples Fish Board 6 PM Post/Aux Meet 7 PM	10 Lunch 11-2 PM Barbershop 7 PM Scouts 7 PM	11 Lunch 11-2 PM Honor Guard Dinner 6-8 PM Music-Dori & John	12 Lunch 11-2 PM	13 Defenders 10 AM Country West Night 5-8 PM Queen of Hearts 6 PM
14 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM Happy Hour 1-5 PM	15 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM Bikes for Tykes 6 PM Submarines 7 PM	16 Lunch 11-2 PM Naples Fish 7 PM Lions 7 PM	17 Lunch 11-2 PM MOASWF 3-5 pm Barbershop 7 PM Scouts 7 PM	18 Lunch 11-2 PM CC1013 7 PM	19 NDA 9 pm Lunch 11-2 PM Dinner 5-7 PM Music-Dori & John	20 Defenders 10 AM Queen of Hearts 6 PM
21 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM Lama 10 AM Happy Hour 1-5 PM Hall Rent 1-4 PM	22 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM	23 Lunch 11-2 PM Magicians Assoc. 7 PM	24 Lunch 11-2 PM Awards 6-8 PM	25 Lunch 11-2 PM	26 Lunch 11-2 PM Dinner 5-7 PM Music-Ron & Linda	27 Hall Rent 2-6 PM Queen of Hearts 6 PM
28 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM A.B.A.T.E 11 AM Happy Hour 1-5 PM Hall Rent 6-11 PM	29 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM	30 Lunch 11-2 PM FC Bass 7 PM	31 Lunch 11-2 PM Barbershop 7 PM Scouts 7 PM			



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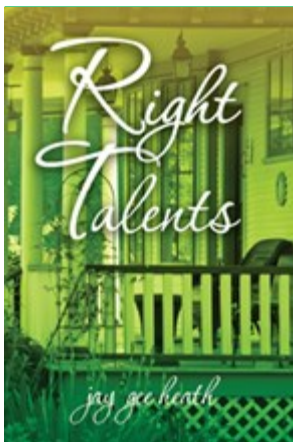
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QM

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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



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Betty Bailey 239-738-4199

Sr. Vice President

Sue Craft 913-544-5255

Jr. Vice President

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Theresa Mook 239-298-1648

Secretary

Mary Ellen Cash 239-262-8569

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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