



**Commander  
Tony Reyes**



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

**Volume 17**  
**Issue 8**  
**February 2024**

Greetings Comrades! We are hoping everyone is in great spirits as we continue to enjoy the seasonal weather. We are also looking forward to our upcoming events during the month of February as I address below.

That said and with a heavy heart, I'll announce that our Commander, Jack Fulmer is stepping down from his position due to health and personal reasons, and I will be assuming the Commander's position immediately. Justin Baxter will assume the Senior Vice Commander's position, and the Junior Vice Commander's position will be temporarily vacant. Mike Ricci will assume the position of House Committee Chairman. No other leadership position changes at this time. The topic will also be addressed at the February members' meeting. I would like to take the opportunity to personally thank Commander Jack for his leadership and contributions made to our Post, and I look forward to his mentorship as I take on this new responsibility.

**Continued...**



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

Upcoming events:

- Monday Bingo: 1-4pm.
- Lunch M-F. Dinner Fridays with live entertainment continues throughout February except for Feb 9<sup>th</sup> due to Comedy Show dinner and entertainment on Feb 10. Please call for additional information.
- NFL Superbowl Party, Feb 11, 4pm. Chicken wings, Jalapeno poppers, and other snacks. Please bring your favorite dish as well. Happy Hour 3-8pm
- Comedy Show: Saturday, Feb 10, 2024. Spaghetti Dinner starts at 5pm and the show starts at 7pm. Cost for Comedy Show and Dinner \$25. Show only \$15.

Auxiliary sponsored events.

Auxiliary Appreciation Day. Sunday, Feb 4<sup>th</sup>. Free breakfast for Auxiliary members. Post members will support this activity.

Membership:

We are at approximately 90.16% 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 587 members, an increase from last month's number of 558 members. We 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: No major issues with the infrastructure to report, but we now have a new Chef, Ms. Lenore Watson. Please come by for a meet and greet. As a TEAM, we continue to provide a service to our 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

## Senior Vice



Hello friends,

Ok, I'm trying to remember that on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February I have to get some nice chocolates and wine for my loving wife for Valentines Day. Five days later, on the 19<sup>th</sup>, I must also not forget to somehow acknowledge the importance of that day. That's the day Jessica and I met. I'm also required to remember our wedding anniversary and so on and so forth. I've joked about this litany of dates I must remember with my friends over the years and I'm joking with you now. Guys you know what I mean here. Yes, it's funny but I know now, after all these years, what her "love language" is. It's "show me you care and you are engaged especially when there's no expectation for it." You'd think with as easy as that is I couldn't mess it up but I do all the time. So, we get a free day on Valentines Day to set it all right. Is it a commercialized holiday that has us spending ridiculous amounts of money in the name of love? Yes. Just go with it even if you don't believe that. Only good things can come from showing that special lady what she means to you. She deserves it, fellas!

Switching gears here, I want to draw your attention to a VFW Post in Richton Park, Illinois. VFW Benjamin O. Davis Post 311. What I'd like to speak about is not the VFW Post, but the men it was named for. Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, Sr. was the first African-American Brigadier General in the US Army. He escorted mothers, wives, and children to Europe to visit the gravesites of loved ones lost during World War I. Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. was the first African-American Brigadier General in the US Air Force, and a Tuskegee Airmen during World War II. Both men, father and son, were members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and both strived to desegregate the US military. VFW Post 311, in Richton Park, Illinois was named for these brave men. A soldier and an Airmen; a father and a son. If you get some free time, and you haven't read their story, it is fascinating. Black History Month is observed in February and I thought it appropriate to find a hero (or two) that shaped this country, as a minority, against all odds. This is one story of many but I encourage you to explore and celebrate the content of a man's character first and always. You may find yourself inspired to have an impact on your post, your community, and your nation.

I will see you at the post!

Justin Baxter

Senior Vice Commander



## February 2024 Auxiliary Newsletter

Dear post members,

Our Auxiliary mid-winter conference was the weekend of January 19-21, 2024, presentations were made by department chairman, auxiliary business conducted and training. Attending from auxiliary, Mary Ellen Cash – Dept. Patriotic instructor and myself as Dept. Hospital chairperson 23/24.

This year's membership goal for all auxiliary was 100+3%, happy to announce our auxiliary was recognized for achieving **103.2%** and new members continue to join.

Special thanks to all involved in educating schools and students for their entries into the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen essay contest. The special recognition event was attended by the proud students and family members on January 24, 2024.

Everyone who attended our Country Western night with a live band was a great success and helped raise funds to be used for supplies to be purchased to give to Veterans during hospital/nursing home visits. Thank you to all who volunteered.

### **Important Dates:**

**Sunday, February 4, Auxiliary Appreciation Day. Breakfast served by post members honoring our Auxiliary. 9am-11:30am**

**Tuesday, February 13,** Monthly meeting, 6:30 check in, 7-8pm meeting, thanks to everyone who brings snacks or dessert goodies every month, make sure you get a sample of Chaplain Colleens monthly special.

**Valentines Week - February 12-16** - Hospital Committee will be visiting local nursing homes and assisted living, if interested contact Joyce Blatner, to volunteer: [jkblatner@comcast.net](mailto:jkblatner@comcast.net)

**Monday, March 11,** Women's Self Defense class, given by Collier County Sheriff's officers, 5pm - 8pm, more information to come. This is open to the public and invite your friends, donation of \$5.00, with sandwiches and beverages served.

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

Dept of Florida Chairperson – Hospital Program, Dist. 13 Chaplain  
[Bann652@aol.com](mailto:Bann652@aol.com)



## Auxiliary Treasurer

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our Auxiliary has 350 members and is at 102.64% paid membership for the 2023-2024 membership year! Thank you again to all the recruiters out there! There is still time for our auxiliary to achieve the milestone of 103+% membership. So, please keep on recruiting!

Any annual member who has not paid their dues is still a member but is not considered a member in "good standing". There is still time for you to pay your dues before June 30, 2024 in order to remain an auxiliary member. If dues are not paid by then, you will be considered "lapsed" and will need to reapply and show proof of eligibility.

If anyone would like to convert their annual membership to a life membership, please contact me by phone or email and I can easily take care of that for you.

If you are an auxiliary member "in need" experiencing financial or health issues, please let me know and the auxiliary is able to pay your annual dues for that year.

Sincerely,

Theresa Mook

145 Teryl Road#4, Naples FL 34112

(239)298-1648

[pasmagic1@yahoo.com](mailto:pasmagic1@yahoo.com)



### Sick Call

Savannah Lehnhard  
Sarah Jenkins  
Sue Brennan  
Michelle Faccioli  
Katlyn Corlison  
Brad Sheldon



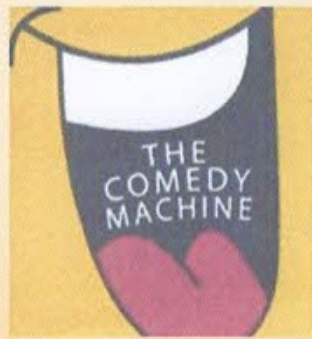
### Taps

Norma Noland  
Merry Marcis





**Perry Sak**  
**Winner \$5,000**  
**Mardi Gras**  
**Comedy Challenge**



**Andy Kern**  
**Comedy Central**

**239-455-7721**

**Saturday, February 10th, 2024**

**Naples VFW Post 7721**

**Presents a Comedy Extravaganza with**

**The Comedy Machine!**

**5 PM Spaghetti Dinner**

**7 PM Comedy Show**

**Tickets Available in the Canteen**

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***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](http://www.vfwpost7721.org)  
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**NEW CONSTRUCTION  
RENOVATIONS**



# February 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Lunch 11-2 PM  Marco Island PD 7 PM	2 Lunch 11-2 PM  Dinner 5-7 PM Music by Dori & John	3  Queen of Hearts 6 PM
4 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM Auxiliary Appreciation Day Happy Hour 1-5 PM Lost Riders 5 PM	5 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM	6 Lunch 11-2 PM Lions 10:30 AM Blue Grass Jam 1-3 PM FF 7 PM	7 Lunch 11-2 PM  Barbershop 7 PM	8 House Meet 9 AM Honor Guard Meet 11 AM Lunch 11-2 PM  UBASS 7 PM	9 Lunch 11-2 PM	10 Dinner 5-7 PM Comedy Show 7-8:30 PM Queen of Hearts 6 PM
11 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM Super Bowl Party 4 PM  Happy Hour 3-8 PM	12 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM Rolling Thunder 7 PM  Bikes for Tykes 6 PM	13 Lunch 11-2 PM  Naples Fish Board 6 PM  Post/Aux Meet 7 PM	14 Lunch 11-2 PM MOASWF 3-5 pm  Barbershop 7 PM	15 Lunch 11-2 PM  BCFF 6:30-9 PM  CC1013 7 PM	16 NDA 9 pm Lunch 11-2 PM  Dinner 5-7 PM Music by Jeremy	17 Defenders 10 AM  Court of Honor 5 PM  Queen of Hearts 6 PM
18 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM Lama 10 AM Happy Hour 1-5 PM	19 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM  Submarines 7 PM	20 Lunch 11-2 PM Blue Grass Jam 1-3 PM Naples Fish 7 PM Lions 7 PM	21 Lunch 11-2 PM MOASWF 3-5 pm  Barbershop 7 PM	22 Lunch 11-2 PM	23 Lunch 11-2 PM  Dinner 5-7 PM Music by Anthony	24 Hall 5-11 PM  Queen of Hearts 6 PM
25 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM A.B.A.T.E 11 AM Happy Hour 1-5 PM	26 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM	27 Lunch 11-2 PM  Magicians Assoc. 7 PM  FC Bass 7 PM	28 Lunch 11-2 PM  Barbershop 7 PM	29 Lunch 11-2 PM		





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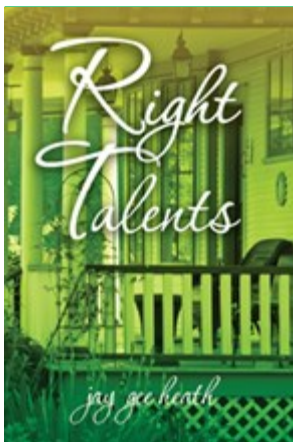
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**QM**  
**Randy Cash**                      **239-249-2250**

**Chaplain**  
**Gary Asztalos**

**Judge Advocate**  
**Frank Roberts**

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

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**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>