



VFW Post 7721
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Email: post7721@vfwfl.org

Commander
Tony Reyes

Volume 17
Issue 9
March 2024

Greetings Comrades! Hoping everyone is enjoying the great seasonal weather. This year has been somewhat different with occasional light rain showers; normally, this is dry season. I'm proud to announce and recognize two Post members for stepping up to leadership positions that were previously vacant. Mr. Eric Kooiker as Junior Vice Commander and Mr. George Misrendino as the 3rd year Trustee. Both are in temporary appointed positions until our Post elections on April 9, 2024. That said, any Post member wishing to run for an elected/appointed leadership position for the 2024-2025 calendar year should voice their interests and be nominated during the March 12, 2024, meeting.

It is an honor and privilege to take on the Commander's leadership role for the remainder of the 2023-2024 calendar year, and I will continue to focus on best representing our membership and ensuring the Post continues to serve our Members, Veterans, and Community to the best of our capabilities. Fortunately, I'm surrounded by many experienced Post leaders and volunteers who continue to support our efforts to provide a great service/product to those mentioned groups. We have several activities to look forward during this month, including the following:

Continued...



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

-Monday Bingo: 1-4pm.

-Lunch M-F. Dinner Fridays with live entertainment continues throughout March. Please call for additional information.

-March 4. Post leadership visit to the Ave Maria Veterans Association for the purpose of briefing VFW programs and recruiting new members.

-March 7. Former White House Chief of Staff to President Trump and Commander, U.S. Southern Command Forces, U.S.M.C. General John F. Kelly Meet/Greet Reception.

-March 29. Vietnam Veterans Ceremony at Post 1800-2000hrs.

Auxiliary sponsored events. Mar 11, 5-9pm. Women's Self Defense Class at Post.

Joint Post and Auxiliary event. March 16, 2024, Lunch 11-2pm. Dinner 5-8pm. St. Patrick Day Celebration at Post.

House Status: After much research, we signed a contract with a local vendor to place a new VFW sign in front of the Pavilion. No major infrastructure issues to report. The Canteen is now hiring Part Time bartenders. Those interested please contact our Canteen Manager Carolyn for additional information.

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 dinners and large events/activities.

Regards and Stay Safe!

Tony Reyes, VFW Post 7721 Commander

Senior Vice



Hello friends,

I'm reporting in for the month of March. As your new Senior Vice Commander I now burden the responsibility of our recruiting efforts. As of the first week of March the current post membership sits at 93.54% (last month it was at 91.24%). We are at 609 members and require 651 for 100%. We need to renew or recruit 54 members to achieve our goal of 102%. We have approximately 3 months to achieve this goal so our work is cut out for us. Recruiting efforts at the Veteran Expo did net 18 new members so we are moving the needle incrementally each month. I would like to give a special thanks to our two most active recruiters at the post, Dick Miller and Tom Walker. These fellas attended the Veterans Expo and produced some solid numbers toward our goal. A job well done, Gentleman!

I should also report in on our program report participation one last time before our good friend Eric Kooiker takes over the responsibilities of Junior Vice Commander. We maintain the number 1 spot in District 13 for program reporting and we remain in the top 5 at the state level. Your entire command staff is engaged in programs and the correct and accurate reporting of what this post does day in and day out for our community. We will finish the year in the top spot in our District as far as I'm concerned so I'm quite pleased with what we are doing in the area of program reporting.

With the majority of our programs finished this year your command staff has shifted full attention to our recruiting agenda and efforts. The membership goal of 102% is attainable and we can get it done with your help. The time has arrived that if you have that friend or acquaintance that is on the fence about joining we have some excellent "closers" in our ranks at your disposal. Call Tom or Dick or even Randy Cash. These guys have proven they can get it done time and again.

As always, I will see you at the post!

Justin Baxter
Senior Vice Commander



March 2024 - Auxiliary Newsletter

Dear post members,

Time to purchase your tickets for **St. Patrick's Day Dinner, Saturday, March 16, 5-8pm**, Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potato, rolls, dessert. Advance sales are available in the canteen for **\$20.00** before closing on 3/12, after that **\$25.00**. entertainment by *Donnie Ray & Melissa Duo*, playing favorites, dance music.

If you have a group of 8 or more let the canteen server know when purchasing tickets or send me an email. Get your green on and enjoy the food and fun.

Announcements at our district 13 meeting 2/17/24, our district auxiliaries were first in the state to achieve 100% membership goal for all posts. Additional information was shared to remind us on reporting work done for programs to meet national goal on 3/31 and department goals 4/15/24. Next district meeting May 18, elections will be held.

Our hospital committee members were busy the first two weeks of February, visiting over 75 veterans in nursing homes/assisted living facilities. Additionally, members helped celebrate an Army veteran Jimmy Renda 101st birthday, bringing cake, decorations and giving him a wonderful surprise and sharing other goodies to veterans.

Important Dates:

Saturday, March 9, last day to purchase tickets for the Veterans Village picnic on **Saturday March 23**, in Ft. McCoy, FL, food, fun, games and chance to meet other auxiliary/post members .and thank you for 23/24 post commander.

Monday, March 11 – Women's Self Defense class, given by CCSO, 5-8pm, open to the public women only admission \$5.00 with light snacks available.

Tuesday, March 12, Next Auxiliary meeting, obligations for new members

Saturday, April 27 – District Picnic, Bonita Post, auxiliary and post members

*Special thanks to our auxiliary members who volunteer to serve,
Sunday morning breakfasts and other post dinners and events.*

Betty A. Bailey, President, 7721 Auxiliary

Dept of Florida Chairperson – Hospital Program, Dist. 13 Chaplain
Bann652@aol.com



Auxiliary Treasurer

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our Auxiliary has enough paid membership to obtain a Circle of Champion Milestone Award! Our paid membership is over 104%. Congratulations Everyone!

If you are an annual member and have not paid your dues, you are considered a “lapsed member”. Being a “lapsed” member means you are no longer a “member in good standing”. You will not be able to vote in elections, be eligible for a cancer grant, or be entitled to other benefits offered to Auxiliary members. There is still time to pay your dues and avoid losing your membership. Your dues must be paid before June 30, 2024 or you will cease to be a member and have to reapply and show proof of eligibility. All annual members who are 80 years of age or older will have their dues pad for them by the Auxiliary. If you would like to convert your annual membership to a life time membership, please let me know and I will take care of that for you.

I would like to thank Darlene Izzo, Donna Keating Sylvester, and Georgia Pinto for the excellent work they do as trustees. They are invaluable in making sure the financial records of the Auxiliary kept by Treasurer are up to date and correct.

Sincerely,

Theresa Mook
145 Teryl Road, Naples, FL 34112
(239)298-1648
pasmagic1@yahoo.com



Sick Call

Savannah Lehnhard
Sarah Jenkins
Sue Brennan
Michelle Faccioli
John Rydzewski



Taps

Merle Hunsaker





SATURDAY March 16, 2023

**Join the Fun - St. Patrick's Day at VFW Post 7721
Get your Green on!!**

**Lunch: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Corned Beef Sandwiches are \$10.00 per person.**

**Dinner: Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes
Dinner is served 5:00 pm-7:00 pm
\$20.00 per person advance sale
\$25.00 at the door
Entertainment - 50/50 & Raffle**

*All proceeds benefit VFW Post 7721 Auxiliary funds to
support Veterans & Families*

**Advance Sale Tickets are now available for purchase in the canteen, or call
239.455.7721 and make a reservation for a group of 8 or more for a table
reservation.**



**Support the post: Sunday morning breakfast 9am-11am,
daily lunch specials 11am-2m, Friday night seafood dinners,
Bingo every Monday.
Volunteers always appreciated.**

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**



March 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Lunch 11-2 PM Dinner 5-7 PM Music by Lefty	2 Queen of Hearts 6 PM
3 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM Happy Hour 1-5 PM Lost Riders 5 PM	4 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM Bikes for Tykes 6 PM	5 Lunch 11-2 PM Lions 10:30 AM FF 7 PM	6 Lunch 11-2 PM Barbershop 7 PM	7 House Meet 9 AM Honor Guard Meet 11 AM Lunch 11-2 PM General John Kelly 5-7 PM	8 Lunch 11-2 PM Dinner 5-7 PM Music by Jeremy	9 Queen of Hearts 6 PM
10 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM Happy Hour 3-8 PM	11 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM Womens Self Defense 5-9 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 MOASWF 3-5 pm Barbershop 7 PM	14 Lunch 11-2 PM BCFF 6:30-9 PM	15 Lunch 11-2 PM	16 Defenders 10 AM St. Patty's Day Lunch 11-2 PM Dinner 5-7 PM Queen of Hearts 6 PM
17 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM Lama 10 AM Happy Hour 1-5 PM	18 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM	19 Lunch 11-2 PM MOASWF 3-5 PM Naples Fish 7 PM	20 Lunch 11-2 PM MOASWF 3-5 PM BCFF 6:30-9 PM Barbershop 7 PM	21 Lunch 11-2 PM CC1013 7 PM	22 NDA 9 pm Lunch 11-2 PM Dinner 5-7 PM Music by Jeremy	23 Queen of Hearts 6 PM
24 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM A.B.A.T.E 11 AM Happy Hour 1-5 PM	25 Lunch 11-2 PM Bingo 1 PM	26 Lunch 11-2 PM Magicians Assoc. 7 PM	27 Lunch 11-2 PM Barbershop 7 PM	28 Lunch 11-2 PM	29 Lunch 11-2 PM	30 Queen of Hearts 6 PM F. Hall Rent 5-10 PM
31 Breakfast 9-11:30 AM Happy Hour 1-5 PM						



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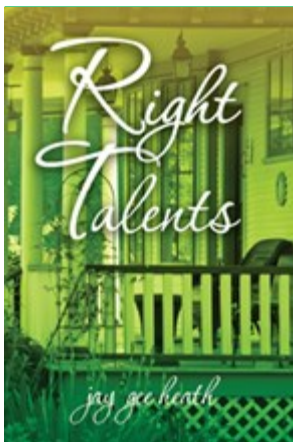
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Justin Baxter

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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**

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Sue Craft **913-544-5255**

Jr. Vice President
Lois Bolin **239-777-2281**

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Theresa Mook **239-298-1648**

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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