

April 2024  
American Legion Post 57



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## COMMANDERS CORNER



Members March has been an active month,  
Mar 1<sup>st</sup> We had Karaoke and Sea Cadets Dinner  
Mar 2<sup>ND</sup> Auxiliary had Hooked on Vets , Boys/Girls state Orientation , Sea Cadets Fundraising Bingo  
Mar 8<sup>th</sup> Auxiliary had Friday night Dinner.  
Mar 9<sup>th</sup> SAL held their Roadkill bingo.  
Mar 15<sup>th</sup> ALR held their Friday Night Dinner and Ladies dress as men night at was a great turn out the Winners were 1<sup>st</sup> Nancy Moschetti, 2<sup>nd</sup> ,Laura Cabrera, 3<sup>rd</sup> Charlotte Houston congratulations.  
Mar 22 SAL held their Friday Night Dinner.  
Mar 23<sup>rd</sup> ALR held their Roadkill bingo.  
Mar 29<sup>th</sup> Legion held their Friday Night Dinner fish fry.

Now for April :

5<sup>th</sup> Apr karaoke in the Lounge at 6:30pm and Legion Dinner at 5:30pm  
12<sup>th</sup> Apr ALR dinner at 5:30pm  
13<sup>th</sup> Apr SAL Roadkill Bingo, girls and Boys state Orientation, Gold Star Family Presentation  
18<sup>th</sup> Apr JROTC Ball in Hall no Friday night dinner  
20<sup>th</sup> Apr Men's Dress as ladies party in the lounge with DJ Scott at 6:30pm  
21<sup>st</sup> Apr Unity Ride comes to Post 57  
26<sup>th</sup> Apr Legion Dinner at 5:30pm  
27<sup>th</sup> Apr ALR Roadkill at 7pm

Queen of Hearts is doing great last month's winners were: Coonie Greene, Bill Huggins, Tom Willcutt and Dan Davis congratulations.

Red Shirt Friday winners were Caitlin Hanechak, Rich Ricci , Hope Carroll congratulations.

As always Volunteers are needed in Bingo, Kitchen and Events please take time to volunteer and help with your post. Thanks.

Nominations for all Executive positions are open, if interested please contact our nominating committee, any member in good standing is eligible to run for office.

For God and Country  
Commander  
Rick Cabrera

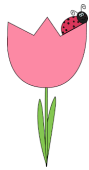
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## VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

**Elaine Warner**

Thanks for all you do!

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## S.A.L SQUADRON 57



Hello S.A.L. Squadron 57 Members

Hope everyone had an enjoyable month of March!

We had another fun filled month with Roadkill Bingo and Friday Night Dinner. I would like to thank Lee, Jim, Kevin, and Liam for their help with Roadkill. I would also like to thank Jim, Vanessa, Leland, and Grayson. All of you are awesome for making our events a huge success.

Our March meeting started with Officer nominations and will continue in April. If you are interested, please come to our meeting, and put your name in the running.

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday April 2nd @ 6:30 pm Squadron 57 Meeting/Nominations

Saturday April 6th @ 11:00 am 3rd District Meeting and Picnic

Saturday April 13th @ 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm Roadkill Bingo

**(PLEASE NOTE THE NEW TIME)**

S.A.L. Squadron 57 Commander:

Brian Wolfe



March was another awesome month for us. We had our Friday night dinner on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Kelly and her team had a phenomenal success with all dinners sold out. Thank everyone for coming out and supporting your Legion Riders. On March 23<sup>rd</sup> we hosted Road Kill Bingo. Another successful event with a good time for our members with the opportunity to win some food and enjoy each other's company. We also road out to Chapter 383 on

March 16<sup>th</sup> for their First Bike Night and on March 24<sup>th</sup> joined the other Chapters of 3<sup>rd</sup> District and road to Chiefland for lunch and to VFW Post 5626 for fellowship and some ride time. We finished off March with a check presentation to Hooked on Heroes to support their next fishing trip on April 6.

Nominations have opened for us. The following nominations were submitted at the last meeting. Director: Kelly Valliere; Assistant Director: None; Adjutant: Alice McKinzey; Finance Officer: Lisa Dye; Road Captain: Rob Mixon; Safety Officer: None; Chaplain: None; Historian: Tom Wilcutts; Sergeant at Arms: Mike McKinzey. If you would like to nominate a member or yourself please see Lisa Dye, Bill Huggins or James Taylor as our nomination committee. We will hold elections on May 28, 2024.

April 12 is the Riders Dinner. Charlotte Houston and her team will be putting together another outstanding dinner for everyone. On April 27 we will host Roadkill Bingo again. Please invite our members and their families to both events.

April 6 is the District Meeting and Picnic at Post 83. The Riders Meeting will begin at 1000am. The Legion, ALA, and SONs Meeting will begin at 1100 am with the picnic afterwards. The lunch is a \$10 donation.

On April 13, the Gold Star Memorial Ride is coming to support Gold Star Families. They will be at the Post at around 6pm. If you are a Gold Star Family please let your Legion Family Membership Officer or myself know.

We will host the in-State Unity Ride on April 21 serving them dinner at 5pm. The Riders will start arriving around 2pm for registration. They are starting the ride on April 22 from the hotel. If you would like to participate in the ride go to <https://give.floridalegion.org/event/2024-florida-legion-unity-ride/e554935> and register. It is \$20 per rider and \$10 for a passenger. You can ride for 1 day or all week. If you cannot participate in the ride, you can also register as a virtual rider for \$5. The State Rally is on April 27 at OCC Roadhouse in Clearwater, FL to wrap up the Unity Ride. This is open to all Legion Family members and the public. If you can make it please do. For the entire month of April, we will be participating in Round Robin. Rob is planning some weekend rides for this. If you are available, please show up and ride. If you can get some members together during the week and conduct a ride, please do. Remember this is a minimum of 3 members visiting a minimum of 3 Legion Posts and paying a registration fee of \$5. All the Round Robin and Unity Ride funds will go to support Veteran Suicide Prevention Initiative.

Until next month, thank you for your support with what your Riders do.

Michael Ziegler



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Second Chance Month: Empowering Incarcerated Veterans

April marks Second Chance Month, a time to focus on giving incarcerated individuals, especially veterans, a fresh start. As an American Legion Post chaplain, I advocate for working with incarcerated veterans as volunteers and supporting them in creating an American Legion post within prison walls.

This initiative offers veterans a sense of belonging, mentorship, and opportunities for personal growth. It also promotes community service and empowers them to lead and positively impact their peers. By supporting incarcerated veterans, we uphold our commitment to leaving no veteran behind and demonstrate the power of redemption and second chances.

Mel Haynes  
Chaplain



## SERVICE OFFICER



First, I want to thank all our Vietnam Veterans for their service. March 29<sup>th</sup> is now “*National Vietnam Veterans Day*” in support of all the men and women that served our country during a very difficult time. You may not have been welcomed home back then, but we appreciate and honor your service.

We are pleased that the County finally moved the Veterans Service Office to make it easier to access and giving the Service Officer more room to work and great veterans. I am not happy with the promises made by the county that were NOT kept. Promises like allowing our volunteers to be at the office to assist, promoting our monthly veterans education classes and no information about filling the new VSO

position. While I understand how government works (and doesn't work), these were promises made to our veterans. I personally believe this was done purposefully as if moving the office would appease us. NOT GOING TO WORK. I am asking our county officials to keep the promises they make and not just to get votes; to help our community.

Now that I have vented, our next Veterans Education Class will be held April 10<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. This class will talk about Home Adaption and Auto Adaption Claims and we will have an open question and answer session on any VBA issue. If I don't know the answer, I will do my best to find it. Hope to see you then.

Rustyann Brown  
Service Officer

