

December 2022

American Legion Post 57



2602 SW Main Blvd

Lake City, FL 32025

Americanlegion57@comcast.net

COMMANDERS CORNER

November has been a tough Month

We Transfer two Members of the Post Executive Board, to post everlasting, with the passing of Richard Mobly and James Campbell, Two great Veterans with Family and friends always on their mind. May They Rest in Peace....

The Post has had a good month, we continue moving Forward,

We had Hurricane IAN that hit the south west coast,

the Veterans Day Parade was canceled, but we still had our cookout Thanks to all that helped.

Our Veterans memorial crosses where displayed out front to remember all Fallen Veterans.

The District along with Post 57 Legion and Auxiliary unit 57 donated money to the help with relief.

We added the Queen of Hearts, pot is getting higher please continue to support our post.

We have a new pool Table that was donated by Post 52.

Fall conference was a great event we learned a lot from attending different classes.

We had our Annual Stand Down with Florida Crown was a great success, Thanks to All members that helped with this event it takes a lot a work to put on such an event.

Now for Dec

Our Lounge and Kitchen Prices will be increased by \$.25 due increases in Product.

3RD Dec District 3 Meeting at Post 383 Old Town registration at 10am.

9th Dec Karaoke will start again at 7pm.

10th Dec Christmas Parade at 6pm we will be putting float together at post at 2pm. Must leave post by 5pm.

17th Dec Wreaths Across America, downtown at 12noon. After the Event, We will go to cemetery and replace Tethered Flags .

20th Dec Christmas Party after General Meeting, please wear your Ugly and Cute Sweater

Or appropriated PJ, s. Please bring a dish to share for 10 people.

Christmas Music will be provided along with karaoke.

23RD Dec Kitchen will be closed

24TH Dec Lounge will open 1pm to 6pm

25th Dec Post will be close no Bingo

30th Dec No Friday Night Dinner

31ST Dec New Year's Eve Party at 8pm with a band, Potluck please bring a dish to share.

Jan 1st No Bingo Lounge opens at 3pm

Merry Christmas to all from the Commander,

As always Volunteers are needed in Bingo, Kitchen and Events please take time

To Volunteer and help your post. Thanks.

For God and Country

Commander

Rick Cabrera

Volunteer of the Month

Rusty Ann Brown

Thanks for all you do.



Welcome to December, as the year winds down let us continue to grow as a Chapter.

It is with heavy heart that we mourn the loss of our brother and friend, Jimmy Campbell. While he will be missed by all, let us hold to the knowledge that he is no longer suffering and is in a far better place. Jimmy donated his vest to the Riders so that we can memorialize his memory going forward. Thank you to Jim Gavens for doing an excellent job on the shadow box and for his donation to the cause.

Congratulations to Thomas Wilcutts for his election as the Rider's Historian, Tom has been doing a fantastic job for us in this position but now gets to wear the title so richly deserved.

Going into December, it's going to be a very busy month.

December 3rd is the District 3 meeting in Old Town, Post 383. Registration is at 9:00 am with meeting at 9:30.

Following the Rider's meeting there will be a District Post Everlasting for members who have gone home to include Jimmy Campbell and Richard Mobley, so please try and be there. After the meeting, should we have at least 5 Riders, I recommend we go to Cherry Lake to retrieve our plaque.

December 9th is our next Rider's Dinner, who would like to step up and chair the dinner by coming up with a menu and getting volunteers to help? Please reach out to me if your available and willing to chair the dinner. This is a poker tournament night as well as the night we are decorating the float for Saturday's Christmas parade so it should be a very good night for a dinner.

Saturday, December 10 is the Christmas parade. Membership voted to load a motorcycle on a trailer, decorate the trailer, and while one person will ride on the motorcycle on the float, other Riders can walk alongside and pass out candy or other items to the youth along the route.

Saturday, December 17 is Wreaths Across America, volunteers will meet at the post at 9:30 am to prepare and assemble the wreaths before going KSU at 11:30 for the escorted ride to the park for the ceremony. Following the ceremony, we will proceed to Forest Lawn Cemetery to place flags on the graves of our fallen heroes.

Tuesday, December 20th after the Legion and Auxiliary's General meeting we will hold our Christmas party in the lounge. Members are asked to bring a side dish to share.

Due to the holidays and scheduling, Rider's Roadkill has been suspended for November and December and is slated to return on Saturday, Jan. 28th 2023.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a safe, happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

Bill



AUXILIARY NEWS

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving. I know I ate too much.

With the holidays coming up this is usually a slow time for the Auxiliary but we have lots planned after the New Year. Come join us at a meeting and see what we are up to. General Membership meetings are always the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM.

The Stand-Down was a huge success. We stuffed some purses with personal items for our homeless female veterans and actually gave away more than expected.

We also did a check presentation to the Lake City Humane Society during the Riders Toys for Tots Toy Run on November 5th. They happened to be at the event with some of their shelter animals hoping to find a good home for them.

Auxiliary also donated money to the Patriot Guard Snowball Express which provides kids that have lost one or both of their parents while in service to our country a vest that they get to wear during their big event at Disney World in December. If you get a chance, get online and go to www.garysinisefoundation.org. This is our Department President's charity this year. Snowball Express is linked to the Gary Sinise Foundation. This is such a wonderful charity that benefits these kids that have lost so much.

Congratulations to our Juniors who did the cooking for our Friday night dinner on Nov. 18th. This was their first time chairing a dinner and I heard they did fabulous. Since several of us were in Orlando for the Fall Conference so we didn't get a chance to find out for ourselves.

Speaking of our Juniors program, we need more juniors (under the age of 18) to join our unit. Laura Cabrera is the Juniors Chairperson and she is doing an awesome job getting these kids involved with projects. They are working toward earning some badges this year already. The cost for a junior to join is only \$10.00, so if you have a young daughter or granddaughter that can qualify to be a member, fill out an application and we can get her on her way to learning all about what the Auxiliary is and what our mission is all about.

Don't forget that we have a District Meeting on Saturday, December 3rd at Post 383 Old Town. Registration is at 10 AM with meetings at 11 AM. All members are welcome, you do not have to be an officer to participate. If you are going, meet at our Post at 9 AM and we can carpool or follow along together.

The Post is starting to look like Christmas. We only had 5 Auxiliary members show up to decorate the Post on the 26th so we did the best we could. We will continue to work on it the first week of December.

The Post Christmas party will be Tuesday, December 20th right after the General Membership meeting (which will be short and sweet hopefully). This party is a Pot Luck event so bring something to share. Also this has been deemed as an Ugly Sweater or Christmas Pajamas Party, your choice.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you,

Lisa Dye

President

Honor Guard

For news and information about Honor Guard, please follow us on Facebook. Search *Honor Guard Post 57* to find our page. You can also email us at honorguardpost57@gmail.com

---Commander JD

Thank you,
JD Morris, Commander
American Legion Post 57 Honor Guard



Chaplain's Corner Dec 2022

Hello Everyone. Merry Christmas and a Happy Hanukkah to all.

I want to start off by saying that this is the time of year to celebrate the coming together of family and friends to exchange not only gifts but the show the love for each other. Our country is in a mess but, this should not cancel out our God given right to worship as we personally see fit. Most all religions end up focusing on God and his love of all man/women kind. May this be a time of remembering the loss of a loved one. Set out a picture or call someone you haven't connected with and be joyful to here from them. Just look at that picture and remember the loving spirit that will always be with you. Please keep both Jimmy's and Richard's families in your prayers as we look to the future of their Post Everlasting Ceremonies. Bless our country, American Legion family and our loyal citizens in God we trust.

Chaplain Rev Allen (Sarge)

S.A.L. Squadron 57

Hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving

Not much to say about November, since we didn't have a Friday Night Dinner or Roadkill Bingo. In December, we are back with Friday Night Dinner and Roadkill.

Reminder:

S.A.L. membership dues are required by December 31st. You can visit the lounge to pay them or contact Ray or I with any questions.

Upcoming Events:

District 3 Meeting: Post 383 at Old Town December 3rd @10:00 a.m.

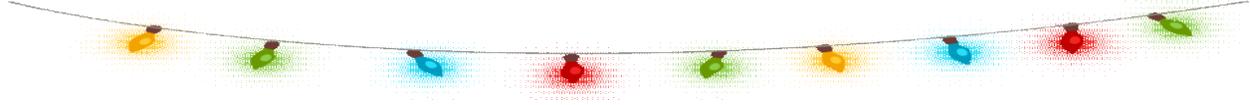
Squadron 57 Meeting: December 6th @ 6:30 p.m.

S.A.L. Roadkill Bingo: December 10th @ 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Friday Night Dinner: December 16th @ 5:30-7:30 p.m.

R.I.P Jimmy Campbell. You will be missed by everyone.

Squadron 57 Commander: Brian Wolfe



And finally, the rest of the story....

We all understand how devastating the loss of a loved one can be. It can be much harder during the holiday season as they learn to maneuver through everyone else's holiday spirit. We also have many veterans that the holiday's trigger very painful experiences for them. I would ask all of us to be mindful of those around us who may be going through these times.

This is a follow up to let everyone know how our meeting with the County Commissioners went regarding Veteran Services in Columbia County. We had a great turn out of veterans and legion members there to support the effort to better our veteran services. I outlined the numbers, provided by the county, showing how many veterans were helped last year and how many are still waiting. We talked about the lack of benefit education for veterans and their dependents and the need for another fulltime Veteran Service Officer. We cannot expect 1 part time employee to be able to handle our large veteran community. If you are concerned about the lack of assistance here in Columbia County, I strongly urge you to call, email or visit your county commissioner and request they make our veterans more of a priority.

District 1 Ron Williams: 386-752-0158 **Email:** ron_williams@columbiacountyfla.com

District 2 Rocky Ford: (386)-623-3396 **Email:** rford@columbiacountyfla.com

District 3 Robby Hollingsworth 386-758-1005 **Email:** rhollingsworth@columbiacountyfla.com
Cell: 386-623-2765

District 4 Everett Phillips 386-623-0487 **Email:** ephillips@columbiacountyfla.com

District 5 Tim Murphy 386-961-1330 **Email:** tmurphy@columbiacountyfla.com

Respectfully,

Rustyann Brown

