

July 2024

American Legion Post 57



2602 SW Main Blvd

Lake City, FL 32025

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COMMANDERS CORNER



Welcome to July and a brand new year! On behalf of YOUR new Executive Board, let me say thank you for your vote of confidence in YOUR new officers. You elected us to be your representatives and your voice in all thing Legion and we will strive together to serve our Veterans, Members, Families, Youth and Community in the best light possible. Your New Officers are:

Commander: Bill Huggins

1st Vice/Membership: Kelly Valliere

2nd Vice: OPEN

3rd Vice: Thomas Wilcutts

4th Vice: Laura Taylor

Finance Officer: Dave Holmes

Chaplain: Mel Haynes

Adjutant/Social Media : Jason Massey

Judge Advocate: Dave Mangrum

Service Officer: Lisa Brown

Historian/Social Media: Kim (Seven) Blumer

Sgt. At Arms: James (JT) Taylor

Executive Committee:

George Wehrl

Ken Burkes

Robert Preston

OPEN

Past Post Commander: Enrique (Rick) Cabrera

There are currently two vacancies on the Committee, 2nd Vice Commander and 4th Executive Committee person.

Nominations are open for these positions and an election will be held at our next General Meeting to be held on Tuesday, July 16th to fill these vacancies.

Note: Due to National's increase in dues, post 57 had to increase membership dues to 50.00 beginning July 1, 2024.

Upcoming Events for July 2024

BINGO: Every Sunday, Monday and Thursday (except 4th of July), afternoon bingo begins at 3pm and evening bingo begins at 6:45pm. The Kitchen is open for Bingo from 4-8 pm to serve up your favorite snacks and food.

Poker is played every Monday and Friday beginning at 7pm

Every Wednesday in the lounge, Draft beer \$1.75 all day.

Queen of Hearts drawing is held every Saturday at 6pm in the lounge for our members.

Congratulations to June's Queen of Hearts winners: Rodney Brown, Coleen Preston, Connie Green and Lana Hagy.

Tuesday, July 2nd SAL Meeting

Friday, July 5th from 5:30- 7:30, American Legion Dinner from 5:30- 7:30. Members and guests can enjoy their meal in the lounge with Karaoke beginning at 6:30 for an evening of fun and excitement.

Donation for the dinner is \$10.00 per dinner.

Saturday, July 6th SAL Roadkill in the lounge from 3-5 pm

Tuesday, July 9th Legion/Auxiliary Executive Board meeting 6:30

Wednesday, July 10, Calendar Planning meeting at 6:00

Friday July 12, Auxiliary Dinner from 5:30-7:30 pm

Saturday, Installation of Officers beginning at 4pm, Change of Command at 4pm followed by entertainment/food in the hall.

Tuesday, July 16th Legion/Auxiliary General Meeting at 6:30 (Vote to fill Legion vacancies)

Friday July 19th SAL Dinner from 5:30-7:30 pm

Saturday, July 20 Rider's Roadkill from 6-8pm in the lounge

Tuesday, July 23 Rider's meeting 6:30pm

Friday, July 26 Rider's Dinner from 5:30pm till 7:30pm

For God and Country

Bill Huggins

Commander, Post 57

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Donna Sessa

Thanks for all you do!



S.A.L SQUADRON 57



Hello S.A.L. Squadron 57 Members

Hope everyone had a good month of June!

We had another great month with Roadkill Bingo and Friday Night Dinner. I would like to thank Jim, Lee, Liam, Grayson, and Bailey-Jo for their help with Roadkill. I would also like to thank Jim, Leland, Don , Seven, and Vanessa for their help with Friday Night Dinner. All of you made our events a huge success.

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday July 2nd @ 6:30 p.m. Squadron 57 Meeting

Saturday July 6th @ 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Roadkill Bingo Saturday

July 13th @ 4:00 p.m. Officer Installation

Friday July 19th @ 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Friday Night Dinner

S.A.L. Squadron Commander:

Brian Wolfe



SERVICE OFFICER



As this is my last article as acting Service Officer, I want to thank everyone at Post 57 for supporting my efforts to help our Veterans, not just our Post members but, all veterans.

I have met some wonderful veterans whose stories will always be with me. So many have struggled for years fighting the Veterans Benefit Administration for the benefits that they rightfully earned.

I have been hesitant to stop working with veterans because I could see the shortfalls of adequate veteran service officers in the area. The County has finally hired a new VSO, Ron Beasley, who is very knowledgeable and extremely eager to help our veterans. I encourage any veteran or dependent that needs assistance to contact him through the County Service Office @ 1486 SW McFarlane Ave, Lake City 32025 (386) 758-3350.

Once again, thank you all for your support these last 5 years.

Sincerely,
Rustyann Brown
Post 57 Service Officer



Well, we packed more care packages last month. The USO in Jax is extremely pleased with our efforts to supply snacks and hygiene products to our deployed troops. They will let us know when they need more.

At the June meeting we approved our new budget for the next year. It is a very healthy budget so that we don't have to spend so much time making motions and having discussions during our meetings.

We are planning another lunch with the Domiciliary Lady Vets. They have chosen Wednesday, July 24th but they have not decided where yet. I will let you know as soon as they let me know. Everyone is welcome to come have lunch with these fabulous ladies but just know that you are responsible for payment of your own lunch.

In May we collected over \$1,100 during Poppy Days. We now have a new Poppy Chairman, Cheryl Patterson, and with the changes to the Poppy program at convention we can now collect donations for Poppies all year long instead of only twice per year. Cheryl has some great ideas to get these Poppies out there for everyone.

There will be a cook-out for July 4th at the Post from 11 AM to 1 PM or until the food runs out.

There will be no Bingo that day.

July Auxiliary dinner will be Friday, July 12th from 5:30 to 7:30 or until the food runs out. Sharon Manning will be cooking and at this writing all I know is that it is a chicken dish.

The installation of Officers will be Saturday, July 13th at 4 PM. If you are an incoming officer, please make sure you have paid your 2025 dues (\$45.00) before that date. After the installation

ceremony there will be a party in the lounge for our outgoing Commander, Rick Cabrera. All members are welcome to celebrate the past 6 years as our Commander. Donna Sessa and I will be going to Workshop this month and will come back with all the action plans for our programs. Our first School of Instruction will be held at Post 57 on Saturday, August 10th. Registration will start at 9 AM and classes at 10 AM. Lunch will be served for those attending. All Auxiliary members are encouraged to participate and learn about all our different programs that we work so hard on all year long. We have another yard sale in the works, tentatively planned for September 21st. So, clean out those closets and drawers. Donations cannot be accepted until the week of the sale. Plan now if you want to go to the Fall Conference in Orlando. The dates are November 22nd thru 24th. This will be held at the Caribe Royale Hotel. Chair a Friday night dinner and ask that the proceeds go toward the cost of your room (double occupancy). Dues are \$45.00. For God and Country,
Lisa Dye, President – Unit 57



SEA CADETS



The Sea Cadets are a group of young men and women ages 10 through the end of high school who choose adventure, seek challenges, and step outside of their comfort zones. There are two programs within Sea Cadets. The Navy League Cadet Corps (NLCC) is for middle school students aged 10 to 13. The Navel Sea Cadets Corps (NSCC) is for ages 13 through the end of high school. The Lake City Liberty Division Sea Cadets are having a recruiting open house on August 3rd, 2024, from 9:00 am to noon at the American Legion in Lake City for any kids or parents who have an interest to see what the program is all about. Just a few of the highlights that we have planned for the upcoming year are camping at the base in Jacksonville and meeting the Blue Angels, getting swim qualified, camping at The Seal Museum in Fort Pierce, and many more adventures. We look forward to sharing this program with the young men and women in our area. Please share this information with people you might know who might be interested.

Niki Patterson



July Drink Specials



Monday: Margarita Monday 2.00 Well, 4.00 top shelf All Day

Tuesday: Top Shelf Tuesday 4.00 5pm to close

Wednesday: Wine Wednesday 2.50 All Day

Thursday: Tanqueray Thursday 4.00 All day

Friday: Frozen Blast Friday 3.50 All day (strawberry, blackberry, blueberry, mango, pineapple, watermelon)

Saturday: Sex on the beach Saturday 2.00 well, 4.00 top shelf

Sunday: Screwdrivers (well only) 2.00 All Day