

July 2023

American Legion Post 57



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Lake City, FL 32025

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Commanders Corner

Wow another great year For the American Legion Post 57 I am grateful for another Successful year. Thank you! without your help we could not accomplish the things we did this year.

Here is your 2023-2024 Executive Board:

Commander -Enrique (Rick) Cabrera	First Vice- Michael Ziegler	2ndVice – Charles Caldwell
3rd Vice Thomas Johnson	4th Vice- Rusty Brown	Sgt at Arms- James Taylor
Finance -Otis Pewett	Chaplain- Allen Wood	Historian – Thomas Wilcutts
Adjutant -Victoria Ziegler	Service Officer- Tom Popen	Judge Advocate- Bill Huggins
Executive Committee members :	George Wehrl, Ray Funck and Kelly Valliere	

We have an open Executive Committee Member position open. Any Member of the American Legion Post 57, in good standing may run for this position. Anyone interested please see any officer and put your name in the running.

June was a good month we had:

June 3rd District 3 DCC Meeting

June 10th Margaritaville night

Jun 14th – Jun 18th Department of Florida Convention in Orlando.

Thank you all who participated in this year Department convention we all learned a lot.

Now for July

Jul 1st We are helping the Chamber park cars at the Rodeo Grounds for veterans for this year's 4th of July Fireworks 6:00PM.

July 4th Legion Pig roast at 12 noon until Food runs out.

Jul 8th Installation of Officers 4pm

Jul 14th Florida Crown Youth Program 9:30am – 2:00pm

Jul 19th Safe Serve Class at 6pm Sign up sheet is on the Board anyone who serves, or preps food should attend a \$5.00 Charge for book, first come first served.

Queen of Hearts winners: Terry Canton, Mike Zeigler, Terrie Cummings and Brenda Morgan congratulations.

Starting August 1st, the Lounge will be Non-Smoking

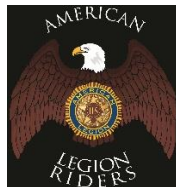
As always Volunteers are needed in Bingo, Kitchen and Events please take time To Volunteer and help your post.

Thanks for God and Country
Commander Rick Cabrera

Volunteer of the Month

Rusty Brown

thanks for all you do!



As we enter into the new year for the American Legion Family, I wanted to share with you some upcoming events from our June Meeting:

Saturday 1 July finds the Legion Family requested by the Chamber of Commerce to assist with Veteran Parking at the fairgrounds. We'll assemble at the fairgrounds at 1815 hrs (6:15) to prepare for the gates to open at 7 and assist veterans with their reserved parking.

Tuesday, July 4th the Post will be celebrating the 4th of July beginning at 1300 hrs, the Commander and 2nd Vice Commander will be preparing the whole hog and chicken, the Riders are requested to bring dessert.

A tentative date of October 7th has been selected for our annual Toys for Tots event and our annual Chili Cook off is tentatively scheduled for February 24th 2025.

Rider's Roadkill is scheduled this month for February 15th so plan to attend then on

July 21st Riders will host our Friday night dinner, which is being chaired by Kelly, so look forward to a great evening.

On a parting note, this is my final newsletter as your director, it has been an honor and a privilege to have served a fantastic group and I look forward to the group continuing to progress and grow.

As always, for the cause, not the applause.

Bill



AUXILIARY NEWS

The Ice Cream Social at the Domiciliary on June 9th was a huge success. All the residents that came out had a great time. We even started to get requests for items for the next one (which will be in August).

We raised almost \$1,300 from our Poppy Days the end of May. Thank you to all that volunteered to man our tables at Publix and Winn-Dixie this year.

Our Friday Night Dinners are really helping our community. April and June's dinner proceeds went to Kids Feeding Kids Agricultural Center and to Ft.

White Cheerleaders. So next time we have a Friday Night dinner, please come out to support so we can give back to our community. The next dinner is on Friday, July 7th where Irma will be making her delicious chicken pot pie (along with a salad and dessert) for a donation of \$10. This time the proceeds will be going to the Youth Bowling Scholarship.

Six Auxiliary members went to convention in June and came back with a lot of ideas and a few awards. For the second year in a row one of our Americanism Essay contest participants from our local schools won the state award, now his essay will go on to National for judging. A big congratulations to Caitlyn Hanechak for being voted in at convention to be the Department of Florida Honorary Juniors Vice President for 2023-2024.

We sent four girls to Girls State. We had breakfast with them and their parents and loaded them in the van for the trip to Tallahassee. I know they will come back with lots of stories to tell.

July 4th Red, White & Boom celebration at the Post will be from 1 PM to 4 PM. There will be a ceremony at 1 PM. The Legion is roasting a whole pig and we will have chicken too. We are asking the Auxiliary members that are coming to bring some sort of salad (be creative). Riders should bring some sort of dessert and SAL members should bring some sort of side dish (not coleslaw or potato salad). Happy Birthday America !!!

On Saturday, July 15th, the Auxiliary members are invited to join in for "Painting with a Twist" at the post at 4 PM. The cost is \$25 and must be paid in advance to the bartender. Deadline for signing up is July 6th. This is a FUN event. You don't have to be an artist to participate.

Commander Rick and kitchen manager Sharon are conducting a Serve Safe class for ANYONE that works or volunteers in the kitchen (even for Friday Night dinners) to get certified on Wednesday, July 19th at 6 PM. The cost is \$5 to cover the cost of the books. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hall at the post. You can pay the day of the class.

One last thing, beginning July 1st you can start renewing your dues for 2024. The cost will be going up to \$45.00 due to increases from Department and National. If you get them in before September 1st you will be considered an "Early Bird" and sometimes we do something special for early birds. All Executive Committee members must have their 2024 dues paid before installation of officers, which will be Saturday, July 8th at 4 PM.

For God and Country,
Lisa Dye
President

Honor Guard

For news and information about Honor Guard please follow our Facebook Page. Search Honor Guard Post 57 o find our page. You can also email us at honorguard57@gmail.com

Thank you

JD Morris, Commander

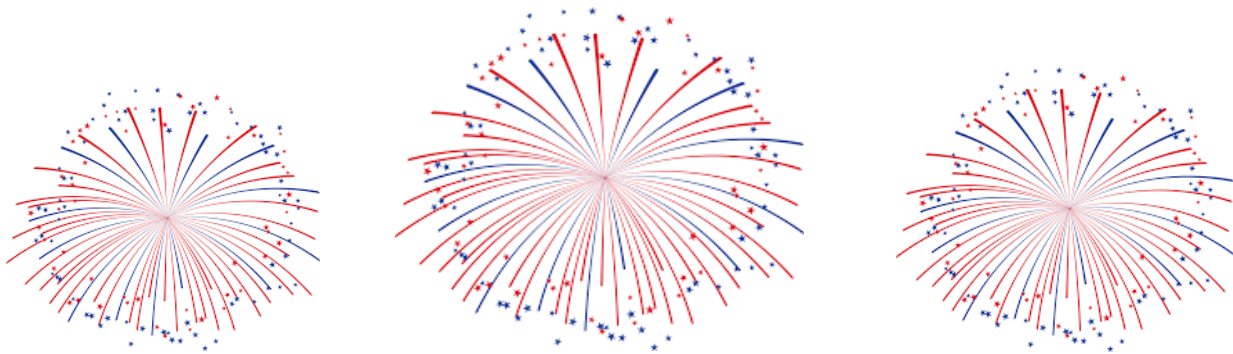
American Legion Post 57 Honor Guard



Chaplain's Corner

Hello everyone. This month the topic is 4th of July and what it should mean for all of us. This subject is special because it seems to be clouded and unimportant to our leaders. The 4th of July goes very much in line with our Constitution and our rights as American loyal citizens of this great nation. If we don't gather and celebrate this important day in history, then they will stop it in a heartbeat. So let us celebrate GOD and country on the 4th, waving our flags and enjoying the fireworks. May God continue to bless us and our nation for the freedoms that we must fight for each and every day. So, stand up America, and be blessed by our creator God.

Chaplain Allen (Sarge)



Hello S.A.L. Squadron 57 Members

Hope everyone had a safe and fun June It's been another fun-filled month, and I would like to thank Jim, Vanessa, Leland and Don for making our Friday Night Dinner a huge success. July 8th will be Officers Installments, so I urge all Officers to be there.

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday July 5th @ 6:30 p.m. Squadron 57 Meeting

Saturday July 8th @ 4:00 p.m. Officer Installments

Saturday July 8th @ 7:00 p.m. S.A.L Roadkill Bingo

Wednesday July 19th @ 6:00 p.m. Pro Safe Class

(for every Member that works in the Kitchen)

Friday Night Dinner @ TBD

S.A.L Squadron Commander: Brian Wolfe

Mikes Message

Hello American Legion Post 57,

We returned from the 104th Annual Department of Florida Convention. While there we received our membership cards for 2024 as well as any membership awards and information they had for us. As I mentioned last month you all were phenomenal in our recruiting and retention efforts. We officially finished the year with 100%+1 membership award, 100% Membership Goal Battle Ribbon to go on the Post Standards, 3 Recruiter awards; for Larry Potts, Rick Cabrera, and Bill Huggins for being our top recruiters for the Post. Again thank you for all you did this past year in our membership efforts.

Start turning in your renewals for 2024 and recruiting your neighbors, friends, family or any veteran that you know. Lets reach 100% again this year.

This is my last newsletter entry as your Membership Officer. It has been an honor to serve you all in this position and I am truly humbled by the support you all gave me over the past 3 years. Victoria Ziegler will now be your new membership officer for this year and I ask that you support her just as much if not more than you supported me in her efforts so we can continue to grow Post 57. Again thank you for all you do in our membership efforts.

Proud to be Legion
Michael Ziegler

AND FINALLY, THE REST OF THE STORY

I've known for a long time that we have some really amazing members here at our post. This month 3 of our members donated more than \$1400 to our Service Officer's Fund which allows us to help our members and other veterans of the community. One member, Fred Brittain and his wife Avieline, donated \$1200 which totally took me by surprise. What generous members they have been to this post also donating the service plaques in our hallway.
Thank you.

I'm sure the word is out that our general membership voted on June 20th , to take the lounge non-smoking effective August 1. This is contingent on the smoking structure being complete. This vote has definitely caused hard feelings between the smokers and the non-smokers. My hope is that this is a positive thing for our post, one that will,

in the long run, be beneficial. Bottom line, we are running a business so we have to show that we can be more profitable.

There has been some interest in getting CPR certification for some of our volunteers and members. If you are interested in getting your certification, please notify the post and we will add your name to the list. We are still in the planning stage so no specific information available at this time.

Also, is there any interest in starting back up our Wednesday potluck lunches? We could always do it once a month, bi-weekly, weekly or not at all; whatever the interest is. What a great month, hope to see you around the post.

Rustyann Brown, 4th Vice

