

**MAY 2022**

**AMERICAN LEGION POST #57**

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**LAKE CITY, FL 32025**

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## **POST 57 MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER**

### **COMMANDER'S CORNER:**

I would like to start with condolences to two of our members and Board Members on their loss of their loved ones. Our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family.

April we had a good month.

April 8th: 80's Night with a great turn out and great time; April 14th We had the Commanders and President Homecoming with a fantastic time; April 15th was our Fish Fry with great food and turn out; April 23rd was the JROTC Ball and April 30th Boys and Girls State breakfast.

Now for May (Going to be a busy month)

May 3rd S.A.L. Elections

May 7th Peanut Boil outback in Pavilion 1-4pm

May 8th Mother's Day (**send some love to your mother**)

May 14th Auxiliary Unit 57 Yard Sale

May 17th Legion and Auxiliary Elections

May 20th Ladies night dress to impress

May 21st DCC Meeting here at Post 57, 10am registration

May 22nd District Picnic at post 107 Live Oak (see bartender for tickets)

## **COMMANDER'S CORNER** (cont'd)

May 24th ALR Elections

May 25th Commanders Meeting 6:30pm

May 28th Sea Cadets Awards 12:00 noon

May 30th Memorial Day Flag Ceremony and BBQ 10am for ceremony;  
11am-1pm (or until food runs out) for lunch

Winners of this Months **RED SHIRT FRIDAY** is:

**Sharon Manning, Steve Cox, Debbie Cox and Tom Johnson**

Congratulations for showing support to ALL DEPLOYED.

Please remember that nominations are open until May 17th. Anyone in good standing and current membership, are eligible to run for any position on the Executive Board.

Volunteers are always needed for Bingo and events. Please help your Post if you can.

For God and Country,

*Commander Rick*

**VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH**

***SHARON MANNING***

**THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO**

TEXAS HOLD'EM held their monthly fundraiser on Friday April 8, 2022 and raised \$315 for the Legion. There were 14 players and the pot of \$845 was won by 4 players: Paul Thomas, Janet Creel, Rick Depriest and John Ludwig each receiving \$200. John Ludwig got high hand and received \$70. The next Legion fundraiser will be Friday, May 13, 2022 at 7pm in the Main Hall. We now play TEXAS HOLD'EM every Monday and Friday in the Auxiliary Room (NO SMOKING) starting at 7pm. Sign in by 7pm to get your 2,000 chips bonus. Thanks,  
*Bob Tarlton*



### **S.A.L. (SONS OF THE LEGION)**

SAL Officers are grateful for the support from the Post 57 family. Our fundraising is on target to meet the requirements of our budget. Our next meeting will be an important one as we finalize candidates for the coming year's officers. Come and make your voice heard and see if an officer of Squadron 57 is something you may want to pursue.

*JIM SHERFEY*

## **ALR (AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS)**

Here we go, it's May already, where the heck does time go? I want to begin by saying a hearty "Thank you" to all the Rider members and supporters who came out to assure the success of the Rider's Roadkill Bingo and the In State Legacy Run. Roadkill Bingo was the best turn out we've seen in some time. Everyone had a great time and a lot of winners went home with smiles and food. The In State Legacy Ride Meet and Greet saw over 110 riders converge on our lounge on Sunday, April 23rd, where most places serve riders with either hot dogs or pulled port, our Riders came together to prepare for them Open Faced Roast Beef sandwiches, mashed potatoes and gravy with green beans and cookies for dessert. Everyone was highly complementary and pleased. All the Riders and supporters along with our bartenders, came together to assure that in spite of the fact that we had standing room only, everyone was fed. Many comments about how well you guys did.

At our monthly meeting held Tuesday, April 26th, we had a hotly contested issue involving supporters retaining their right to vote. At the end of the day I want to offer my congratulations to the supporters retaining their rights that had been granted over 2 years ago. I for one, appreciate everything you guys and what you bring to the table. This allows the Riders to do what they do best and that's ride.

As for May and June, the Riders have been asked to support several causes as follows:

May 7th—Chapter 9 and the 5th District have long been strong supporters of our events and we have elected to participate in this event with the caveat that we select a specific route and ride that route as a group. May 27th is the next Rider's Friday night dinner. Ms. Lainie Paul has agreed to Chair the dinner and we'll be getting a menu together soon. This is a Karaoke night so hopefully everyone will have a great time and enjoy a great meal. Shirley McManue of the Classic Car Club has asked that the Riders participate in the Wellborn Blueberry parade on June 4th. It was decided at our meeting that we will participate in the parade in some fashion. They have been staunch supporters of our event. So only right we reciprocate.

Rolling Thunder 3 out of Gainesville has asked us to be a stop on their poker run scheduled for Saturday, June 25th. We will be the third stop on the route. The Riders voted to confirm this as something we can get behind and support. They should arrive around 2pm with a one hour window before departure. We agreed to prepare some type of smacks for their visit as they support our Social Quarters. As some of you may not be aware, Toy for Tots, recently lost over \$13,000 in new toys and books due to flooding in their office. The Riders decided to hold a Christmas in July on June 30th with all proceeds going to benefit Toys for Tots. We will be approaching members and the community to ask for support for this very worthwhile cause.

Finally, as you know, I am once again running for Director of the Riders for the 2022/2023 upcoming year. Since the Riders selected me as their Director, we have seen some amazing results, not because I've done anything special, but because as a family, we have displayed unity and worked together to make our Legion Family and our Riders shine.

I am asking for your vote and support on Tuesday, May 24, 2022 to continue to lead our Riders.

For the cause, not the applause.

***BILL***

## HONOR GUARD



Honor Guard bestowed military honors for Petty Officer First Class Robert Mears on Friday, April 22 at Forest Lawn cemetery in Lake City. Mr. Mears had a long military career in three of the five branches of service. He began serving in the Army at age 16 for four years, then entered the US Air Force for eight years and finally found his niche as an electrical engineer in the US Navy aboard the USS Independence for twenty years. Mr. Mears specifically requested a bagpiper play at his memorial service. We were able to find a piper, himself a veteran, who gladly came to honor Mr. Mears. The family was overjoyed. On Saturday, April 23, Honor Guard served along with the Gainesville Police Department Honor Guard in the service of First Lieutenant Denis Blom of Lake Butler, FL. Mr. Blom served in the US Air Force and then the Florida National Guard for nearly 20 years. He was a law enforcement officer with GPD, affectionately known as “The Dancing Cop”, as he would break out into dance when directing traffic. As a friend of the family, Commander JD conducted the service in the Townsend-Green building in downtown Lake Butler. Wednesday, April 27, found our team honoring Private First Class Eric Gabel, sadly only 33 years old at his passing. At the family’s request Honor Guard Chaplain Lydia Fortier conducted a beautiful service in the chapel of Forest Lawn funeral home. We offer any and all assistance for families in preparing their memorial services for their loved ones.

Our wonderful team is down another member. Terry Libbert fell from a ladder 11 April and suffered two broken ribs. He will be out of service until June. Byron Cribbs, who suffered a broken hip at Christmas, will be returning soon. Please keep both team members in your thoughts and prayers. Respectfully,  
*Commander JD*

## AUXILIARY

Can't believe it's May already. May is election month for the Post and Auxiliary is no exception. May 17<sup>th</sup> is the date (6:30 PM) for the monthly General Membership Meeting where we will elect our Executive Committee for the upcoming fiscal year. Here are the nominees:

President – Lisa Dye

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres. – Sharon Huggins

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres. – Sharon Manning

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Pres. – Maryann Dennis

Secretary – Charlotte Houston

Treasurer – Judy Morland

Chaplain – Rose Johnson

Historian – Maryann Bell

Sgt at Arms – Laura Cabrera

Executive Committee:        Irma Wehrli

   Phyllis Hanechak

   Penny Weber

Nominations will be accepted from the floor the night of elections for any of the above positions. Don't forget, you MUST bring your current membership card and present it at the door to enter the meeting.

The whole month of May the Auxiliary will be collecting canned goods and non-perishables for the Renewed Outreach Center. Renewed helps homeless and needy Veterans in our area. Boxes will be set up in the Post Lobby and Bingo Hall for you to drop off any donations. Where possible, the cans need to have a pop top. But don't forget things like grits, noodles, canned fruit, canned meats, canned vegetables, crackers, pop tarts, rice, etc.

## AUXILIARY (cont'd)

Saturday, May 14th, 8am-1pm, the Auxiliary will be holding a Yard Sale in the Bingo Hall in conjunction with the Liberty Division Sea Cadets. If you have anything you wish to donate, you may start bringing in items to the Post on Tuesday, May 10th. We will not be accepting any clothes or shoes.

The next Auxiliary Dinner will be Friday, May 20th, 5:30pm-7:30pm (or until the food runs out) for a donation of \$10 per dinner. The menu will be Beef Tips and gravy over real mashed potatoes, fresh vegetables medley, roll/butter and dessert.

On behalf of our President, Dianna Cooper

*Lisa Dye, Membership Chairman*

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Hello everybody, this month the Chaplain's Corner is about "Relationships". I would like to emphasize the importance to mend bridges that have been broken between relatives or friends who were once an important part of your life. The old saying of "don't put off till tomorrow" also applies to relationships. We are not, according to God, promised tomorrow. So a loss of someone that you haven't buried the hatchet with, can be devastating and lasting maybe forever. So my friends, make that phone call or mail that letter or card, and start the healing process. You will see a more beautiful world about you and that is God's promise to you.

*Chaplain Allen*



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

This month has been exceptionally busy with us helping a disabled female veteran move from one residence to another. Thank you MOVE CONNECTION for helping us with this move. Although the expense was greater than we expected it was a successful move.

I would like to talk about Veteran Services here in Columbia County and where you should go for help. Our County Service Officer is our very own board member, George Wehrly. The Columbia County Veterans Service Office is located at **437 NW Hall of Fame Dr., Lake City 32055 (386) 758-1013** email: [gwehri@columbiacountyfla.com](mailto:gwehri@columbiacountyfla.com)

Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8am to 2pm Tuesday and Thursday 10am to 4pm

If you plan on filing a claim with the Veterans Benefit Administration, there are things you can do before going in to see your Service Officer. I will be giving information in coming newsletters on different benefits.

**TIP FOR THE MONTH:** Did you know, if you are a veteran and you receive your care through the VA here in Lake City, you can now go to Baja Clinic for urgent care and VA will pay? It's true! So instead of waiting days or going to the ER, you now have another option.

We have a new member that is interested in helping elderly members get their home organized and rid of things not needed. It can be such a blessing to organize and clean a space that was not being used and change it into a useable space. Just an idea we're thinking about. Do you have any ideas? Let us know or put your comment in the Suggestion Box near the Post Bulletin Board. The Post is always looking for ways to improve how we service our members and our veteran community.

***Respectfully, Rustyann Brown***

