



**American Legion – Veterans Memorial Post 347**  
**Mail: P.O. Box 1534 – Lady Lake, FL 32158-1534**  
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### **Bimonthly Newsletter – Sept-Oct, 2017**

**Commander's Notes Al Varrone:** As Fall approaches we welcome back our members who have traveled to spend time with their Family and Friends. We sincerely hope all return home safe and sound. I would also like to remind our members to renew their membership early to attain "Early Bird" status.

The Department of Florida Convention was held in Orlando at the end of June. Steve Shuga Commander, Dianne Boland 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander, Rick Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander and Jerry Brandt 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander were elected to their respective positions. There was also a resolution passed changing the responsibilities of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commanders. In the past each Vice Commander would be responsible for Programs, Training or Membership. By the time they would have completed 3 years as Vice Commander, they would have had all 3 disciplines. Now, instead of being responsible for a discipline, they are now responsible for a geographical area of the state. Post 347 which is in the Eastern Area would fall under the responsibility of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice or currently Dianne Boland.

By the time you read this the American Legion National Convention would have been held and a new National Commander will have been selected. This year's convention was held in Reno, Nevada and we sent a small delegation of members to represent the post.

On the Entertainment front we've recently started Sunday night Dances twice a month with Johnny RAE and on October 14<sup>th</sup> our monthly Saturday breakfast will resume. Aim High. **For God and Country. Commander Al Varrone**

**Chaplain's Corner: by Chaplain Joerg Wartenberg.** "Let us pray" Lord, place your protection over us during this summer's travels and activities. Families and friends getting together, Enjoying our Freedom, to Celebrate that which our Veterans have Fought for, giving the Ultimate Sacrifice when there was no other choice. Let us always HONOR ALL that served, Honor and pray for our soldiers that are now serving to keep us safe and free. Give them Strength, Wisdom and Courage. Comfort them and their Families during this time. Also Lord remember our sick, shut in, going to rehabilitation and Medical procedures. Be with the families who have Lost love ones. Amen **Chaplain: Joerg Wartenberg.**

**From the desk of the 1st Vice Commander:** As summer winds down and we await the arrival of our seasonal members, I am happy to report we are on track in meeting the first membership goal set by National Headquarters. As of August 3<sup>rd</sup>, we have over 1850 early bird renewals of our total 6200 members. The goal is 50% by September 6, 2017; currently we are at 45% for the first month of the new fiscal year (2017 – 2018). In addition, we have taken in over 100 new or transferred members for the same timeframe. It is a large task for the world's largest post to meet these goals BUT with hard work by all, I have no doubt we will accomplish what has been asked of us. As a reminder, if you pay your dues online, please bring the receipt to the Post to receive your new membership card. Thank you all for your assistance.  
**For God and Country: 1st Vice Commander Ellen Tierney**

#### **From the Adjutants Desk:**

My fellow Legionnaires, it's that time again. End of year is approaching. As you know your membership card is valid until December 31<sup>st</sup>. The National organization, in an attempt to get all Post 100% renewed by December 31<sup>st</sup> has started sending out renewal notices in July via snail mail and e-mail. If you renew during the period of July to December, you will get your 2018 membership card and it is valid from the day you receive it until December 2018. As an extra incentive to renew early, dues paid before November 11<sup>th</sup>, Veterans Day, will qualify you as an Early Bird and eligible for a free Spaghetti dinner, date to be announced later. You may renew in person (at the Post), the mail, or on line. If you renew on line, please bring the computer generated membership card to the Post and we will give you your membership card.

National will continue to send out renewal notices until your renewal is processed so you may receive a notice even after you have paid, things cross in the mail, Bob and I with the help of the Membership team process them daily and from the Post your renewal has to go to Orlando, and then to Indianapolis, after National process the renewal the notices will stop. Thanks, renew early and avoid the Christmas rush. **Adjutant Mike Siedel**

**Auxiliary News:** *by, Mary La Noce, Madam President:* Summer is over and our snowbirds are coming home. We hope you had a great summer and are ready for an exciting fall and winter in sunny Florida. Welcome back.

We had some special events coming up starting with a workshop here at Post 347 on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 am. It was a perfect time to learn about our Auxiliary and the plans we have for the future. We will be holding our annual Oktoberfest on Saturday evening October 21. Dinner will be served by our expert cook, Ruth Sovern and her helpers. Music will fill the air for your enjoyment and dancing pleasure. Further details will be available at meetings and on the bulletin board in the Lounge. If you have joined us in the past, you know what a great event this is every year.

Our meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm for a social hour and our meeting begins at 6:30 pm. Our dues are due and the cost per year is \$32.00 for seniors and \$4.00 for juniors. You can pay at the meeting or drop off your check at the Post, Monday through Friday between 9 and 4.

Please notify our chaplain, Donna McGlone, of any death or illness of one of our members.  
For God and Country **Mary La Noce, Madam President**

### **Sons of the American Legion** Get Involved and Invested

We support many great causes dealing with Veterans, their families, the community, and children. The list includes many well-known and deserving organizations that touch the lives of many in our organization and our community. We need to spread the word about the good that we accomplish and how our volunteers make that happen. Tell your friends and neighbors about The Legion, The Son's, the Auxiliary, and the newest family member the Riders.

We have a core of volunteers that are here at the Post for Monday nights, Thursday nights and the Sunday Football events but we need more to step up to help. Most of these events require only 3-4 hours per event and it demonstrates your commitment to Veterans and our organization. Some are there week in and week out, some are there every other week and some are "on call" to help when needed. In addition, we have the upcoming Crab Races organized by Gary Blanchard on September 25th and the Halloween Dance handled by Richard Duncan October 30th.

Show up for the monthly meetings held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 7 PM to learn more about what we do and how you can help. We will have signup sheets for various activities and can explain what is needed. We raise money, donate time and have some fun to boot! We will have representatives from many organizations that we contribute to attend upcoming meetings so you can learn firsthand how we can positively impact their work.

This is your Squadron and we are here to make it work for you BUT we need your input and a few hours per month to make the greatest impact. Talk to any officer or event coordinator to see where you might fit in and get involved. Get your Membership in and get that Early Bird Card today God Bless the Sons of The American Legion and each of Legion Family! **George M Worton**, Commander Sons of The American Legion Squadron # 347

### **Members who went to Post Everlasting in Apr-May 2016**

<b>Member's Name</b>	<b>DOD</b>	<b>Member's Name</b>	<b>DOD</b>	<b>Member's Name</b>	<b>DOD</b>
Paul E. Herring	7/07	Angelo J. Bertolino	7/09	Bruce A. Marx	7/14
Marvin "MC Donald Bob" Hamel	8/02	Claire Curlew	8/08		

### **FUTURE EVENTS**

**Legion Golf tournament is here again to raise funds for the Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA). Pick up your registration form in the Post Lobby. Date is September 29<sup>th</sup>. Great event with beverages and snacks on the course and Prime Rib dinner and awards immediately following the tournament. Dinner will be held in the Post Hall.**

**Team Trivia Tournament** in Main Hall 7PM doors open at 6PM. Second Friday of each month. \$5 per person, Max 8 to a Team 50-50 Door Prizes Lounge opens for dinner 5-7 Pm or Legion, Hot Dog and Fries Available. Call Ed Lawson 352-750-0639 for Reservations and Information.

### **HONOR FLIGHT IS LOOKING FOR WWII and KOREAN VETERANS**

If you are a WWII or Korean War veteran and have not yet gone on an Honor flight to visit the memorials in Washington, D.C. you should contact Honor Flight. You can go to their website, [www.VillagesHonorFlight.org](http://www.VillagesHonorFlight.org) and print out an application. You may also pick up applications from the Post 347 front Office, or phone Honor Flight at [352-432-1382](tel:352-432-1382).

**All Tuesday night menus are posted on our website at [www.florida-legion.com](http://www.florida-legion.com)**

**Lounge and Hall Entertainment information if changed will be updated on the Legion website.**

**Legion Officers 2017****Auxiliary Officers 2017**

Al Varrone	<i>Commander</i>	Mary La Noce	<i>President</i>
Ellen Tierney	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander</i>	Jean Flake	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</i>
T.C. Biddle	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice</i>	Wendy Adams	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</i>
<i>Commander</i>		Lynn Barbarotta	<i>Secretary</i>
Bill Behn	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Vice</i>	Donna Hodge	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Commander</i>		Ann Huxtable	<i>Historian</i>
Joerg Wartenberg	<i>Chaplain</i>	Betty Spencer	<i>Sgt At Arms</i>
Mike Seidel	<i>Adjutant</i>	Donna McGlone	<i>Chaplain</i>
Ken DeMello	<i>Finance</i>	Ruth Sovern	<i>Membership</i>
George Zablocki	<i>Sgt at Arms</i>	Members at Large	
Tom Murphy	<i>Judge Advocate</i>	Carol Pirone-Udell	
John Trenkle	<i>Service Officer</i>	Barb Kajda	
Guy Knaak	<i>Member at Large</i>	Lois Glosch	
Lyle Koch	<i>Member at Large</i>	Cathy Trout	
Johnny Gibbons	<i>Member at Large</i>	Maureen Caswell	
Ron Monat	<i>Member at Large</i>		
Tim Tierney	<i>Past Commander</i>		
Mike Horn	<i>Historian/ Editor</i>		
<b>SAL Officers 2017</b>		<b>Legion Riders 2017</b>	
George Worton	<i>Commander</i>	Mike Hayes	<i>President</i>
Paul Pitts	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander</i>	Bill Lynn	<i>Vice President</i>
David Booth	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander</i>	Daniel Martin	<i>Treasurer</i>
Danny Adams	<i>Financial Officer</i>	Betty Martin	<i>Secretary</i>
Jack Dirga	<i>Chaplain</i>	Craig Bonfant	<i>Sgt At Arms</i>
Cory Meloni	<i>Historian</i>		
Gary Blanchard	<i>Sgt-At-Arms</i>		
David Callies	<i>Member at Large</i>		
Bill Gray	<i>Member at Large</i>		

## September 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	5-7 pm Hamburgers 6-10pm - Karaoke	5-7pm - Kitchen Open 5-8pm - Music Queen of Hearts Drawing	12 - 2 pm Philly Cheese Steaks 2:30pm Bar Bingo	11am - 3:30 pm Bingo 5-7pm Italian Night: Small Team Trivia	5-7 - Kitchen Open Lounge Music and Dancing	6:30 - 8 pm Lounge Team Trivia

~ Sept 2017 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> D.J. Norm Lounge 6-10pm	<b>2</b> Trivia 6:30 - 8:30 PM With Al Brady
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Lounge Karaoke by David Baldwin 6-10	<b>5</b> Queen of Hearts  Lou Gatto in Lounge 5-8pm	<b>6</b> HONOR GUARD MEETING 10-12 NOON  Bar Bingo 230-4PM  AUXILIARY MEETING 6-8 PM	<b>7</b> Executive Board Meeting 4:30 Open to all Members BINGO 8AM-4PM Trivia Small Team Max 6 per team Legion Riders 6pm	<b>8</b> Pam Valli in Lounge 6-10pm Team Trivia Tournament 7PM until ??? \$5 person Max 8	<b>9</b> Trivia 6:30 - 8:30 PM With Al Brady
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Lounge Karaoke by David Baldwin 6-10	<b>12</b> Queen of Hearts  Just Mike in Lounge 5-8pm	<b>13</b> POST MEETING 5:30-8 PM  Bar Bingo 230-4PM	<b>14</b> BINGO 8AM-4PM  Trivia Small Team Max 6 per team	<b>15</b> D.J. Norm in Lounge 6-10pm	<b>16</b> Trivia 6:30 - 8:30 PM With Ed and Carol
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Lounge Karaoke by David Baldwin 6-10	<b>19</b> Queen of Hearts Johnny Ray McCullah in Lounge 5-8pm Pam Valli in Hall	<b>20</b> SUBMARINE VETS 12 - 3PM S.A.L. MEETING 7-8:30 PM Bar Bingo 230-4PM	<b>21</b> BINGO 8AM-4PM  Trivia Small Team Max 6 per team	<b>22</b> Al Brady in Lounge 6-10pm	<b>23</b> Trivia 6:30 - 8:30 PM With Al Brady
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Lounge Karaoke by David Baldwin 6-10	<b>26</b> Queen of Hearts  Pat Murphy in Lounge 5-8pm Bubba in Hall 5-8pm	<b>27</b> 40 & 8 Meeting 6-10 PM  Bar Bingo 230-4PM	<b>28</b> BINGO 8AM-4PM  Trivia Small Team Max 6 per team	<b>29</b> Amee Reese Lounge 6-10PM	<b>30</b> Trivia 6:30 - 8:30 PM With Al Brady
<p><b>Notes: Front Office Hours: M-F: 9am - 4pm Sat: 9am - 12pm</b>            Updates to this schedule of events will be posted on our website, in your local newspaper, or you may contact the post at 750-2099 or the lounge at 750-0639</p>						

## October 2017

### AMERICAN LEGION Weekly Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	5-7 pm Hamburgers 6-10pm - Karaoke	5-7pm - Kitchen Open 5-8pm - Music Queen of Hearts Drawing	12 - 2 pm Philly Cheese Steaks 2:30pm Bar Bingo	11am - 3:30 pm Bingo 5-7pm Italian Night Small Team Trivia	5-7 pm - Kitchen Open Lounge Music and Dancing	6:30 - 8 pm Lounge Team Trivia
~ <b>Oct 2017</b> ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <b>Karaoke by David Baldwin</b> 6-10	3 <b>Queen of Hearts</b>  Lou Gatto in Lounge 5-8pm	4 <b>HONOR GUARD MEETING 10-12</b>  Bar Bingo 230-PM  <b>AUXILIARY MEETING 6-8 PM</b>	5 <b>Executive Board Meeting 4:30</b> Open to all members <b>BINGO 8AM-4PM</b> <b>Trivia Small Team Legion Riders 6 PM</b>	6 <b>D. J. Norm in Lounge 6-10pm</b>	7 <b>Celebration of Life Bob McDonald 2-4 PM</b>  <b>Trivia 6:30 - 8:30 PM With Al Brady</b>
8 <b>Johnny Ray Dance 5-8 PM</b>	9 <b>Karaoke by David Baldwin</b> 6-10 All right Movers 7-9 AM	10 <b>Queen of Hearts</b> Pat Murphy in Lounge 5-8pm Hall Mike Michaels	11 <b>POST MEETING 5:30-8 PM</b>  <b>Bar Bingo 230-4PM</b>	12 <b>BINGO 8AM-4PM</b>  <b>Trivia Small Team</b>	13 <b>Pam Valli in Lounge 6-10pm</b> <b>Team Trivia Tournament 7PM until ??? \$5 person Max 8</b>	14  <b>Breakfast 7-11 AM Blood Drive 7-11 AM Trivia 6:30 - 8:30 PM</b>
15 <b>Amee Reese Dance 5-8 PM</b>	16 <b>Karaoke by David Baldwin</b> 6-10	17 <b>Queen of Hearts</b> Just Mike in lounge 5-8pm Hall "Bubba"	18 <b>SUBMARINE VETS 12 - 3PM</b> <b>S.A.L. MEETING 7-830 PM</b> <b>Bar Bingo 230-4PM</b>	19 <b>BINGO 8AM-4PM</b>  <b>Trivia Small Team</b>	20 <b>Al Brady in Lounge 6-10pm</b>	21 <b>Oct Feast AUX</b>  <b>Trivia 6:30 - 8:30 PM With Al Brady</b>
22 <b>Johnny Ray Dance 5-8 PM</b>	23 <b>Karaoke by David Baldwin</b> 6-10	24 <b>Queen of Hearts</b> Mike Michael in Lounge 5-8pm Pam Valli in Hall 5-8pm	25 <b>40 &amp; 8 Meeting 6-10 PM</b>  <b>Bar Bingo 230-4PM</b>	26 <b>BINGO 8AM-4PM</b>  <b>Trivia Small Team</b>	27 <b>Amee Reese in lounge 6-10pm</b>	28  <b>Trivia 6:30 - 8:30 PM With Al Brady</b>
29 <b>Post New members Installation</b>  <b>Amee Reese Dance 5-8 PM</b>	30 <b>Karaoke by David Baldwin</b> 6-10 SAL Halloween Dance	31 <b>Queen of Hearts</b> Johnny Ray McCullah in Lounge 5-8pm				
<b>Notes: Front Office Hours: M-F: 9am - 4pm Sat: 9am - 12pm</b> Updates to this schedule of events will be posted on our website, in your local newspaper, or you may contact the post at 750-2099 or the lounge at 750-0639 Check out the Post Website for the latest updates on entertainment in the Lounge and Hall.						