



American Legion – Veterans Memorial Post 347
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Bimonthly Newsletter – September-October 2018

Commander's Notes by Al Varrone: July started off with our annual 4th of July Celebration, I would like to thank all the volunteers that helped it be a success.

July 5th thru the 8th the Department of Florida Convention was held in Orlando. Diane Boland was elected Department Commander, Rick Johnson 1st Vice, Jerry Brandt 2nd Vice and Eunice Butts 3rd Vice. We would like to wish all these Commanders success in their new positions.

August 11th we held our installation of new officers. Special thanks goes out to Bill Walsh (Master of Ceremonies Extraordinaire) for making this a memorable event. Just prior to the start of the evening I was presented a certificate for another All Time High in membership (30 years continuous). The evening ended with T.C. Biddle being awarded Legionnaire of the Year, a well deserved honor.

August 24th thru the 30th a contingent of post officers will be heading to Minneapolis to attend the National Convention where a new National Commander will be elected.

September 15th we will be having our 2nd bus trip, this time we'll be heading to Spring Hill Post 183 and we'll be joined there with Post 273 Madeira Beach. It should be a good party.

We are beginning to make plans for Veterans Day and our 6th Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner. More details to follow.

Finally we hope our snowbirds have safe travels returning to the Sunshine State. ***For God and Country. Commander Al Varrone***

Chaplain's Corner: by Chaplain Joerg Wartenberg. Lord, we thank you for your guidance and support. Give our men and women the courage and strength needed to defend our country to assure that we continue our privileges and freedom as Americans. Also continue to support the American Legion, its Leaders and those who volunteer to make it stronger. Be with those who are traveling and enjoying the fellowship with family and friends. ***Amen Joerg Wartenberg.***

From the desk of the 1st Vice Commander Ellen Tierney: "MEMBERSHIP" that is what everyone is talking about. It is the District, Area and Department Commanders focus. As we head to the end of the first quarter of the 2018 – 2019 year, we are on track to reach the September 6th goal of 55%, a total of 3552 members new and renewed. The Department of Florida's August 9th report, the latest I can obtain at this writing, states we are at 40% or 2583 of that 3552. NOT BAD. We receive approximately 250 renewals per week starting July first. If we continue to receive that plus the 50 new members each month, in the next few weeks, we will reach and exceed the 970 still needed.

The next goal is 60%, 3876 members, by October 3rd. With your assistance we will meet and exceed that goal. I would also like to remind everyone, as stated in previous newsletters; we will no longer provide an EARLY BIRD DINNER. Instead we will have a raffle for gift cards to be used as you wish. The number of cards and the amount are still to be determined. Look for more information in the November/December newsletter. So again let me say THANK YOU for all your assistance.

Aim High, FOR GOD AND COUNTRY – **1st Vice Commander Ellen Tierney**

Auxiliary News: by, Ruth Sovern, Madam President: Thank you for the honor and privilege of being your Auxiliary President for this coming year. Our many thanks to our outgoing officers for a job well done and to those who have chosen to volunteer this coming year to help make our Unit a success.

You will receive your Renewal Notice from National Headquarters in September by email (check your spam file) or regular mail. 2019 dues are \$35 (\$5 for Juniors). You don't have to wait for the notice. Stop by the front office at the Post, Monday through Friday, 9 AM - 4 PM, leave your check or cash and we will mail you your card. You may also pay online, by credit card, through the National Website and they will send you your card. (<https://www.alaforveterans.org>).

Please keep a look out for our annual President's letter and No Bake-Bake Sale flyer being mailed out in September. It will be full of great information, planned Events and ways for you to help. You can always contact us: ALAUnit347@comcast.net (email) 352-751-5905 (leave a message).

Please join us at our General Membership Meeting held the 1st week of the month, social hour at 5:30, meeting promptly at 6:30 PM. We need your input and ideas to help us grow. Come learn and hear about our Programs and all that we do for our Veterans, our Community and the Children & Youth. ***For God and Country Ruth Sovern, Madam President***

Sons of the American Legion: Danny L. Adams.

Make plans now to attend our September 24th comedy/magic show event, it promises to be a fun show, and we'll also have food and drinks available. The Sons are presenting Jim Moody - The "Crowd Teaser", a popular Central Florida performer. We'll have a 50/50 raffle and some exciting door prizes as well. If you want a hamburger or cheeseburger with fries included for only \$7, we'll be serving this limited menu in the hall from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM. Showtime is 7:00 PM. Buy your tickets (only \$8 per person!!) at the front office during weekdays, or in the lounge. All proceeds will go directly to Son's supported causes.

Also, don't forget about the Legion's annual golf tournament, which is coming up on September 28th, 2018 at Mallory Hill CC. Start time is 1:30 PM, and your \$90 entry fee includes dinner. Contact Bob Schwartz at 863-605-4433 for details. All proceeds will go to supporting the Children's Organ Transplant Association.

Save the date for our next Casino Night on October 29th. We'll have more game tables than our last event, so virtually no waiting. The event is open to the public, promises to be very fun, and will include many tables such as: roulette, craps, blackjack, betting wheels, and more. Professionals will be running the tables. There will be loads of raffle prizes to cash in your winnings! More details to follow, keep an eye on our event web page for details <http://florida-legion.com/sons_events>. This promises to be a fun-filled evening with a good chance of winning some prizes, or donating some money; which is not so bad either!!!

It is renewal time for membership in The Sons of the American Legion. As you know, membership is the lifeblood of our organization. Your membership dues contribute to the programs our Squadron sponsors and help to keep our membership growing. You and your continued membership are very important to us.

NOTE CHANGE IN DUES: ANNUAL DUES are \$30.00 for Regular, \$12.00 for Juveniles (Under 19) and \$12.00 for Dual Members for 2019. "EARLY BIRD" renewal is before November 11, 2018 to be eligible for a year-end raffle of prizes and gifts. Please print and fill-out the renewal form (see link below) and return it promptly with your annual dues check. Please make dues renewal checks out to: "Sons of The American Legion Squadron #347"

Renewal Form: <http://florida-legion.com/sons_images/Sons_347_Renewal_Letter_2018-2019.pdf>

Visit our membership web page: <http://florida-legion.com/sons_membership>.

Mailing Address:

Sons of the American Legion Squadron #347

P.O. Box 1534

Lady Lake, FL 32158

Yours in God and Country **Danny L. Adams Jr.** Commander SAL #347

American Legion Riders from **Michael Haynes Director**: HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the American Legion Riders, WE were One year old in August! WE have grown from a small group of 15 to 20; to now a group of 71 members. We are developing our own web page which will soon be operational and established a ride committee to plan monthly rides. We are now sponsoring and doing a Chicken dinner one Sunday a month, which has been extremely well received and will continue into the fall, possibly expanding to a higher level of frequency. We have 5 members attend the State Convention this year.

Dan Martin is looking for riders to go to War Horse Harley in Ocala Sept 1st. There will be a Chapter ride after the Pancake Breakfast that restarts again in Oct. The Riders have a ride to Crystal River planned on Sept. 15th and a ride to Daytona for Biketoberfest on Oct. 20th. Other rides tend to pop up spontaneously, so check FB or email for the latest. **Michael Haynes, Director**

Members who went to Post Everlasting in May-June 2018

DOD	Member's Name	DOD	Member's Name	DOD	Member's Name
5/09	Jack A. Walker	7/14	Daniel S. Marlatt	7/15	Donald C. Whalen
7/19	Daniel Green	7/20	Leonard R. Fichter	7/23	Edward A. Gibbons Jr
7/31	Thomas M. Thomas				

FUTURE EVENTS

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.

All Tuesday night and SAL kitchen menus are posted on our website at www.florida-legion.com

Legion Officers 2017		Auxiliary Officers 2017		SAL Officers 2017	
Al Varrone	<i>Commander</i>	Ruth Sovern	<i>President</i>	Danny Adams	<i>Commander</i>
Ellen Tierney	<i>1st Vice Commander</i>	Cathy Trout	<i>1st Vice President</i>	Paul Pitts	<i>1st Vice Commander</i>
T.C. Biddle	<i>2nd Vice Commander</i>	Maureen Caswell	<i>2nd Vice President</i>	John Gorsuch	<i>2nd Vice Commander</i>
Bill Behn	<i>3rd Vice Commander</i>	Peggy Hearlson	<i>Secretary</i>	George Wooten	<i>Financial Officer</i>
Joerg Wartenberg	<i>Chaplain</i>	Ruth Collver	<i>Treasurer</i>	Ben Kisielica	<i>Chaplain</i>
Mike Seidel	<i>Adjutant</i>	Ann Huxtable	<i>Historian</i>	Robert O'Neal	<i>Historian</i>
Ken DeMello	<i>Finance</i>	Betty Spencer	<i>Sgt At Arms</i>	David Speziale	<i>Sgt-At-Arms</i>
George Zablocki	<i>Sgt at Arms</i>	Maureen Merlette	<i>Chaplain</i>	David Callies	<i>Member at Large</i>
Bill Walsh	<i>Judge Advocate</i>	Members at Large		Charlie McGlone	<i>Member at Large</i>
John Trenkle	<i>Service Officer</i>	Mary LaNoce (Past President)		Mike Shebel	<i>JAG</i>
Guy Knaak	<i>Member at Large</i>	Carol Pirone-Udell		Doug White	<i>Adjutant</i>
Lois Glosch	<i>Member at Large</i>	Mary Seidel		Legion Riders 2017	
Bob Soultter	<i>Member at Large</i>	Marcia Silva		Mike Haynes	<i>Director</i>
Ron Monat	<i>Member at Large</i>			Bill Lynn	<i>Asst Director</i>
Tim Tierney	<i>Past Commander</i>			Daniel Martin	<i>Treasurer</i>
Mike Horn	<i>Historian/ Editor</i>			Betty Martin	<i>Secretary</i>
				Craig Bonfant	<i>Sgt At Arms</i>

September 2018

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	Doors Open 0730 am For Bingo 5-7pm Italian Night:	5-7 - Kitchen Open Lounge Music and Dancing	6:30 - 8 pm Lounge Team Trivia

~September 2018 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Riders to War Horse Harley in Ocala Sept 1st Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
2 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	3 Lounge Karaoke David Baldwin 6-10	4 Queen of Hearts Bubba Lounge 5-8pm	5 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM Auxiliary Meeting	6 Lounge Small Team Trivia 6PM Executive Board 430PM Legion Riders 6:30 pm	7 Lounge Amee Reese 6-10pm	8 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
9 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM Boy-Cub Scouts 2-4PM	10 Medical Marijuana Seminar 12:30-4:30 Lounge Karaoke David Baldwin 6-10	11 Queen of Hearts Mike & Terry Lounge 5-8pm	12 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM POST MEETING 5:30-8 PM	13 Lounge Small Team Trivia 6PM	14 Lounge Pam Valli 6-10pm	15 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
16 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	17 Dr. Sheri 11:30 Lounge Karaoke David Baldwin 6-10	18 Queen of Hearts Just Mike in Lounge 5-8pm	19 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM SUBMARINE VETS 12 - 3PM S.A.L. MEETING 7-830 PM	20 Lounge Small Team Trivia 6PM	21 Lounge Al Brady 6-10pm	22 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
23 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	24 Lounge Karaoke David Baldwin 6-10 S.A.L. Comedian/Magician 5-9PM	25 Queen of Hearts D J Norm in Lounge	26 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM 40 & 8 Meeting 6-10 PM	27 Lounge Small Team Trivia 6PM	28 Post Golf Tourney All Day Lounge Joe Allen 6-10pm	29 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
30 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM		Notes: Front Office Hours: M-F: 9am - 4pm Sat: 9am - 12pm 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				

October 2018

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	Doors Open 0730 am For Bingo 5-7pm Italian Night:	5-7 - Kitchen Open Lounge Music and Dancing	6:30 - 8 pm Lounge Team Trivia

~ October 2018 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Lounge Karaoke by David Baldwin 6-10	2 Queen of Hearts Al Brady In Lounge 5-8 PM	3 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM AUXILIARY MEETING 6-8 PM	4 Executive Board Meeting 4:30 Legion Riders 6:30 pm Trivia Small Team	5 Yankee Trails 10-2 PM Amee Reese in Lounge 6-10pm	6 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
7 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	8 Lounge Karaoke by David Baldwin 6-10	9 Queen of Hearts Just Mike in Lounge 5-8pm	10 POST MEETING 5:30-8 PM Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM	11 Trivia Small Team	12 Pam Valli in Lounge 6-10pm	13 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM Breakfast 7-11 \$7 this year.
14 Post New members Initiation Dinner 1-3PM Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	15 Lounge Karaoke by David Baldwin 6-10	16 Queen of Hearts Mike & Terry in lounge 5-8pm	17 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM SUBMARINE VETS 12 - 3PM S.A.L. MEETING 7-830 PM	18 Trivia Small Team	19 D J Norm in Lounge 6-10pm	20 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM Biktoberfest on Oct. 20th
21 AUX October Feast 5-9PM Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	22 Dr Sheri 11:30 Lounge Karaoke by David Baldwin 6-10 pm	23 Queen of Hearts Joe Allen In Lounge 5-8pm	24 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM 40 & 8 Meeting 6-10 PM Bar Bingo 230-4pm	25 Trivia Small Team	26 Have A Heart 6:30-9:30 Johnny Ray McCullah in lounge 6-10pm	27 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
28 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	29 SAL Casino Night Lounge Karaoke by David Baldwin 6-10 pm	30 Queen of Hearts Pat Murphy Lounge 5-8pm	31 Honor Flight Return 11PM Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM			
31 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	Notes: Front Office Hours: M-F: 9am - 4pm Sat: 9am - 12pm 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.					