



Feb 2025 Newsletter



All American Post

VFW POST 3349
3201 REID ST., PALATKA, FL 32177
Phone: 386-328-2863
VFW3349.org



VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.



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P.O. BOX 218, PALATKA, FL 32178
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FROM THE POST COMMANDER

Gerald Donnelly

February 2025



Greetings Comrades, FROM THE POST COMMANDER GERALD DONNELLY

I want to thank everybody for their help with the Friday Night Dinners. The food continues to be excellent. I would like to see more people at the post for Friday Night Dinners to show their support for our volunteer cooks.

On January 8, 2025 the post held their Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen, and Teacher of the Year awards at the post. I think it was the best showing for this event by the students and parents. I want to thank everybody for the food at this event.

I would like to thank Charles Foster and Allen Buquo for their January 15 presentation and help with VA claims and what it takes to apply for VA benefits. I would like to thank Jack Gibbs for bringing the donuts.

I would like to give everybody an update on the post M A P Grant. M A P stands for Military Assistance Program. On December 7, 2025, we paid Cowart Catering to feed the 993 rd TPC Reserve Unit in Palatka. The unit presented awards to Family member in attendance. I applied for the Grant to cover the cost of the catering and was told by National that they have no money left for this program. National wants the post to Adopt a Unit but they don't hold up their end of the bargain. I called National and talked to person in charge and they sad that they are of out of money and because I did not apply in June they will not pay us. On Jan 26th I attended the Mid-Winter Conference in Orlando. On February 22nd the District Meeting will be held in Lake Butler at 1000 hours.

A note of interest is that the Queen of Hearts will be Drawn at 6:50 vice 7:00 PM on meeting days.

COMMANDER
Gerald Donnelly





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FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Marian Chialastri

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY EVERYONE!

On January 24 and 25 Valerie, Sherry, Joyce, Lisa and myself attended the Mid Winter Conference in Orlando and will be reporting what we learned at our February 12th meeting.

Feb 10th Lunch at CP Deli at Noon

Feb 12th Aux Monthly Meeting 7PM

Feb 19th we will be going to Gainesville VA Hospital to deliver laptops made by our members and have lunch. Meet at Post at 10AM to carpool.

Feb 21st Aux dinner meatloaf by Valerie and Marian

Feb 22nd District Meeting at Lake Butler, 9 for breakfast, meeting at 10am,

Contact Valerie if you want to car pool, \$10 each to pay for gas. Plan to attend if you can.

I will rep

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Chialastri

Auxiliary President



VOICE OF DEMOCRACY WINNERS
Grades 9-12

First Place—Jade Butler

Lillyann Bottom

PATRIOT PEN WINNERS
Grades 6-8

First Place-Marian Dallas

Teagan Hancock

Jana Brown

Milijah Banks

Congratulations to All!!



Presidents' Day is a federal holiday in the United States on the third Monday in February. Because it is a federal holiday, **federal services**, such as US Postal Service post offices, **are closed** on Presidents' Day. Some schools close as well, especially in the DC area. Private businesses are usually open, as well as private mail and delivery companies. Public transport often operates on a Saturday schedule.



Valentine's Day is a celebration of love and romance that takes place every year on February 14. But behind the hearts, flowers, and chocolates, there is a rich history of Christian martyrdom and devotion. The origins of Valentine's Day are linked to one or more saints named Valentine, who were killed for their faith in ancient Rome. Their stories, legends, and relics have inspired generations of Christians and influenced the development of the feast day and its traditions.

February 2025

Canteen Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - 3:00 to 9:00 PM Thursday, Friday - 12:00 to 9:00 PM Sat - noon to 5:00 PM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						Feb 1st Wedding Anniversary Party
2 Groundhog Day	3 5:30 PM Pizza & Bowling	4 6 PM Bingo	5 Queen of Hearts 7PM	6 7PM Darts / Bowling House Cmte 6PM	7 <i>Hamburgers</i> \$6.00	8 In House Bowling 1:00 PM
9 <i>Super Bowl Sunday</i>	10 5:30 PM Pizza & Bowling	11 6 PM Bingo	12 Queen of Hearts 6:50 PM Post Meeting 7PM Lincoln B'Day	13 7 PM Darts / Bowling	14 Steak Nite \$15.00 Valentines Day	15
16	17 5:30 PM Pizza & Bowling Presidents Day	18 6 PM Bingo	19 7PM Queen of Hearts	20 7 PM Darts/ Bowling	21 6PM Dinner <i>AUX—Meatloaf</i> Dinner \$8.00	22 <i>10 AM District Meeting</i> <i>Lake Butler</i> <i>In House Bowling</i> <i>George Washington Birthday</i>
23	24 5:30 PM Pizza & Bowling	25 6 PM Bingo	26 7PM Queen of Hearts	27 7 PM Darts/ Bowling	28 Chili Cookoff	<i>March 1st</i>
2	3 5:30 PM Pizza & Bowling	4 6 PM Bingo	5 7 PM Queen of Hearts	6 7 PM Darts/ Bowling House CMTG	7 6PM Hamburgers \$6.00	8 <i>1 PM IN House Bowling</i>

POST OFFICERS

Commander	Gerald Donnelly
Sr Vice Commander	Tammy Spaulding
Jr Vice Commander	Jack Gibbs
Judge Advocate	Weldon Taylor
Adjutant	Gerald Shuler
Quartermaster	Gerald Shuler
Chaplin	Kevin Donnelly
Surgeon	Rubin Myers
Service Officer	Bruce Howe
Trustees 1 yr	Weldon Taylor
2 yr	Valerie Johns
3 yr	William Thompson
Membership Chairman	Commander
Employment Officer	Weldon Taylor
Legislative Officer	John Dillingham
Disaster Preparedness/Relief	Bill Thompson
Historian	John Dillingham
House Committee Chairman	Gene Nieman
National Home for Children	Quartermaster
Communications/Media Relations	Commander

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman	Gerald Donnelly
Members	Commander and ALL Members

COMMUNICATIONS/MEDIA RELATIONS

Chairman	Commander
Members	Adjutant and Quartermaster

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Chairman	Gene Nieman	
Members	Gerald Donnelly	Kevin Donnelly
	Gerald Shuler	Rubin Myers
	Jack Gibbs	Bruce Howe
Canteen Manager	Vickie Dixon	

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President	Marian Chialastri
Sr. Vice	Joyce Donnelly
Jr. Vice	Malinda Taylor
Treasurer	Valerie French
Secretary	Jan Stephens
Chaplain	Kathie Thompson
Conductress	Sherry Smith
Guard	Robert Stephens
1Yr. Trustee	Sherry Smith
2Yr. Trustee	Joyce Donnelly
3Yr. Trustee	Kathie Thompson
Patriotic Inst.	Kathie Thompson

DISTRICT 14 MEETING SCHEDULE

Qtr	Date	Post	Location	Time
3rd	Feb 22	10084	Lake Butler	10AM

Useful Web Sites

Get copy of DD Form 214 or other discharge documents: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

Request Lost and Replacement Medals: <http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/public/awards-and-decorations.html>

VFW National Headquarters Web Site: www.vfw.org

VFW Magazine: <https://www.vfw.org/media-and-events/vfw-magazine>

VFW Store Online: www.vfwstore.org

VFW Department of Florida Web Site: <https://vfwfl.org>

National Do Not Call Registry www.donotcall.gov

VFW Post Website <http://vfw3349.org>

From the Publisher:

Please forward any news, pictures, or article submissions to:

MediaVFW3349@gmail.com

by the 20th of each month.

Thank you

Newsletter Editors — Bill and Kathie Thompson