



March 2025 Newsletter



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

All American Post



VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.



VFW POST 3349
P.O. BOX 218, PALATKA, FL 32178
PHONE: 386-328-2863



FROM THE POST COMMANDER
Gerald Donnelly
March 2025



Greetings Comrades:

After returning from Mid-Winter I received an email that State Quartermaster, Gene Perrino had passed away, I was shocked to hear this. His service was held February 22nd.

The District meeting has been re-scheduled to March 1st at Lake Butler at 1000 hours.

I have ordered the plaques for our Fireman and Policeman of the Year, and will be given out in May at City meeting.

The Post is planning a Spring Fling on March 29th at 1300 hours. This will be an outside tent event. There will be a band playing till 1600 hours. There will be food and beverages at the event. All Veterans and family members are invited. We need a good turn out of Post members that day. Also, March 29th is Vietnam Veterans Day and we will be honoring those that served.

Chairs and tables were donated to the Post from the 993rd TPS Reserve Unit, Thank You.

Commander Gerald Donnelly





VFW POST 3349
P.O. BOX 218, PALATKA, FL 32178
PHONE: 386-328-2863
VFW3349.ORG



FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Marian Chialastri

HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY EVERYONE!

March 1st is District Meeting in Lake Butler at 10, breakfast served at 9.

March 12th, the Auxiliary will take lap quilts to Gainesville VA Hospital and we will have our monthly lunch in Gainesville. We will leave post at 10 if you want to carpool. Monthly meeting at 7PM.

March Auxiliary dinner by Kathie, Marian, Lucie and Jan, TACOS.

March 29th is Spring Fling from 1-4. There will be a band till 4, hot dogs and beverages served. Open to all Veterans and guests.

Our Spring Yard Sale will be April 4 and 5 from 8 to noon both days, If you have items you would like to donate call either Marian Chialastri at 386-546-4770 or Joyce Donnelly at 717-465-7632 and we will meet you at the Aux room to accept donations. Please bring donations by April 1st if possible so we have time to price and setup sale.

I will rep

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Chialastri

Auxiliary President





Spring Fling !.....

VFW Palatka Post 3349

Featuring Live Southern Rock & Country
music by "The Sound Band"

Where: 3201 Reid Street, Palatka, Florida

When: Saturday, March 29th 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Come join us as we welcome the arrival of Springtime with music and food. All Veterans and their guests are invited to attend and spend the afternoon enjoying The Veterans of Foreign Wars hospitality. Hot-dogs, Hamburgers, and Soft drinks will be available to snack on at no charge. Donations are always welcome however. Bring your own lawn chairs.

Palatka Post 3349, 3201 Reid St



VFW3349.org

*Helping Veterans
through Community
Service*



Proudly sponsored by Humana Healthcare



VIETNAM HELO OPERATIONS 1969

MARCH 29: NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY

In 2012, President Obama signed a presidential proclamation, designating March 29 as the annual observance of Vietnam War Veterans Day. The signing of the proclamation marked the 50th anniversary of the departure of the last American troops from Vietnam — March 29, 1973.

The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017 was signed into law by President Trump, designating every March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

On this date we provide thanks and honors to approximately 7 million living Vietnam Veterans and the 10 million families of those who served during the Vietnam War period.

Since the birth of the United States, no single generation of Americans has been spared the responsibility of defending freedom by force of arms. More than 44 million American men and women have sacrificed and served in times of war. Their collective service and individual sacrifices have safeguarded the cherished concepts embodied in our constitution.

Most military families endure the hardship of separation, uncertainty and fear, but the families of our Vietnam Veterans also witnessed their husbands and wives, sons and daughters, and fathers and mothers returning home to a nation in turmoil. They watched as the vast majority received no formal recognition for their service or welcome home ceremonies hosted by their communities.

Like Veterans returning from today's battlefields, those who served in Vietnam came home with both physical and unseen injuries of war. Many of the unseen injuries suffered by our Vietnam Veterans went undiagnosed and weren't understood by our medical community or citizenry as they are now. Veterans were left to meet these challenges without the assistance available today.

58,307 names appear on the Wall in Washington, D.C. Many tens of thousands were disabled. Approximately 7,500 women, the majority of whom were nurses, served in Vietnam. Eight were killed in theater, all of whom were nurses. And 1,627 are still considered missing in action and their families await word of their fate.

March 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
						Mar 1st
2	3 5:30 PM Pizza & Bowling	4 6 PM Bingo	5 Queen of Hearts 7PM	6 7PM Darts / Bowling House Cmte 6PM	7 Hamburgers \$6.00	8 In House Bowling 1:00 PM
9 Daylight Savings Time Begins	10 5:30 PM Pizza & Bowling	11 6 PM Bingo	12 Queen of Hearts 6:50 PM Post Meeting 7PM	13 7 PM Darts / Bowling	14 Steak Nite \$15.00	15
16	17 St Pats Day Pizza Bowling	18 6 PM Bingo	19 7PM Queen of Hearts	20 Spring Begins 7 PM Darts/ Bowling	21 Aux Dinner Tacos \$6	22 <i>Veterans Village Picnic</i> <i>In House Bowling</i>
23	24 5:30 PM Pizza & Bowling	25 Medal of Honor Day <i>Bingo</i> <i>6 PM</i>	26 7PM Queen of Hearts	27 7 PM Darts/ Bowling	28 Chicken and Rice \$8	29 <i>Vietnam Vet Day</i> <i>Spring Fling</i> <i>1-4PM</i>
30	31 5:30 PM Pizza & Bowling	<i>Apr 1</i> 6 PM Bingo	<i>Apr 2</i> 7 PM Queen of Hearts	<i>Apr 3</i> 7 PM Darts/ Bowling House CMTG	<i>Apr 4</i> Hamburgers \$6.00	<i>Apr 5</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