



August 2024 Newsletter



All American Post

VFW POST 3349

3201 REID ST., PALATKA, FL 32177

Phone: 386-328-2863

VFW3349.org

Purple Heart Month



VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.



VFW Post 3349
PO Box 218
Palatka FL 32178-0218

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FROM THE POST COMMANDER
Gerald Donnelly
August 2024



Greetings Comrades,

Here we are in August to start our Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen Essay contest. I am contacting the High Schools and Middle Schools to tell them to look at the web site vfw.org under programs to see what the essay topic is to write the essay on. Any high school or middle school student can write and submit an essay. The deadline for the essay to the Post is October 31st.

The Fireman and the Policeman of the Year will start in September. They are not due till December.

On August 9th the post is going to Island Doctor in Palatka for a hurricane event. The post is going to give out flashlights for hurricane emergencies.

I want to thank Jerry Shuler for the July 4th open house, the post had a nice turn out, Bill Thompson and his helper Jack Gibbs for the Spare Rib dinner on July 18. Great job as always and thanks again.

I want to thank Jerry Shuler, Jack Gibbs, and Gene Nieman for putting up the new sign out front. The digital sign is a remote-control unit. It is now easy to show what is going on at the post.

Commander
Gerald Donnelly





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FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Marian Chialastri

Greetings Everyone,

School of Instruction will be in Orlando at the Florida Mall on August 16th and 17th. Valerie, Sherry, Jan, Kathie, Joyce and myself will be attending and we will be reporting on what we learn at the September meeting.

August 14th will be the auxiliary luncheon at La Hacienda III Mexican Restaurant on Crill Ave. at noon.

Our yard sale will be held on Friday August 23rd and Saturday August 24th from 8 to noon both days. Please bring any donations to the auxiliary room by August 20th.

Auxiliary dinner will be on August 30th. Menu to be announced. If you would like to do a dinner, please let me know.

The District meeting will be held on September 21 at the Interlachen post and not at the Palatka post. Meeting starts at 10a.m. and breakfast is served at 9 a.m,

Auxiliary meeting is August 14th at 7p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Chialastri, Auxiliary President





Purple Heart Day

On August 7, Purple Heart Day, the nation pauses to acknowledge and remember the sacrifices made by the brave members of our military.

The Purple Heart medal is presented to service members who have been wounded or killed as a result of enemy action serving in the U.S. military. A Purple Heart is a solemn distinction and means a service member has greatly sacrificed themselves, or paid the ultimate price, while in the line of duty.

According to the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, more than 1.8 million Purple Heart Medals have been presented to service members since the award was created in 1782.

In honor of Purple Heart Day, here are some facts about the history of the Purple Heart Medal:

The Purple Heart is the Oldest Military Award Still Presented to American Service Members—The Purple Heart's first predecessor, the Fidelity Medallion, was created in 1780 by the Continental Congress, but was only awarded to three soldiers that year. Two years later, in 1782, President Washington created the Badge of Military Merit which is considered **to be the first U.S. military decoration and the Purple Heart's predecessor.**

The Purple Heart Was One of the First Military Medals Given to All Ranks—In the years before 1782, when the Purple Heart's predecessor, the Badge of Military Merit, was first created, most military awards were only given to officers who had secured grand victories in battle.

The Badge of Military Merit, now known as the Purple Heart, was truly a military medal by the people, of the people: it was one of the first awards in military history that could be given to lower-ranking, enlisted soldiers or non-commissioned officers for their outstanding service.

Today, U.S. service members of any rank who have been wounded or killed in enemy action are qualified to receive a Purple Heart.

Every day, America's service members selflessly put their lives on the line to keep us safe and free. Please take a moment to let our troops know how much we appreciate their service and sacrifice.

August 2024

Canteen Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - 3:00 to 9:00 PM Thursday, Friday - 1:00 to 9:00 PM Sat - noon to 5:00 PM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Jul 29 Pizza & Bowling 5:30 pm	Jul 30 Bingo 6 pm	Jul 31 7 PM Queen of Hearts	Aug 1 <i>Airforce Day</i> 7PM Darts / Bowling	Aug 2 Hamburgers \$6.00 6PM	Aug 3 National Watermelon Day
4 <i>US Coast Guard Birthday Established 1790</i>	5 Pizza & Bowling 5:30 pm	6 Bingo 6 pm	7 <i>Purple Heart Medal Est 1782 Vietnam War Began 1964</i> 7 PM Queen of Hearts	8 <i>6 PM House Comm.</i> 7 PM Darts / Bowling	9 Steak Night \$15.00 6PM	10 <i>In House Bowl- ing at 1:00 PM</i>
11	12 Pizza & Bowling 5:30 pm	13 Bingo 6 pm	<i>Post meeting at 7:00 PM</i> 7 PM Queen of Hearts <i>Japan Surrender Ending WW II 1945 AUX Lunch La Hacienda</i>	15 7 PM Darts / Bowling	16 Grilled Pork Chops/Connie And Gene \$8 6PM VFW Service Office SOI Florida Hotel	17 VFW General SOI Florida Hotel
18	19 Pizza & Bowling 5:30 pm	20 Bingo 6 pm	21 7PM Queen of Hearts	22 7 PM Darts / Bowling	23 Smoked Chicken Wings by Jack 6PM AUX Yard Sale 8-12	24 <i>Submariners Mtg</i> <i>1 PM In House Bowling AUX Yard Sale 8-12</i>
25	26 Pizza & Bowling 5:30 pm	27 Bingo 6 pm	28 7PM Queen of Hearts	29 7 PM Darts / Bowling	30 AUX Dinner 6PM	31 <i>Vet Village Golf Tournament</i>
Sept 1	Sept 2 Pizza & Bowling 5:30 pm LABOR DAY HOLIDAY	Sept 3 Bingo 6 pm	Sept 4 7 PM Queen of Hearts	Sept 5 6 PM House Comm. 7 PM Darts / Bowling	Sept 6 Hamburgers \$6.00 6PM	Sept 7

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	
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
1st	09/21/2024	3349	Interlachen	1000

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