



November 2025 Newsletter



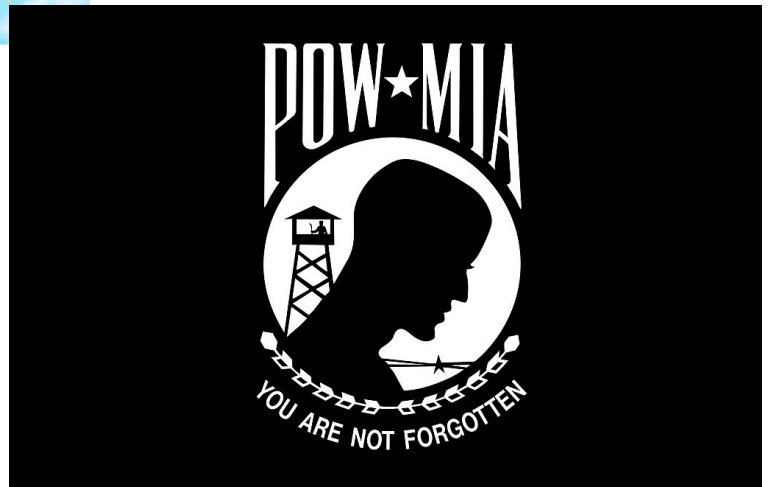
All American Post

VFW POST 3349

3201 REID ST., PALATKA, FL 32177

Phone: 386-328-2863

VFW3349.org



VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.



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



FROM THE POST COMMANDER
Gerald Donnelly
November 2025



From Commander Gerald Donnelly

Greetings Comrades:

I would like to wish the USMC a happy birthday on November 10th. I am working on the Veterans Day Parade for November 11 at 1000 Hours. We have a nice lineup for the parade. Nease High School JROTC will be in the parade along with the 993rd Army Reserve unit. There will be a ceremony following the parade at the River Front. The post will have open house starting at Noon.

I am having all kinds of problem with National on getting a grant for our luncheon with the 993rd. I filled out the paperwork on September 19th and National said they cannot find it. I spent an hour with the person in charge and she told me she had it. I received a phone call a month later and she cannot find it.

We need volunteers on December 6 to make breakfast for the children's Christmas breakfast with Santa. The post will start at about 0730 to prepare breakfast. The breakfast starts at 0900 hours and goes until 1100. Children 1 to 12 years old will receive a gift from Santa provided by the Auxiliary. Breakfast is free to anyone 12 and under, all others will pay \$5, I have received a Voice of Democracy from Crescent City High JROTC cadet and Q I Robert High. The Patriot Pen is coming from Putnam Academy. I received a Teacher of the Year from Palatka Senior High. I have received a Fireman of the Year from Palatka Fire Department. Thank You for your help with these programs

I wish everybody a blessed Thanksgiving.

Commander
Gerald Donnelly





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FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Marian Chialastri

Hello Members,

Happy Veterans Day To All Our Veterans—Thank You for Your Service

We will be having an Open House at the Post on Veterans Day, November 11, 2025. The Post will supply chicken and the Auxiliary will bring sides, we will be purchasing a cake for dessert.

November 5th Lunch at Magnolia at Noon

November 12th Monthly Meeting 7PM

November 15th District Meeting in Interlachen, Breakfast at 9am, Meeting at 10AM, please plan to attend.

November 21 Auxiliary Dinner Baked Potato Bar

December 6th will be our annual breakfast with Santa for children 12 and under. If you are planning on attending please let us know what ages of children so we can have a gift for them. Breakfast is free to anyone 12 and under, all others will pay \$5, this will be held from 9am-11am.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING EVERYONE!

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Chialastri

Auxiliary President



United States Marine Corps Birthday

The official birthday of the United States Marine Corps is on 10 November 1775. That was the day when the Second Continental Congress established the Continental Marines with the following decree:^[1]

“That two battalions of Marines, be raised, consisting of one Colonel, two lieutenant-colonels, two majors and other officers, as usual in other regiments; that they consist of an equal number of privates as with other battalions, that particular care be taken that no persons be appointed to offices, or enlisted into said battalions, but such as are good seamen, or so acquainted with maritime affairs as to be able to serve for and during the present war with Great Britain and the Colonies; unless dismissed by Congress; that they be distinguished by the names of the First and Second Battalions of Marines.”

Tun Tavern, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is regarded as the birthplace of the Corps as the location of the first Marines to enlist under Commandant Samuel Nicholas,[[] though it is disputed if a recruiting drive may have occurred earlier at Nicholas's family tavern, the Conestoga Wagon. When the Revolutionary War ended in 1783, the Continental Navy was disestablished, and with it, the Continental Marines. The Corps was re-established on 11 July 1798, when the *act for establishing and organizing a Marine Corps* was signed by President John Adams.

Veterans Day

Veterans Day (originally known as **Armistice Day**) is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11, for honoring military veterans of the United States Armed Forces. It coincides with holidays in several countries, including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, which also occur on the anniversary of the end of World War I. Major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. At the urging of major U.S. veteran organizations, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954.

Veterans Day is distinct from Memorial Day, a U.S. public holiday in May: Veterans Day commemorates the service of all U.S. veterans, while the older Memorial Day, which grew out of Civil War commemorations, specifically honors those who have died while in military service. Another military holiday that also occurs in May, Armed Forces Day, honors those currently serving in the U.S. military. Additionally, Women Veterans Day is recognized by a growing number of U.S. states that specifically honor women who have served in the U.S. military.

Spelling of Veterans Day

While the holiday is commonly printed as *Veteran's Day* or *Veterans' Day* in calendars and advertisements, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs website states that the attributive (no apostrophe) rather than the possessive case is the official spelling "because it is not a day that 'belongs' to veterans, it is a day for honoring all veterans."

VFW Palatka Post 3349 Calendar. We are located at 3201 Reid St.
 (Web Site: VFW3349.org) Phone 386-328-2863

November 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
					Halloween	November 1st
2nd	3rd Pizza & Bowling 5:30 PM	4th BINGO 6PM	5th Queen of Hearts 7PM	6th House Comm 6PM 7 PM Darts Bowling	7th Hamburgers Fries	8th In House Bowling 1:00 PM Combat Vets Meeting
9	10 USMC Birthday Pizza & Bowling 5:30 PM	11 Veterans Day Open House	12 Post Meeting 7PM Queen of Hearts 6:50PM	13 7 PM Darts / Bowling	14 Steak Nite	15 Dist Meeting Interlachen 10AM
16	17 Pizza & Bowling 5:30 PM	18 BINGO 6PM	19 Queen of Hearts 7:00PM	20 7 PM Darts / Bowling	21 Aux Dinner Baked Potato Bar	22 In House Bowling 1:00 PM
23	24 Pizza & Bowling 5:30 PM	25 BINGO 6PM	26 Queen of Hearts 7:00PM	27 Thanksgiving Dinner at Noon Please Signup if you plan to attend	28 No Dinner	29
30						

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	Valerie Johns
2 yr	William Thompson
3 yr	Weldon Taylor
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	Lucie Barnette
Secretary	Jan Stephens
Chaplain	Kathie Thompson
Conductress	Sherry Smith
Guard	Betty Burnham
1Yr. Trustee	Joyce Donnelly
2Yr. Trustee	Valerie French
3Yr. Trustee	Robert Stephens
Patriotic Inst.	Kathie Thompson

DISTRICT 14 MEETING SCHEDULE

Qtr	Date	Post	Location	Time
2nd	11/15/25	10164	Interlachen	10am
3rd	2/21/26	2206	Lake City	10am
4th	5/16/26	2811	Gainesville	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