



# THE 148'r NEWSLETTER

## The American Legion Alafia Post 148

### April - May 2021



#### AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS 2020-2021

Commander.....Ed Christman  
 1st Vice.....Lynnette Stokes  
 2nd Vice.....Miller Bennett  
 Adjutant.....Ed Christman  
 Treasurer .....Adelia Hoffmann  
 Sergeant at Arms.....Mark Getty  
 Chaplain.....Kevin O'Donnell  
 Historian.....Mike O'Dell  
 Judge Advocate.....Larry Westcott  
 Service Officer.....Jim Fraboni

#### Executive Board:

Les Oakman                      Russell Beasley  
 Greg Ohlfs                        Angela Ritter  
 Past Commander .....Lynnette Stokes

Lounge Manager.....Michele Simmons

### **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

#### AMERICAN LEGION:

##### EXECUTIVE BOARD-

2<sup>ND</sup> MONDAY OF THE MONTH—7:00 PM

##### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP-

4<sup>TH</sup> MONDAY OF THE MONTH—7:00 PM

#### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY:

3<sup>RD</sup> THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—6:30 PM

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP-7:00 PM

#### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION:

2<sup>ND</sup> THURSDAY OF THE MONTH—7:00 PM

#### AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS:

1<sup>ST</sup> MONDAY OF THE MONTH—7:00 PM

#### MARINE CORPS LEAGUE:

1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY OF THE MONTH—7:00 PM



#### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY OFFICERS 2020-2021

President.....Julia Arndt  
 1st Vice.....Tammy O'Donnell  
 2nd Vice.....Denise Bonnett  
 Treasurer.....Salynna Galimidi  
 Secretary.....Darcy Fak  
 Chaplain.....Vicki Linde  
 Historian.....Margaret Blazer  
 Sergeant at Arms.....Kathy Boyle  
 Ass't Sgt at Arms.....Michele Smith

#### Executive Committee:

Georgianna Bruno                      Ruth White  
 Bernita Benson

Past President.....Georgia Mackenzie



#### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS 2020 - 2021

Commander.....Mark Getty  
 1st Vice.....Greg Dodge  
 2nd Vice.....Carroll Weese  
 Adjutant.....Anthony Galimidi  
 Finance Officer.....Dave Van Pelt  
 Sergeant of Arms.....Ryan Cansler  
 Ass't Sergeant of Arms.....Greg Wussaw  
 Chaplain.....Tom Stone

#### Executive Board:

Ted Martine                      Carroll Weese  
 Ted Kasper  
 Past Commander.....Carroll Weese



#### AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS OFFICERS 2020-2021

Director.....Bill "Billy Bob" Turner  
 Assistant Director.....Scott Hortman  
 Adjutant.....Andrew Davis  
 Treasurer.....Ed Linde  
 Historian.....Susan King  
 Chaplain.....Tom Stone  
 Sergeant at Arms.....Leeland Smith  
 Road Captain.....Greg Ohlfs  
 Membership.....Tom Ritter  
 Safety Officer.....Steve Nasrallah  
 Past Director ..... MJ Cobb



#### MARINE CORPS LEAGUE OFFICERS 2020-2021

Commandant.....Ron Essick  
 Senior Vice.....Sal DiFonzo  
 Junior Vice.....Peter Farren  
 Judge Advocate.....Bruce Younggren  
 Adjutant.....Jack Skelding  
 Paymaster.....Larry Westcott  
 Sergeant at Arms.....Hank Wolons  
 Chaplain.....Walt Raysick  
 Past Commandant.....Brian Frank

#### Hours of Operation:

Monday—Saturday:  
 Open at 10 AM  
 Sunday:  
 Open at 11 AM

Bus. Phone: 813-677-6529

Fax: 813-671-4764

E-Mail: Legion148@tampabay.rr.com

Website: www.americanlegionalafiapost148.org

Facebook: American Legion Alafia Post 148

Webmaster & Newsletter Editor: Greg Ohlfs

#### Physical Address:

7240 US Highway 301  
 Riverview, FL 33569

#### Mailing Address:

PO Box 507  
 Riverview, FL 33568



## THE COMMANDER'S DESK



### FROM THE COMMANDER:

Fellow Associates of Post 148: As spring has sprung and summer is next to greet us here in Florida; try to keep track of each other: to wit, our Legion Family. If you travel this season, let your friends know; but, do not put the info on social media for not everyone (dishonest folks) to see that your house/residence is empty.

It has been a hard month of March, the passing of several members has affected the Legion Family across all our divisions. No one knows the future and our Lounge / Post , our watering hole is definitely one place where we get to see one another. It is good to see your friendly faces; cause mine, yours, his or hers may not be around tomorrow.

We continue to have special events, Riders' monthly dinners, Mothers' Day; so drag yourselves out and come see us. Do Not live in fear, I've been Mask Free since this started and I'm still here! We have been misled and our local media is part of the problem. History teaches us that if you want to control someone; put fear into them – I REFUSE! How come were not all dead from COVID? Essential workers, politicians, sports participants at all levels, postal employees, truckers and on and on – amazing were all still here.

So come on back to the Post for a visit, a refreshment, a meal or just to say HI!!!

For God and Country!

Edward D. Christman  
American Legion  
Alafia Post 148  
Commander

### Interested in getting the COVID-19 Vaccine?

Veterans should contact their primary care provider or the VISN 8 Clinical Contact Center toll-free at 1-877-741-3400.

Veterans can get up-to-date information on the VA COVID-19 vaccine web page, which launched on December 11, 2020, and sign up to receive regular updates on the vaccine.



[va.gov/health-care/  
covid-19-vaccine/  
stay-informed](https://va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/stay-informed)

Additionally, the COVID Vaccine is being given to veterans 65 and older by appointment only at the South County VA Clinic in Riverview: Call 813-972-7563 for an appointment.

## AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



Dear Riders,

As you know we lost two great Riders in the month of March; Mike Moffitt and Robert "Redhead" Wescott. Two great people that are gone but will never be forgotten.

You know we are heading into one of our biggest months to raise money for a great cause "Suicide Prevention For Veterans" so I'm asking all Riders to please join in on our rides this April to raise money.

It's also getting into the hot months of the year so please keep plenty of fluids in your body. Also we start nominations for new Officer in April.

I hope to see a lot of our Riders in the coming months.

For God and Country  
William "Billy Bob" Turner  
Director  
ALR Chapter 148

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## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



Thank you to all that purchased tickets for our Valentine's Day Basket Raffle ... it was a success. The proceeds were split between the American Legion and the Sons of the American Legion. Congratulations to Bob Benson, the winner of the basket.

We would like to welcome our new members to our unit: Vicki Carden; Leslie Kadubec; Regina Wallinger; Karen Wells; Colleen Quick; Teresa Ponce.

Transfers: Amy Cecchetti; Ethel Gilliam; Dana Schroeder and Kathy Hammand.

We look forward to working with you all towards our common goals. We look forward to meeting you all at our next Auxiliary meeting which is on March 18th at 7:00pm.

Julia Arndt-President

### *Please welcome the following Members to Post 148*

#### NEW MEMBERS

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| Leroy Waters   | Abel Tavera      |
| Jerry Mitchell | Corwin Salisbury |
| Scott Storms   | Everett Ford     |
| David Smith    | Lynn Smith       |

#### TRANSFERS

J B May  
Herbert Fischer  
James McCarthy



*We are very sad to report that  
Ed Pavlishin, Mike Moffit, Fran Bellestri,  
Robert Wescott, Ruth White & Mary Jane Oakman  
have been transferred to Post Everlasting.  
May God rest their souls,  
and provide comfort to their family and friends.*

# Nominations for Officers will take place in April and May



**WE WANT TO HEAR  
FROM YOU!**

Legion Family,

A motion was made at a recent General Membership to explore the re-naming of the Post to honor a fallen hero with ties to the local area.

If you have a recommendation or nomination of a Hero for which you'd like to see the Post named, please bring that to the attention of the Commander and/or General Membership.

Thank you.



**AMERICAN INCOME LIFE**  
insurance company

**Have you received mail from  
American Income Life?  
DON'T THROW IT OUT ..  
before reviewing the contents!!!**

It may be worth looking into; don't immediately discarded it as "junk mail"!!

As a member in good standing of Post 148, you have a no-cost \$2,000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment benefit. This benefit and others listed below are provided through American Income Life Insurance Company (AIL).

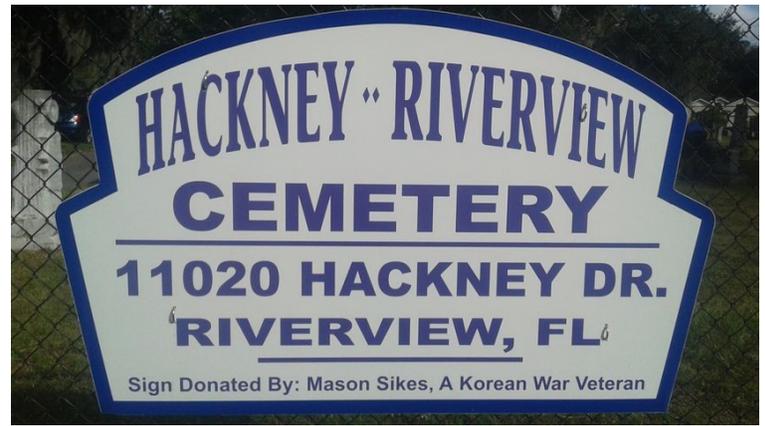
You can also receive Child Safe Kits for your children and grandchildren at no cost. These kits help you gather vital data, photos and fingerprints for authorities in the event of an emergency.

## **SUNDAY, 4 APRIL 2021**



## HACKNEY CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

On April 10 2021, at 9 am, Steve Arndt will once again lead a much-needed clean up and placing of flags if needed. He will have flags and zip ties. He would appreciate any help available from family, friends, schools, and any one who can assist for our community. There are jobs for everyone, including handing out flags. Because of covid 19, please bring a mask. There are branches down and debris. Garbage bags are also needed, as is a volunteer to dispose of debris with a trailer or truck. This is something Steve has been doing for years now and



appreciates any help. Please let him know if you can help. Anytime you can give will be appreciated. It should be done by noon. We have mowed but need some weed wacking done. Please bring your mask that day, and any broom, battery weed wacker, rake, trash bags, battery blower, and your drink to stay hydrated. This is being held on behalf of American Legion Post # 148 Riverview. Questions should be addressed to SteveArndt, Veteran of this country and Sons of American Legion Squadron 148 member. Thank you for your support for God and Country!

Legion Family,

**The Riders need your help!**

FLORIDA AMERICAN  
★★★ LEGION RIDERS ★★★  
UNITY RIDE ★ RALLY



We're addressing an important issue that affects Veterans and their families; suicide.

Our mission (through the Unity Ride and other efforts) is to raise awareness and funds to **end Veteran Suicide. We are seeking donations until the end of April.**

This campaign allows everyone to participate and make an impact. **Your involvement is critical to our success and saving the lives of our Veterans.**

**Please consider making a donation using this link:**

<https://give.floridalegion.org/event/2021-florida-legion-unity-ride/e321137>

**When asked if you would like to credit your donation to a specific fundraiser or team, please enter ALR 148.**

Be sure to **share this page** with your family and friends so they can be a part of this life-saving event, too! Thank you in advance for anything you are able to provide.

Additionally, the Riders who are participating in the Unity Ride will make a **stop at Post 148 on Wednesday, 21 April** at approximately 3PM. Let's show them a warm welcome!!

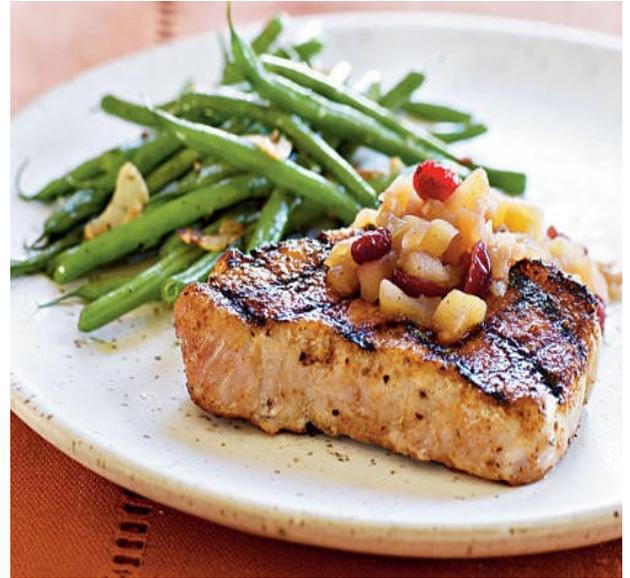


# RIDER DINNER

5:00 PM Saturday,  
April 24, 2021

**\$10.00 DONATION**

**Stuffed Pork Chops, Stuffing,  
Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans  
and Apple Chutney.  
Prepared by Terry and Lori**



***Presales appreciated –  
tickets are available at the bar.***

**Be sure to fill out the back of your ticket ....  
a drawing will be held for a \$25 card!!!**



Did you know Cinco de Mayo is not just an excuse to drink margaritas?

Cinco de Mayo is not Mexico's Independence Day. The Mexican Independence Day is celebrated on September 16. Cinco de Mayo marks Mexico's unexpected victory over France at the Battle of Puebla in 1862.

It's a bigger holiday in the

U.S. than it is in Mexico. In Mexico, the day is observed by political speeches and battle reenactments, most of which take place in Puebla, where the victory occurred.

Tequila is a product of Mexico. What better way to celebrate Mexican heritage and culture than to raise a glass!



## Mother's Day is Sunday, 9 May

The Post will honor all Mothers with a special meal of Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Beans, Salad and Roll.

Serving begins at 4PM.



**Come celebrate all the Moms!**

**May 15th, 2021**

**Armed Forces Day is a special holiday for people all over the world to come together and thank the men and women of the United States Armed Forces.**

Forces Day is celebrated on the third Saturday of every May, this year falling on May 15.

Post 148 will celebrate from 10AM-3PM.

Mission BBQ will provide food from 12-1PM.

Veteran Service Officers, TAL Program, and One Blood bus info will be available.

**Mark your calendar & support our military!**



## **Monday, 31 May**

Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for honoring and mourning the military personnel who have died in the performance of their military duties while serving in the United States Armed Forces. The holiday is observed on the last Monday of May. The holiday was formerly observed on May 30 from 1868 to 1970.

Many people visit cemeteries and memorials on Memorial Day to honor and mourn those who died while serving in the U.S. Military. Many volunteers place an American flag on graves of military personnel in national cemeteries.

Two other days celebrate those who have served or are serving in the U.S. military: Armed Forces Day (which is earlier in May), an unofficial U.S. holiday for honoring those currently serving in the armed forces, and Veterans Day (in November 11), which honors those who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

**A cookout with burgers and hot dogs will be held. Serving will begin at 2PM.**

## **RIDER DINNER**

**5:00 PM Saturday,**

**May 29, 2021**



**\$10.00 DONATION**

**BBQ Chicken, Corn and Cole Slaw Prepared by Cliff**

# REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS (Subject to Change)

*The next CALENDAR MEETING is scheduled for Monday, 19 April*

## Pinochle



**9:30AM Mondays & Fridays**  
At American Legion Post 148  
*Double Deck / Partners*

### Frying Friday

**5:00-7:00 every Friday**

*Fish, Shrimp, Chicken,  
Baked Potatoes, French Fries, Onion Rings,  
Hush Puppies and Homemade Cole Slaw*

Presented by:  
**The Sons of The American Legion**



### Wednesday BINGO

(Snack Bar from 5:00 - 6:30pm)

***You don't have to play bingo to come to the Snack Bar!!***

*Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, 1/4 lb. Nathan's hot dogs, Corn Dogs,  
French Fries, Onion Rings, Cheese Sticks, Bottled Water*

*Prepared by The Sons of The American Legion*

*Stay and enjoy BINGO put on by The American Legion Auxiliary and  
The Sons of The American Legion, starting at 6:30pm!*

*For you information —  
The ALA conducts bake sales  
during the flea market  
on the first Sunday of each month.  
The money they raise  
helps to support Veterans in our area.  
Please help support them!!*

### Come join the "Breakfast Club"

**8am – 11am Every Sunday**

*Eggs, Bacon, Patty Sausage, Link Sausage, Toast,  
Grits, Hash Browns, Fresh Home Fries, Pancakes,  
Biscuit or Potatoes with Gravy, Omelets, Sandwiches,  
Orange Juice & Bottled Water*

Prepared by:  
**The Sons of The American Legion**

## Entertainment Schedule

All entertainment starts at 7PM (unless otherwise noted)



### April

- 2 – Spirit Karaoke
- 9 – Double Density
- 16 – Spirit Karaoke
- 23 – No Troubles Band
- 30 – Spirit Karaoke



### May

- 7 – Spirit Karaoke
- 14 – Pure Classic Gold
- 21 – Spirit Karaoke
- 28 – No Troubles Band

