



THE 148'r NEWSLETTER

The American Legion Alafia Post 148

April - May 2025



**AMERICAN LEGION
OFFICERS 2024-2025**

Commander.....Mike O'Dell
1st Vice.....Kevin O'Donnell
2nd Vice.....
Adjutant.....Kevin O'Donnell
Finance Officer.....Andy Davis
Sergeant at Arms.....Bob Claycomb
Chaplain.....Kevin O'Donnell
Historian.....
Judge Advocate.....Doug Woodring
Service Officer.....Doug Woodring
Executive Board:
Mark Finkbeiner Felipe Jose Aguilar
Walt Nea Roland "Skip" Schwoerke

Past CommanderLynnette Stokes
Lounge Manager.....Ronni Groenthal

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS:
1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH—7:00 PM

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE:
1ST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH—7:00 PM

AMERICAN LEGION:
EXECUTIVE BOARD-
2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH—7:00 PM

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION:
2ND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH—7:00 PM

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY:
3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—6:30 PM
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP—7:00 PM

AMERICAN LEGION:
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP-
4th MONDAY OF THE MONTH—7:30 PM



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
OFFICERS 2024-2025**

President.....Julia Arndt
1st Vice.....Jeannie Dion
2nd Vice.....Eileen Sullivan
Treasurer.....Patti Alley
Secretary.....Teresa Ponce
Chaplain.....Vicki Linde
Historian.....Margaret Blazer
Sergeant at Arms.....Sandy Souders
Ass't Sgt at Arms.....Michele Smith

Executive Committee:
Jennifer Jeffery Denise Bonnett
Annette Tenti-Scep

Past President.....Georgia Mackenzie



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
OFFICERS 2024 - 2025**

Commander.....Micah Saeger
1st Vice.....Carroll Weese
2nd Vice.....Don DeBruin
Adjutant.....Anthony Galimidi
Finance Officer.....Kevin O'Donnell
Sergeant of Arms.....Ryan Cansler
Chaplain.....Tom Stone
Executive Board:
Ted Martine Greg Wussow
Ronin Smith Cliff Menting
Past Commander.....Anthony Galimidi



**AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS
OFFICERS 2024-2025**

Director.....Andy Davis
Assistant Director.....Alice Del Rosario
Adjutant.....Lori Yeago
Finance OfficerEd Linde
Historian.....Carol Johnson
Chaplain.....Tom Stone
Sergeant at Arms.....Leeland Smith
Road Captain.....Andy Davis
Membership.....Tom Ritter
Safety Officer.....



**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
OFFICERS 2024-2025**

Commandant.....Ron Essick
Senior Vice.....Michael Hernando
Junior Vice.....Bill King
Judge Advocate.....Bruce Younggren
Adjutant.....Jack Skelding
Paymaster.....Larry Westcott
Sergeant at Arms.....Yahahn Thompson
Chaplain.....Patricia Skelding
Jr. Past Commandant.....Bill Moore

Hours of Operation:

Monday—10:00AM-9:00PM
Tuesday-Thursday
11:00AM-9:00PM
Friday: 10:00AM—12:00AM
Saturday: 11:00AM-10:00PM
Sunday: 11:00AM-9:00PM
Hours Subject to Change

E-Mail: (A new one is being set up)

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FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK



Hello Legion 148 Family,

Spring is here already! February and March were busy months. April and May will be full as well. We have our dinners and have added in live entertainment. Be sure to save the calendars for updates and events.

Officer nominations for 2025-2026 are being held during our General Membership meetings, the 4th Monday of each month. If interested in a position, please be sure to come to the meeting. Elections will be held in late May or early June. Follow our Facebook page for updates.

This year we will be hosting a Mother's Day Brunch, rather than a dinner. The brunch will have a pancake and waffle bar, along with a Bloody Mary bar from 11am-1pm. The SAL will be hosting the annual Memorial Day cookout on Monday, May 26th from 2-4pm. The Auxiliary provides sides, but these are greatly appreciated from others as well. Our Riders have a busy Round Robin month in April. Come out and support the Post, Lounge and all of our Units and events.

Best Regards,
Your Commander
Mike O'Dell

Doug Woodring - Veterans Service Officer (VSO)



Greetings Legion Members!

VA Education Benefits Update: Veterans who served two or more periods of military service will be eligible for up to **12 months of additional education benefits** under new plans unveiled by Veterans Affairs leaders on 3 January 2025. Veterans who served at least 2 years before being honorably discharged and paid into the Montgomery GI Bill during their time in service can qualify for that program. It pays out roughly \$2,400 a month in education benefits to individuals. The Post-9/11 GI Bill is more generous, awarding full tuition costs for state universities plus housing stipends and other education assistance payments for individuals who served 3 years on active duty after September 2001. Partial benefits are available for anyone who served on active duty for at least 90 days. Previously Veterans couldn't access both benefits simultaneously, and have been required to give up eligibility for one program to access the other. **For more information and to better understand all of the changes, you will need to visit [VA.gov](https://www.va.gov).** Feel free to reach out to me.

The VA Announces Further Presumptive Service Connections: As of Jan. 10, 2025, the VA has established presumptive service connections from exposure to particulate matter for leukemias, multiple myelomas, myelodysplastic syndromes, and myelofibrosis. Eligible Vets must have served on active military, naval, air or space service in Somalia or the Southwest Asia theater of operations on or after Aug. 2, 1990; or in Afghanistan, Syria, Djibouti, Uzbekistan, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, or Yemen on or after Sept. 11, 2001. This interim final rule will ease the evidentiary burden for VA disability compensation claimants with these conditions. **If you are impacted by this, please apply at [VA.gov](https://www.va.gov) or seek an accredited VA service officer like the ones at Veterans Memorial Park.**

The 2025 Veterans Benefits Guide is now available! The handbook contains a comprehensive listing of VA programs, including phone numbers and websites for easy reference. Download today: <https://news.va.gov/137659/spread-the-word-the-2025-veterans-benefits-guide-is-now-available/>.

Doug Woodring
Post 148 Service Officer

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



Greetings Fellow Riders and Members!

First nominations for 2025-2026 Officers has been completed. 2nd nominations will be held at the meeting on Monday, April 7th. 3rd nominations and elections, if needed, will be held at the meeting on Monday, May 5th.

April is our Round Robin month. This is where our Riders ride to raise money for Veterans Suicide Prevention. We have placed a small tip jar at the bartender service station. Please help us out and donate. **April 11th is the American Legion Riders Unity Ride.** One of the stops will be at our Post. They should be here between 3:00-4:00pm. Please show up if you can. Our wagon earned us 2nd place at our Central Area Ride-In. I want to thank all who bought tickets. Our District Riders Chairman, Steve Tyler (Yoda), won our wagon. Since he rides an Indian, he donated all of the Harley stuff back to us.

We are currently working on putting together a poker run in Terry Johnson's honor. It will be held July 19th, with the proceeds benefiting Boys State and Girls State and other American Legion programs. More details to come.

Remember "Ride till you're dry!"
Andy Davis—ALR 148 Director

**Be sure to renew your Membership for 2025! Pay online or at the Post. [Www.Legion.Org](https://www.Legion.Org)
Legion-\$50/Auxiliary-\$40/SAL-\$35/Riders-\$15 (W/paid membership to another Unit)**

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Dear Auxiliary,

First nominations for Officers for the 2025-2026 year have been completed. We have the following positions available, if you are interested: Assistant Sergeant at Arms, Historian, Secretary and Executive Committee members (2 openings) and Past President. Please attend our next meeting on April 17th at 7:00pm for 2nd nominations. 3rd nominations and voting will be held at the meeting on May 15th.

The Blue Star to Gold Mothers Ceremony will be held at Veterans Memorial Park on April 12th at 10:00am.

Our District Constitution Conference will be held on May 3rd at Post 111. Sign-in at 8:30am, meeting starts at 9:30am.

The Legion will host Mother's Day Brunch on Sunday, May 11th from 11:00am-1:00pm.

The Memorial Day cookout will be hosted by the SAL on Monday, May 26th from 2-4pm. The Auxiliary, and others, will provide sides.

For God and Country
Julia Arndt-President



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hello from the SAL

First nominations for Officers for the 2025-2026 year have been completed. 2nd nominations will be held at the meeting on Thursday, April 10th at 7:00pm. 3rd nominations and voting will be held during the meeting on May 8th at 7:00pm.

SAL will host the Memorial Day cookout on Monday, May 26th from 2-4pm. Don't forget every Wednesday is Bingo night, starting at 6:30pm. The SAL Fish Fry is every Friday from 5-7PM!



FROM OUR LOUNGE MANAGER

Exciting News from the Lounge!

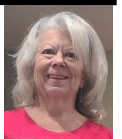
Hi Everyone! I'm thrilled to share that as your new Lounge manager, it's been an incredible journey so far. A huge thank you to all of you for your ongoing support—your encouragement means the world to me. To keep things fresh and exciting, we've introduced some amazing new food and beverage items to the menu! Plus, we're starting new events to bring even more fun and energy to the Lounge.

As we grow and change, I want to take a moment to thank Gio for his hard work, his incredible personality, and for being such a fantastic bartender. We're sorry to see him move on, but his contribution to The Lounge will always be remembered and appreciated.

At the same time, I'm excited to welcome Cameron to the team! I can't wait for you to meet him and see the great energy and ideas he'll bring.

Your feedback is always welcome, and I'm looking forward to creating more fantastic experiences for you here at the Lounge.

Cheers!
Ronni



Please welcome the following new and transferred Members to Post 148

NEW MEMBERS

Eric Rickards	Jerry Whatts	Jeaniel Image
Jered Abel	Gillette Rowlands	Jessie Dace
Cher Wheeler	Jose Crespo	Ehren Dworak
Richard Prairie	Pedro Alvarez	Duane Smith
James Beck	Brian Ryan	Jamie Greer
Stephen Ferguson	Jeffrey Prokopowicz	
Michael Pennypacker	Samuel Rios Machuca	

TRANSFERS

Marvin Wolgast	Christine Murphy	William Dixon
Kathryn Boyer	Mark Getty	Wayne Lundgren
Jeffrey Sklut	Anthony Strollo	Jose Bayron
Dirk Dorresteyn	John Henderson	David Henson
Richard Szanyi	Larry Johnson	John Smith
Bradford Brooks	George Perneckzy	
Anthony Luciano Geigel		



We are sad to report that

Richard Venni Phyllis Benski Walter Murrell Henry Mart

*have been transferred to Post Everlasting. May God rest their souls,
and provide comfort to their family and friends.*

April Calendar at a Glance

- ◆ Month of the Military Child
- ◆ Military Saves Month
- ◆ 12th-20th—Passover
- ◆ ALR Round Robin Month
- 5th—Gold Star Spouses Day
- 9th—National Former POW Recognition Day
- 12th—ALR State Rally at OCC
- 12th—Blue to Gold Memorial Service at Veterans Memorial Park @ 10AM
- 13th—Palm Sunday
- 14th—Air Force Reserve Birthday
- 15th—Purple Up! Day
- 18th—Good Friday
- 20th—Easter
- 22nd—Earth Day
- 23rd—Army Reserve Birthday
- 30th—National Military Brats Day

Meetings at a Glance

- 1st—MCL 7PM
- 7th—ALR 7PM
- 10th—SAL 7PM
- 14th—Legion eBoard 7PM
- 17th—Auxiliary—Officers 6:30PM—General 7PM
- 21st—Calendar 7PM (April/May)
- 28th—Legion General 7:30PM

Happy Spring
Happy Easter



See last page for more lunches and other weekly events!

Follow our new Facebook page for Pop-Up Lunches!
Alafia Post 148 Lounge



**Our Legion Officers are cooking for you!!
Open to all Members and guests!**



Alafia Chapter Post 148 American Legion Monthly Dinner



\$12.00 Donation
Saturday April 12th, 2025
5PM - 7PM
Open to the Public

American Legion April Family dinner.

Tamale pie with Mexican street corn and black beans with rice

American Legion Alafia Post 148 7240 US Hwy 301 S, Riverview, FL 33569

We've gone to the birds! Wings Galore!!

Wild Wing WEDNESDAY

FLAVORS: GARLIC PARMESAN, TERIYAKI, HOT, MEDIUM, BBQ, THAI CHILI

At The Lounge

6 FOR \$7 10 FOR \$12

7249 US Highway 301, Riverview, Florida

WINGS & THINGS

WINGS
6 FOR \$7 12 FOR \$14
20 FOR \$23

THINGS \$5
SOUTHWEST EGGROLLS
ONION RINGS
MOZZARELLA STICKS
JALAPENO POPPERS

**Fridays
starting
at
7:30pm!**

WINGS—EVERY SUNDAY

1pm-3pm \$1/wing (subject to change)

**Hot, Mild, BBQ, Garlic Parmesan,
Teriyaki, or Naked
With Blue Cheese or Ranch, and Celery**

Follow our Facebook pages for daily updates and events!



April—Month of the Military Child
April 15—Purple Up! Day for Military Kids



APRIL 19TH | 7PM
ROCK | COUNTRY | FUNK & MORE

7240 US HWY 301,
RIVERVIEW, FL

**April 13 & 27th
May 11th & 25th
"Cover Your Six"**



1pm—3pm

\$2.00 for two sets of three cards

\$1.00 for each additional three card pack

Cover 6 individual cards (on **TWO** strips)

win 75% of pot

Jackpot Round wins 100% of pot.

Must be member of Legion Family to play



**NOW
EVERY FRIDAY
7PM-11PM**

KARAOKE



**BK
ENTERTAINMENT**



**Karaoke
Host
Bill Knowles
813-666-5924**



**American Legion Riders
Alafia Chapter Post 148
Rider Dinner**



\$10.00 Donation

Saturday April 26, 2025

5pm - 7pm

Alice's Stuffed Pork Chops

Served with Mashed potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, and Roll

American Legion Alafia Post 148 7240 US Hwy 301 S, Riverview, FL 33569

May Calendar at a Glance

- ◆ Month of the Military Caregiver
- ◆ National Military Appreciation Month
- 4th-10th—Public Service Recognition Week
- 4th-10th—National Corrections Officers Week
- 6th-12th—National Nurses Week
- 12th-17th—Armed Forces Week
- 1st—Silver Star Service Banner Day
- 1st—Loyalty Day
- 1st—National Day of Prayer
- 3rd—District Constitution Conference at Post 111
- 5th—Cinco de Mayo
- 8th—VE Day (WWII Victory Day)
- 9th—Military Spouse Appreciation Day
- 11th—Mother's Day
- 13th—Children of Fallen Patriots Day
- 15th—Peace Officers Memorial Day
- 17th—Armed Forces Day
- 22nd—Maritime Day
- 26th—Memorial Day

Meetings at a Glance

- 5th—ALR 7PM
- 6th—MCL 7PM
- 8th—SAL 7PM
- 12th—Legion eBoard 7PM
- 15th—Auxiliary—Officers 6:30PM—General 7PM
- 24th—Memorial Day—NO Legion General Meeting



Mother's Day Brunch

Sunday, May 11th 11am-1pm

Mothers eat free! All others \$12



**Pancake & Waffle Bar
w/all the add-ins!**

Bloody & Bubbly
BAR



**Bloody Mary & Mimosa
Bar w/all the add-ins!**

H A P P Y M O T H E R ' S D A Y

**Our Legion Officers are cooking for you!!
Open to all Members and guests!**



**Alafia Chapter Post 148
American Legion
Monthly Dinner**

**American Legion May Family dinner.
BBQ chicken with all homemade potato salad,
Mac N Cheese, Slaw, and roll**

\$12.00 Donation

Saturday May 10, 2025

5PM - 7PM

Open to the Public



American Legion Alafia Post 148 7240 US Hwy 301 S, Riverview, FL 33569



**American Legion Riders
Alafia Chapter Post 148
Rider Dinner**

Ronnie's Cheesesteak and Fries

\$10.00 Donation

Saturday May 31, 2024

5pm - 7pm



American Legion Alafia Post 148 7240 US Hwy 301 S, Riverview, FL 33569



MEMORIAL DAY
REMEMBER & HONOR
Monday, May 26th
SAL Annual Cookout 2-4PM

HAMBURGERS, HOTDOGS, AND SIDES!

Bring a side to share!

**Enjoy time with your Legion
Family and Friends!**



**If you cook it,
they will come.**

**Join us for Bingo every Wednesday at
6:30pm! Open to the Public.**

**Order Wings from Ronni—Our Lounge
Manager—to enjoy with Bingo!**



BINGO

Every Wednesday at 6:30pm

All night packs—Cards per sheets
\$10 for 3 / \$20 for 6 / \$30 for 9

Hot Balls—50/50—2 Specials

Intermission Special—Letter "I" -
\$1 per sheet

Coverall—\$2 a sheet

Hosted by:
The American Legion Auxiliary and
The Sons of the American Legion

BINGO
4 1934 4964
7 2237 5265
10 25 58 66
13 28 40 55 67
14 29 44 54 68

REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

(Subject to Change)

Pinochle



9:30AM Mondays & Fridays
Double Deck / Partners

The next CALENDAR MEETING
is scheduled for Monday,
April 21st @ 7PM

S.A.L. FRYING FRIDAY

5:00-7:00PM every Friday

*Fish, Shrimp, Chicken, French Fries,
Sweet Potato Fries, Onion Rings,
Hush Puppies and Homemade Coleslaw*

Taco Tuesdays!



Every Tuesday 11:30am-3pm

\$3 each or 2 for \$5 / Taco Salad \$6
Combo—\$6

(2 Tacos w/Chips & Salsa or Cheese Dip)

WILD WING WEDNESDAY!!



Fridays at 7:30

WINGS & THINGS

WINGS
6 FOR \$7 12 FOR \$14
20 FOR \$23

THINGS \$5
SOUTHWEST EGGROLLS
ONION RINGS
MOZZARELLA STICKS
JALAPENO POPPERS

Sloppy Joe's

Every Thursday

11:30AM - 2:30PM or until sold out



Sandwich & Chips - \$5.75

WINGS—EVERY SUNDAY

1pm-3pm \$1/wing (subject to change)

Hot, Mild, BBQ, Garlic Parmesan,
Teriyaki, or Naked
With Blue Cheese or Ranch, and Celery

ALA Bake Sale—1st Sunday of every month
starting at 8am, during the flea market.
Please come out and pick up some goodies
and support the ALA, which supports
Veterans in our area!!

BAKE SALE

“Flea Market”

Every Sunday from 7am-12 noon

Managed by: Susie White



Wear RED on Fridays
Receive \$.25 off drinks until 12am

RED FRIDAY

REMEMBER EVERYONE DEPLOYED

BINGO

Every Wednesday at 6:30pm

All night packs-Cards per sheets
\$10 for 3 / \$20 for 6 / \$30 for 9

Hot Balls—50/50—2 Specials

Intermission Special-Letter “I” -
\$1 per sheet

Coverall—\$2 a sheet

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