



THE 148'r NEWSLETTER



The American Legion Alafia Post 148 December 2024 - January 2025



**AMERICAN LEGION
OFFICERS 2024-2025**

Commander.....Mike O'Dell
 1st Vice.....Terry Johnson
 2nd Vice.....
 Adjutant.....Terry Johnson
 Finance Officer.....Andy Davis
 Sergeant at Arms.....Bob Claycomb
 Chaplain.....Kevin O'Donnell
 Historian.....
 Judge Advocate.....
 Service Officer.....Doug Woodring

Executive Board:
 Mark Finkbeiner Felipe Jose Aguilar
 Walt Nea Roland "Skip" Schwoerke

Past CommanderLynnette Stokes
 Lounge Manager.....Lori Holsopple

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.....Greg Dodge
 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.....Steven Arndt



**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.....Terry Johnson



**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—1:00PM-9:00PM
Tuesday-Thursday
 11:00AM-9:00PM
Friday: 11:00AM—12:00AM
Saturday: 11:00AM-10:00PM
Sunday: 12:00PM-9:00PM
 Hours Subject to Change

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FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK



Hello Legion 148 Family,

I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving Holiday. With that behind us, Christmas is just around the corner and a New Year about to start. Please keep those that are serving, both foreign and domestic, that could not be with their loved ones in your prayers. Also remember the sacrifices that they make to keep us safe. It has been brought to my attention that there are times that we have guests come into our Post and we have some that I remember, are not being very friendly towards them. Please take a moment when you are sitting in there relaxing, to say hello to someone that you don't know and welcome them into our Post. Most of us are trying very hard to make this a very friendly place. Please try your best to make our guests feel welcome, so they would like to come back.

Also, we are still looking for new ways to bring new people in, and get our old Members back to the Post. Let us know your ideas so that we may consider them. I hope everyone has a prosperous year going forward, and a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. For all of those that continue to support our Post, my utmost Thanks! For those of you who have not been in the Post in a while, but read the newsletter, please come back in and see the changes we've been trying to make and give our Post another try.

Best Regards,
Your Commander
Mike O'Dell

Doug Woodring - Veterans Service Officer (VSO)



Greeting Post 148, I hope that you and your loved ones were safe during our recently very active end of hurricane season. Please reach out to me if you need any assistance as a result of hurricanes Helene or Milton. Also wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year! Here are a few topics I thought would be of interest to Post Members.

File a Supplemental Claim—If VA denied your disability claim in the past, but now considers your condition presumptive, you are encouraged to file a supplemental claim. This will allow VA to re-adjudicate your claim when presented with new evidence or policy. [Learn how to file a supplemental claim today. \(https://news.va.gov/decision-reviews/supplemental-claim/\).](https://news.va.gov/decision-reviews/supplemental-claim/)

Get screened for breast cancer—October was breast cancer awareness month, a great reminder to get screened. VA healthcare gives eligible Veterans access to [comprehensive women's care services. \(https://news.va.gov/104765/woman-veteran-recommends-va-health-care-safe-space/\),](https://news.va.gov/104765/woman-veteran-recommends-va-health-care-safe-space/) including breast cancer screenings and care.

Decision Letter Tool—Did you know you can access your VA notices and claims development letters on VA.gov? You no longer have to wait for mailed copies or request reprints from VA. By logging in using your [VA.gov \(https://www.va.gov/\)](https://www.va.gov/) login info you can view your documents.

Cybersecurity Awareness—As technology advances, scammers are becoming smarter in their attacks. VA is actively working to identify growing fraud threats and trends. We are committed to [protecting Veterans](https://va.gov/initiatives/protecting-veterans-from-fraud/) benefits against fraudulent activity and raising awareness of the various cyber scams. To learn more about protecting Veterans from fraud, visit [www.va.gov/VSAFE. \(https://va.gov/initiatives/protecting-veterans-from-fraud/\).](https://va.gov/initiatives/protecting-veterans-from-fraud/)

If you have topics you would like me to address in the newsletters, please email suggestions to serviceofficer148@yahoo.com, call me (813) 417-0352, or let me know when you see me at the Post, and I will gladly include them in the next available issue.

Doug Woodring
Post 148 Service Officer

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

Please welcome the following new and transferred Members to Post 148

NEW MEMBERS

Joe Jones	Richard Watkins
Jose Sanchez, Jr.	Gerald Vlastos
Robert LaValle	Andrew Sutton
Thomas Kirkland	Kate Stacy
David Graham	David Chadwick
James Harris	

TRANSFERS

Michael Small	Davis Farrugia
Anthony Strollo	Scott Nelson
James Edenfield	

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



Good Day Fellow Riders and Legionnaires!

The holiday season is here. We will not be hosting any dinners until the last Saturday in January, 2025. (The first time I got to write 2025). December 14th is Wreaths Across America. Please support our local cemeteries by showing up and placing wreaths, or please donate to WreathsAcrossAmerica.org. The website also has a list of participating cemeteries. Our ride lists have been posted in the hallway, if you would like a printed one. If at anytime you find they are out, please let me know. I do try to stay on top of that. You are more than welcome to join us in your four-wheeler. We will be supporting a single mom and her two daughters for Christmas this year. On December 21st we will ride to their home and hand out presents. I will also be talking to a teacher about riding to the school and handing out small gifts to the kids. More to come about this in our meeting on December 2nd. Here's to a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Remember to keep the rubber on the road and just Ride till you're dry!
Andrew Davis—ALR Director

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



Dear Auxiliary,

December 14th will be our Kids Christmas Party from 12-4pm. Games, decorating Christmas ornaments and cookies, and pictures with Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus. Lunch will be provided for the kids. Come out and have some fun.

There will not be a December Auxiliary meeting, so that everyone can enjoy the holiday and spend time with their families.

Our membership is about 75% renewed. Show your support by renewing your membership dues as soon as possible. Your support helps us continue the work we do for our Military, their family, our community, and our children and youth.

We will be participating in the Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Serenity Meadows on December 14th at 9am. If you would like to donate, please see the flyer in this newsletter.

From the Auxiliary, we wish all our family members at our Post a Happy, Healthy and Safe Holiday.

Thank you for your support
For God and Country
Julia Arndt-President

FROM OUR FINANCE OFFICER

Hello Fellow Legionnaires,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all! For all the members that are coming in and supporting the Post, Thank you! We have started some new events. I hope to see your smiling faces in the Post. Every other Sunday, Angela Ritter donates her time and is our host for Cover Your Six. Please come play and enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow Legionnaires. Starting December 1st, Jeannie Dion will be donating her time to cook you wings every Sunday. We will be selling them at \$1 a wing, as long as the prices remain low. We would like to find other cooks, so that it doesn't all fall on Jeannie. Get with me or Jeannie if interested. We have started a dinner for all on the 2nd Saturday of every month. We are looking for Members to cook these dinners. For the most part, it has fallen to Terry and Lori, along with a few others. Please get with our commander, Mike O'Dell or Terry Johnson, if interested in helping out in this area. If there is something you would like to see at the Post, please get with me or any of the eBoard members. We'll try to make it happen.

A Post is only as good as the Members make it!

Andrew Davis
AL 148 Finance Officer

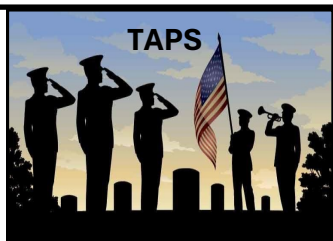
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



Hello from the SAL

Please continue prayers for our SAL President, Micah Saegar, as he continues to recover from his health issues.

Don't forget every Wednesday is Bingo night, starting at 6:30pm. Every Friday night is the SAL Frying Friday.



We are happy to report that

NO ONE

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

December Calendar at a Glance

Every Sunday—Wings—1PM-3PM
1st, 8th & 22nd—Cover Your Six cards—1PM-3PM
1st—Civil Air Patrol Birthday
1st—ALA Bake Sale at 8AM
3rd—#Giving Tuesday
7th—National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
13th—U.S. National Guard Birthday
14th—Wreaths Across America
14th—Kid's Christmas Party
19th—MCL Christmas Party
24th—Christmas Eve
25th—Christmas Day
25th—Hanukkah, Begins at Sunset
26th—Kwanzaa Begins
31st—New Year's Eve

Meetings at a Glance

2nd—ALR at 7PM
3rd—MCL at 7PM
9th—Legion eBoard at 7PM
12th—SAL at 7PM
16th—Calendar at 7PM (February/March)
19th—NO Auxiliary meeting
23rd—Legion General at 7:30PM

Wings—1pm—3pm \$1/wing

(subject to change)

EVERY SUNDAY—STARTING DECEMBER 1ST

Jeannie's Wonderful Wings!



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



NOW EVERY FRIDAY 7PM-11PM

KARAOKE

BK ENTERTAINMENT



Karaoke
Host
Bill Knowles
813-666-5924

Please join us for
American Legion Auxiliary
Children's Christmas Party
Saturday December 14th
from 12-4pm

Fun and Games
Cookie Decorating & Crafts
Picture with
Mr & Mrs Santa Clause

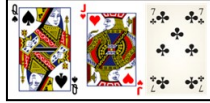
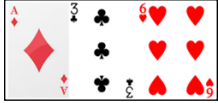
Free Hot Dog, Chips
and Drink
Gift for each Child

American Legion Post 148
7840 US Hwy 301 South
Riverview, FL 33578



Scan the QR code to honor our veterans by sponsoring a wreath: \$17 each
 Placement ceremony on December 14, 2024 at 9 AM, in our cemetery:
 Serenity Meadows Memorial Park
 6919 Providence Road, Riverview FL 33578

Dec 1st, 8th & 22nd "Cover Your Six"



\$2 for two sets of three cards
 \$1 for each additional three card pack
 Cover two FULL strips (6 cards)—win 75% of pot
 Jackpot round wins 100% of pot!
 Progressive Jackpot—Details provided during the game

Christmas Party

Saturday, December 21st
 6pm-10pm
 Jukebox Night

Left Right Center Dice Game

Sandwich Trays Bring an Appetizer

Jello & Pudding Shots!

Ugly Sweater Contest!

Champagne Toast
 At Midnight

Party Favors



Tuesday, December 31st
 Entertainment:
 Bert & Friends
 8pm-12am

Bring an
 Appetizer
 to share

Sandwich Trays

January Calendar at a Glance

1st—New Year's Day
5th—Auxiliary Bake Sale
11th—Legion Family Dinner (Hosted by the Legion)
20th—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Every Sunday—Wings from 1-3pm
5th & 19th—Cover Your Six
25th—Rider Dinner

Meetings at a Glance

6th—ALR at 7PM
7th—MCL at 7PM
9th—SAL at 7PM
13th—Legion eBoard at 7PM
16th—Auxiliary—6:30PM eBoard—7PM General
27th—Legion General Membership at 7:30PM

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

KARAOKE



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

NEW YEAR'S DAY

**Bloody Mary's—\$3.50
11am-4pm**

**Black Eyed Peas w/Ham
And Cornbread
Starting at 1pm**

Happy New Year

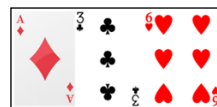
Wings—1pm-3pm \$1/wing (subject to change)

EVERY SUNDAY—STARTING DECEMBER 1ST



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

**Jan 5th and 19th
"Cover Your Six"**



\$2 for two sets of three cards

\$1 for each additional three card pack

Cover two FULL strips (6 cards)—win 75% of pot

Jackpot round wins 100% of pot!

Progressive Jackpot—Details provided during the game

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



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

**\$10.00 Donation
Saturday Jan 11, 2025
5PM - 7PM
Open to the Public**



**American Legion Officer's Family dinner.
Beef Tips over Noodles**

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



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

**5:00 PM Saturday,
Jan 25, 2025**

\$10.00 DONATION



**The Director's, Hoosier tenderloin sandwich,
served with bacon beans and coleslaw.**

American Legion Alafia Post 148 7240 US Hwy 301 S,

Riverview, FL 33569

Don't Drink and Drive

REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS (Subject to Change)

Pinochle



9:30AM Mondays & Fridays
Double Deck / Partners

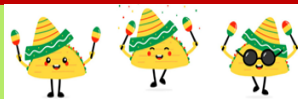
The next CALENDAR MEETING is scheduled for Monday, December 16th @ 7PM

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 11am-3pm

\$3 each or 2 for \$5

Combo—\$6

2 Tacos w/Chips & Salsa or Cheese Dip

Malisa Love Sloppy Joe's

Every Thursday beginning August 8th
11:30AM - 2:30PM or until sold out



Sandwich & Chips - \$5.75

Cover Your Six!



See calendar for dates each month—1pm-3pm

\$2 for two sets of three cards

\$1 for each additional three card pack

Cover two FULL strips (6 cards)—win 75% of pot

Jackpot round wins 100% of pot!

Progressive Jackpot—Details provided during the game

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

EVERY SUNDAY—STARTING DECEMBER 1ST

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!!



“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

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