## THE AMERICAN LEGION ALAFIA POST 148



## **June - July 2025**







#### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY OFFICERS 2025-2026

MEETING: 3<sup>RD</sup> THURSDAY OF THE MONTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE-6:30 PM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP-7:00 PM

President	Julia Arndt
1st Vice	Jeannie Dion
2nd Vice	Eileen Sullivan
Treasurer	
Secretary	Teresa Ponce
Chaplain	Vicki Linde
Historian	Margaret Blazer
Sergeant at Arms	Sandy Souders
Asst Sgt at Arms	Michele Smith

Executive Committee:
Susan King Ernie Perez
Ronni Groenthal

Past President......Georgia Mackenzie





SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS 2025 - 2026

#### **MEETING**: 2ND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH—7:00PM

**Executive Board:** 

Ted Martine Alan Saeger Ronnie Pimental Cliff Menting Past Commander.....Micah Saeger





## AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS 2024-2025

MEETINGS: EXECUTIVE BOARD—2nd MONDAY OF THE MONTH—7:00PM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP—4TH MONDAY OF THE MONTH—7:30PM

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 Commander.....Lynette Stokes Lounge Manager.....Ronni Groenthal





## SCOUTING AMERICA OFFICERS 2024-2025

MEETINGS: (at Grace United Methodist Church)
Pack—Every Tuesday at 6:45PM
PACK COMMITTEE—4TH SUNDAY EVERY
MONTH 7:00PM

Charter Org Rep	David Jones (USN)	
Pack Committee Chair	Kurt Gardner	
CubmasterAlex	Perschall (USA)	
Asst. CubmasterMichelle Barker (USAF)		
Asst. CubmasterKristin Spahlinger Jordan		
Pack TreasurerMike Sakr		





#### AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS OFFICERS 2025-2026

#### **MEETING:**

1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH-7:00PM

Director	•
Assistant DirectorR	
Adjutant	
Finance Officer	
Secretary	
Historian	
Chaplain	Tom Stone
Sergeant at Arms	Leeland Smith
Road Captain	
Membership	Jennifer Jeffrey
Safety Officer	George Sutton





MARINE CORPS LEAGUE OFFICERS 2025-2026

#### **MEETING:**

1ST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH-7:00PM

Commandant	Ron Essick
Senior Vice	Michael Hernando
Junior Vice	Mike Nolan
Judge Advocate	Tommy Reichard
Adjutant	Jack Skelding
Paymaster	Larry Westcott
Sergeant at Arms	Yahahn Thompson
Chaplain	Berry Cobb

#### **Hours of Operation:**

 $\textcolor{red}{\textbf{Monday}} \textcolor{blue}{-10:00} \textcolor{blue}{\text{AM-9:00PM}}$ 

**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:** Commander.al148@gmail.com

Website: www.americanlegionalafiapost148.org

Facebook: Riverview American Legion Alafia Post 148
Webmaster & Newsletter Editor: Missy Finkbeiner

**Printers:** Custom Graphics of Tampa











#### **Physical Address:**

7240 US Highway 301 Riverview, FL 33578

#### Mailing Address:

Same as Physical

**Bus. Phone:** 813-677-6529

**FAX:** 813-671-4764

#### FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK

#### Hello Legion 148 Family,

Wow how time flies! My time as the Commander is coming to a close. I am not seeking re-election due to medical issues and family issues. It's been an honor to try and make things better for all of us at our Legion. I believe that we have moved in the right direction to make 148 a more enjoyable place for people to come in and join us.



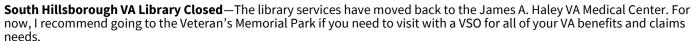
Memorial Day was another great event at our Veterans Park, for those of you that attended, I'm sure you'd agree. Thanks again to our Members that come to the park to fix the hotdogs and hand out the cookies. I heard lots of great feedback on what a wonderful job that was done.

We've managed to get a few things done around the Legion, but we need your help in getting even more done. Please make sure you support Andy Davis, who will be our new Commander, along with all of the Officers that have graciously stepped forward to bring us to the next level. Once again, thank you for allowing me to be your Commander.

All the best, Your Commander Mike O'Dell

#### **Doug Woodring - Veterans Service Officer (VSO)**

#### Greetings Legion Members, here's this months update!





**Decreased suicide rate among women Veterans 2021 and 2022 (The latest year which data is available) —VA Suicide Prevention programs are playing a part.** The decrease was 24.1% for 2021-2022. The decline tells us VA programs may be effectively reaching this group. In addition to being the fastest growing population in the Veteran community, women are the fastest growing group of Veterans who use the VA services. Current resources available:

- Women Veteran Program Managers—Available at every VA medical center to ensure women receive tailored care and are connected to necessary services.
- **Expanded mental health care access**—A complete range of care, including telehealth and peer support, is available to address PTSD, depression, anxiety and substance use disorders.
- Military sexual trauma services—VA offers free services and resources to meet survivors where they are in their recovery.
- Whole Health Approach—This type of treatment includes traditional care and therapies, like yoga and meditation, to manage stress and build resilience.
- **Postpartum and perinatal mental health**—These programs focus on health during and after pregnancy, addressing postpartum depression and related concerns.

As the women Veterans population has grown, it's become a bigger focus for VA. VA continues to create support systems and outreach programs to reduce suicide among women Veterans and improve their overall quality of life.

Doug Woodring Post 148 Service Officer

#### **AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS**

#### **Greetings Fellow Riders and Members!**

Another year is in the books. We've put on a lot of miles together. Even though we didn't achieve the Merry-Go-Round trophy this year, I believe we still have a good chance of keeping the Round Robin trophy. None of this would have been possible if it wasn't for all of you participating in these functions. We carry this district. I just want to say THANK YOU! To all of you Riders. You all made me look good. Thank You! To all of our Officers. You all keep me straight. I'll be at it again this coming year. We have our new Officers for 2025/2026. See the first page for the Officer list. Installation of Officers will be held on June 29th from 2-4PM.

As you may have heard, we are putting together a poker run, in Terry Johnson's memory, to benefit Boy's and Girl's State. This will be July 19th. We are raffling off a TP9SF pistol. See our lovely mixologists for tickets. There will be baskets and bottle raffles. Please get with me or Ed Linde if you would like to donate to the cause. Please show us some love by supporting our Rider Dinners, the last Saturday of every month. Our Road Captain has made our ride list available for other Members who don't ride. Feel free to take one and join us. They are located on the Rider's board in the restroom hallway.

It's been a real privilege being your Director and I'm looking forward to another great year.

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

#### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

#### Hello from the SAL

We've had our elections for 2025/2026 Officers. See the first page for our updated Officer list. Installation of Officers will be held on June 29th 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!

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

#### **AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**

#### Dear Auxiliary,

Congrats to our elected Officers for 2025-2026. I look forward to working with you all.

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 Asst Sergeant at Arms-Michele Smith Executive Committee-Susan King Ernie Perez Ronni Groenthal Past President-Georgia Mackenzie

Department Convention will be from June 12th-15th in Orlando.

Father's Day Brunch on Sunday, June 15th from 11am-1pm. (See flyer for details)

Installation of New Officers will be on Sunday, June 29th from 2-4pm. Officers to wear white shirts with blue or black skirts or pants. All others, please wear an Auxiliary shirt.

See flyer for the James A Haley Veterans Hospital Wish List.

For God and Country Julia Arndt-President

#### FROM OUR LOUNGE MANAGER

#### **Celebrating Six Months as Your Lounge Manager!**

Time flies when you're surrounded by great company! It's hard to believe that 6 months have already passed since I stepped into the role of Lounge Manager. Every day has been a wonderful experience, getting to know our amazing patrons and working with the talented team that brings this lounge to life. From curating special events to crafting an inviting atmosphere, my goal has been to make each visit memorable. Whether you've been with us for years or just recently discovered out lounge, your presence makes all the difference.

I'm thrilled to introduce the newest member of our team, Rebe. Rebe is a military spouse and Auxiliary member of our Post. With a passion for mixology and a talent for crafting unforgettable drinks. Rebe brings fresh energy to our Lounge. She has spent years perfecting the art of cocktails, ensuring each drink isn't just a sip—but an experience. Whether you're in the mood for a classic Old Fashioned or something adventurous, you're in for a treat.

Next time you visit, be sure to say hello and let Rebe shake up something special just for you!

Cheers! Ronni

#### FROM THE BOY SCOUTS

Introducing David Jones (US Navy), Legionnaire, and Scouting leader for the last 14 years. David has held many positions in his Scouting journey, holding Pack, Troop and Crew leadership positions along the way. He has also held Scouting District and Scout Camp positions. David is a beaded Wood Badge leader. Wood Badge is the highest level of Scout Training an adult can achieve. This training is held in the same regard as the rank of Eagle. His son (19) is an Eagle Scout, and his daughter is in Pack 637 on her own journey to Eagle.



David proudly serves as both the Scouting Chair and Charter Organization Rep for American Legion Alafia Post 148, playing a vital role in guiding and supporting Scout Pack 637. With a passion for youth development and civic duty, David ensures that the Pack operates under strong leadership and within a supportive, values-driven environment where Scouts can thrive in character, community service and personal growth. In his dual role, David acts as the key liaison between Post 148 and Scouting America, helping to align both organizations around shared values and missions. The American Legion provides essential resources, meeting spaces, and mentorship from its veteran members, while David ensures Pack 637 remains a vibrant, impactful program within the local community. His leadership strengthens the connection between generations of service and the future leaders of tomorrow. The relationship between the American Legion Alafia Post 148 and Scout Pack 637 is more than administrative—it's a living, working partnership grounded in patriotism, leadership and community service. Together, we will participate in events such as Memorial Day ceremonies, flag retirement services, Veterans Day parades, and community clean-up projects. These shared experiences allow young Scouts to learn the meaning of service from those who have lived it, while giving the Legion Members the opportunity to shape and inspire future generations.

Thanks to David and the dedicated Members of Post 148, the collaboration between the American Legion and Scouting America will flourish—instilling values of honor, duty and community in every Scout who walks through our doors.

#### Please welcome the following new and transferred Members to Post 148

**NEW MEMBERS** 

Rodney Sesler Richard Scarnell Andrew Powanda Rafael Beltran **TRANSFERS** 

Bradford Brooks
Anthony Luciano Geigel
Jasmine Bellard
Robert Temples

Marjorie Emerick Douglas Jordan Joseph Bianco



We are sad to report that

Walt Nea Matthew Krupa Bruno Duerr Ruth East Walter Murrell Henry Mart William Hollash

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

#### June Calendar at a Glance

- PTSD Awareness Month
- Home Ownership Month
- 8th-14th—National Flag Week
- 12th-15th—FL Dept Legion Convention in Orlando

6th—D-Day

11th—Women Veterans Day

14th—Army Birthday

14th—Flag Day

15th—Father's Day

19th—Juneteenth

23rd—Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday

27th—PTSD Awareness Day

29th—Installation of Officers (All Units)

#### **Meetings at a Glance**

2nd—ALR 7PM

3rd-MCL 7PM

9th & 23rd-VSO On-Site 4-6PM

9th—Legion eBoard 7PM

12th—SAL 7PM

16th—Calendar 7PM (August/September)

19th—Auxiliary—Officers 6:30PM—General 7PM

23rd—Legion General 7:30PM

26th—MCL Officers 12-1PM









**SUNDAY, JUNE 15** FROM 11AM-1PM



Breakfast Casserole Biscuits N Gravy Pancakes N Grits Chicken croissant sandwiches Cole Slaw Potato Salad Chips Father's eat FREE





MY





Saturday, June 14th 2-4PM Cookout—Burgers & Hot dogs Flag Retirement Ceremony Bring a side to share



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



## National PTSI Awareness Day June 27

NOT ALL WOUNDS ARE VISIBLE



Visit—www.veteranscrisisline.net/

Dial 988 then press 1 - Chat Online Text-838255

24/7, Confidential crisis support for Veterans and their loved ones



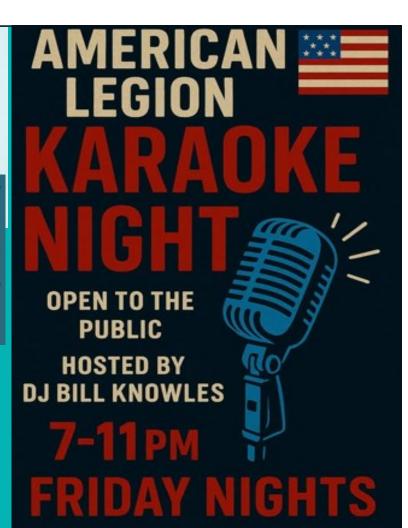
\$10.00 Donation Saturday June 28, 2025 5pm - 7pm

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



### Ronni's cheesesteak and fries

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



## June 8th & 22nd "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



#### July Calendar at a Glance

♦ 17th-19th—Alive Day

4th—Independence Day

21st—National Junk Food Day

25th—National Hire a Veteran Day

27th—National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day

28th—National Buffalo Soldiers Day

29th—Army Chaplain Corps Anniversary

#### **Meetings at a Glance**

1st-MCL 7PM

7th—ALR 7PM

10th—SAL 7PM

14th—Legion eBoard 7PM

14th & 28th-VSO on-site 4-6PM

17th—Auxiliary—Officers 6:30PM—General 7PM

28th—Legion General Meeting 7:30PM

31st—MCL Officers Meeting 12-1PM

#### JAMES A HALEY VETERANS' HOSPITAL WISH LIST

New Fleece Blankets, Twin Size

New Men's Athletic Shorts, All Sizes

New Men's Underwear, All Sizes

New Men's Undershirts, All Sizes

New Men's Sweatshirts, All Sizes (no hoods, zippers or strings)

New Men's Shoes, Sizes 8-13 (slip-on-casual/close-toe shoes without laces).

New Men's Swin Trunks, Sizes M-XXL

Unisex New Athletic Pants, All Sizes

Unisex New Athletic Shirts/T-Shirts, All Sizes

New Women's Underwear, All Sizes

#### **PERSONAL CARE ITEMS**

Body Wash/Liquid, Combs, Hair-Brushes,
Denture Adhesive, Deodorant, Hand and Body Lotion,
Nail Clippers, Disposable Razors, Shampoo, Toothpaste,
Alcohol Free Mouthwash

American Legion Auxiliary, Alafia Post 148
Place in box by the Office in the Lounge
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

# HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

Friday, July 4th 2pm-4pm

ANNUAL COOKOUT
BURGERS & HOT DOGS

Bring a side to share



If you cook it, they will come.

America<mark>n</mark> Legion Alafia Post 148 7240 US Hwy 301 S, Riverview, FL 33569



Saturday, July 12th 5pm-7pm



Pulled Pork Sandwich, Baked Beans, Homemade Slaw & Potato Salad Banana Pudding

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

## July 6th & 20th "Cover Your Six"





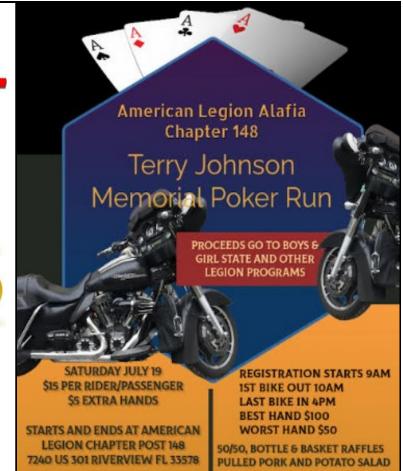


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win 75% of pot

Jackpot Round wins 100% of pot.

Must be member of Legion Family to play



Stops at American Legion Posts 72, 3 and AMVETS 44



LET'S GET
SOCIAL

LIKE FOLLOW TAG.

ALAFIA POST 148
IOUNGE

Follow our Facebook pages

Riverview American Legion Alafia Post 148





\$10.00 Donation Saturday, July 26, 2025 5pm—7pm

American Legion Riders
Alafia Chapter Post 148
Rider Dinner



**MEAL TBD** 

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

#### REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

2 9:30AM Mondays & Fridays **Double Deck / Partners** 

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

(Subject to Change)



**Every Tuesday 11:30am-3pm** 

**BAR BINGO!** 5-7PM **Every Tuesday** 

Wild Wing Wednesdays 12PM-7PM



#### SLOPPY JOE'S

**Every Thursday** 11:30AM - 2:30PM



## S.A.L. FRYING **FRIDAYS**

5:00-7:00PM every Friday Fish, Shrimp, Chicken, and More!

## WINGS & THINGS

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

THINGS \$5 SOUTHWEST EGGROLLS **DHIOH RINGS** MOZZARELLA STICKS JALAPENO POPPERS

Fridays at 7:30

## 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!!



#### "Flea Market"

**Every Sunday from 7am-12 noon Managed by: Susie White** 



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



**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











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22

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