



American Legion – Veterans Memorial Post 347
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Bimonthly Newsletter – July - August 2018

Commander's Notes by Al Varrone: First of all, I would like to thank the membership for giving me the opportunity to be the Commander of the largest American Legion Post in the World for the second year in a row. It is truly a great honor.

The beginning of July marks the start of our new physical year. Shortly after July 1st you will be receiving your 2018 renewal notice. We urge everyone to renew before Veterans Day, November 11th to obtain "Early Bird" status.

As we begin the Summer Season I would like to ask everyone to remain safe during all of your summer activities and celebrations. We would like to see all of you return happy and healthy in the fall.

July 5th thru the 8th we will be attending the Department Convention where we elect the new Department Commander and his staff. On Aug 11th, we will have the installation of all the post family officers, sorry but due to a limit on the capacity of the hall, this will be an invitation only event. I am looking forward to working with all of the incoming officers and I know you will help them to achieve their goals and make this a stronger post. August 24th to the 30th the American Legion National Conference will be held in Minneapolis, Mn. where the new National Commander will be named.

We are trying to arrange a bus trip to Spring Hill Post 183 on Sept 15th. We will be joined there by Post 273 Madeira Beach. More news to follow.

Hoping to make this next year a great one! Aim High. ***For God and Country. Commander Al Varrone***

Chaplain's Corner: by Chaplain Joerg Wartenberg: Lord we at the American Legion give thanks to you for the guidance, support and blessings so we are able to give as needed. Give those who have lost love ones the comfort and support their prayers.

With the summer and members traveling, grant them all safe and happy times with family and friends. Amen Joerg **Wartenberg.**

From the desk of the 1st Vice Commander: Thank you all once again for making Post 347 "THE LARGEST POST IN THE WORLD". We topped our goal of 6200 by almost 200. We accepted 770 new or transfer members since last July 1st ending on June 30th. You say to yourself – those numbers don't add up. You're correct. While we took in 770 we lost 120 veterans to Post Everlasting and worse we had approximately 500 members not renew. If you know any of these members please encourage them to renew this year OR at least try to find out why they did not renew. Early renewal notices for 2019 will be arriving by email or snail mail very soon. It is extremely important that everyone renew as soon as you receive your notification. You can do this online (but you still must come to the post to receive your new membership card), in person paying by cash, check or credit card at the front desk (if the adjutant, myself or the Commander are available, you will receive your card then. Our hours vary so you may want to call ahead. If you renew prior to NOVEMBER 11th you are an "EARLY BIRD". This will now put you into a drawing to be part of our new lottery for a gift card, no more spaghetti dinner. Again Thank You all, this is not a job for just one person – it takes everyone. AIM HIGH. FOR GOD AND COUNTRY. **1st Vice Commander Ellen Tierney**

Auxiliary News: by, Mary La Noce, Madam President: Our new Unit officers will be taking over in July. Ruth Sovern will be the new Auxiliary President. Our new Department officers will be elected at our Convention, July 5 through July 8th, at the Orlando Marriott World Hotel. I hope all who are planning to go have made their reservations. Of course, you may go down daily, if you prefer.

All incoming officers of Unit 347 must pay their dues for 2019 prior to their installation on August 11th. All members wishing to pay early can do so after the Convention. The new dues will be \$35.00 and \$5.00 for Juniors.

We will not be having our July meeting since it falls on the 4th of July. Hope to see you all at our August 1st meeting at 6:30 pm. **For God and Country Mary LaNoce, Madam President**

Sons of the American Legion: Danny L. Adams. Sons of The American Legion Squadron #347

Thanks to the hard work, dedication, and leadership of the past Commanders of The Sons Squadron #347. We have come a long way on an even longer journey. They have formed for us not only a Squadron to be proud of, but a Squadron that has the potential to be the best there is. I truly believe with continued hard work, teamwork, and dedication that we can realize that potential. I also believe that a vital key to realizing that potential is not forgetting how we got to where we are.

As your incoming Commander of Squadron #347, I am reaching out to every Past-Commander, past Officer, and present member. I WANT to hear what you have to say. I NEED to hear what you have to say. Your experience and practical knowledge is invaluable. If you have any advice, any pointers, see something that can be improved, or just want to give an opinion, please come to me or one of our incoming Squadron Officers. I don't believe major changes will help us succeed, but we definitely can benefit from some fresh ideas and some tweaking of old ideas. As the Commander I want us to travel a little further along the path that you have already started. I am simply asking you to be an active passenger on our journey.

I am looking forward to a great year with some new events mixed in with some of our great traditions. This year promises to be our best yet, with all of us working together. I thank you for joining me in this journey and I look forward to what I hope is many productive conversations.

Yours in God and Country **Danny L. Adams Jr.** Commander-Elect, SAL #347

American Legion Riders from **Michael Haynes Director:** The American Legion Riders were busy this month. The month started off with the Riders supporting the flag pick up at Bushnell. It was good ride and we were able to able enjoy breakfast in Bushnell. We had our monthly meeting that was attended by 30some members; and several lively discussions about charities and fund raisers were held. On Flag Day, the riders were represented by several members for the retirement ceremony. The Riders were asked to provide funeral escort from Tavares to National Cemetery on the 20th for the wife of well known Legionnaire. Several Riders participated on this ride. Looking ahead, a number of the Riders will be attending the convention in July. **Michael Haynes, Director**

Members who went to Post Everlasting in May-June 2018

DOD	Member's Name	DOD	Member's Name	DOD	Member's Name
	Robert V. LePlae		James B. Stephan		

FUTURE EVENTS

Team Trivia Tournament in Main Hall 7PM doors open at 6PM, second Friday of each month. \$5 per person, Max 8 to a Team 50-50 Door Prizes Lounge opens for dinner 5-7 Pm or Legion, Hot Dog and Fries Available. Call Ed Lawson 352-750-0639 for Reservations and Information.

All Tuesday night and SAL kitchen menus are posted on our website at www.florida-legion.com

Legion Officers 2017

Auxiliary Officers 2017

SAL Officers 2017

Al Varrone	<i>Commander</i>	Mary La Noce	<i>President</i>	George Worton	<i>Commander</i>
Ellen Tierney	<i>1st Vice Commander</i>	Cathy Trout	<i>1st Vice President</i>	Paul Pitts	<i>1st Vice Commander</i>
T.C. Biddle	<i>2nd Vice Commander</i>	Wendy Adams	<i>2nd Vice President</i>	David Booth	<i>2nd Vice Commander</i>
Bill Behn	<i>3rd Vice Commander</i>	Lynn Barbarotta	<i>Secretary</i>	Danny Adams	<i>Financial Officer</i>
Joerg Wartenberg	<i>Chaplain</i>	Donna Hodge	<i>Treasurer</i>	Jack Dirga	<i>Chaplain</i>
Mike Seidel	<i>Adjutant</i>	Ann Huxtable	<i>Historian</i>	Cory Meloni	<i>Historian</i>
Ken DeMello	<i>Finance</i>	Betty Spencer	<i>Sgt At Arms</i>	Gary Blanchard	<i>Sgt-At-Arms</i>
George Zablocki	<i>Sgt at Arms</i>	Donna McGlone	<i>Chaplain</i>	David Callies	<i>Member at Large</i>
Tom Murphy	<i>Judge Advocate</i>	Ruth Sovern	<i>Membership</i>	Bill Gray	<i>Member at Large</i>
John Trenkle	<i>Service Officer</i>	Members at Large			
Guy Knaak	<i>Member at Large</i>	Carol Pirone-Udell			
Lyle Koch	<i>Member at Large</i>	Barb Kajda			
Johnny Gibbons	<i>Member at Large</i>	Lois Glosch			
Ron Monat	<i>Member at Large</i>	Maureen Caswell			
Tim Tierney	<i>Past Commander</i>				
Mike Horn	<i>Historian/ Editor</i>				
				Legion Riders 2017	
				Mike Haynes	<i>Director</i>
				Bill Lynn	<i>Asst Director</i>
				Daniel Martin	<i>Treasurer</i>
				Betty Martin	<i>Secretary</i>
				Craig Bonfant	<i>Sgt At Arms</i>

July 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	5-7 pm Hamburgers 6-10pm - Karaoke	5-7pm - Kitchen Open 5-8pm - Music Queen of Hearts Drawing	12 - 2 pm Philly Cheese Steaks 2:30pm Bar Bingo	Doors Open 0730 am For Bingo 5-7pm Italian Night:	5-7 - Kitchen Open Lounge Music and Dancing	6:30 - 8 pm Lounge Team Trivia

~July 2018~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Lounge Karaoke David Baldwin 6-10	3 Queen of Hearts Just Mike in Lounge 5-8pm	4 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM Auxiliary Meeting Cancelled this month	5 Lounge Small Team Trivia 6PM Legion Riders 6:30 pm	6 Lounge 6-10pm DJ Norm	7 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
8 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	9 Lounge Karaoke David Baldwin 6-10	10 Queen of Hearts Pam Valli Lounge 5-8pm	11 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM POST MEETING 5:30-8 PM	12 Lounge Small Team Trivia 6PM	13 Lounge Amee Reese 6-10pm	14 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
15 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM Boy-Cub Scouts 2-4PM	16 Lounge Karaoke David Baldwin 6-10	17 Queen of Hearts Mike & Terry Lounge 5-8pm	18 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM SUBMARINE VETS 12 - 3PM S.A.L. MEETING 7-830 PM	19 Lounge Small Team Trivia 6PM	20 Lounge Al Brady 6-10pm	21 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
22 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	23 Lounge Karaoke David Baldwin 6-10	24 Queen of Hearts Jeff Gerber in Lounge 5-8pm	25 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM 40 & 8 Meeting 6-10 PM	26 Lounge Small Team Trivia 6PM	27 Lounge Joe Allen 6-10pm	28 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
29 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	30 Lounge Karaoke David Baldwin 6-10	31 Queen of Hearts Lou Gatto in Lounge				
Notes: Front Office Hours: M-F: 9am - 4pm Sat: 9am - 12pm Updates to this schedule of events will be posted on our website, in your local newspaper, or you may contact the post at 750-2099 or the lounge at 750-0639						

August 2018

AMERICAN LEGION Weekly Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	5-7 pm Hamburgers 6-10pm - Karaoke	5-7pm - Kitchen Open 5-8pm - Music Queen of Hearts Drawing	12 - 2 pm Philly Cheese Steaks 2:30pm Bar Bingo	Doors Open 0730 am For Bingo 5-7pm Italian Night:	5-7 - Kitchen Open Lounge Music and Dancing	6:30 - 8 pm Lounge Team Trivia

~ August 2018 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM AUXILIARY MEETING 6-8 PM	2 Executive Board Meeting 4:30 Legion Riders 6:30 pm Trivia Small Team	3 Amee Reese in Lounge 6-10pm	4 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
5 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	6 Lounge Karaoke by David Baldwin 6-10	7 Queen of Hearts Mike Michaels in Lounge 5-8pm	8 POST MEETING 5:30-8 PM Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM	9 Trivia Small Team	10 Johnny Ray McCullah in Lounge 6-10pm	11 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
12 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	13 Lounge Karaoke by David Baldwin 6-10	14 Queen of Hearts Mike & Terry in lounge 5-8pm	15 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM SUBMARINE VETS 12 - 3PM S.A.L. MEETING 7-830 PM	16 Trivia Small Team	15 Al Brady in Lounge 6-10pm	16 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
17 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	18 Dr Sheri 11:30 Lounge Karaoke by David Baldwin 6-10 pm	19 Queen of Hearts Al Brady Lounge 5-8pm	20 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM 40 & 8 Meeting 6-10 PM Bar Bingo 230-4pm	21 Trivia Small Team	22 Just Mike in lounge 6-10pm	23 Lounge Team Trivia Al Brady 6:30 PM
24 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	25 Lounge Karaoke by David Baldwin 6-10 pm	26 Queen of Hearts DJ Norm Lounge 5-8pm	27 Lounge Bar Bingo Members & Their Guests 2:15PM	28 Trivia Small Team	29 Pat Murphy in lounge 6-10pm	30 Trivia 6:30 - 8:30 PM With Al Brady
31 Lounge Bar Bingo 2PM	<p>Notes: Front Office Hours: M-F: 9am - 4pm Sat: 9am - 12pm Updates to this schedule of events will be posted on our website, in your local newspaper, or you may contact the post at 750-2099 or the lounge at 750-0639 Check out the Post Website for the latest updates on entertainment in the Lounge and Hall.</p>					