



# THE 148'r NEWSLETTER

## The American Legion Alafia Post 148

### August - September 2024



**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 Commander .....Lynnette Stokes  
 Lounge Manager.....Lori Holsopple

### **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

**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:**  
**EXECUTIVE BOARD-**  
 2<sup>ND</sup> MONDAY OF THE MONTH—7:00 PM

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION:**  
 2<sup>ND</sup> THURSDAY 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

**AMERICAN LEGION:**  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP-**  
 4<sup>TH</sup> 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 Wussov  
 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 Officer .....Ed 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

**E-Mail:** Legion148@tampabay.rr.com  
**Website:** www.americanlegionalafiapost148.org  
**Facebook:** American Legion Alafia Post 148  
**Webmaster & Newsletter Editor:** Missy Finkbeiner  
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 Riverview, FL 33578  
**Mailing Address:**  
 Same as Physical  
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## FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK



Hello Legion 148 Family,

First of all, thank you for the opportunity to be your new Commander. As most of you know, we have a long road ahead of us to make our Post a better place for people to want to enjoy coming to and having fun. We have well over 700 members, yet we don't have 100 of them that come in regularly. We all need to come up with ideas to try to draw our members back to our awesome Post. We will also be implementing some of the things that all American Legion Posts should be involved in. We are going to try to make this a family Post, where members are happy to bring their children. Not just a place for people to come and have drinks that are less expensive. It is going to take all of us to do this!! I look forward to working with our new officers, and with all of you to make this happen. We have a great bunch of officers, bartenders, and our lounge manager, that are here to do whatever we can to make members feel like family. I look forward to some of the future changes to try and accomplish making our Post even better and friendlier than it is now. Please help.

Again, thank you for the opportunity. I look forward to working with each and every one of you that would like to make this a better place.

Best Regards,  
Your Commander  
Mike O'Dell

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



Mental well being is as important, if not more so, as our physical well-being...you can't have one without the other. Veterans In crisis is an epidemic. No one should ever be afraid or ashamed to reach out for help. It is also our duty to conduct regular buddy checks on our fellow servicemen and women and their families. If you're a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one, you can reach a caring, trained responder, **24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

**When you call the [Veterans Crisis Line](http://veteranscrisisline.net) (veteranscrisisline.net), here is what you can expect...**

- ◆ A qualified responder will answer your call, ready to listen and help.
- ◆ The responder will ask a few questions, such as whether you or the Veteran you're concerned about may be in immediate danger or at risk for suicide.
- ◆ The conversation is free and confidential. You decide how much info you want to share.
- ◆ Support doesn't end with your conversation. Our responders can connect you with the resources you need.

**You don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care to connect.**

Last year, nearly 9000 Veterans in our area faced a suicidal crisis. Thanks to the VA, they received life saving care. For every life saved, there are hundreds of loved ones who are spared the pain of a loss. Let's ensure every Veteran knows there's help available.

**Share the Veterans Crisis Line: Dial 988, press 1**

Together, we can be there for those who have served us. Thank you for your service and contact me if you need additional info. The link in the above also has online resources such as assessments and warning signs for those in crisis.

## SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



Hello from the SAL

We are asking for prayers for our SAL President, Micah Saeger. He suffered a major stroke and is currently paralyzed on his left side.

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

We will be hosting the annual Labor Day cookout on Monday, September 2nd from 2-4pm. Come out and support our Legion family!

**Membership renewals for 2024-2025 can now be submitted. Go online and click Renew. Follow links in the AL website to renew SAL and Auxiliary memberships as well.**

**[Www.Legion.Org](http://www.Legion.Org)**

*Please welcome the following Members to Post 148*

#### NEW MEMBERS

Michael Dahl	Michael Pons
Thomas Fletcher	Paul Cunningham
Peter D'Allesandro	Kevin Hershey
John Benenati	Harry Pinnell
Vincent Wallace	Ervin Crain
JeNeil Pringle	Shaun Felix
Seth Hensel	Clyde Martinez
Cole O'Connor	

#### TRANSFERS

Wayne Murphy	J Scott Swaim
Christine Murphy	Douglas Wilson, II
John Andrews	Kenneth Staver
Gary Beane	Howard D'Agostino

# AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



## Hello Riders and our American Legion Family

I want to first thank all of the people that stepped up and assumed our Officer positions. Without all of you, we wouldn't have a Post or a Rider's Chapter. Thank you!!

This year we are planning a weekend/overnight and I'm looking into a lunch/dinner ride/cruise. If you find someplace you'd like us to ride, please email or text me and I'll get it on the ride list. I have put copies of our ride list on the bulletin board in the restroom hallway. Feel free to take one. Feel free to join in on any ride, whether you are a Rider or not. 4 wheels welcomed. We would love to have you!

Our July Rider dinner had been brought to us by NOLA Tacos. They teamed up with Let's Chow, a non profit that helps our Veterans get started in the food truck business. They generously volunteered their time, as well as donated and prepared the food. Thank you very much!!

As we all know, it is summer time in Florida and that means rain. We do what we can to either ride around the rain or wait it out. Please don't let rain discourage you from riding with us. Remember, "Ride 'til you're dry!" (Thanks Greg). Hope to see you all at the Post!

Ride 'til you're dry!

Andrew Davis

ALR Director 2024-2025

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## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



### Dear Auxiliary,

It's that time of year again, when we start preparing our children and grandchildren to get ready to go back to school. To help our military and our community, we have a box setup in the lounge for back to school supplies. Every little bit helps. (See list in newsletter).

We have also been asked to help replenish supplies for Fisher House and the Tampa VA Hospital. There is a box in the lounge for this as well. Any support you can give is greatly appreciated. (see list in newsletter).

The 15th District School of Instruction will be held on August 3rd at Post 152 on Sheldon Rd in Tampa. Registration is at 9am. Meeting will start at 10am. If you would like to attend, but don't want to drive, we will be car pooling. We will meet at our Post at 8:15am and leaving at 8:30am. If you are interested, please leave me a message at 813-569-9305. If you are a new member, I do recommend you try to attend as our District Chairman will be discussing the many programs that we support throughout the year.

For God and Country

Julia Arndt-President

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## FROM OUR FINANCE OFFICER

Hello Fellow Legionnaires,

It's a new year, with new officers. Thank you all for stepping up. After being the finance officer for a year, I must say, "What an education". I'm looking forward to the next year. We are making changes and are trying to come up with events to bring you all back to our Post. It costs us money to put on events. When we put on an event, and no one supports it, it's like throwing away our money!

As far as our Post finances go...We are Stagnate! We are making enough to pay the bills, but that's it! We have replaced two AC units. One in the men's room and the other above the pull tab machines. Thank you so much to Rick Rusher!! He saved us a small fortune. We will also be replacing the condenser motor in one of the Lounge AC units soon. While having the septic tank pumped out recently, it was found that our septic pump is not working. This means spending more money that wasn't planned on.

Now let's talk about events. Bandingo was such a great success that we will be holding it twice a month! The 2nd and last Saturdays of the month from 7-9pm. Free for all and very family friendly. Bring the kids. It's a blast! We are hosting a dinner on August 10th, brought to you by our officers.

Please know, we are working hard trying to come up with things to do. There's a suggestion box on the wall, next to the popcorn machine. Please fill out a form and let us know what you would like to see us do. This box is NOT for complaints. If you have complaints, feel free to talk with any of our Post officers or email me. This way we can get on it ASAP. My email address is [al148financeofficer@gmail.com](mailto:al148financeofficer@gmail.com). Please show us some love by supporting our events. We are working hard for you!

Andrew Davis.

AL 148 Finance Officer



**We are happy to report that**

**No Members**

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



## August Calendar at a Glance

- ◆ Antiterrorism Awareness Month
- ◆ 3rd - Auxiliary 15th District School of Instruction @ Post 152 - Registration at 9AM - Starts at 10AM
- ◆ 4th - Coast Guard Birthday
- ◆ 7th - Purple Heart Day
- ◆ 10th - U.S. Department of Defense Birthday
- ◆ 10th - Agent Orange Awareness Day
- ◆ 14th - Navajo Code Talkers Day
- ◆ 16th - National Airborne Day
- ◆ 29th - Marine Corp Reserve Birthday
- ◆ 31st - Rider Dinner 5-7PM

## August Meetings at a Glance

- 5th - ALR at 7pm
- 6th - MCL at 7pm
- 12th - Legion eBoard at 7pm
- 15th - SAL at 7pm
- 19th - Calendar Meeting at 7pm (Aug/Sept)
- 22nd - Auxiliary-Officers at 6:30pm-General at 7pm
- 26th - Legion General Membership at 7:30pm

## Taco Tuesdays!



**Every Tuesday 11am-3pm**

**\$3 each or 2 for \$5**

**Combo - \$6**

**2 Tacos with Chips and 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**

## WISH LIST FOR TAMPA VA HOSPITAL AND FISHER HOUSE

### TRAVEL SIZED ITEMS:

Shampoo	Conditioner
Toothpaste	Shaving Cream
Razors	Hand Cream
Mouthwash	Tooth Brushes
Body Wash	Nail Clippers
Combs	Hair Brushes

### OTHER ITEMS REQUESTED:

Paper & Plastic Goods, such as: Napkins, paper plates; to-go coffee cups, plastic forks & Spoons, durable ziplock plastic baggies (2-gallon, 1 gallon quart, and sandwich bags), and aluminum foil.

Cleaning supplies: Absorbent kitchen dish cloths and towels (earth tones), dish soap (preferably Dawn, but smaller sink sizes), dryer sheets, kitchen sponges (scrubby on one side), Tide laundry pods, Powerball dishwasher detergent, freezer tape, travel sized hand sanitizer, Clorox disinfectant wipes, Clorox bleach, distilled vinegar and Oxi clean gel sticks.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT  
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
ALAFIA UNIT #148



## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY ALAFIA UNIT #148

The Auxiliary will be collecting Back To School Supplies from July 5th to August 10, 2024

#2 Pencils                      Blue/Black Pens  
Composition Books (Black & White)  
Elmers Glue (White & Clear)  
Loose Leaf Paper  
Pencil Case                      Erasers  
Rulers 6" and 12"

All School supplies can be placed in the boxes in the Lounge at the Post.



# AUGUST ENTERTAINMENT



**FRIDAYS!! 7PM-11PM**  
**ANYWHERE KARAOKE**  
**2ND, 16TH & 30TH**  
**BILL KNOWLES KARAOKE**  
**9TH & 23RD**



**Queen of Hearts**  
**drawing every**  
**Saturday at 7pm**

**BANDINGO**  
**2 SATURDAYS A MONTH!!**  
**10TH & 31ST (7PM-9PM)**

**BANDINGO**  
**Free to Play! Bring the family!!**  
**Bingo cards with song & band**  
**names provided. Music plays for a**  
**short time. Mark your card if you**  
**have the song.**  
**Win prizes!!**



B	I	N	G	O
You Might Think ~ Cars	When Doves Cry ~ Prince	Sweet Dreams ~ Eurythmics	Maniac ~ Michael Sembello	Flashdance ~ Irena Cara
Don't Worry Be Happy ~ Bobby McFerrin	Mickey ~ Toni Basil	Shout ~ Tears For Fears	The Power ~ Snap	We're Not Going To Take It ~ Twisted Sister
Cold As Ice ~ Foreigner	99 Luft Balloons ~ Nena	Free Space!	We Built This City ~ Starship	Heaven Is A Place On Earth ~ Belinda Carlisle
500 Miles ~ Proclaimers	Like A Prayer ~ Madonna	Fame ~ Irena Cara	Rock Lobster ~ The B-52's	Caribbean Queen ~ Billy Ocean
Lets Hear It For The Boy ~ Denice Williams	Blame It On The Rain ~ Milli Vanilli	Living On A Prayer ~ Bon Jovi	Why Can't This Be Love ~ Van Halen	Take On Me ~ A-Ha

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

**5PM Saturday**  
**Aug 31, 2024**  
**\$10 Donation**



**Alice's Spaghetti and Meatballs,**  
**served with Salad and Garlic Bread.**

American Legion Alafia Post 148 7240 US Hwy 301 S,

Riverview, FL 33569



## September Calendar at a Glance

- ◆ National Suicide Prevention Month
- ◆ National Service Dog Month
- ◆ 17th-23rd - Constitution Week
- ◆ Sept 15th-Oct 15th - Hispanic Heritage Month
- ◆ 2nd - Labor Day
- ◆ 2nd - V-J Day (Victory over Japan)
- ◆ 8th - Grandparents Day
- ◆ 11th - Patriot Day
- ◆ 14th - Hackney Cemetery Clean-Up
- ◆ 18th - Air Force Birthday
- ◆ 18th - Office of Secretary of Defense Birthday
- ◆ 18th - Air National Guard Birthday
- ◆ 20th - National POW/MIA Recognition Day
- ◆ 29th - Gold Star Mother's Day

## September Meetings at a Glance

- 1st—ALR at 7pm
- 2nd—MCL at 7pm
- 8th—Legion eBoard at 7pm
- 11th—SAL at 7pm
- 18th—Auxiliary-Officers at 6:30pm-General at 7pm
- 22nd—Legion General Membership at 7:30pm



**HAPPY LABOR DAY**

**JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL COOKOUT 2-4PM**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND**

**HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS AND SIDES**



Hosted by: SAL Post 148  
Sides provided by: ALA  
7240 US Highway 301, Riverview, FL 33578

★ ★ ★



**SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH**

**YOU CAN HELP: ASK. BE THERE. KEEP THEM SAFE. HELP THEM CONNECT. FOLLOW-UP. LEARN MORE.**

**988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE**

**NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE 1-800-273-TALK**

**NEW!** **Game Day at the Post!!** **NEW!**

**Cover the Post!**



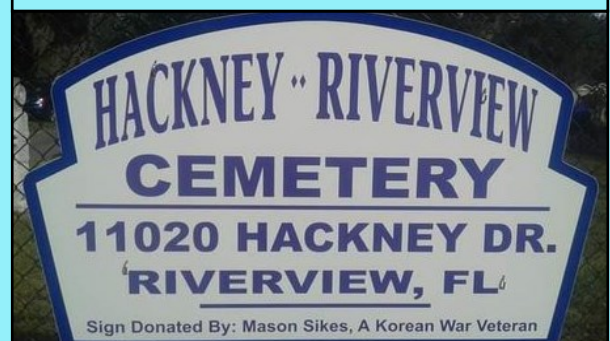
**NEW!** **Sunday, September 15** **NEW!**

1PM - 3PM

Cash prizes: 75%/25%

***Patriot Day***  
***Wednesday, September 11***  
***Join us for Flag waving in front of the Post, along 301***  
***Starting at 8am!***

**Hackney Cemetery Clean-up**  
**Saturday, September 14 - 9am-Noon**  
**Headed by: Steven Arndt**



**HACKNEY-RIVERVIEW CEMETERY**  
**11020 HACKNEY DR.**  
**RIVERVIEW, FL**

Sign Donated By: Mason Sikes, A Korean War Veteran



**GOLD STAR MOTHER'S DAY**  
**September 29, 2024**



# September Entertainment



**FRIDAYS!! 7PM-11PM**  
**ANYWHERE KARAOKE**  
**6TH & 20TH**  
**BILL KNOWLES KARAOKE**  
**13TH & 27TH**



**Queen of Hearts**  
**drawing every**  
**Saturday at 7pm**

**BANDINGO**  
**2 SATURDAYS A MONTH!!**  
**14TH & 28TH (7PM-9PM)**

**BANDINGO**  
**Free to Play! Bring the family!!**  
**Bingo cards with song & band**  
**names provided. Music plays for a**  
**short time. Mark your card if you**  
**have the song.**  
**Win prizes!!**



B	I	N	G	O
You Might Think ~ Cars	When Doves Cry ~ Prince	Sweet Dreams ~ Eurythmics	Maniac ~ Michael Sembello	Flashdance ~ Irena Cara
Don't Worry Be Happy ~ Bobby McFerrin	Mickey ~ Toni Basil	Shout ~ Tears For Fears	The Power ~ Snap	We're Not Going To Take It ~ Twisted Sister
Cold As Ice ~ Foreigner	99 Luft Balloons ~ Nena	Free Space!	We Built This City ~ Starship	Heaven Is A Place On Earth ~ Belinda Carlisle
500 Miles ~ Proclaimers	Like A Prayer ~ Madonna	Fame ~ Irena Cara	Rock Lobster ~ The B-52's	Carribean Queen ~ Billy Ocean
Lets Hear It For The Boy ~ Denice Williams	Blame It On The Rain ~ Milli Vanilli	Living On A Prayer ~ Bon Jovi	Why Can't This Be Love ~ Van Halen	Take On Me ~ A-Ha

**American Legion Riders**  
**Alafia Chapter Post 148**  
**Rider Dinner**  
**\$10.00 DONATION**

**5:00 PM Saturday,**  
**Sept 28, 2024**



**Angela's Stuffed Cabbage**  
**with Green Beans and Roll**

American Legion Alafia Post 148  
 7240 US Hwy 301 S, Riverview, FL 33569  
 Be safe-Don't Drink and Drive!!



# REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS (Subject to Change)

*The next CALENDAR MEETING is scheduled for Monday, August 19th at 7PM*

## Pinochle

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

**S.A.L. FRYING FRIDAY**  
5:00-7:00PM every Friday

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

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

**RED FRIDAY**  
REMEMBER EVERYONE DEPLOYED

### QUEEN OF HEARTS



**Tickets on sale  
in the lounge**

**Weekly Drawing—Every  
Saturday night at 7:00 pm**  
Last tickets sold at 6:45pm

- Tickets \$2—No Limit
- If present, winner receives 60% of the pot. Legion receives 40%
- Not present, Legion receives 60%. Winner Receives 40%
- Pot rolls over to next week if Q of Hearts not drawn
- Winning ticket holder will receive \$25 if Queen of Hearts not drawn.
- An additional \$25 paid to winning ticket holder IF the card drawn is a Joker or any other Queen suit.



Hosted by: American Legion Alafia Post 148, 7240 US Hwy 301, Riverview FL 33578

**ALA Bake Sale & Breakfast—1st  
Sunday of every month starting at 7am,  
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



## 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

