

NEWS FROM LT FRED L. KENT • VFW POST 7907 POWAY, CA





POST MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Please Join Us

Auxiliary General Meeting 6:00 PM | Tuesday - September 10

VFW Post Officers/House Committee Chair Meeting 6:00 PM | Monday - September 16

VFW 7907 Post Meeting 7:00 PM | Thursday - September 19

Event Planning Meeting 6:00 PM | Wednesday - September 25

House Chairman Clean Up/Working Party 8:00 AM | Saturday Mornings

Veterans ••• Crisis Line DIAL 988 then PRESS ①





VFWPost7907Aux

Have an article for *The Patriot?* Please submit your articles no later than the 21st of each month. Send your submission to <u>VFW7907@gmail.com</u> with *Newsletter Submission* in the subject line.

COMMANDER'S CALL:

Greetings All,

Well, as summer is coming to a close and school has started, I am looking forward to the return of our members and their families who have been on vacation. It was



a hot summer and I think we may see more heat...so stay cool. Remember, your Post is fully air conditioned.

I would like to give a big thank you to the Home Depot Carmel Mt. store number 0669 and their team Pamela C, Gerardo F, Michael R, Bill T, Anthony H and Jacob W. For all of you who have not visited the Post this month, Home Depot donated our new outdoor furniture - 8 tables and 34 chairs. Their team delivered and set up everything. I have let the management know how thankful we truly all are. We also owe a huge thank you to our comrade Jason Widmer who put the whole donation deal together...Bravo Zulu.

Sport Zone Mondays are starting to gain momentum, just in time for Monday Night Football. The food has been quite a hit and there are some heavy competitions playing corn hole. Food is just \$10.00 and Dawn has great drink specials going on. So bring the whole family over and have some fun, we start feeding at 5:30PM.

Wednesday lunches continue to be a huge hit. Evelyn and her hard working team are dedicated to serving outstanding food to our members, their families and all veterans. Please make it part of your week, lunch is served 11:30AM-1:00PM.

Our Friday night burgers have been slow, which is confusing to me because we have the best burgers in Poway. Please join us each and every Friday night at 6:00PM for a delicious burger. Bring the whole family, we are right next to a beautiful Park for the kids.

I would like to extend a warm thank you Edna B of Poway for her continuous support of VFW 7907.

Key date this month:

- September 11th Patriots Day Let us all commemorate those brave Americans who lost their lives in the 2001 terrorist attacks.
- September 20th POW/MIA Day The Post will hold its annual remembrance ceremony in the Post Hall, Saturday 21st at 11:30_{AM} sponsored by the 7907 Auxiliary and a special performance presented by the Scripps Ranch High School AFJROTC.
- September 28th Annual Ribapalooza All proceeds will go to support Shelter to Soldiers. Please get your orders in early.

Continued on next page

2024-2025 Officers



Post Commander – Bill Kimble Sr. Vice Commander – Vern DuMolt Jr. Vice Commander – Deanna Smith Quartermaster - Clint Dawson Chaplain – Don Biadog, Jr. Surgeon – Fred DiCarlo Service Officer – Ed Ozmun Adjutant – Paula Jensen Judge Advocate – Bill Morrison Guard – Paul Swanson 1st Year Trustee – Mark Burdette 2nd Year Trustee – Oscar Rocha 3rd Year Trustee – Bryan Gust House Committee Chairman – Tim Ragnar Membership Chair – Jay Santa Maria Officer of the Day – Jim Cook Maintenance Manager – Jason Widmer Canteen Manager – Dawn Ragnar

Auxiliary Officers



President – Dawn Ragnar Sr. Vice President – Jericho Nevitt Jr. Vice President – Christina Swanson Secretary – Kacyenne Barber Treasurer – Deborah Sellers Chaplain – Christy Schiltz Conductor – Karen Kimble Guard – Rachel Rocha 1st Year Trustee – Shari Dunbar 2nd Year Trustee – Connie Houk 3rd Year Trustee – Patty Wolinski



COMMANDER'S CALL: CONTINUED

We have much more going on around the Post in September, please make sure to check the calendar for more upcoming events.

Please don't hesitate to thank all of our wonderful volunteers who keep the Post running smoothly, they are truly amazing people who give so much of their precious time. Bravo Zulu

If there is anyone who knows of a Veteran or their family in need, please contact me, our Service Officer Ed, or the Post.

Let's make September outstanding, come to the Post and have some fun.

God Bless America,

Commander Bill Kimble

FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT:

Our first New Member Meet & Greet was well attended and we got to meet 3 new members in August. I hope we can continue this in September. Our next new member meet & greet will be held on Monday, September 9th and I would love to have as many Auxiliary members there as possible to get to know our new members and just kick back and have some fun.

In August, everyone showed the Auxiliary some love by bringing us their change (and some bills). I would like to thank EVERYONE who donated to 'Poppy' the piggy bank for our District Auxiliary fundraiser. The funds are being tallied when this article is published but I will let everyone know how we did next month.

September is Suicide Awareness month as well as National Service Dog Appreciation month. The local organization, Shelter to Soldier (StS), is the perfect candidate and representative of both and I am very proud to say, this is our 4th year of supporting this organization.

We started our StS support with our 80's themed Murder Mystery dinner. Thank you to Commander Kimble for cooking; the volunteers who worked that night; everyone who attended; a special thank you to the Houk family for a special donation to Shelter to Soldier and Bongiorno's Pizza for donating our dinner salads. It was an absolutely GREAT night!

Our support continues in September with the Auxiliary burger night on September 20th. Be sure to join us for a fun filled night with the Windjammers band, burgers, a silent auction and raffles with proceeds going to Shelter to Soldier.

In keeping with tradition, the Auxiliary is proud to host POW/MIA Remembrance Day on Saturday, Sept 21st. This year's ceremony will be slightly different than in years past with FREE lunch to follow.

We are also excited to have our 2nd Ribapalooza take home dinners. This is a ticketed event and all proceeds go to Shelter to Soldier. Please see page 9 for details.

Thank you for all of your support!

Dawn Ragnar

FROM THE QUARTERMASTER:

Below are a couple of pictures from Ramona Speedway taken on August 17. Paul, Christina, Fred, Patty W and I had a blast and want more people to attend a race on September 2nd, 16th, or 30th. 7907 is my second home and a big part of my family. It would be awesome to hang out outside the Post! P.S. We can bring a cooler with adult beverages. Their burgers are far from as good as ours, but the cheese fries and nachos were pretty good.

Clint Dawson





Clint, Christina, Patty W, Paul & Fred

The moonrise over the Ramona Speedway.





Each Saturday at 8:00 Aм at the Post For more info, contact Tim Ragnar at timragnar@gmail.com

FROM THE CANTEEN MANAGER:

Thank you to everyone who has been coming on Monday nights. We are now calling it "SPORTS ZONE MONDAYS". We will have football and baseball on the TV's and everyone has been stepping up their Cornhole/Bags game! Of course, we all LOVE the stadium food. THANK YOU, Commander Kimble, for working so hard every week to shop for and prepare the food.

With the regular football season starting on September 4th, we would love to have some NEW faces hang out on Thursday nights as well. There will be drink specials and you're welcome to bring in whatever food you'd like.

September is going to be BUSY, BUSY, BUSY! In addition to the special events listed below, we have entertainment EVERY FRIDAY in September. Starting on the 6th, the MAC Daddy's band. The 13th we have TRIVIA. On the 20th, Windjammers Band with a fundraiser silent auction and then on the 27th our very own Country Crossovers. Of course, the best (and possibly the cheapest) burger dinner in town!

As in years past, during September, our bartenders may have the Shelter to Solder donation sign posted (see example on this page). When you see this sign, that means the bartender(s) on duty is donating 100% of their tips to saving the Veterans and the dogs! Please keep an eye out and be sure to be extra 'TIPsy' when it's posted.

I also encourage everyone to pay attention to our news screen in the canteen. I'm adding new beers and beverages weekly as well as updating event details. Speaking of which, we have a seasonal Oktoberfest on draft for a short period so don't miss out!

Mark Your Calendar With These Events

 Sep 7 – COMEDY NIGHT (see page 7 for details)
 Sep 21 – POW /MIA remembrance Ceremony
 Sep 28 – Ribapalooza TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE CANTEEN (see page 9 for details)

Save These Dates - Details Coming Soon

- Oct 21 4th Annual Golf Tournament
 Nov 11 Veterans Day
 Dec 7 Post/Auxiliary Christmas Party
 Dec 15 Pancake Breakfast with Santa
 Dec 22 Jan 4 Closed For The Holidays
 Feb 1 District 1 Auxiliary Casino Night (this is NOT happening at our Post, but we would love your support)
- Mar 4 Fat Tuesday Celebration
- Mar 14 St. Paddy's Day Bash!
- Apr 20 Easter Brunch *This year we will have an Easter egg hunt as well*

Military Chaplain's Ministry: From Ground Zero in New York to Building Zero in Baghdad

I was sent as a North American Mission Board-endorsed military chaplain by my command, USCG Training Center Petaluma, from Northern California to New York City on September 25, 2001, to assist the First Responders (military and civilian) and help hurting Americans.

The site of the disaster area, the smell, and sound of rescue machines was utterly devastating. I saw unimaginable destruction. Remains found cremated. Rescuers covered with dust still frantically looking and fruitlessly hoping to find surviving individuals in the rubble.

When I arrived at Ground Zero, one of the ministry outreach initiatives I proposed to our CERT – Chaplain Emergency Response Team – of U.S. Navy chaplains serving with the U.S. Coast Guard was escorting the victims' families to Ground Zero.

When the family members and friends of crewmembers from United Airlines and American Airlines arrived at the scene, they saw the horrible site, smell, and sounds of machines. They wept bitterly and publicly. Some wailed *"Why, why, why?"*

One man in a fit of anger pointed his blame to New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani. I observed how Giuliani responded to the angry father. He was so tactful and loving in responding to the grieving person. I also remember an 8-year boy standing next to me crying and saying repeatedly, "Why did they have to kill my daddy?" I tried to comfort the young man and many other primary next of kin.

The visit to the site of the first 50 family members was like leading 50 funerals for 9/11 victims in one hour. It was the most difficult

day in my entire two weeks of ministry in September to October 2001 in New York City. In ministering to the distressed people in a disaster area in New York, I used many encouraging Bible verses, especially Psalm 46:1. "God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble." When we need a place of safety, we come to God SECURITY. When we feel weak and need



After a full day of ministry at Ground Zero, I (Don Biadog) rode on September 26, 2001, a USCG cutter on my way back to Staten Island, NY.*



Former President George W. Bush invited and thanked the 50 Navy Chaplains serving in the U.S. Coast Guard on May 8, 2003, for their services during the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on September 11. I (Biadog) was standing directly behind President Bush's left side.

an extra-ordinary help on our journey, we can come to God for STRENGTH. GOD IS ALWAYS READY TO HELP.

When I went to New York City, I served at Ground Zero. Three years later I served at Building Zero in Baghdad, Iraq. Serving in a combat zone was scary. It was a daily frightening experience. At around 5 each morning, insurgents would drop Chinese-made Type 63 towed 107mm Multiple Launch rockets and mortars near our living quarters. In the six months I was in the desert, I lost three of my neighbors, including the highest-ranking government civilian employee. I also saw multiple casualties from direct hits of the rockets.

One tall and strong warrior I served with at Camp Victory was inside the shower trailer when rockets hit there at 5 a.m. Another time, an injured soldier saw me and grinned. "Thank God! It was not my time. God is good!" I used the Word of God, especially Psalm 91, during my ministry time in Iraq.

The impact of our ministry during the Operation Iraqi Freedom-2 was (and is) greatly appreciated not only by many American and Coalition service members, but by the thousands of Iraqis and third-country nationals we worked with and reached out to in Baghdad, Iraq, including Thair Behnan. I was able to get him, his wife and seriously ill daughter to a life-saving operation in Indiana and safety in America.

This involved traveling through sniper-infested roads, including Route Irish, "the world's most dangerous road," a 7.5-mile stretch from Camp Victory to Baghdad's Green Zone, from Camp Victory

to the Green Zone, and to/from Iraqi government offices and the U.S. Embassy.

The terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, were diabolical actions and needless man-made disasters. According to Britannica, "the official death toll, after numerous revisions and not including the 19 terrorists, was set at 2,977 people.



Since the completion of the National 911 Memorial and Museum, I was able to visit several times the same site where I ministered from September to October 2001. This photo was captured on February 11, 2023, in New York.

CHAPLAINS CORNER - CONTINUED

At the World Trade Center in New York City, 2,753 people died, of whom 343 were firefighters. The death toll at the Pentagon near Washington, D.C., was 184, and 40 individuals died outside Shanksville, Pennsylvania."

War is a man-made disaster and sadly, most of the war victims are civilians. The Defense Department estimates 48,000 Afghan civilians were killed and at least 75,000 injured between 2001 and 2021, though the agency acknowledges the true toll is likely significantly higher. The total cost of war in civilian lives is impossible to pin down.

And our military personnel? According to the U.S. Department of Defense Casualty Analysis System casualty website, as of July 19, 2021, there were 4,431 total deaths (including both killed in action and non-hostile) and 31,994 wounded in action during the Iraq war's Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF).

The depressing effects of the war in the Persian Gulf and Middle East continue to impact service members' families. Since 2001, I have consoled, comforted, several hundred service members,



Saying prayer, encouraging words, and offering support to Thair Behnan, August 17, 2004, at Camp Liberty, Baghdad, Iraq.



l led a Spiritual Fitness Leadership Training for our MNF-I and Coalition leaders on December 16, 2004, in Babylon, Iraq.

widows, parents, siblings, relatives, and friends of fallen heroes. Many of our war veterans have taken their own lives because of mental illness, PTSD, survival guilt, incurable illness, and other unknown reasons.

As we commemorate the 23rd anniversary on September 11, 2024, please join me in remembering and praying for the families who lost loved ones in the aftermath of terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and during the war in the Middle East: OIF and OEF.

War survivors and veterans need our daily prayers too. Many families continue to suffer due to the loss of loved ones. Veterans continue to endure the lingering and debilitating effects of the war.

Biadog, who retired from military service in Sep 2019, recently was named VFW National Chaplain of the Year 2023. He continues to serve with VFW 7907 as Post Chaplain, as missions pastor at Old Town Community Church in San Diego, California, and San Diego Southern Baptist as a photojournalist.

Chaplain Don Biadog, Jr: (Mark 10:45)



From New York to Baghdad, Chaplain Biadog standing in front of our combat tent on September 20, 2001, Camp Liberty, Baghdad, Iraq.

* Descriptions of Photos by Don Biadog, Jr. | (Note: All the photos were captured using my cameras)





Remembering and honoring the Family of Robert and Diane Orosz, Navy Veteran, 1 August 2024, Miramar National Cemetery.

FROM THE EDITOR:

Clint asked that give y'all a little update on how I've been so here goes. I have been in Texas a little over a year now and it has been interesting. The weather is crazy. Last June it was 90 degrees outside and hailstones the size of softballs were falling from the sky! People here are very friendly and helpful but sometimes I wonder what they are thinking...like this year on the 4th of July it was pouring rain with lightning striking all over my neighborhood and they were out in their backyards setting off full blown fire works like the Big Bay Boom! One more thing that makes me say hmm is, here in my part of Texas at least, there aren't any storm drains so whenever it rains the streets becoming flowing rivers as the water runs down them into the playa lakes which are all over town. So if it is raining you need to stay put until about a half hour after the rain stops otherwise you could drift down the road. Oh, by the way, there is a playa lake one street over from my house so my street get heavily flooded whenever it rains.

On a personal level, I'm doing well and am enjoying my new home. My dogs have adjusted well but Lila absolutely hates the thunder and lightning. I have a part time job at the Hallmark store but I'm currently looking for a "real" job. I miss you all so much and often find myself thinking "I miss my VFW family."

Sara

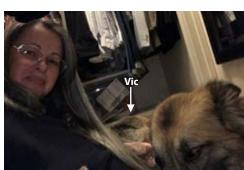
Hey, Bill can you have Ed delivery some ribs to me like you did a couple years ago??? I know it's a long trip but a girl can dream... ©



This is a picture of my street taken from my porch after a rainstorm that lasted about 10 minutes. You can see all the water running down to the street and sidewalk to the playa lake which is on other side of the moving truck (top right of pic). Please excuse the weeds...they are gone now.



These are two of the hail stones that fell last June. They are the size of golf balls but they were bigger when they hit the ground. I took this picture about 20 minutes after the storm passed.



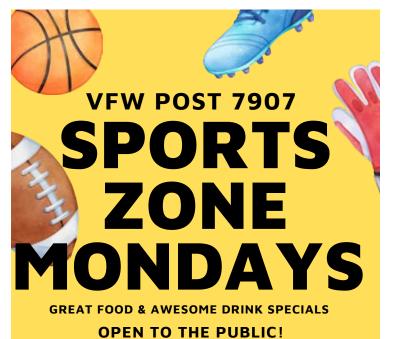
Here we are in the closet riding out our first thunderstorm. It's the only place Lila (right) feels safe during the storms. Vic is his amazingly chill self, you can barely see him sleeping in the back.



Dear VEW Post 7907,

On behalf of the Roway Chamber of commerce team, we want to thank you for hosting the July Mixer! your support is greatly appreciated and helps us ensure a successful event for all involved. We look forward to working with you again soon.

> Sincerely, The Poway chamber of commerce





COME PLAY BAGS, WATCH BASEBALL OR FOOTBALL OR JUST HANG OUT!

BAR OPENS 3PM FOOD SERVED 5:30





Jessica Alaniz

Rafael Molina

Brian Kiley







Comedy Machine Texas to California Conan & Letterman



at VFW Post 7907, 12342 Old Pomerado Rd, Poway Dinner starts 5:30pm * Show starts at: 6:45pm



Tickef: \$25 per person Spaghetti dinner includes salad, bread & dessert

THIS IS A TICKETED EVENT - PLEASE EMAIL VFW7907EVENTS@GMAIL.COM TO PURCHASE TICKETS



VFW 7907 AUXILIARY INVITES YOU SEPTEMBER 21,2024

POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony

Ceremony 11:30 am * FREE Lunch 12pm

12342 Old Pomerado Rd, Poway CA 92064

WE ALWAYS HAVE A SEAT FOR OUR MISSING COMMRADES



100% of proceeds go to **SHELTER TO SOLDIER**

'RIBAPALOOZA'

TRAKCE HOME DININER

DINNER FOR 2 Full rack of bbq ribs Bill's Baked Beans & slaw Rolls & butter Ole Fashion Peach Cobbler \$40

[dinner for 1 is 1/2 rack for \$20

Saturday, 9/28 pick up 11am -3pm

PREORDER NOW

Tickets available at VFW POST 790



8th Annual North County Veterans Stand Down

October 17 - 20, 2024

Green Oak Ranch | 1237 Green Oak Road | Vista, CA 92081

Sponsorship Opportunities!

Our event is FREE to our veterans thanks to your wonderful generosity! Every dollar helps. We are a 501c3, so your donations are tax deductible.

Sponsor a Zone - \$1000.00

You or your organization's name on a sign in front of a Mall area. Letter of Recognition Name Listed on website

Sponsor a Cabin - \$500.00

You or your organization's name on a sign in front of a cabin Letter of Recognition Name Listed on website

> Battle Buddy - \$250.00 Letter of Recognition Name Listed on website

Donate Today at ncstanddown.org/stand-down-2024











TIME - 9:00 Shotgun start COST - \$85 per player/lunch included WHERE - Oaks North, 12602 Oaks North Dr

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE NOW



PLAYERS REGISTRATION OPENS 9/7/24

Around the Post

Murder Mystery Dinner - Aug 24



All the suspects from our Murder Mystery dinner.



Everyone enjoyed the dinner and mystery.

District 1 Auxiliary Meeting - Aug 4



The Auxiliary had a great turn out for the meeting.

Patio Furniture Delivery - Aug 2024







Our new tables and chairs.



Huge Thank You to the Home Depot volunteers who delivered our patio furniture and set it up for us.

Thank You!

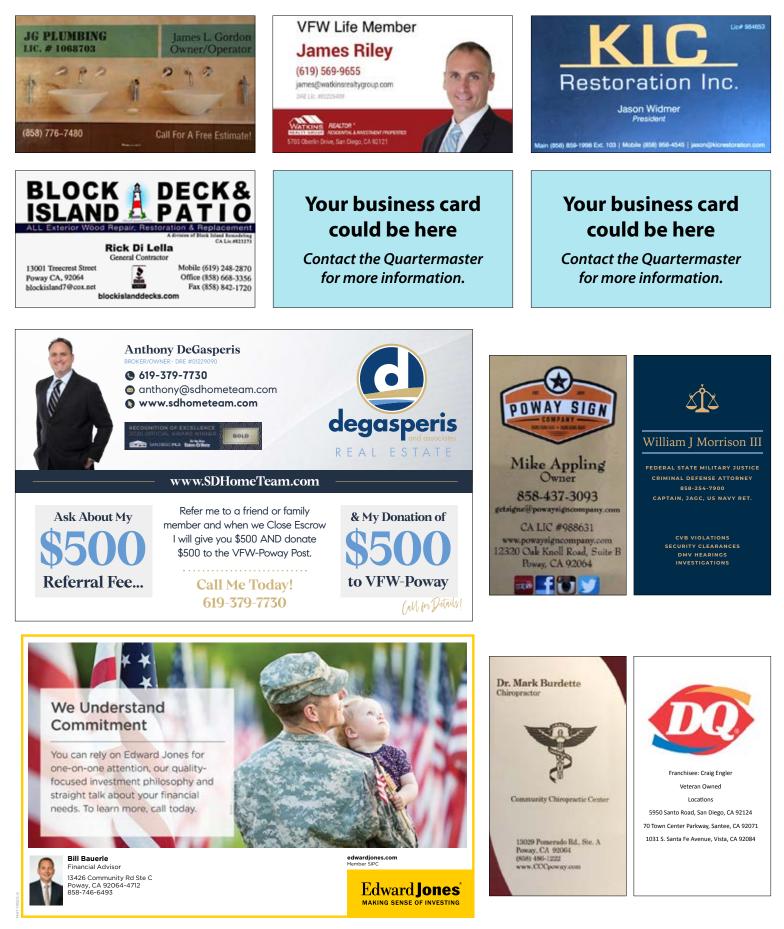


This is our butcher Joe. He works at the local Stater Brothers and continues to help the Post. Thank you, Joey

We have a good time at the Post.

Join us in supporting veterans and their families.

Thank You to Our Sponsors and Volunteers



SEPTEMBER 2024



| | Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|----|----------------|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| 1 | Canteen Closed | 2 Canteen Closed | 3 3:00 рм - 8:00 рм | 4 11:00 ам-6:00 рм | 5 3:00 рм-9:00 рм | 6 3:00 рм - 9:00 рм | 7 4:00 рм - 8:00 рм |
| | | Closed for Labor Day | 6:00PM Hall Rented | 11:30 ам Grilled chicken, pasta salad & beans Donation: 10.00 | | 6:00PM Burger with choice of 2 sides Donation: 10.00 7:00-9:00 PM Live Music with The M.A.C. Daddy's | 8:00AM Saturday Work Party 5:30PM Comedy Night & Dinner Dinner at 5:30 PM Show starts 6:45 PM |
| 8 | Canteen Closed | 9 3:00 рм - 9:30 рм | 10 3:00 рм-8:00 рм | 11 11:00ам-6:00рм | 12 3:00рм-6:00рм | 13 3:00 рм-9:00 рм | 14 3:00 рм - 6:00 рм |
| | | 5:30PM – 9:30PM Sports Zone Mondays Jets v 49ers 5:30PM-7:30PM Auxiliary New Member Meet & Greet | 6:00PM Auxiliary General Meeting | 11:30 AM Mississippi pot roast, potatoes & gravy, green beans Donation: 10.00 | 5:15PM Thursday Football Bills v Dolphins | 6:00PM Burger with choice of 2 sides Donation: 10.00 6:30-8:30 PM TRIVIA Fundraiser StS | 8:00AM Saturday Work Party 5:00-10:00PM Hall Rented |
| 15 | Canteen Closed | 16 3:00 рм-9:30 рм | 17 3:00 рм-8:00 рм | 18 11:00 ам-6:00 рм | 19 3:00рм-6:00рм | 20 3:00рм-9:00рм | 21 3:00 рм-6:00 рм |
| | | 5:30PM – 9:30PM Sports Zone Mondays Falcons v Eagles 6:00PM VFW Post Officers / House Committee Chair Meeting | 6:30pm BUNCO! | 11:30AM Enchilada casserole, rice & beans Donation: 10.00 | 5:15PM Thursday Football Patriots v Jets 6:00 PM VFW 7907 Post Meeting Happy Hour 7:00 PM VFW 7907 Post Meeting | 6:00 PM Burger with choice of 2 sides Donation: 10.00 7:00-9:00 PM Live Music with Windjammers | 8:00AM Saturday Work Party 11:30 AM-12:30 PM POW Remembrance Ceremony Lunch to follow 5:00-10:00PM Hall Rented |
| 22 | Canteen Closed | 23 3:00 рм - 9:30 рм | 24 3:00 рм - 8:00 рм | 25 11:00ам-6:00рм | 26 3:00 рм-6:00 рм | 27 3:00 рм-9:00 рм | 28 4:30 рм-8:00 рм |
| | | 5:30PM – 9:30PM Sports Zone Mondays Jaguars v Bills Commanders v Bengals | | 11:30AM Pepper steak & noodles Donation: 12.00 6:00PM Event Planning Meeting | 5:15PM Thursday Football Cowboys v Giants | 6:00 PM Burger with choice of 2 sides Donation: 10.00 7:00-9:00 PM Live Music with Country Crossovers | 8:00AM Saturday Work Party 11:00AM RIBAPALOOZA! Fundraiser |
| 29 | Canteen Closed | 30 3:00 pm-9:30 pm 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm Sports Zone Mondays Titans v Dolphins Seahawks v Lions | Get Your Birthday Drink! Are you a Post or Auxiliary Life Member and is your birthday this month, then have a drink on us! | | | | |

Please Note: We make an effort to list the meals accurately. However, menu items may change. Please check the Post menu board or call the Post to verify.

★ All Gave Some. Some Gave All. ★