

THE RIVERVIEW MEMORIAL DEBRIEF

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Riverview Memorial – Post 8108
7504 Riverview Dr,
Riverview FL 33578
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POST8108@VFWFL.ORG

Oct 2023



Happy 76th Birthday USAF



On September 18, Post Senior Vice Commander Thomas Moncrief, an Air Force veteran, led the post in celebrating the Air Force's 76 birthday. His young son Mason assisted in cutting the cake.

Commander's Message:

Friends all,

As we kick off the month, be aware that there are only 114 Christmas shopping days left!

October is going to be another busy month for the Post. Celebrations, Recognitions, Fund Raisers, plus a safe event for our young goblins – witches – superheroes – and everything in between on the 31st. All this in addition to our regularly scheduled activities. Check the calendar, come, participate, have some fun, and enjoy your post facilities.

In comradeship,

Nelson Betancourt
Hooah!

A big shout-out to our friends and comrades that showed up for our second GI Party of the year. As everyone knows, maintenance is an ongoing and never ending mission. And it's no different within Post 8108. So again, a special thanks to everyone who lent a hand!

Our next Post meeting will be on October the 12th and we'd love to see many new faces. Your input is crucially important, so come and be heard.

Auxiliary President's Message:

Hello, Auxiliary and Post family. I am so excited to kick off our busiest season. We have many great events coming up to help our community, celebrate our veterans, and build our membership along with our current partnership with each other to serve a common purpose.

October will focus on Breast Cancer awareness and fundraising, pulling the community together with Trunk or Treats, and some in-house events for member camaraderie.

This is also the time for a big push on scholarships which are due Oct 31. Don't forget the parameters are now open for applicants outside our immediate area and non-VFW

Yours in Service,
Anita Webb VFW 8108
Auxiliary President

affiliated. The youth of today will be the members of tomorrow.

Lastly **MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP**. We must work together as post and auxiliary to meet our annual goals for growth. Post and Auxiliary can sponsor for either entity. Make sure you put your member ID on the application so you can receive credit from National.

Join our Facebook pages to see what's going on and share with friends. We have public events that they can go to. You do not have to be a member to join!
VFWA 8108 Riverview
VFW Riverview Post 8108

I look forward to seeing you at the post!



**Welcome to Our
Newest Members**

Post: Preston Moore, Army: OEF, Steven Brazell, Army: Iraq – Afghanistan, Kerry Smith, Army: Iraq,
Auxiliary: Kelly Smith (spouse/ Kerry Smith)

Post Hours of Operation:

Monday – Saturday: 1100 ~ 2000 Hours

Sunday: 1100 ~ 1900 Hours

Sunday Breakfast: 0900 ~ 1200 Hours

Phone: 813. 671.9845

A special thanks to everyone that came out and helped with the GI Party!!!



Happy Birthday!

The VFW and its Auxiliary both celebrated their respective birthdays in September.

The VFW turned 124 on 9.29.23, and the Auxiliary turned 109 on 9.14.23.

U.S. veterans from the Spanish American War and the Philippine Insurrection met in a tailor shop, in Columbus, Ohio, to establish an organization that would focus on, and advocate for, veterans' health and benefits.

The Auxiliary was created just fifteen years later and continues being a true partner in support of the VFW, its goals and programs. Post 8108 is fortunate to have an outstanding Auxiliary.

Are you or someone you know not receiving our emails or the newsletter? Send us a note and your email address to Post8108@vfwfl.org

Bring Your Membership Card

A friendly reminder that as per Florida ABC laws – all Post and Auxiliary members need to show their membership card to the on-duty bartender when entering the Post.

Good news - the AC system in the canteen area has been finally fixed.



Halloween Trick-or-Treat Cautions

As with every year on Halloween eve, be extra observant when driving at night as kids might be hard to see in dark costumes and they will likely be paying more attention to candy than cars on the road.



Meet Paul and Cindy Dillinger Gibsonton locals who show outstanding Patriotism! Paul does sound and maintenance for a local church and is proud to be an American! Thank you from Riverview Memorial VFW Auxiliary 8108 #vfw8108 #auxswap #vfwafldistrict12 #vfwauxiliary #vfwpatriotism — at VFW Riverview Post 8108.



SGM (R) Russell's obituary

SGM (Retired) Russell "Haloman" W. McDaniel
March 10, 1958 – June 26, 2023

We lost a great Warrior. God called to Arms to the Army of the Lord, Sergeant Major (Retired) Russ "Haloman" McDaniel. He passed away on June 26, 2023 in Valrico, FL.

He was born March 10th, 1958 in Camden, NJ and graduated from Woodrow Wilson HS (Class of 1976). At the age of 18, Russ enlisted in the U.S. Army.

Russ served in the Army for 30 years retiring as a Sergeant Major. He began his career as an Observation/Scout Helicopter Repairer., followed by service in the 82nd ABN DIV as a paratrooper. As an Elite Special Forces Non-Commissioned Officer, he served around the world assigned to 7th, 3rd, and 1st Special Forces Group. He was the Class President of the Sergeants Major Academy in 1999. His last reenlistment ceremony occurred in free fall accompanied by multi-service General Officers at MacDill AFB, Tampa, FL.

He achieved multiple awards throughout his military career, including the Legion of Merit and two Bronze Star Medals.

Upon retiring from military service from Special Operations Command Headquarters, MacDill AFB, he became a Department of Defense Federal Employee at Special Operations Command until he retired from civil service in 2022. He was a former Non-Commissioned Officer in charge of the SOCOM Para-Commandos Parachute Team. He was a USPA coach and videographer.

In 2014, he parachuted with the Liberty Jump Team, commemorating the 70th Anniversary of D-Day in Normandy,

France. He completed over 3000+ parachute jumps in his lifetime.

He was a member of various Military and Veteran Service organizations to include a Life Member of the Special Forces Association and a Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign War.

Russ is remembered for his quick wit and humorous banter. He was "Haloman" if he couldn't do it, nobody can. He was 160lbs of twisted steel and sex appeal, a steely-eyed, barrel-chested freedom fighter: but would shed tears when watching "It's a Wonderful Life". Beloved by all and will be remembered in the hearts of many who knew him.

He is preceded in death by his Mother, Helen Sulzbach, Step-Father, Walter Sulzbach and son Fitzpatrick. He is survived by his Forever Love , wife of 33 years, Roserita M. McDaniel; Daughter Stephanie McDaniel; Sister Helen Sulzbach; Father-in-Law Jackie E. Boggess; Sister-in-Law Colonel (Retired) Corrina M. Boggess; and other extended Family members.

A Memorial "ash drop" is scheduled October 14th, 2023 (2pm) at Skydive City in Zephyrhills, FL where his fellow military skydivers will release a portion of his ashes for his final jump. He will be inurned at Arlington National Cemetery at a future date.

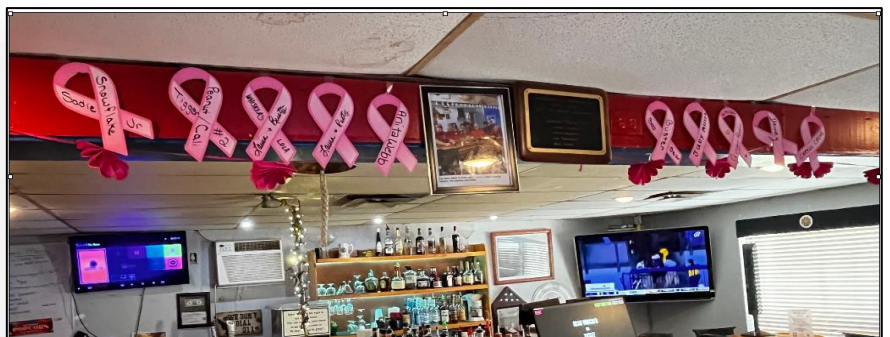
Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send and who will go for Us:" then I said, "Here am I, SEND ME!" ~ Isaiah 6:8

VFW 8108 AUXILIARY
SAVE THE TA TA'S
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

BREAST CANCER TABLE IN HALL
BREAST CANCER RIBBONS FOR SALE
OKTOBERFEST DINNER BY LAURA
MS RIVER RAT 2023 PAGENT
\$5 ENTRY COME TIP THE TATA'S
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO HOOKED ON HOPE
HELP UNDERINSURED BREAST CANCER PATIENTS
IN OUR COMMUNITY

SATURDAY OCT 21, 2023
4:30-6:30 OKTOBERFEST DINNER
6PM PAGENT

7504 RIVERVIEW DR
RIVERVIEW, FL 33578
813-677-9845
FACEBOOK: VFWA 8108



Purchase your Pink Ribbon and showcase it
above the bar. Minimum donation \$1

**Post Auxiliary sponsored fundraiser,
pro cancer aid & research – 10.21.23.**



Air Force veterans Thomas Moncrief, Joseph Muhlberger, and future USAF pilot Mason Moncrief, in red, came out to celebrate the US Air Force's 76th Birthday!

If you or someone you know is experiencing a crisis,
THERE IS HELP.



Dial 988

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

Or **844-MyFLVet** (844-693-5838)

Florida Veterans Support Line

Or text to **"NAMI"**

The National Alliance on Mental Illness



Membership Update:

Our current membership number stands at **300** (88.49%), our 100% goal is **339**.

Renewals are a crucial component...

For **"All State"** we need a grand total of **346** which is our 339 + 7 more.

You can help us get there. Renew in a timely manner.



Sickles High School AF, JROTC Color Guard with the Sgt Walter P. Ryan Marine Corps League Detachment Rifle Detail and the Navy 2 Bell Ceremony.

Blue Star mothers of Greater Tampa Bay to present the Gold Star Banner to a Gold Star Mother.

AMVETS Post 44 to read the names of Missing and Unidentified remains from WWII, Korea and Vietnam. After the Field of Honor ceremony, there will be a ground breaking ceremony for the Woodie William Foundation/Gold Star Family Memorial

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK,
3602 HWY 301N, TAMPA FL 33619



VFW Riverview Post 8108

Follow us on Facebook to find out about the latest Post events.

USN Birthday

Friday 10.13.23

Come join the celebration!
Cake cutting at 1800 HRS.



Post friends (l-r) Nelson, Bill, and Chis enjoying cigars and libations on the back porch. They're part of the Post's "Rat's Ash" cigar smokers' clan .



Dan... just chillin.

VFW Youth Scholarships

Voice of Democracy

Established in 1947, our **Voice of Democracy** audio-essay program provides high school students with the unique opportunity to express themselves in regards to a democratic and patriotic-themed recorded essay.

The 2023-24 theme is:

"What Are the Greatest Attributes of Our Democracy?"

The national first place winner receives a \$35,000 scholarship paid directly to the recipient's American university, college or vocational/technical school.

[VOD entry form here.](#)

Patriot's Pen

Our **Patriot's Pen** youth essay contest is open to students in sixth through eighth grades.

Each first place state winner receives a minimum of \$500 at the national level, and the national first place winner wins \$5,000!

The 2023-24 theme is:

"How Are You Inspired by America?"

[PP entry form here.](#)

Before submitting your essay, read the rules and eligibility requirements, and find your sponsoring local VFW Post as applications must be turned in by **midnight, Oct. 31.**

Find full details at:

<https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships>

VFW Post 8108 - October 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Sunday Breakfast 0900-1200 HRS	2	3 TACO Tues	4	5 HC Mtg / O Call 1900 HRS	6	7 Steak Dinner 1700-1900 HRS
8 Sunday Breakfast 0900-1200 HRS	9 Columbus-D	10 Aux Mtg 1900 HRS *TACO Tues	11	12 Post Mtg 1930 HRS	13 US NAVY BIRTHDAY Cake cutting 1800 HRS	14
15 Sunday Breakfast 0900-1200 HRS	16	17 TACO Tues *	18 Women In Service Celebration 1800 H	19	20 Dept Fall Conference Orlando thru Sunday	21 Aux Dinner 1630-1830 HRS * Save the Tatas
22 Sunday Breakfast 0900-1200 HRS	23	24 TACO Tues	25	26	27	28 Post Halloween Party Adults - 1800 HRS
29 Sunday Breakfast 0900-1200 HRS	30	31 Halloween Trunk or Treat 1700-1900 HRS				