THE RIVERVIEW MEMORIAL DEBRIEF

Veterans of Foreign Wars Riverview Memorial – Post 8108 7504 Riverview Dr, Riverview FL 33578 813.671.9845 <u>WWW.VFW8108.ORG</u> POST8108@VFWFL.ORG



Post 8108 Supporting the MacDill AFB Moral, Welfare, and Recreation Programs



Post Senior Vice Commander 'Monty' Moncrief presents the Post's donation check to the MWR Program coordinator during the Easter Fest 2024 on MacDill AFB.

April 2024

Commander's Message:

Friends all,

What were you doing on April 7, 1994? Well, exactly 30 years ago a number of comrades met and chartered Riverview Memorial – VFW Post 8108. The Post home location changed a few times over the years before the "River Rats" found its permanent home on Riverview Drive.

It's hard to quantify the number of lives that the Post has touched in these thirty years. Our Service Officers are regularly assisting fellow veterans in dealing with the VA system. Our Chaplains keep an eye out and respectfully reach out to the families of recently departed comrades or send get-well cards to members in the hospital. Our youth scholarship programs each year engages middle and high school students. Prior to Covid, regular visits to the VA Hospital served to brighten the day of patients and let them know that they're not forgotten.

In comradeship, Nelson Betancourt, Hooah! Our multiple donations to initiatives, both local and on Mac Dill AFB certainly have had far reaching effects.

The Post home continues to be a safe haven where comrades, brothers and sisters in arms – regardless of branch of service or foreign campaign – can relax in brotherhood, be understood and not judged.

Today, as we turn the page and start a new chapter in the Post's history, how will you answer the question: What were you doing at Post 8108? Help us to continue touching lives.

This month we'll be holding our Post elections, the Auxiliary too. A new team will soon be taking over and leading the charge. They'll need your assistance and support.

Hope to see you all around the Post soon.

Memorable Quotes

* Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity. *George S. Patton*

* True courage is being afraid, and going ahead and doing your job anyhow, that's what courage is. **Norman Schwarzkopf**

* Good judgment comes from experience, and experience comes from bad judgment. **Colin Powell**

* Duty, Honor, Country. Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be. **Douglas MacArthur**

* Victory comes from finding opportunities in problems. Sun Tzu



On April 11, the Post will have its final round of nominations for the elected positions that help run the Post. The post elections will follow, and next year's officers will be selected. Be part of the process.

The positions are: Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Trustee.

The officers elected will take charge effective July 1, 2024.



* Volunteers Needed * The Post can always an extra hand or two, or three to helping out around the post.

March's Steak Dinner Crew



A super big shout out to our volunteers that helped make last month's Steak Dinner a success. (I-r) Teri, Chris, Belinda, Anita, and John – who was busy at the grill. **THANKS!!!**

Post members Kerry & Kelly organized, sponsored, and conducted a special BASEBALL OPENING DAY FESTIVITIES event! Door prizes, raffles, camaraderie. A fun time was had by those in attendance. THANKS and PLAY BALL!





On April 7, Post 8108 will be celebrating its 30th ANNIVERSARY!

Cake cutting at 1500 HRS. Come join the celebration.

Post Hours of Operation:

| Monday – Saturday: | 1100 ~ 2000 Hours | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| Sunday: | 1100 ~ 1900 Hours | | | |
| Sunday Breakfast: | 0900 ~ 1200 Hours | | | |
| Phone: 813. 671.9845 | | | | |



If it's been a while since a Buddy, or someone you know, has checked in... then it just might be time for you to check in with them and see if they're alright.

They just might happen to be waiting for that call. You can make a difference,



Post member, Comrade Heather Rivera, (second from the right) participated in this year's VFW Day on the Hill in Washington DC. She and members of her team were able to meet with Florida Senator Rick Scott. During the meeting the team communicated this year's VFW top priorities and how Congress can better support our military and military veterans.

BRAVO ZULU and Kudos to Heather.







The post commander recognized comrades (I-r) Stephen 'Kik' Woodbury and Tony Harper for their willingness and commitment in volunteering and helping out around the Post.



VFW Riverview Post 8108

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

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.



Happy Birthday!



Congratulations to comrades **Heather**, **Caryll**, and **Mike** who celebrated their respective birthdays in February. **Cheers!!!**

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



Comrade Joseph Muhlberger presents the VFW JROTC Award to Army JROTC Cadet Captain Isabela Stitt during the JROTC 2023-2024 Awards ceremony at Lennard High School.



VFW District 12 Riders conduct their Safety Briefing prior to starting their fundraising Group Dice Run. Stop points included AmVets, American Legion and other VFW posts. 3.30.24



Post Commander Nelson Betancourt presented comrade Heather Rivera with her Post 8108 membership certificate during the February post meeting.



Post members (I-r) Nelson and Mike participated in the Membership and Buddy Poppy drive at the Base Exchange at Mac Dill AFB on March the 3^{rd} .

VA News & Information

Saturday, 8 a.m. -6:30 p.m. ET Call or text to get help navigating VA benefits and services Visit www.womenshealth.va.gov to chat online with a trained WVCC representative. 855.VA.WOMEN WOMEN VETERANS CALL CENTER CONNECT WITH US www.facebook.com/VeteransHealth twitter.com/VeteransHealth www.blogs.va.gov Women's Health Veterans Health Administration Department of Veterans Affairs 810 Vermont Avenue NW Washington, DC 20420 www.womenshealth.va.gov B10-1491 P07008 May 2020

WOMEN VETERANS CALL CENTER (WVCC) 1-855-VA-WOMEN (1-855-829-6636)

Monday Friday, 8 a.m.-10 p.m. ET



Some local VA resources:

- * VET Center: 9206 King Palm Dr., Tampa 33616 (813) 372-0400
- * Zephyrhills VA Clinic: 6937 Medical View Ln, Zephyrhills 33542
- * Woman's Care Tampa VA: 13515 Lake Terrace Ln, Tampa 33637
- * James A Haley Hospital: 13000 Bruce B Downs Blvd, Tampa 33612
- * Veterans Resource Center: 3602 US 301 N, Tampa 33619 (813) 635-8316
- * South Hillsborough VA Clinic: 12920 Summerfield Crossing Blvd, Riverview 33579
- * Hidden River VA Clinic (Primary Care Annex) : 13515 Lake Terrace Ln, Tampa 33637



During the festivities of the Post's Mural Restoration Grand Reveal, one of the fundraisers was the auction of a vial with Sand from Iwo Jima. The sand was donated by comrade John Rizzo and was won by comrade Tony Harper (I-r) both fellow Marines. To capture the moment, the photo was taken at our mural, in front of the iconic scene of US Marines raising the US Flag on Iwo Jima during World War Two.

April 2024



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|--|-----------|---|--------|---|--|
| 31 Easter Sunday | 1 | 2 Taco Tuesday | 3 | 4 HC MTG 1900 HRS | 5 | 6 Steak Dinner 1700 HRS | |
| 7 Sunday Breakfast 0900 H | 8 | 9 *AUX MTG 1900 HRS Election night Taco Tuesday | 10 | 11 Post MTG 1930 HRS Election night | 12 | 13 | |
| 14 Sunday Breakfast 0900 H | 15 Tax Day | 16 Taco Tuesday | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 Aux Dinner 1600-1800 HRS | |
| 21 Sunday Breakfast 0900 H | 22 | 23 Taco Tuesday | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 Dist 12 Auxiliary Appreciation Event - Post 10140 | |
| 28 Sunday Breakfast 0900 H | 29 | 30 Taco Tuesday | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| 5 | 6 | Notes Riverview Memorial - VFW POST 8108 | | | | | |