

**On
Veterans
Way**



**April 2022
May 2022**

**9550 Pflumm Road, Lenexa, KS 66215
913-492-224**

From your VFW Commander

Greetings Comrades, Sisters, and Brothers,

First of all, I hope this newsletter finds you all healthy and well.

I am proud to announce we have gone over 100% membership for this year. Thanks to everyone who worked the phone lists led by our Senior Vice Commander Rick McKenna. This is the 6th consecutive year we have achieved this goal. Let's keep pushing. If you are an annual member that expires by June 30th, please renew soon. You will not lose any time as the renewal will add a year to your current expiration date. Also, consider moving up to a Life Member which does have an installment plan. Life Members, please consider moving up to Legacy Life Member.

March wrapped up most of our remaining programs. We submitted a scout for Scout of the Year. March 31st was the close of the Community Service program, so any new reports will now be submitted for the next year. We will be holding officer elections on April 1st. If you are interested in any positions, please see any of the officers. In May, we will have the installation of officers.

April 9th, District 2 Spring meeting will be at our Post from 1000-1200.

June 10th – June 12th, Department Convention will be in Hays. Please see any of the officers if interested in attending. April 8th and May 13th will be Steak nights. Please RSVP to Jason Parkes, 334-614-6693 j.parkes@comcast.net in advance so that we can plan for our numbers.

Finally, the VFW National Headquarters has put out a call for all posts to increase volunteerism with other community support agencies. We have coordinated with the Kansas City Habitat for Humanity to assist them with two projects on May 28th. We need 16 members to support this. The work day is 8:00 to 3:30 with 30 minutes for lunch (bring own, or have delivered). We have until May 13th to register everyone who wants to support this event. Please contact Chris Stergos, 913-907-0007 chris.stergos@gmail.com or myself if you want to help us with this project. We will meet at the post around 7:15 that morning as a group before heading to the work sites.

As always, if there is anything, we can do for you, let us know.

Yours in Comradeship
David D. DeWitt
VFW Post 7397 – Commander
913-721-7407 / dewitt3d@aol.com
Vfw7397.org / facebook.com/VFW7397
Venmo@VFW7397

From your VFW Auxiliary President



Greetings Brothers & Sisters,

Spring is here, although Mother Nature is still a bit confused. We are heading into a busy time as we all get ready for summer, please don't forget to watch the Post website and Facebook pages for all the exciting events coming to the Post.

We are planning a Buddy Poppy Drive on Saturday, May 21, Armed Forces Day. It is our goal to have 3 locations this time, all working from at least 10am—2pm.

- Lenexa Hy-Vee, 87th & Pflumm
- Ace Hardware, 87th & Lackmann
- Ace Hardware, 101st & Woodland

Please make plans to sign up for an hour or two at one of these locations.

We will have elections in April, Installation in May. Then we have the Department Convention in Hays, KS in June, followed closely by the National Convention in July right here in Kansas City. They are looking for volunteers for the National Convention, more details to follow later. Please try to attend all that you can to learn about how the programs did this year as well as what is coming up for next year.

Yours in Service!

Tanya I Brunning
VFW Post 7397 Auxiliary President
vfw7397aux@gmail.com

VFW 7397 Riders



It's still a few months out - but save the date for the 4th Annual Post 7397 Car & Bike Show on Sat Jun 4 10-2.

As we're able, we will be participating in more of the Veteran Centenarian Birthday Parades (drive by birthday celebrations for 100 yr old + Veterans)

If you're interested in joining us - we meet 1st Thursdays directly after regular VFW/Aux meetings.

Keep the Shiny Side UP

Chris Stergos ~Jarhead~
7397 Riders President
chris.stergos@gmail.com

American Legion Post 407



Greetings Legionnaires

Meetings for the months of April and May are:

Monday, April 18 at 7:00pm and
Monday May 16 at 7:00pm

Our chicken and fish dinner will be April 20, 6-7pm and May 18, 6-7pm.

The February and March chicken and fish dinners were successful with nice crowds. I would like to thank all of you who helped to make these a success. March 26 will be our District 2 convention in Lawrence, Kansas. If anyone knows of any youth who would like to attend Boy's State, please let a member of the American Legion know. We need the individual's name and the school they attend. This event will be held June 5 through 11. We can also use names for Cadet Law Enforcement Academy which will be held June 12 through the 17. We need to know as well as the appropriate school.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

407 Commander
Leo Porath
BU1LP1949@gmail.com kslegion407.org
<https://www.facebook.com/American-Legion-Post-407-Lenexa-KS-263557927439391>

American Legion Auxiliary Post 407



We would like to thank everyone who came to our St. Patrick's Day Dinner. Of course, we could not have had a successful event without The Auxiliary members who volunteer their time for several days to cook, decorate, bake, donations and serve the Irish cuisine.

An early reminder that Memorial Day is approaching and help will be needed in placing Flags on our Veterans graves and picking them up. Please check with the Legion for times.

Kansas Department Convention will be held in Topeka, KS on Friday, June 3rd through Sunday, June 6. The Legion has arranged for special rates at the Ramada Inn, 420 SE 6th Ave, Topeka, KS where the Conventions is being held. When booking, mention attendance at the convention to receive the special rate.

Please support our Unit by being sure your 2022 dues are paid and to continue your service years in the Auxiliary.

Thanks to all for your continued participation and support.

Pat Willcox
American Legion Auxiliary President

Sons of the American Legion Post 407



Greetings from the SAL,

Please join us on Monday April 18 at 7 pm for our monthly meeting. We will be electing new officers for 2023. It would be nice to have a good showing as we need to also discuss the future and the future leadership of this organization. I look forward to seeing you all.

Jeff Carson
Squadron Commander
carson.jeff@att.net

American Legion Riders Post 407



At our February meeting American Legion Post 407 Commander Leo Porath installed the new slate of officers for 2022 consisting of: Dee (Disaster D) Smith, Director; Cliff (Paladin) Shinski, Assistant Director; Marc (Gator) Mooers, Treasurer; and Janette (Lil Hawaiian) Crosier, Secretary. The following were appointed for the coming year: Cheryl (Mrs. G) Garrett, Chaplin; Scott (Scooter) Schires, Sargent At Arms; Ted (Tedwak) Wakeman, Ride Captain; and Juan (Chito) Rivera, Webmaster.

At our February meeting it was clarified that members who can no longer ride can remain active members with voting rights, as long as they are in good standing.

Please remember our clothing drive which will run until April 22nd to raise funds for our various Veterans programs. Collected clothes of all types, household textiles such as bedding, blankets, sheets, towels, curtains, pillows, etc. All items collected should be placed in 30-33 gallon plastic bags and may be dropped off at 2612 Somerset Dr. in Prairie Village Sunday thru Thursday each week. All collected items will then be delivered to Savers on our designated date, May 6, so we will need volunteers to help load the bags and take to the warehouse and unload.

Our monthly reoccurring activity schedule is: the 2nd Thursday is our meeting night at 7pm; the 4th Tuesday of each month is usually our Dine Out, 6p – 8p at selected restaurants; and rides are normally scheduled for the 3rd Saturday of each month.

The last Thursday of the month the Riders normally attend an End of Month (EOM) ceremony at Leavenworth National Cemetery to honor our brothers & sisters that have passed away since last ceremony. We invite anyone to join us at this honor ceremony and we will send out notice of staging & KSU location & times.

On March 4 seven riders participated in the Iwo Jima Remembrance Ceremony at the Leavenworth National Cemetery and the funeral services for Jerry Ingram, WWII USMC veteran.

Warmer weather has finally arrived and we are resuming our scheduled monthly rides in March with a ride to Dover Kansas with lunch at the Sommerset Café on March 19. Our April Dam Fun Run ride is scheduled for April 16 with lunch at Miss B's Café in Louisburg followed by the May 14 ride to the Classic Car Show in El Dorado Springs, MO with lunch at the 54 Café in Nevada, MO. Additional information will be provided prior to each ride. Cost for our events this year will be \$15 per rider, and \$10 for passengers.

We look forward to participating in other ALR Post activities when possible. Stay safe in your travels and activities during the spring and summer months ahead.

Dee 'Disaster D' Smith, Director
American Legion Riders Post 407
ksdisasterqueen@gmail.com
www.alr407.org
www.facebook.com/groups/564649106972749

From the Club Room

Greetings from the Clubroom! It's the First day of spring. As I type this newsletter entry, I am thankful I got my potatoes planted on St. Patrick's day.

Important Dates

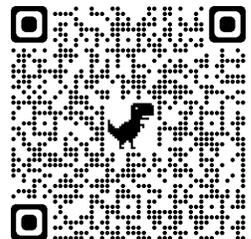
- Tacos Every Tuesday
- April 8th—Steak Night, 6pm—7pm, \$20 per person
 - Please RSVP by 5pm on April 7th
- April 9th—learn the Art of Pysanky, Ukrainian egg decorating. 6-8 pm. in the clubroom. you will learn how to use a kistka tool and hopefully leave with a beautiful Ukrainian egg just in time for Easter
- April 11th—Cornhole League starts, every Monday thereafter; be sure to signup if you are interested
- April 17th—Happy Easter, the Clubroom will be closed
- April 20th—American Legion Chicken & Fish Dinner, 6pm—7pm, \$12 per person
- May 7th—Kentucky Derby Day in the Clubroom, come on in and horse around
- May 8th—Mother's Day
- May 13th—Steak Night, 6pm—7pm, \$20 per person
 - Please RSVP by 5pm on May 12th
- May 14th—Bring your partner for Euchre night starting at 7 pm, if you don't have a partner we will pair you up with someone; if you don't know how to play, learn to play at 6pm
- May 18th—American Legion Chicken & Fish Dinner, 6pm—7pm, \$12 per person
- May 30th—Memorial Day, ceremony details coming soon

See you in the Clubroom!
Farrah Fiocati
Club Room Manager
VFW Post 7397
hallrental@vfw7397.org
913-492-2244

*Don't forget to check out our new swag
with the VFW Post Logo
See the Display Case by the Canteen Door!*

Check out our Google Calendar to stay current with upcoming events!

Scan the QR Code



VFW Post Membership Incentive Contest

Greetings Post 7397 Members

In an effort to increase overall membership specifically Life Membership and Legacy Membership for the 2021-22 membership year for Post 7397, we are offering an incentive to all new, lapsed/reinstated life members, current annual members and our Life and Legacy members.

We will hold a lottery style drawing to award 1 grand prize on July 4th 2022.

Eligibility/Entry:

Join Post 7397 or current Post member upgrade from Jul 1, 2021 through Jun 30, 2022

- New or Lapsed/Reinstated Life member or Upgrade to Life Membership – receives 10 chances
- Life Member that upgrades to Legacy Membership – receives 15 chances per level increase (Bronze, Silver or Gold)
- Any current Legacy Members that upgrades to the next level (Silver, Gold) – receives 15 chances for each additional level
- If a member is currently enrolled in the Installment Life Plan, they must complete their upgrade by June 30th, 2022 to be eligible for the drawing
- Recruiter – brings in new member who signs up as a Life member – receives 10 chances
- Post Gold Legacy Members are eligible as a recruiter and will receive 10 chances for recruiting a new or reinstated Life member
- On or after Jun 30,2022 - Sr. Vice will finalize entries and prepare the slips for the tumbler

Prizes Options: (winner's choice)

Option 1 – VFW Henry Rifle (VFW Tribute edition if available) (approx. value \$800)

- Winner will be required to pass standard firearms background check in order to receive rifle



If you have any additional questions about the contest, please contact Post 7397 Senior Vice Commander & Membership Chairman (Rick McKenna) at rick.mckenna@vfw7397.org or 913.481.2973

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The National World War I Museum and Memorial is hosting the American Veterans Traveling Tribute (AVTT) Vietnam Wall for a twelve-day period ending on Memorial Day (May 19 – 30, 2022). The Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington D.C. contains the names of those who gave their lives as a result of their service in Vietnam. The AVTT Wall is an 80% scale version of the Vietnam Memorial Wall. Across its 360 ft. length, the wall contains every name etched on the original memorial. Since its inception, hundreds of thousands of people across the U.S. have viewed the AVTT Vietnam Wall, and we expect thousands more to visit during the twelve days it will be on the southeast lawn of the Museum and Memorial grounds.

To accommodate visitors, we are recruiting volunteers from the community to assist those paying tribute. **Starting Thursday, May 19th at 5 p.m. through the afternoon of Monday, May 30th we are looking for over 300 volunteers.** Throughout the twelve-day period there will be 38 shifts, averaging four hours each. Our goal is to have at least eight volunteers per shift (ideally more). Attached please find more detailed information about this opportunity, including the dates/times of each volunteer shift.

If you are interested in learning more about this community volunteer opportunity please visit our website <https://www.theworldwar.org/vietnamwall> and there you will find a link that will take you to Eventbrite where you may sign-up to volunteer, along with additional information on this volunteer opportunity.

The deadline to sign-up is Friday, April 15, 2022.

Please feel free to contact me (akizer@theworldwar.org) if you have any questions, or if you have thoughts on other groups, organizations, or people that I could contact to help fill these shifts. You are also welcome to forward this email to others if you prefer not to share any contact information.

We are so appreciative of any assistance you can provide!

Thank you,
Adrienne

Adrienne Kizer
Volunteer Program Manager
National WWI Museum and Memorial
2 Memorial Drive | Kansas City, MO | 64108
Office: 816-888-8117
theworldwar.org

April 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Hold'em 1pm
3	4	5 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm	6	7 VFW & Aux Mtg 7pm VFW Riders Following	8 Steak Dinner 6-7pm	9 VFW Dist 2 Spring Mtg 10am Hold'em 1pm
10 	11	12 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm	13 MCL Officers Meeting 7pm	14 ALR Meeting 7pm	15	16 Hold'em 1pm
17 	18 American Legion , SAL Meeting 7pm	19 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm	20 AL Fish & chicken Dinner 6-7pm	21 Post Planning https://	22	23 Hold'em 1pm
24	25	26 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm	27 MCL Meeting 7pm	28	29	30 Hold'em 1pm

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm	4	5 VFW & Aux Mtg 7pm VFW Riders Following	6	7 Hold'em 1pm
8	9 Korean War Veterans Post 181 6:30pm	10 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm	11 MCL Officers Meeting 7pm	12 ALR Meeting 7pm	13 Steak Dinner 6-7pm	14 Hold'em 1pm
15	16	17 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm	18 AL Fish & chicken Dinner 6-7pm	19 Post Planning Meeting 7pm	20	21 Hold'em 1pm
22	23 American Legion, SAL & Aux Meeting 7pm	24 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm	25 MCL Meeting 7pm	26	27	28 Hold'em 1pm
29	30 Memorial Day 	31 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm				

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All requests will be reviewed by the VFW and American Legion Commanders



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William "Nick" Jenkins, J.D.

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