



ISADORE HOEHN VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST # 7397
MICHAEL L. WHITE AMERICAN LEGION POST # 407 ON VETERANS' WAY
9550 PFLUMM ROAD
LENEXA, KS 66215
913-492-2244

**December 2020
January 2021**

VFW POST 7397

Greetings Comrades, Sisters, and Brothers,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

First and foremost, I hope this finds you and your family well. It certainly has been an interesting but trying year. Continue to keep yourself and your families safe as we move into the new year. I want to personally thank all of you for what you do with taking care of our veterans and their families.

Usually this is our busy time of year with the Programs and Veteran's Day activities. We did have a few Veteran's Day events including a video recording with one of our elementary schools. We have wrapped up Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy, and Teacher of the year. We have Law Enforcement, Firefighter, and EMT that will be due soon.

Our December meeting will be our VFW Christmas party, but it has been decided to cancel the All-Post party due to the current times and restrictions. We hope to plan something next year come June or July to get the post back together, once we are able.

We plan to bring back the Car and Bike show and work something in for the 4th of July and American Legion BBQ.

Save the date – Department Mid-Winter will be January 15th – 17th in Junction City depending on the current situation and restrictions. Please see any officer for details.

Save the date – District 2 Winter meeting will be January 23rd from 1000-1200 hosted right here in Lenexa. We will have the District Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy winners present.

Save the date – Steak nights will be December 11th and January 8th. these dates will be a drive-through option only. We will re-assess in the future for bringing steak night back into the canteen.

As always, if you do any community service, drop our Post Jr. Vice, David DeWitt a note with the relevant details. You can drop hard copied notes at the Post, or send an email to - jvice@vfw7397.org.

As we wrap up 2020 and bring on 2021, I wish you all have a safe and happy holiday season. Please keep our deployed Brothers & Sisters in Arms in your thoughts and prayers.

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

Yours in Comradeship,
Jason Parkes
VFW Post 7397 – Commander
334-614-6693 j.parkes@comcast.net

vfw7397.org facebook.com/VFW7397



We remember the 220 Marines, 18 U.S. Navy Sailors and 3 U.S. Army Soldiers who died Oct. 23, 1983 when terrorists attacked the Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon.



👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share

We had the honor to talk about different service uniforms with Cub Scout Pack 3400.



Post 7397 Commander Jason Parkes accepting the appreciation from Christa McAuliffe Elementary School PTA member (Luci Barnett) for our continued support for their annual Veterans Day ceremony.



Ralph

Farrah

Bob



REMEMBER OUR VETERANS





Military Order of the Cootie - ...

Strawberry Hill Pup Tent #2 Military Order of the Cootie Bruce Fischbach – Seam Squirrel (Commander)

Hello all!

As we reach the holiday season, we at the Military order of the Cootie are thinking of our comrades who are at the VA and the children at the National Home. Due to the ongoing COVID pandemic, all public activities at the National Home have been cancelled as well as the VA hospitals remain unavailable to visitors.

Our Pup Tent will be making boxes of gifts for the people living at the domiciliary and will be delivering them in advance of Christmas. We were introduced to the idea if a fidget blanket for those in the long-term memory care unit at the VA. We have one of the VFW Auxiliary members making a couple of them to see what the level of effort is, then, we can in turn make one for each of the people in the memory care unit in Leavenworth.

Our membership continues to grow with four more members joining last month and two already working on next month.

All members of the VFW are eligible for the Military Order of the Cootie and we would welcome you to join us. Our next meeting is December 12th at the Leavenworth VFW at 10:00a where we will be assembling boxes for our comrades in the VA.

Regards –
Bruce
913-909-6381 C
fishman5656@yahoo.com



Ernie Cooper passed away last month, he was a member of the American Legion, American Legion Riders, and the Cooties



VFW AUXILIARY 7397

Greetings VFW Auxiliary members,

Happy Holidays



Respectfully

Kimberly Keane
VFW Auxiliary President
913-709-3639
keane.kim@gmail.com



ksauxvfw.com
vfwnationalhome.org
vfwauxiliary.org



AMERICAN LEGION POST # 407



Greetings Legionnaires

We enter the beautiful winter season still in a fight with the Corona -19 Virus, I pray that you and your friends and love ones remain healthy.

Thank you for your excellent response to our 2020 membership drive. at this writing we have achieved 85% of our goal. Now on to 100% by the end of December, we only need 29 to meet our goal.

We can do it, every Veteran with an Honorable Discharge is eligible to join the American Legion, they are out there, find them and get a new member.

Regular Monthly Meetings:

December 21st. Monday @ 7:00 PM

January 18th. Monday @ 7:00 Pm

Fish and Chicken Dinners -----remain suspended due to COVID-19 virus restrictions.

I am very proud to announce that our Post 407 Lenexa, was the recipient of the Post Excellence Award by the Department of Kansas.

I appreciate your support to our American Legion; without it we could not continue our important programs for our veterans and families.

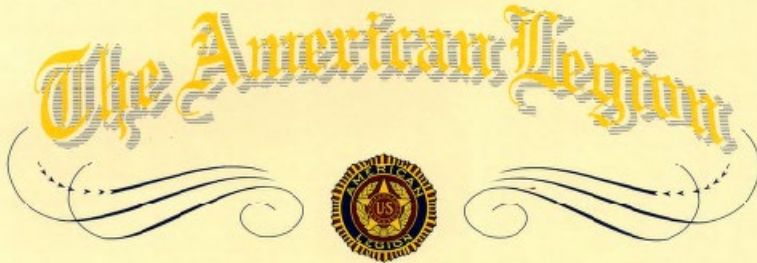
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Charlie Grieco
Commander
913-208-8734
cpg@everestkc.net

Thank you for your service.



kslegion407.org
[Facebook.com American Legion 407](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegion407)



Recognition of Post Excellence

Presented On Behalf Of A Very Grateful American Legion To

Michael L. White Post 407

Department of Kansas

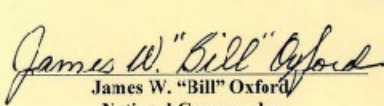
Has Demonstrated Excellence In Serving Their Community Above And Beyond All Expectations. In Keeping With The Aims Of Our Preamble, This Post And Its Members Have Displayed Exemplary Efforts Through Their

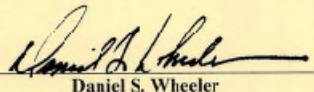
"Devotion To Mutual Helpfulness"

This Post's Exemplary Efforts Deserve Recognition For Their Support Of The Programs And Activities Of The American Legion, All The While, Being An Asset In Their Community. Their Allegiance To Helping Veterans Is Exemplary And They Should Be Commended For Their Efforts Towards Post Excellence.

The American Legion Presents This Certificate In Appreciation To This Post's Unselfish Duty, Devotion, And Compassion Towards Their Fellow Men And Women. In Witness Whereof, This Testimonial Of Personal Gratitude Is Given By The Undersigned And Presented On This 5th Day Of October, 2020.

ATTEST:


James W. "Bill" Oxford
National Commander


Daniel S. Wheeler
National Adjutant



American Legion Auxiliary Post # 407



Auxiliary Members,

Let us start by saying hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving

We **will not** be having an **Auxiliary meeting in December** see you on **January 18, 2021**.

If renewal dues have not been paid, they are due by December 31, 2020 in amount of \$24.00.

In these times please remember Veterans and ones in need.

Wishing everybody and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Stay safe
And healthy.

Pat Willcox,
American Legion Auxiliary President



www.alaforveterans.org

A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families

We are the American Legion Auxiliary.

We are called to serve.

We respect our country and the service of those who defend our freedoms.

We are loyal to our United States Constitution and to those who protect it.

We are humbled by the courage of our veterans and their families.

We are alone, yet we stand together.

We are daughters, brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers. We are family.

We are of every color. We are of every faith.

We are of every age.

We are anyone and everyone.

We are common and extraordinary.

We are citizens.

We live in small towns.

We live in suburbs.

We live in cities.

We work in fields, in factories, warehouses, offices, at home.

We are a community. We help one another.

We love our flag and all that it stands for.

We are many. We are one.

We are the American Legion Auxiliary. A Community of Volunteers
Serving Veterans, Military, and their Families.

We commit ourselves to the ideal: *Service Not Self.*





AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

American Legion Riders

With good weather the last few months, the Riders continued those activities that we could, given the Covid-19 restrictions. On October 17th the Riders did the last scheduled ride for 2020. We were joined by riders from other posts for the fall colors ride along the backroads to Atchison with lunch at Mueller's Locker Room and return through Weston. We are hopeful that the weather will permit some "special event" rides before we resume our regular scheduled rides in the spring.

The monthly dine out for September was held at Maggiano's Little Italy and in October it was at Stroud's in Overland Park. No dine outs will be held in November or December. COVID-19 restrictions permitting, the dine outs will resume on January 26th.

On November 8th eight riders enjoyed a Veterans Day Dinner at McCormick & Schmick's.

In September over 30 backpacks were donated and delivered to the Veterans Community Project. This was a request we received from VCP and our members graciously answered the call.

On November 18th five riders attended a well presented and truly relevant Accident Scene Management Course held at Post 370 in Overland Park. This course is offered by Road Guardians and tells us what to do until EMS arrives.

Our annual Christmas dinner is scheduled for December 10th following our short regular monthly meeting. Meat will be catered, and pot luck dishes will be offered by our members. Several members will do the serving.

Our monthly reoccurring activity schedule are: 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 members of the group continued to enjoy breakfasts together each Wednesday (BBBG) at various locations. Because of the increase in COVID-19 cases, our breakfasts are suspended until further notice.

The 2nd Sunday is normally our ALR Breakfast, however, buffet breakfasts are not permitted in the current environment. We have cancelled plans for breakfasts for the remainder of the year and will review the situation in January to determine if buffet style breakfasts will be permitted and continue to explore alternatives if they are not.

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. The National Cemetery is still not allowing group activity but is allowing some support for funerals. We invite anyone to join us at this honor ceremony once this event resumes; we send out notice of staging & KSU location & times.

Again, this year ALR 407 will be adopting 3 veteran families and one single veteran. One family recently lost their veteran father/husband from the COVID-19 disease. This effort is supported by the American Legion, VFW Auxiliary, Marine Corps League, and American Legion Auxiliary. The family members give us their gift requests and in lieu of giving them a gift card for groceries for a holiday meal we collect food so they not only have a holiday meal but have food to fill their pantry.

Best wishes to all for the upcoming holiday season and best wishes for a happy New Year. Stay safe in your travels and activities during the winter season ahead.



OBO Dee 'Disaster D' Smith, Director
ksdisasterqueen@gmail.com
913-522-2740



Clifford 'Paladin' Shinski, Asst Director
cshinski@kc.rr.com
913-387-9644



Jerry 'Cheesehead' Bascombe, Secretary
cheezehead.jerry@yahoo.com
913-940-5088



Vince 'Ironhorse' Chirafisi, Treasurer
vincechirafisi@yahoo.com
913-221-6528





Snack food donation to Veterans Community Project plus some playing cards and \$112 in cash from ALR407



Fall Colors Ride for ALR 407 and friends. We had 14 bikes/trikes and 19 riders. Great day but quite windy and no one blew away. (50 MPH wind gusts) Lunch in Atchison, KS at Muellers.



Our website is www.alr407.org
Facebook [ameicanlegionriders407](https://www.facebook.com/ameicanlegionriders407)

GREETINGS FROM THE CLUB ROOM

Hello from the Clubroom,

We are almost out of this challenging year and we can celebrate the fact that we are still here. We have lost loved ones and friends this year. We have pushed ourselves to the extremes and we have come out the other side stronger and more confident in our abilities. This is what happens when rough seas or the challenge of the unknown occurs.

One thing will always remain, the spirit of our American Military men and women. We must never stop our support of them and of you. God bless us, everyone.

I for one will be outside on Christmas Eve at 6 pm ringing a bell for 2 minutes to show the kids and communities that we are all together. Santa can find his sled. This was an idea shared on Facebook recently and I just thought that it was a wonderful idea.



It was decided by the membership that we **will NOT have the All Post Christmas Party this year**. That party has always been my chance to thank our Bartenders, so I have decided that I will have a special stocking display for our bartenders up the entire month of December. I encourage everyone to give to each of them, since the Christmas Party is one of their biggest tip times of the year. The others were St. Patrick's Day, and 4th of July. They missed out on those as well.

December 14th we will have our first Ladies Gun Club meeting, 7 pm in the clubroom. If you are a Lady and would like to learn more about Guns, Gun safety, and Gun Laws then feel free to join us.



We have (Local Honey) on sale in the Clubroom while supplies last, so buy yours today for the Holidays! Made by bees and collected by one of our own veterans.



Thank you again Bartenders you are all wonderful!!!! My wish for all of you is the Happiest of New Years!



We also have Tacos back ever Tuesday from 5:00 - 7:00 pm, for just \$1.50 each. Get your taco order form from the bartender choose your toppings, type of shell, and give it to the server, then we will make them for you



Every Friday we will have a fresh batch of warm crock pot drinks from ciders to hot chocolates.



We hope to see you in the Clubroom!

Thanks for your support

Farrah Fiocati,
Club Room Manager
VFW 7397

hallrental@vfw7397.org

913-492-2244









December 2020

Holdem suspended until further notice

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Tacos 5-7pm 	2	3 VFW & Auxiliary 	4	5
6	7	8 Tacos 5-7pm 	9  MCL Officers Meeting	10 ALR Christmas Dinner 	11 Steak Dinner Drive through only 6-7pm 	12
13	14 Ladies Gun Club Meeting 7pm 	15 Tacos 5-7pm 	16	17 VFW Planning Meeting 7pm 	18	19
20	21 American Legion Meeting 7pm 	22 Tacos 5-7pm 	23 MCL Regular Meeting 	24 Ring the Bell 	25 Post Closed 	26
27	28	29 Tacos 5-7pm 	30	31		

January 2021

Holdem suspended until further notice

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 Tacos 5-7pm 	6	7 VFW & Auxiliary Meetings 7pm	8 Drive Through Only Steak Night 6-7 	9
10	11	12 Tacos 5-7pm 	13 MCL Officers Meeting 	14 ALR Meetings 7pm 	15	16
17	18 American Legion & Auxiliary Meetings 7pm 	19 Tacos 5-7pm 	20	21 VFW Planning Meeting 7pm 	22	23
24	25	26 Tacos 5-7pm 	27 MCL Regular Meeting 	28	29	30
31						

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