



*James Jarret Brown*  
*VFW Post 8385*  
*Newsletter*

*May 2021*

## Issue 10-20/21

CDR - Ben Atkinson  
President - Flo Elmgren

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**1-800-273-8255**  
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## CDR Note

Greetings,

Thank you to all that came to our meeting this past month. We have elected our officers for the upcoming year. We will have to finish this year up. I have no doubt that we will continue the path and achieve All-State and All-American as we have done in the past.

Wing night and the Auxiliary dinner continue to do well and we appreciate all the help and support that we receive.

Continue to monitor the announcement TV as it shows all events that are occurring at the Post. The big event for this month is our Memorial Day ceremony. It will be held in downtown Saint Marys at Oak Grove cemetery and I hope to see you there.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact any officer or myself and we will do our best to answer. Until next month, stay safe and thank you all.



## Madam President Note

Sisters & Brothers

I'd like to welcome our newest member, Jacob Lewis.

The Annual Awards Banquet is set for Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. Tom Eddleman & Dan Mayeux, will be cooking again for us this year. Please see the signup sheet in the Canteen for food donations. If you are planning attend the Banquet, please sign up so we will have an idea of how many will be there. If you have said you would assist with serving or clean-up, please be at the Post by noon.

We had our nominations and elections for our upcoming year. Our new officers will be President – Florrie Elmgren, Sr. Vice President – Rhonda Atkinson, Jr. Vice President – Shari Worthen, Treasurer – Melissa Hughes, Secretary – Anna Ensley, Chaplain – Julia Williams, Conductress – Lisa Taylor, Guard – Sue Gantz, 3 Yr Trustee – Terri Pugh, 2 Yr Trustee – Stephanie Ging, 1 Yr Trustee – Donna Kania, Patriotic Instructor – Linda Bryan, and Historian – Dottie Simpson. I am looking forward to a good year with the help of you all.

Please continue to support our Tuesday night dinners and also the twice a month breakfasts. As a reminder, we will NOT have breakfast on May 1<sup>st</sup> due to the Banquet.

If you are planning on going to the June Convention and have not made reservations, please do so. The convention is from June 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> When you call Marriott Reservations (800-228-9290), tell them you are attending the VFW convention for the special rate. If you are going as a present officer, then 1 night of your hotel will be paid for. Please bring your receipt to the May meeting. If you are a member and attending, your registration and banquet will be reimbursed by the Auxiliary.

Hopefully, next month we will know if we will be having our Georgia Leadership Training (GLT) for new officers this year.

Commander Ben Atkinson will be our new District 7 Commander and I will be the new District 7 President. We look forward to working with all the Posts and Auxiliaries in our District.

All the best and thank you for all you do for our Veterans.

- George Tweedy

## Chaplains Corner

In this month of the Chaplain corner, I would like to talk about a subject that many people in our Post are suffering from and that is depression. Just the other night, I was notified by the founder of the "War Within Foundation," Miranda Briggs, and she asked me to call a young Army Veteran who is having a tough time with depression along with other issues. After talking to this young man for about 20 minutes, I said "have you placed your trust in God?" He snapped back at me and said "Why should I trust in God! What does he know what I am going through?" I explained that depression is not something that discovered over the years. Depression has been in existence for centuries.



The Bible tells of many stories about depression. As a matter of fact, the Book of Psalms is loaded with stories about depression. Most of the Psalms are thought to be written by King David who penned many of them during extremely low points in his life. This young man admitted that it has been a long time since he has opened the "good book." I suggest to that young man to look and you will be surprised what you will find.

I know that our Post members are struggling with depression and I just wanted to let you all know that God acknowledges your problems whether physical or emotional. "Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Remember that I am here for any Post member who needs someone who will just listen. Take the advice I gave this young man and open the "good book" and you will be amazed at what you will find. I love you all!

## Service Officer

- Rob Ehrhart



Greetings! I hope this finds everyone doing well as things begin to get back to normal.

Some VA information I would like to share with you is specifically about the VR&E & G.I. Bill '48-Month Rule' Program. Some of the updates are:

Effective April 1st, 2021 qualifying Veterans who start to use VR&E (previously known as VocReHab), can still apply and use this program and it won't count against their 48-month education eligibility under either the Montgomery or Post 9-11 G.I. Bill VA Educational Programs.

Veterans that use their G.I. Bill for Educational Benefits, this will still count against the 48-month education benefit and any remaining balance.

Do not hesitate to check the website out or contact me if you need assistance. More information can be found at the following website <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/>

Thank you all and I hope you have a great May

# *Auxiliary Tuesday Night Dinners*

There is a sign-up sheet in the Post. Signing up ahead of time lets us figure out how much to buy. If you signed up and won't make it, please let us know so that we can sell to someone waiting.

May 4<sup>th</sup> – No Dinner Scheduled

May 11<sup>th</sup> – Lamb Kabobs w/ Rice Pilaf and Salad  
(\$ 8)

May 18<sup>th</sup> – Baked Ziti and Salad  
(\$ 8)

May 25<sup>th</sup> – Meatloaf w/ Mashed Potatoes, and Green  
Beans (\$ 8)

If you are interested in helping with any of these dinners or would like to host one yourself, contact Felicia Keller at [felkel212@gmail.com](mailto:felkel212@gmail.com).

**\*\*All menus and dates are subject to change\*\***

# Kat's Café

The Café serves lunch Mon – Fri w/ a lunch special every Wednesday.

Lumpia	\$ 4.00
Wing Dings (5 wings)	\$ 5.00
Jalapeno Poppers w/ Cheddar/Cream Cheese	\$ 3.50
Fries Small or Large	\$ 1.50 or \$ 2.50
Onion Rings	\$ 3.50
Mozzarella Sticks	\$ 4.00
Sampler Plate (3 Lumpia, 3 Cheese Sticks, 3 Wings)	\$6.00
Burgers & Sandwiches (add fries for \$ 1.00)	
Hamburger w/ chips	\$ 5.00
Cheeseburger w/ chips	\$ 5.50
Patti Melt	\$ 6.25
Grilled Cheese w/ chips	\$ 3.00
Beef Hot Dog	\$ 2.00 or 2 for \$ 3.50
Homemade Chicken Salad w/ chips	\$ 5.00
Chicken Tender Plate w/ fries	\$ 5.00
BLT w/ Pickle & Chips	\$ 5.00
Chicken Tender Plate	\$ 5.00
Fried Chicken Tender Sandwich	\$ 5.00
Fried Shrimp Basket w/ fries	\$ 7.00

## Wednesday Lunch Specials

May 5<sup>th</sup> – Hot Pastrami Panini w/ French Fries (\$ 8)

May 12<sup>th</sup> – Philly Cheesesteak w/ French Fries (\$ 8)

May 19<sup>th</sup> – Tacos, Hard/Soft Shell, w/ Spanish Rice (\$ 8)

May 26<sup>th</sup> – Chicken Alfredo w/ Garlic Bread and Salad (\$ 8)

**\*\*All menus and dates are subject to change\*\***

# *May Important Dates*

Month of the Military Caregiver  
National Military Appreciation Month

Public Service Recognition Week – 1<sup>st</sup> full week  
National Correctional Officers Week – 1<sup>st</sup> full week

1<sup>st</sup> - Silver Star Service Banner Day

- Loyalty Day

- National Day of Prayer

6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> - National Nurses Week

8<sup>th</sup> - VE Day

9<sup>th</sup> - Military Spouse Appreciation Day

- Mother's Day

10<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> Armed Forces Week

13<sup>th</sup> - Children of Fallen Patriots Day

15<sup>th</sup> - Peace Officers Memorial Day

17<sup>th</sup> - Armed Forces Day

22<sup>nd</sup> - Maritime Day

31<sup>st</sup> - Memorial Day

## *May Post Dates*

8<sup>th</sup> - Steak Night

12<sup>th</sup> - House Committee Meeting

15<sup>th</sup> - Riders Group Meeting/Aux Breakfast

20<sup>th</sup> - Post/Auxiliary Meeting

# VFW Riders Group



• [Chuck Griesby](#)

I think the Group had a great April. We supported the Auxiliary in their 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans and Families Motorcycle Run. It turned out to be an awesome day for them and for the Homeless Veteran project.

We voted in our new officers last month. Congratulations to Quinn Goodson, John Strugala, and George Tweedy. The elected positions within the RG is for President, Vice President, and Chaplain. Quinn will be looking for a couple of Road Captains, a Secretary, and a Sergeant at Arms. If you are interested, let Quinn know.

We also voted to assist the Post in sponsoring a local dance studio. We have many members with children that participate in this program and well, I like it when we can support our local businesses within the community.

Here are some events coming up in May you might be interested in.

1<sup>st</sup> – CMA Fundraiser

11<sup>th</sup> – Co Op Meeting Red Knights

22<sup>nd</sup> - Free Birds Hospice Ride

I want to thank all those that participated in the escort ride for fallen Firefighter Efarin Medina. Thank you all for participating and showing support for our community.

It'll be hard to top April but lets see what we can do with the Month of May. Something I did not realize but have learned since taking over as Sr. Vice and your President is new officers/positions do not take over until after the State Convention concludes on 20 June 21. This will be the official date of transfer for duties as your President.

Our next monthly meeting will be held May 15<sup>th</sup> at 1000 at the Post.

Til next time!

# Scouts Corner



The Scouts have an eventful month ahead. On May 1<sup>st</sup>, the Troop will be conducting canoe training in prep for upcoming 50-mile canoe trip on the St Marys River later this month. This day is also the day of the Posts' Annual Awards Banquet where the Eagle Scout of the Year will be announced.

On the 15<sup>th</sup>, the flags will be placed in all local cemeteries in preparation for Memorial Day. This group includes the Scouts, VFW Riders, and anyone else interested in assisting. We will meet at Oak Grove Cemetery at 0830. In the event of rain, we will conduct this event on the 22<sup>nd</sup> or the 29<sup>th</sup>. There will also be a new Eagle Scout Court of Honor, hosted by the Sam Parks family, at the Post from 3-6. Ceremony is open to Post members; followed by a brief, invitation only reception following the ceremony.

May 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, the Scouts will conduct a 50-mile canoe trip along the St Marys River. This will most certainly be a test but also a great opportunity for our Troop.

Our regular Troop meetings for the month are on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 16<sup>th</sup> at the Post from 3:30 to 6 PM.

And finally, after six years, Post member Dennis Gagliardi has announced that this will be his final year as Youth Programs chair. Anyone with interest in assuming the position, pls contact Post Cmdr Ben Atkinson or Dennis. Being a former Scout or Eagle Scout is not a necessary requirement. The only requirement is having an interest in working with the Troop committee on behalf of the youngsters and in representing the Post. The Chairman will have to attend one Sunday meeting per month and complete some online training requirements.

We cannot thank Dennis enough for all his efforts and work in being the conduit between the Troop and the Post. He has represented the interest of the Boy Scouts of America and has provided a steady voice, not just within the Post and District, but within the Department of GA VFW through Eagle Scout and other youth programs such as Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen.

Thank you, Mr. Dennis, for everything you have done, and we wish you the best going forward.

## *Scout Oath*

*“On my honor I will do my best, to do my duty, to God and my country, and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.”*



## Tax Time

The IRS has delayed Federal Tax filing until May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021.



The state of Georgia has automatically extended the filing date to May 17<sup>th</sup> as well with no penalties.

So.....Mark your calendars now so that you don't forget the tax deadline!!!  
Your returns must be post stamped on the 17<sup>th</sup> or you are late!

# May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Nacho Day	3 Wing Night 1730-1900	4	5	6	7	8 Steak Night 1830-2000
9 Mother's Day	10 Wing Night 1730-1900	11	12 House Committee Mtg - 1800	13	14	15 RG Mtg 1000
16 Nacho Day	17 Wing Night 1730-1900	18	19	20 Post/Aux Mtg - 1800	21	22
23	24 Wing Night 1730-1900	25	26	27	28	29
30 Nacho Day	31 Wing Night 1730-1900  <i>Memorial</i> DAY					



## Line Dancing Lessons

Wanna learn how to line dance? Or maybe polish up on those skills you learned when you were younger?

You are in luck. Mrs Darla teaches **FREE** line dancing lessons in the Post Banquet Hall every Wednesday from 7:30 – 9 p.m. And it isn't **ONLY** country/western line dancing.

Please feel free to contact her with questions at  
(912) 674-3291



Fun facts surrounding this holiday:

- Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day.
- The birthplace of Memorial day is actually debated, some cities that claimed to have started this tradition are Warrington, VA, Gettysburg, PA, Savannah, GA, and Waterloo, NY.
- Memorial Day was originally celebrated on May 30<sup>th</sup>. The Uniform Monday Holiday Act took effect in 1971 and it was moved to the last Monday of May.
- Originally, only soldiers who had died during the Civil War were honored.
- The National Monument of Rememberance Act, passed in 2000, requires all Americans to stop what they are doing at 3:00 p.m. on Memorial Day to observe a moment of silence to remember and honor those who have died while in service.



## National Nurses Week “Year of the Nurse”

From assisting with life-threatening ER crises to delivering babies and caring for the elderly in their last moments, nurses perform some of the most difficult and heartbreaking tasks in the medical world. As workers who perform the most essential healthcare tasks, nurses serve as the first point of contact for most patients.

National Nurses Week honors their contributions and sacrifices and reminds us to thank the medical professionals who keep us healthy. It is celebrated between May 6, National Nurses Day, and May 12, the birthdate of celebrated nurse Florence Nightingale.



Some interesting facts in the history of nursing:

- Nursing used to be an all-male profession in the Middle-Ages. Women began laying a larger role in religious hospitals in the 1600's
- Nurses walk....a lot! On average, a nurse walks 4 – 5 miles on every 12-hour shift.
- People trust nurses!!! This profession is consistently rated as one of the most trusted professions according to public polls.
- Half of all foreign nurses are Filipino. Nurses from the Philippines make up 50% of all foreign nurses in the U.S.
- Only 60% of nurses work in hospitals. Almost half of nurse's work in other locations such as schools, hospice and private homes.





## Post 8385 Election Results



Commander	Ben Atkinson
Sr. Vice Commander	Dave Worthen
Jr. Vice Commander	George Mahieu
Quartermaster	Gary Pugh
Chaplain	George Tweedy
3 Yr Trustee	Rick McConnell
2 Yr Trustee	Dave Grimes
1 Yr Trustee	Ken Peitzmeyer
House Committee	Buck Taylor, AJ Frank Bob Shepard, Will Calderwood



## Post 8385 Auxiliary Election Results



President	Florrie Elmgren
Sr Vice President	Rhonda Atkinson
Jr. Vice President	Shari Worthen
Treasurer	Melissa Hughes
Secretary	Anna Ensley
Chaplain	Julia Williams
Conductress	Lisa Taylor
3 Yr Trustee	Terri Pugh
2 Yr Trustee	Stephanie Ging
1 Yr Trustee	Donna Kania
Patriotic Instructor	Linda Bryan
Historian	Dottie Simpson



## Post 8385 Riders Group



President	Quinn Goodson
Vice President	John Strugala
Chaplain	George Tweedy

Congratulation to all those elected and best of luck on the upcoming year!