

HOME OF THE BRAVE NEWS

AMERICAN LEGION MEMORIAL POST #71

823 Eagle Ridge Dr., Lake Wales, FL 33859

863.949.4044



ALL GAVE SOME – SOME GAVE ALL

December 2018

Veterans Serving Veterans

COMMANDER'S SHOUT OUT

HO HO HO!! Merry Christmas to all from Santa Art.

This is the season when we think of all we have accomplished during the year, and some of the things we didn't get done. Through a lot of hard work, a tanker load of fuel, and hours on the computer, the Executive Board finally found us a home. Yes, there was a lot of cleaning and rearranging to be done, but we are pleased with the outcome. Area 71 Restaurant & Bar will be opening soon, as soon as we can get the government satisfied, that is.

With that being said, to make Area 71 and Post #71 a huge success, we will need lots of help. Servers, bartenders, cooks, dishwashers, and prep personnel will be essential to our success. **PLEASE** volunteer for a few hours a week. The more people we have the easier the jobs will be. Please see Program Manager Anderson or Adjutant Strong if you are interested. **Remember:** For every four (4) hours you work, you get a **FREE** meal and non-alcoholic beverage.

Membership continues to grow, but there are several members who have not renewed their memberships for 2019. Also, some members have missing information required by National. See Adjutant Strong to give the information needed.

Finally, my wife, Anna, and I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a wonderfully successful 2019. Without you Post #71 would cease to exist and be the best Post in Polk County. Recently, a Haines City Post #34 member told a veteran Post #71 was the best in the state. With your help and support we will be "the best Post in the state" for years to come.

Art Quigley,
Commander

Stay tuned for New Year's Eve Party information. Check our website: <https://americanlegionpost71.org> for updates.



INTRODUCING

**AREA 71
RESTAURANT & BAR**

SPECIALIZING IN:

**AUTHENTIC, HARD TO FIND, HOT DOGS &
SAUSAGES, AS WELL AS AUTHENTIC, OUT OF THIS
WORLD HAMBURGERS AND CHEESEBURGERS**

**OVER 35 DIFFERENT HOT DOGS,
OVER 15 DIFFERENT HAMBURGERS AND
CHEESEBURGERS**

10 A.M. TO 9 P.M. DAILY

**FRIDAY FISH FRY WILL RETURN IN
DECEMBER 2018!!**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT ITALIAN FAVORITES:
5 ENTREES TO CHOOSE FROM, SERVED WITH
SALAD AND GARLIC BREAD**

AMERICAN LEGION NEWS

Man Who Lied About Combat Service for Second Time Sentenced to Federal Prison

Charleston, South Carolina ---- United States Attorney Sherri A. Lydon announced today that Keith R. Hudson, 71, of Charleston, South Carolina, was sentenced to six months in federal prison and six months of home confinement for receiving \$197,237 in benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) after falsely claiming to be a veteran.

Evidence presented to the court showed that Hudson falsely claimed that he was entitled to VA benefits because he was a veteran who had been in combat in Vietnam. He even went so far as to claim that he had received two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star.

Hudson has committed the same crime in the past. In 2005, he was prosecuted in Connecticut for the falsely claiming to be a veteran in order to claim VA benefits. He was placed in pretrial diversion. He moved to Charleston, South Carolina, and in 2012 he applied to the VA in Charleston for benefits. He used the same falsified form from the Department of Defense, (a DD-214, "Report of Separation from Active Duty") and claimed that he was in the Navy and saw combat as a medic, suffering wounds and other trauma. He claimed that he served from August 1, 1967, through October 31, 1971.

This was all a fraud. Hudson was never in the military. He never served in the United States Navy, nor did he ever see combat in Vietnam.

Hudson asked for a probationary sentence, claiming poor health and noting his age, previous bypass surgeries, and cancer. United States District Judge Richard M. Gergel denied Hudson's motion for probation and instead sentenced him to 1 year of confinement, in a split sentence. Six months of the confinement is to be served in federal prison, and six months is to be served as home confinement. Hudson was also ordered to pay \$297,237 in restitution.

U.S. Attorney Lydon emphasized the importance of this case for our country and for our community. "This is an egregious crime," she said. "This Defendant trampled on the memory of those who have bravely served our country and suffered harm protecting us. Hudson not only stole from the taxpayers by taking benefits he did not earn, he also stole directly from veterans who served our nation and protected our freedom. Every minute of time he spent with a VA doctor or a staff member is a minute he stole from a real veteran. He took resources that the VA just cannot afford to spare. We are grateful to the Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General for their investigative work on this case."

Kim Lampkins, the Special Agent in Charge for the Veterans Administration Office of Investigations Criminal Investigations Division, said, "Those who defraud the VA harm all veterans. VA benefits are intended solely for those who have protected this nation's freedoms. We investigate individuals who commit fraud against the VA and are dedicated to defending veterans who genuinely earned our support."

The case against Hudson was investigated by the VA Office of Inspector General and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Sean Kittrell of the Charleston office.

FROM THE ADJUTANT'S DESK:

In our effort to update our membership records we have found some missing information on several members. Some of the information is easy for us to get such as gender, but others—not so easy. Please see me on Mondays or email me with your telephone number, date of birth, email address, branch of service and war era. Department would like all records updated as soon as possible.

Thanksgiving has come and gone, but I would like to thank all of our volunteers, members, and community sponsors who have been patient with us while we ready our new location. I am sure you will find Area 71 to be a destination worthy of our old location on Scenic Highway. **Merry Christmas to everyone.**

Teri Strong
Adjutant

OFFICER OF THE DAY

Below is the Officer of the Day (OD) schedule. All inquiries and/or questions should be directed to the OD each day.

Until our official Opening, the Post will be closed on Sundays to give volunteers a day of rest.

Sunday	Historian Gary Schevers (when we open)
Monday	Adjutant Teri Strong
Tuesday	1st Vice Commander Terry Dohring
Wednesday	Finance Officer Stephen Galbavy
Thursday	Judge Advocate Ed Robertson
Friday	Sgt.-at-Arms Joe Schull
Saturday	2nd Vice Commander Bob Landry

The above schedule is subject to change without prior notice.

POST #71 MEETINGS:

All events are held at American Legion Post #71 unless specified otherwise

2nd Thursday Monthly	6 p.m.	Post #71 General
2nd Saturday Monthly	10 a.m.	American Legion Riders
1st & 3rd Monday Monthly	10 a.m.	Executive Board
3rd Thursday Monthly	6 p.m.	S.A.L.
2nd Saturday Monthly	10 a.m.	Honor Guard

Special Events

Saturday, December 15	8 a.m.	Bass Tournament, Camp Mack's River Resort
Monday, December 31	7 p.m.	New Year's Eve Celebration More information TBA
Saturday, January ?	TBA	Post Dedication, Hot Dog Eating Contest, Ribbon Cutting

Events are subject to change. Go to <https://americanlegionpost71.org> for updated information

WHAT'S COOKIN'

Area 71 Restaurant & Bar will be open **10 a.m. to 9 p.m.** daily for lunch and dinner.

For more information on our official opening date, go to **<https://americanlegionpost71.org>**

Friday Fish Fry will begin in December.



Come hungry!!



Cancelled :-)

1st Annual American Legion Post #71 Bass Tournament

Saturday, December 15, 2018

Camp Mack's River Resort

14900 Camp Mack Rd.

Lake Wales FL 33898

\$100 for 2-person team

Prizes for

Longest Bass / Best Bass

Most Weights / Best Weight

Oldest Fisherman / Youngest Fisherman

Fisher King / Weight

Trophy Boat Win

\$100.00 guaranteed

Prizes will be many and varied

For more information contact:

Adjutant: Teri Strong @ adjutant71@gmail.com

Program Manager: Andy Anderson @ allvetscenter.org

All proceeds will benefit veterans in need in the Lake Wales area.

History of the POW/MIA Flag

In 1970, Mrs. Michael Hoff, an MIA wife and member of the National League of Families, recognized the need for a symbol of our POW/MIAs. Prompted by an article in the Jacksonville, Florida, Times-Union, Mrs. Hoff contacted Norman Rivkees, Vice President of Annin & Company, which had made a banner for the newest member of the United Nations, the People's Republic of China (PRC), as part of their policy to manufacture flags for all United Nations member states.

Mrs. Hoff found Mr. Rivkees very sympathetic to the POW/MIA issue, and he and an Annin advertising agency employee, Newt Heisley, designed a flag to represent our missing men. Following League approval, the flags were manufactured for distribution. Wanting the widest possible dissemination and use of the symbol to advocate improved treatment for and answers on American POW/MIAs, no trade mark or copyright was sought. The widespread use of the League's POW/MIA flag is not restricted legally, nor do profits from its commercial sale benefit the League.

On March 9, 1989, an official League flag that flew over the White House on National POW/MIA Recognition Day 1988 was installed in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda as a result of legislation passed overwhelmingly during the 100th Congress. In a demonstration of bipartisan Congressional support, the leadership of both Houses hosted the installation ceremony.

The League's POW/MIA flag is the only flag ever displayed in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda where it stands as a powerful symbol of America's determination to account for US personnel still missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War.

On August 10, 1990, the 101st Congress passed U.S. Public Law 101-355, which recognized the League's POW/MIA flag and designated it "as the symbol of our Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia, thus ending the uncertainty for their families and the Nation".

The importance of the League's POW/MIA flag lies in its continued visibility, a constant reminder of the plight of America's POW/MIAs from all wars, including those now ongoing.

The Passage of PL 101-355 brought the POW/MIA flag to a National Status second only to the American Flag in protocol. Other than "Old Glory", the League's POW/MIA flag is the only flag *ever* to fly over the White House, having been displayed in this place of honor on National POW/MIA Recognition Day since 1982. It is on permanent display in the Capitol Rotunda in Washington D.C. Passage by the 105th Congress of Section 1082 of the 1998 Defense Authorization Act required that the League's POW/MIA flag fly six days each year (at minimum): Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day and Veterans Day. It must be displayed at the White House, the U.S. Capitol, the Departments of State, Defense and Veterans Affairs, the headquarters of the Selective Service System, major military installations as designated by the Secretary of the Defense, all Federal cemeteries and all offices of the U.S. Postal Service. In addition to the specific dates stipulated, the Department of Veterans Affairs voluntarily displays our POW/MIA flag 24/7. The National Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial and World War II Memorial are now also required by law to display the POW/MIA flag daily, and most State Capitols have adopted similar laws, as have local governments nationwide.

"Mae" Mayer
Honor-Release-Return, Inc.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

It is the time of year for giving. Take a moment, and give some love to a stranger, be it a smile, a friendly "Hello", a cup of coffee for a police officer. You have been blessed by someone, share the blessing. For some there may be some sorrow of family and friends departed - think about them up above with Him, the One that Christmas is all about. Without His birth, Christmas would only be a social holiday, not a time for remembrance and sharing His blessings. May the good Lord guide and protect you, and help you to enjoy this special holiday season.

Merry Christmas,

Harvey R. Engle
Post #71 Chaplain

MIA/UNACCOUNTED FOR NUMBER BY ERA:

World War II – 72,782
Korea – 7,676
Cold War – 126
Vietnam – 1,592
Iraq/Afghanistan - 6

Until they all come home . . .

**The above information is provided
by:**

**Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in
Action Accounting Agency (DPAA)**



Until every story ends...

COMMUNITY NEWS

We Care of Central Florida: Striving to Keep Polk County Healthy

Since 1999, We Care's mission has been to provide low income and uninsured residents of Polk County access to quality, specialty healthcare, through a network of volunteer, compassionate, dedicated physicians, allied healthcare professionals, and administrative support staff. These dedicated groups help to preserve lives and create a healthier community.

We at We Care of Central Florida also carry on dedicated projects that help in specialized groups within the county. "Project Think Pink" (PTP) provides FREE mammograms and diagnostic breast care services to uninsured and under-served men and women of Polk County and We Care assures that there is the capacity to continue treatment if there is an abnormal finding or diagnosis of breast cancer. We Care's "Project Think Pink" remains the only active program in Polk County that provides access to the entire continuum of care of breast health services (screening, diagnostic treatment, and follow up care) for this targeted population, making this program of utmost importance. While Mammograms in the area can reach costs of \$100 to \$300, the fee of the additional services can grow much higher. As always, 100% of all the proceeds and donations received for "Project Think Pink" by We Care of Central Florida are relayed to the community of Polk County and never used to fund office or administrative fees.

All donations, both monetary and in-kind are welcome and appreciated throughout Polk County. We Care of Central Florida believes in close family and community ties, as well as helping enrich the lives within our community. We continue our commitment to Polk County as we approach our 10-year anniversary, and we hope that you will join us in our goals of striving to keep Polk County healthy.

To reach We Care of Central Florida, simply call (863) 662-4277.

For **Project Think Pink** call (863) 662-4150.

We Care is located in Winter Haven at 205 Farnol Street SW.

Facebook: [wecarecentralflorida](#)

Instagram: [@wecarecentralflorida](#)

Twitter: [#wecarecentralfl](#)

**AMERICAN LEGION POST #71
COMMAND STAFF**

COMMANDER:	Art Quigley	908.763.5071
1st VICE CMDR.:	Terry Dohring	901.488.8194
2nd VICE CMDR.:	Bob Landry	321.388.4832
ADJUTANT:	Teri Strong	863.353.8636
FINANCE OFFICER:	Stephen Galbavy	863.632.0259
CHAPLAIN:	Harvey R. Engle	863.512.8063
HISTORIAN:	Gary Schevers	863.632.0865
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:	Joe Shull	863.899.2207
JUDGE ADVOCATE:	Ed Robertson	772.224.8060
SERVICE OFFICER:	Position Open	
HONOR GUARD CAPTAIN:	Rick Wilkin	863.638.2390
		CELL: 863.632.4304
A.L.A. PRESIDENT:	Bonnie McCain	863.589.5947
S.A.L. COMMANDER:	"Andy" Anderson	863.528.0655
PROGRAM MANAGER:	"Andy" Anderson	See S.A.L.
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	Teri Strong adjutant71@gmail.com	See Adjutant

To everyone,

Merry Christmas

Your Command Staff

