

On
Veterans
Way



June
July 2023

9550 Pflumm Road, Lenexa, KS 66215

From your VFW Commander

Greetings Comrades, Sisters, and Brothers,

I want to thank all of you in entrusting me as your commander for the next 12 months. It's an honor I do not take lightly, and I can assure you that the officers and myself that you elected for the up-coming year are firmly committed to the success of this Post and its membership.

I want to personally thank outgoing Post commander David Dewitt for his unselfish and unwavering leadership. I will be looking to him and the other past commanders of this post for their guidance and leadership when it is most needed. I know I have pretty big shoes to fill, and with David being a very tall person, that ain't no lie.

I am looking forward to working very closely with our VFW Auxiliary, I am excited that our auxiliary unit has re-elected Tanya Brunning for another term as their President. I know the same goes for Tanya and the officers of the Auxiliary for the coming year are also committed to the success of this post. No VFW Post can truly thrive without the close family ties of both the VFW membership and its auxiliary, and fortunately Post 7397 is the model for others to emulate when it comes to this dynamic partnership.

I am also looking forward to working with the other veteran organizations such as American Legion Post 407 and their units as well as the Marine Corps League and all the organizations that call our facility their home. I always refer to our Post of being truly a veterans community resource center for all veterans in the Lenexa and Johnson County area.

As we kick off the year, we ask that if you currently have a Facebook account and you're not following our Post Facebook page, please go to <https://www.facebook.com/VFW7397> and hit "Like" to follow and stay up to date with all that is happening at the Post. If you'd like to stay up to date on what's happening for social activities at our canteen (bar) you can also follow them by hitting "Like" at <https://www.facebook.com/vfw.canteen.1>

Speaking of keeping up to date, Steak Night for June has been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict with many of the Post and Auxiliary members will be attending the Department of Kansas convention. Steak Night will return on Friday, July 14th.

Finally, if you need anything, the easiest way to find a resource is to go to our website at <https://www.vfw7397.org/> where you can find contact information for our Post and Auxiliary officers as well as our up-to-date post calendar and previous newsletters.

I look forward to working with each and every one of you over the next year. Let's continue the great work we have accomplished the past several years and keep moving forward.

In comradeship,

Rick McKenna
VFW Post 7397 – Commander (Elect)
913-481-2973 / rmckenna65@gmail.com
[vfw7397.org](https://www.vfw7397.org/) / [facebook.com/VFW7397](https://www.facebook.com/VFW7397)

From your VFW Auxiliary President



Greetings Brothers & Sisters,

Hard to follow Rick's amazing words. We are working on many activities over the next 12 months.

Summer is here and that means lots of traveling, hanging out with friends and family. Be sure to make time for events at the Post.

- ◆ June 3 – Post Car and Bike Show, 10am – 4pm
- ◆ June 8 – 10 - Department Convention in Garden City, KS
- ◆ July 4 – Lenexa Community Days Parade 10am
- ◆ July 22 – 27 – National Convention, Phoenix, AZ

We will work on posting events on Facebook and keeping the Post website up to date, so be sure to check them regularly.

To get a jump on next year, we are starting to discuss ideas for the Buddy Poppy display. Let us know your thoughts.

Don't forget steak night on July 14, be sure to get your reservations made. We are not doing steak night in June since so many Post and Auxiliary members will be at the Department convention in Garden City.

Yours in Service!

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

VFW 7397 Riders



Riders - Allegedly summer is here, hopefully June & July have better weather for riding. We moved our Annual Poker Run to Sat Sept 9th due to way too many big money runs happening on our original date in May. Keep an eye out for any events we can all support along the way. We will have space in the parade line-up for the 4th of July parade if anyone wants to ride, holler for details.

Sat Jun 3, 2023 - Car & Bike show - 10am - 2pm - come out enter your Bike, your custom 9,000 horsepower all chrome collector's car, your rusty 1982 Honda Civic, your Schwinn, whatever you got and tell your friends. This event also supports Cars4Heroes. Custom trophies - 1st place Car, 1st place Bike, People's Choice.

Reminder we meet directly after regular VFW & Aux meetings 1st Thursday of the month

Keep the shiny side up

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

American Legion Post 407



To Legionnaires,

Hello from Anthony Pantoja, I am your new Commander, and I am honored. With that said Ralph Schneider is our new Vice Commander, as well Leo Porath is our new Adjutant, and Charlie Grieco keeps his current position as finance officer. Please try your best to attend a meeting that is on the third Monday of each month that will start at 7pm. There will be no chicken feed for at least the next 2 months. We do plan to have a pork chop dinner, so I will send out email with more information. Also 2nd District family picnic is in Garnett, KS at the Garnett Lake come out for food and fun games, corn hole games and more, come have a fun time starting 10:00am till 15:00. That date is June 17th.

For the Fourth of July after the parade we will be selling rib plates and chicken plates with 2 sides and will have brats and hot dogs starting at 11:30. A plate of chicken which comes with 2 sides. Rib plate with 2 sides, as well polish sausages with sides. This is open to the public, please come and enjoy the festivities. Please donate water and soda pop. Just a heads up for all the golfers there is going to be a state golf tournament on September 23, 2023 at Western Hills golf club in Topeka, KS. Cost is \$80 per person with a total of \$320 per team. The location is 8533 SW 21st St. Topeka, KS.

Your Commander

Anthony Pantoja

apantojasr@yahoo.com

kslegion407.org

<https://www.facebook.com/American-Legion-Post-407-Lenexa-KS-263557927439391>

American Legion Auxiliary Post 407



Hope everybody is doing well. Thank you to all our Legion Family members for remembering our Veterans on Memorial Day.

Some upcoming events:

Friday-Sunday, June 2rd to 4th –State Convention in Topeka at Ramada Inn

Tuesday, June 6th – D-Day

Wednesday, June 14th - Flag Day

Sunday, June 18th – Father's Day

Tuesday, July 4th – Independence Day

We are in planning stages of having our annual 4th of July dinner, after the LENEXA PARADE, serving chicken, ribs, hot dogs and side dishes. More information will soon be forthcoming.

For those who have paid dues for 2023, please know that our unit appreciates and depends on your support. If you have not paid 2023 dues please do so to ensure your membership continues.

Membership dues for 2024 will be going up to \$30.00 due to National and Department raising their dues.

And for those that have not had the opportunity to attend, a reminder that our unit meetings are still held on the third Monday at 7 pm of each month at the VFW post. It would be great to see everyone and provide input into our various activities to support the veterans.

Stay Safe...and continued best wishes for you and your family's well-being

Pat Willcox

American Legion Auxiliary President

Sons of the American Legion Post 407



Cullen Davis
Squadron Commander

American Legion Riders Post 407



The Rib Fund Raiser May 23, 23 and 25 was a great success. We smoked 114 spare ribs and baby back ribs. We have sold all but 9 which are vacuum sealed and at the post for purchase. Check with the bartender. They are \$22 per slab and 2 slabs for \$40.

We had 11 riders participate in Run for the Wall. We met at the post and rode to Concordia, MO and helped with refueling. We also were joined by 4 riders from Olathe at the rest stop.

Our monthly ride to Rulo, NB was great – super weather and good fellowship. We had 13 folks. June 17th our ride will be to the Dutch Café for lunch and some great pie.

We voted in a new member – Jeff Halterman “Hulk” and his wife, Christie has also joined us for rides and dine out.

In May we had 19 people in attendance for our dine out at El Toro Loco in Shawnee. Next Month, our dine out will be at Garozzo’s Italian on June 27th, and July 25th, we will dine out at Barley’s Brewhouse.

We will be having another fund raiser June 15th. All proceeds from Lion’s Choice, 103rd and Metcalf will come to the Legion Riders Post 407 between 4pm and 8pm whether they dine in or go through drive through.

We are also planning to do another gun raffle this year so watch for the information.

Our monthly meetings are at the Post on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm. 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.

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

Important Dates

- Tacos Every Tuesday
- June 3rd— Car & Bike Show 10am—2pm
- June 21st— American Legion Chicken Dinner, 6pm—7pm, \$13.00 per person
- July 4th — American Legion BBQ Lunch, 11:30am
- July 14th — Steak Night, 6pm—7pm, \$20 per person
 - Please RSVP by 5pm on July 13th to Quartermaster Jason Parkes at j.parkes@comcast.net
- July 19th — American Legion Chicken Dinner, 6pm—7pm, \$13.00 per person

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

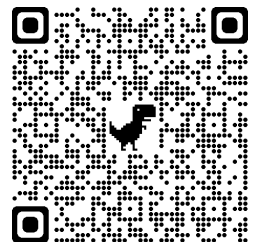


**Don't forget to check out our new swag
with the VFW Post Logo**

See the Display Case by the Canteen Door!

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

Scan the QR Code





June 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 VFW & Aux Mtg 7pm VFW Riders Following	2	3 VFW Car & Bike Show 10am Hold'em 1pm
4	5	6 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm	7	8 ALR Meeting 7pm	9 VFW Dept of KS Convention Garden City, KS	10 Hold'em 1pm VFW Dept of KS Convention Garden City, KS
11 VFW Dept of KS Convention Garden City, KS	12	13 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm	14 MCL Officers Meeting 6:30pm Flag Day	15 ALR Lion's Choice Fundraiser 4-8pm Post Planning Meeting 7pm	16	17 Hold'em 1pm
18	19 American Legion, SAL & Aux Meeting 7pm	20 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm	21 AL Chicken Dinner 6-7pm	22	23	24 Hold'em 1pm
25	26	27 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm	28 MCL Meeting 6:30pm	29	30	
						

July 2023



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

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



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American Legion Riders Dinner

For American Legion Riders

June 15th • 4-8PM

Present this flyer upon ordering ridiculously good food at the Lion's choice in Overland Park and a percentage of your sales goes back to your organization.

Lion's Choice Overland Park
10313 Metcalf Ave.
Overland Park, KS 66212

