

On
Veterans
Way



August
September
2023

9550 Pflumm Road, Lenexa, KS 66215

From your VFW Commander

Greetings Comrades, Sisters, and Brothers,

The summer has been flying by, I want to thank everyone that came out to support the 4th of July parade and then patronized American Legion Post 407's barbeque. We were recognized as the "Lenexa Community Spirit" award winner for the parade.

Due to the violent storms that ripped thru the Lenexa area on July 14th, we had to cancel steak night. Our Next steak night is scheduled for August 11th, so we can sure some help from volunteers. VFW Members and Auxiliary will see an email going out requesting volunteers and you can sign up for one of the shifts using an easy website called "Signup Genius." We hope as many of you can come out and support steak night. We had reservations for over 130 in July, let's see if we can break that in August. You can sign up by emailing our Post Quartermaster (Jason Parkes) at jason.parkes@vfw7397.org by noon, Thursday, August 10th.

Big thanks to our Canteen Manager (Farrah) we will have a fundraiser evening on Sunday, August 13th at Jefferson's in Lenexa, between 4 – 7 pm. 20% of sales during this period will be donated back to VFW Post 7397. So come on out and enjoy some great food knowing a portion of the cost of your dinner is going back to your Post.

Just to let you know, Post 7397 and its Auxiliary and Riders Group are working on multiple social events at the Post starting in September, so please come and enjoy the events, whether you are a VFW member, Legion or Marine Corps League affiliated, please come and support these events as we are all veterans or family members of a veteran.

Here's just some of the events our respective groups are working on:

- September 9th, VFW Riders Poker Run
- September 29th, Oktoberfest
- October 28th, Trunk or Treat and Community Night Out at the Post
- November 4th, Pasta Dinner and Comedy Show with Comedy Vets
- December 9th, Breakfast with Santa
- December 9th, Army – Navy Game

And more coming, so please refer to the [events](#) section on our [Post Facebook](#) page for details on each of these events and remember to 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>

If you have an idea for a event, whether it be social, community service or fundraiser, and you are willing to chair it, please let your respective leadership know.

Finally, I want to salute each and every member and their families for the support you give to our Post. We could not exist and do what we do for our fellow veterans and their families in our community without you, for that, I say Thank You.

In comradeship,

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

From your VFW Auxiliary President

Greetings Brothers & Sisters,



I would like to thank everyone that helped with the July 4th Lenexa Parade. Summer is winding down and fall will soon be with us.

The Department School of Instruction is in Hays, Kansas, on August 11—13. If you cannot make the trip out west, the District 2 School of Instruction will be August 19, at the DeSoto Post from 10am—12:30pm. These meetings will provide information about our programs for the 2023-2024 year.

We have developed an awesome idea for the Buddy Poppy display, now we just have to bring it to life. Be on the look out for times when we will get together to make our vision a reality.

If you are not going the Department School of Instruction in Hays, please consider signing up to help with [Steak Night](#) on August 11.

As always, watch the [Facebook](#) page for details about upcoming events. And don't forget that the Post is open in the evenings for a place to unwind and hang out.

Yours in Service!

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

VFW 7397 Riders



Riders - Hopefully everyone is having a safe and fun summer. Our rescheduled Poker Run will be on Sat Sept 9th. Registration 1000, KSU 1100. We'll be splitting the proceeds with Cars 4 Heroes again.

Remember we meet after the regular VFW & Auxiliary meetings on 1st Thursdays

Keep the shiny side up

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

American Legion Post 407



Hello fellow Legionnaires,

First, I would like to thank all those who helped out with the 4th of July event. I would also like to thank each of you for renewing your membership to your post. Anytime is a great time to do a buddy check in these summer months as well. We still have our meetings on the third Monday of each month at 7pm. I appreciate those that attend, I would like a few more Legionnaires to attend said meetings. Your input is valuable to the growth of our post. We have future events happening for the months of August and September, and I will pass that information on when it becomes available.

Your Commander
Anthony Pantoja
apantojasr@yahoo.com
kslegion407.org
[Facebook](#)

Thank you for your membership with the American Legion Post 407 family in Lenexa! If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, making a donation, or if you have questions, comments, or recommendations, please feel free to contact Commander Anthony Pantoja (apantojasr@yahoo.com) Post address is 9550 Pflumm Rd. Lenexa, KS 66215-1263

American Legion Auxiliary Post 407



We would like to thank everyone who helped with the annual 4th of July Bar-B-Que; the cooks, servers, bakers, kitchen folks and everyone that helped setup and clean up the room. We especially appreciate those who attended, supported, and enjoyed the meal. It was a great success!

Coming Events

On August 12, the 2023 Annual State Homecoming will be held in Ark City at the Shelton Beaty American Legion Post #18, 115 East Washington Ave. Those being honored are this year are:

- Randy Frank, Kansas American Legion Department Commander
- Cheryl Eastep, Kansas American Legion Auxiliary President and
- Jim Gallentine, American Legion SAL Detachment Commander

National Convention is August 25th to August 31st, 2023 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Kansas American Legion Auxiliary State Fall Conference will be held September 16th, 2023 at Pittsburg American Legion Post, 2825 Joplin St, Pittsburg, KS.

As a reminder, the 2023 Membership renewals are due. Because of National and Department of Kansas raising dues to \$28.00, our dues have been raised to \$30.00.

Our Meetings continue to be held the 3rd Monday of each month, next one being August 21st, 2023 at 7 PM. Please make plans to attend as we continue activities to support the Veterans.

We will NOT have a meeting in September, next one will be October 16th . 2023

Please continue to stay safe and cool this summer.

Pat Willcox
American Legion Auxiliary President

Sons of the American Legion Post 407



Cullen Davis
Squadron Commander

American Legion Riders Post 407



18 riders enjoyed great weather for our scheduled ride June 17th to Garnett, Kansas for lunch at the Dutch Country Café. On July 15th, 18 riders traveled to Holton, Kansas and enjoyed lunch at the Trails Café.

On June 27th the monthly dine out was held at Garazzo's in Overland Park. As this goes to press the next dine out is scheduled for July 25th at Barley's Brewhouse in Shawnee.

Five riders participated in the End of Month Ceremony June 29th at Leavenworth National Cemetery in honor of our brothers and sisters who have passed away since the last Ceremony.

A number of Riders participated in Lenexa's 4th of July Parade and assisted in the successful July 4th Picnic held at the Post. The American Legion hosted a picnic and served smoked ribs, chicken half, hot dogs with sides of slaw and potato salad and beans. It was a beautiful day for a parade and picnic.

We welcomed a new member, Peter Nolte (Peter) at our July meeting. Guests for our July meeting were Tony Pantoja, Commander of American Legion Post 407, and Dixie Chic (Medic's Wife).

We pray for a full recovery for Erik "Ratchethead" Jensen who was severely injured by a falling tree during the July 15th storm. Don "Chaindrive" Simpson, our Assistant Director is making a good recovery from his medical procedures.

We are once again holding our Hunting Firearm Fund Raiser with the drawing to be held on October 12th. First prize is a very nice Benelli M2 semi-auto 12-gauge shotgun, and the second prize is a Ruger 10/22 carbine with scope. Suggested donations are \$5 per ticket or five tickets for \$20. Any member can provide you with tickets. The proceeds will provide funding to support programs to assist veterans in our area.

Upcoming events are:

On the 3rd Thursday of each month, Lions Choice, 11313 Metcalf Ave., will donate a portion of their sales between 4-8PM to the riders. Please enjoy their great food and support another of our fund-raising activities!

August 19th – Monthly ride to Sharky's in Fort Scott, Kansas

September 16th – Monthly ride to Paola and Lunch at Miss B's Café in Amsterdam, KS

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, 5:30 – 8pm 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.

We look forward to participating in other ALR Post activities when possible. Stay safe in your travels and activities during the holiday season and the new year.

Dee 'Disaster D' Smith, Director
American Legion Riders Post 407
ksdisasterqueen@gmail.com

www.alr407.org

[Facebook](#)

General Larry Oppenheimer Marine Corps League Detachment #1025



Greetings!

As the new Commandant for the General Larry Oppenheimer Marine Corps League Detachment #1025 I look forward to continuing the traditions of the Marine Corps League in service to our fellow brothers and sisters and to our community as a whole.

We have multiple events upcoming in August and September and would welcome participation/attendance from both League members and any FMF Corpsmen and Chaplains that are interested.

Upcoming events:

| Date | Time | Location | Event |
|-----------|-----------|---|---|
| 9 August | 1830 | VFW Small Hall | MCL Officer's Meeting |
| 16 August | 0900 | Eggtc 7182 Renner Road, Shawnee, KS | Breakfast with the Best |
| 23 August | 1800 | VFW Small Hall | Chat and Chow |
| 23 August | 1830 | VFW Small Hall | Regular Detachment Meeting |
| 25 August | 1000—1400 | WYCO Park 126th & State Ave, Bonner Springs, KS | Community Service Event: Picnic in the Park Volunteers will assist intellectually delayed / disabled individuals |
| 13 Sept | 1830 | VFW Small Hall | MCL Officer's Meeting |
| 20 Sept | 0900 | Eggtc 7182 Renner Road, Shawnee, KS | Breakfast with the Best |
| 24 Sept | 1100—1400 | Heritage Park, Shelter 3 16050 Pflumm Road, Olathe, KS | MCL Family Picnic |
| 27 Sept | 1800 | VFW Small Hall | Chat and Chow |
| 27 Sept | 1830 | VFW Small Hal | Regular Detachment Meeting |

If you have any questions about these events feel free to reach out to me or Paymaster Master Tara Knighton.

Semper Fi!
Kimberley Mancuso
MCL Detachment #1025- Commandant
(913) 215-8977
Kimberleymancuso@gmail.com

From the Club Room

Important Dates

- Tacos Every Tuesday
- August 11th — Steak Night, 6pm—7pm, \$20 per person
 - Please RSVP by 5pm on August 10th to Quartermaster Jason Parkes at j.parkes@comcast.net
 - Please consider signing up to help with [October Steak Night](#)
- August 13th — Fundraiser at Jefferson's Lenexa from 4pm—7pm
 - 20% of the Proceeds come back to the Post
- September 8th — Steak Night, 6pm—7pm, \$20 per person
 - Please RSVP by 5pm on September 9th to Quartermaster Jason Parkes at j.parkes@comcast.net
 - Please consider volunteering to help with [September Steak Night](#)
- September 29th — Oktoberfest in the Club Room, can you win the boot challenge?
 - Come listen to The Alpen Spielers live in our Club Room

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

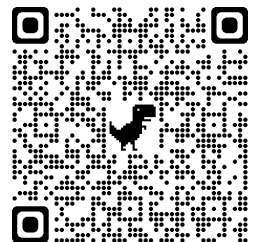


**Don't forget to check out our new swag
with the VFW Post Logo**

See the Display Case by the Canteen Door!



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

Scan the QR Code



August 2023



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 VFW & Aux Mtg 7pm VFW Riders Following | 4 | 5 Hold'em 1pm |
| 6 | 7  | 8 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm | 9 MCL Officers Meeting 6:30pm | 10 ALR Meeting 7pm | 11 Steak Night 6pm-7pm VFW Dept of KS School of Instruction Hays, KS | 12 Hold'em 1pm VFW Dept of KS School of Instruction Hays, KS |
| 13 Fundraiser at Jefferson's Lenexa 4pm-7pm | 14 | 15 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm | 16 SAL Smoked Chicken Dinner 6-7pm | 17 Post Planning Meeting 7pm | 18 Celebration of Life James "Deadbeat" Benson 5pm-8pm | 19 Hold'em 1pm District 2 School of Instruction DeSoto, KS |
| 20 | 21 American Legion, SAL & Aux Meeting 7pm | 22 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm | 23 MCL Meeting 6:30pm | 24 | 25 | 26 Hold'em 1pm |
| 27 | 28 | 29 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm | 30 | 31 | | |
| | | | | | |  |

September 2023



| 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 Riders' Poker Run 10am Hold'em 1pm |
| 10 | 11 | 12 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm | 13 MCL Officers Meeting 6:30pm | 14 ALR Meeting 7pm | 15 | 16 Hold'em 1pm Habitat for Humanity Work Day 8:30am-3pm |
| 17 | 18 American Legion & SAL Meeting 7pm | 19 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm | 20 | 21 Post Planning Meeting 7pm | 22 | 23 Hold'em 1pm |
| 24 | 25 | 26 \$1.50 Tacos 5-7pm PTSD Class 6:30pm Hold'em 6:30pm | 27 MCL Meeting 6:30pm | 28 | 29 In the Canteen | 30 |
| | | | | | | |

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE
FOR
JAMES "DEADBEAT" BENSON**



FRIDAY, AUGUST 18TH, 2023

5:00PM TO 8:00PM

(Short Service at 6:15PM

Food will be catered)

At

**VFW 7397/American Legion 407
9550 Pflumm Rd, Lenexa, KS**



VFW Day of Service

**Come join us for the VFW Post 7397 Fall Wok Day with
Habitat for Humanity**



**Habitat
for Humanity®**

Saturday, September 16, 0830 - 1500

**Members, Auxiliary, and Friends over 18 are welcome to
participate.**

Please use the [link](#) to sign up

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If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of our newsletter, please contact
vfw7397nwsltr@gmail.com

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



JENKINS LEGAL & FINANCIALSM



William "Nick" Jenkins, J.D.

Attorney & Financial Planner
U.S. Army Retired
VFW Post 7397, Life Member
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