



# AMVETS Post 1776 Cyber Newsletter

**Vol. 2 , No. 11, Published via Internet Monthly from Tallahassee AMVETS Post 1776, May, 2022**



## In this Issue

**Page 1: Commander's Message**

**Page 2: Chaplain's Corner, Finance Officer's Report**

**Page 3: A special "Thank You" from AMVETS Post 1776  
Page 3: Vietnam Memorial Day**

**Page 4: May Calendar of Events**

**Page 5: An invitation from Gold Star Mothers**

**PAGES 6 and 7: A big Thank you to all for our 9th (or 11th) Golf**

**Page 10: Nazi Dr. Huns Munch, Angel of Death or Life? by John Folsom.**



## *Commander's Corner...*

Hello to all our membership including almost a half dozen new members, including a couple of new life members. As you probably know already, we had another very successful Golf Tournament. Thank you to Tony, Ray, Paul, Richard, Nell and all the rest that helped make this year's tournament another one not to forget. We had 16 paying teams, a great silent auction and a great lunch. This being our annual fundraiser you need to know we raised enough money again this year to make some more substantial contributions to our veterans and other veteran service organizations. I don't think we raised the funds we did last year but it was close. We will make decisions at our next regular meeting in May for our distributions. See our press release in another section for the winners.

And as I speak of our May meeting, please try to make an effort to come. As of this writing, we plan to meet at a restaurant (probably Chow Time) and have a dinner meeting as we did a couple of years ago. May is considered our Annual Meeting where we vote on and install our Officers for the 2022/2023 year. We have a full slate of nominations and I look forward to the election where I know we will have at least one change and as nominations will be open just before the election, please come on out and become one of our leaders. More will follow this newsletter, including where we will meet for dinner. Stay tuned.

One other item of note, we have our "Resource Guide for Veterans in Need" in final draft form. Hopefully we will finish it up and get electronic and a printed copy available to those that want a copy. I have been getting requests from other VSOs already. And there are other things going on with our Post. Come on out and get involved.

*Semper Fi!, Gordon.*

AMVETS National was chartered in 1947 and the Tallahassee AMVETS Post 1776 was chartered in July 2009. AMVETS Post 1776 meets on the first Thursday of the month at American Legion Post 13, 229 Lake Ella Drive Tallahassee, Florida 32303. We invite honorably discharged veterans, including Guard and Reserve, from all branches to join us. We are a small Post doing big things for the veterans in the Tallahassee area. *For more information please visit us at:*

**[www.amvets1776.org](http://www.amvets1776.org)**



## *Chaplain's Corner.....*

O Lord, thank you that you promise to bring satisfaction and fulfillment to all our desires. Hear our prayer for our military and veterans and bless them today. May they find satisfaction in their work knowing that their labor is vital for the safety and security of our country. We ask that you fulfill their needs, may they look to you as their provider. You are the Sovereign King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light. To you be honor and eternal dominion. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.



## *Finance Officer's Report.....*

### **Golf Tournament After Action Report**

Lots of work goes into making AMVETS Golf Tournament function smoothly. The major player – Anthony “Tony” Minichiello had the experience and knowledge to lead a group of first timers through the process of developing a pamphlet for advertisement and silent auction that included obtaining items from various vendors and personnel, and the final ending ceremony. Each step of the way Tony provided a course of action that ensured success.

**The work started in January 2022**, the date of the Golf tournament was set for 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2022 after meeting with Golden Eagle Golf and Country Club. Tony printed three-hundred Golf tournament pamphlets that were distributed to various commercial groups as well as AMVETS members. **By February 2022**, money began to roll in and guess who gave the first donation — Tony! During this time frame Tony also ordered trophies, obtained silent auction items, and met with the Golden Eagle Golf Club manager to discuss the timely requirements needed (i.e., starting time, lunch, award ceremony) but the most important thing was he made numerous phone calls ensuring all previous and new golf players were aware of the upcoming tournament. He also coordinated with the finance officer on many necessary additional requirements.

**March 2022**, the donations began to come in and by the time of the Golf Tournament AMVETS collected over \$11000.00!

The golf tournament setup work began early on the **April 4, 2022**. Thinking I was needed to help set up I arrived early at the club; however, everything was completed, so I had a doughnut and waited. I set up the AMVETS table with information pamphlets; the players, attendees, arrived, everything went smoothly. The golf players began playing at 9:00AM o'clock. Food was served at 1:00PM o'clock and the closing ceremony started after 2:30PM following with the award ceremony. By 4:00PM o'clock the golf tournament was over.

Each of the timelines I mentioned above, Tony was involved and stayed on top of everything. His experience and knowledge insured that the AMVETS 2022 Golf Tournament was a huge success. So, with much gratitude and speaking for the AMVETS Membership -- Tony-- Thank You for all that you did, and time invested for last three months.

**Remember: All it takes is a DD 214, and you can join our AMVETS Post! We are “Veterans helping Veterans..... and proud to do so.**





## ***A special “Thank You” from AMVETS Post 1776***

We want to send a special thank you to Richard Duley with the Disabled Veterans of American chapter here in Tallahassee and Nell Hewitt with the American Legion's Post #13, Auxiliary, here in Tallahassee along with other folks that came to help with the registration tables and oversee the golf course where we put all the Sponsor signs. We had over 30 prominent sponsors this year. Business interest in our Golf tournament grows every year.

We also want to take a moment to thank John Folsom and Ray House, former Commanders of Post 1776, for their initiatives over 11 years ago when they started this golf tournament. John and Ray still contribute to the success of our Tournament every year. And another thank you to a new member of our tournament administration this year is Paul Rogerson our Finance Officer that manned one of our tables at the Club where we had our luncheon. Thank you to one and all.

AMVETS National was chartered in 1947 and the Tallahassee AMVETS Post 1776 was chartered in July 2009. AMVETS Post 1776 meets on the first Thursday of the month at the American Legion Hall on Lake Ella. We invite honorably discharged veterans from all branches of military service, including reservists.

---

## **Vietnam Memorial Day at the Tallahassee Cemetery**



On March 29th at the Tallahassee National Cemetery, Veterans gathered from all over Florida to attend the National Vietnam War memorial day. DAV admistrator Richard Duley was the keynote speaker. Richard, a Chinook pilot himself, was able to have one flown in for the event. Always the perfect Marine, CWO (Ret)Henry Lowery rose to the occasion belting out the words to the “Marine Corps Hymn” when it was played.

## Tallahassee AMVETS Post 1776 Calendar of Events, May 2022

| Sunday                                               | Monday                               | Tuesday   | Wednesday | Thursday                                                           | Friday    | Saturday  |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>1</b><br><br>Silver Star<br>Service<br>Banner Day | <b>2</b>                             | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b><br><b>National<br/>Day<br/>of Prayer</b><br>Cinco de Mayo | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>8</b><br><b>Mothers Day</b><br><b>VE Day</b>      | <b>9</b>                             | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b>                                                          | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b> |
| <b>15</b>                                            | <b>16</b>                            | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b>                                                          | <b>20</b> | <b>21</b> |
| <b>22</b>                                            | <b>23</b>                            | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b>                                                          | <b>27</b> | <b>28</b> |
| <b>29</b>                                            | <b>30</b><br><b>Memorial<br/>Day</b> | <b>31</b> |           |                                                                    |           |           |



**The Dream Flight** for Veterans will be active on Wednesday April 27th at the Millionaire Flight line at the Tallahassee Airport.

Sponsored by Liz Crawford and Sportclips, there are six men scheduled to fly; Charles LeCroy-USAF; Korea and Vietnam, Clyde Lee; USS Iowa,

WW2 Veteran, George Pitman; WW2 Veteran , John Haynes, USMC; WW2, Korea and Vietnam, Charles Reichert, WW2 Navy and John Finlayson, WW2 Navy. Leon HS Marine JROTC Unit will provide the Color Guard for opening ceremonies. Mission Bar-B-Que will provide food for the Veterans that fly and their families.

*Submitted by David Wilson*



## An INVITATION

Following World War I, an organization honoring the Mothers of the fallen military was established on June 4, 1928. During World War I, American families utilized a Gold Star pendant or banner to honor the supreme sacrifice made by a fallen son or daughter. Based upon that use of the gold star, it was felt the American mother who had given the “supreme sacrifice of motherhood” would also be recognized by use of the gold star. That organization was named the American Gold Star Mothers. Almost 100 years later, the organization continues to honor and assist the families of those who gave the last full measure.

In 2006 Lance Corporal Daniel Chaires was killed in action in Iraq. I attended his funeral at Chaires United Methodist Church where almost 1500 attended his services, then we marched to his home just down the street from the Church where Daniel was laid to rest.

I only met Daniel once when he came home and attended Church wearing his Marine Corps uniform, showing it off like so many of us young Marines liked to do. It was months later when his mother, Nan Cuchens-Chaires and Harry Chaires got the news their son was killed in action. In just a short while later I discovered Daniel was attached to Echo Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marines, which happened to be the unit I was attached to in Vietnam in 1968. What a coincidence while at the same time such a tragic story. But as described in the above narrative none of this is new. As early as World War I our Country has been honoring our young men and women that serve but more importantly, those that give that ultimate sacrifice. And this brief article goes one step further. This Country also honors the mothers and fathers and other family members that give up their loved ones for the sake of us all living in a Country that cherishes our freedom, in a Country that recognizes all the sacrifices made by our servicemen and servicewomen and their families.

And that is why Nan Cuchens-Chaires sent me a note and asked that I help her to set up a new Chapter for Gold Star Mothers of the Big Bend Area. A Chapter that can continue the work of the American Gold Star Mothers and assist the mothers and families of the fallen as well as other veterans of our military services in our area.

Please review the national organization website at [goldstarmoms.com](http://goldstarmoms.com) or email Nan for a packet of information at [cuchens66@earthlink.net](mailto:cuchens66@earthlink.net) if you are interested in joining and helping set up a Big Bend Chapter under American Gold Stars Mothers, Inc. Or contact me, Gordon Lightfoot at [dutchlight@embarqmail.com](mailto:dutchlight@embarqmail.com) for more information. Thank you.



# *The 2022 “Veterans helping Veterans” Golf Tournament*



1. Paul Rogerson, Post 1776 Finance Officer, welcomes all participants to the Tournament. 2. Golfers listen as John Folsom delivers a prayer. 3. Golfer tees off with a mighty swing hoping to stay out of the trees. 4. A beautiful day, good friends gathered together for a meaningful tournament, what could be better? 5. L to R: John, Gordon and Ray await players.

First place winners: “Thomas University” players, not in order: Richard Pearce, Rick Zweydorf, Corey Potter, and Brad Harper.

Second Place winners: The “Golden Eagle Buzzards” players not in order: Dan Collins; Jeff Hogan; Marty Greco and Charles Hawolth.



Presenting the trophies were Post Commander Gordon Lightfoot and Tony Minichiello, the Post’s Adjutant and Chair of the Golf Tournament.



# Players and Sponsors for the 2022 Tournament



Those are teams, shown above, which were captured for a photo. In reality we had sixteen teams play in this tournament which, unfortunately were not photographed. Pictured above are eight of those teams.



These are just some of the signs from our sponsors. We place them on the tee's through the course to thank them and also to let all the players know that we realize we could not have this tournament without thier support.





## Hans Wilhelm Munch

Dr. Hans Munch, member of the Nazi Party, was put on trial for the horrors of the war crimes committed at Auschwitz. HE WAS ACQUITTED.

Might be best to hear his story then we will know why. He saved prisoners from the gas chamber by having them participate in “fake experiments”. And as the war was ending he helped an inmate escape.

In June 1943, he was recruited as a scientist by the Waffen-SS and was sent to the Hygiene Institute of the Waffen-S in Raisko, about 4 km (2.5 mi) from the main camp at Auschwitz. Münch worked alongside the infamous Josef Mengele, who was the same age and also came from Bavaria. Münch continued the bacteriological research he was known for before the war, as well as making occasional inspections of the camps and the prisoners.

Along with other doctors, Münch was expected to participate in the “selections” at the camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau, to decide who among the incoming Jewish men, women and children could work, who would be experimented on, and who would be murdered in the gas chambers. He found this abhorrent and refused to take part; this was confirmed by witnesses’ testimony at his trial. The book on SS physicians of Auschwitz by Robert Jay Lifton (1986) mentions Münch as the only physician whose commitment to the Hippocratic oath proved stronger than that to the SS.

While Münch did conduct human experiments, these were often elaborate farces intended to protect inmates, as experiment subjects who were no longer useful were usually killed. According to testimony from inmate Dr. Louis Micheels, Münch’s last act before the camp was abandoned was to provide him with a revolver to assist his escape. After the evacuation of Auschwitz in 1945, Münch spent two months at the Dachau concentration camp near Munich.

However, there are doubts as to the truth of this story – another former inmate, Imre Gönczy alias “Emmerich,” paints a very different picture: apparently, Münch not only participated in selections but also used the flesh of the dead bodies to cook a broth which was used as a medium for his microbes. He did infect people, including Gönczy, with rheumatism. The latter is still suffering from these experiments. They met shortly before Münch’s death, and the meeting was covered by a journalist from the German newspaper Die Welt. In the meeting, Münch said if he could go back in time and choose to go to Auschwitz again, he’d absolutely do it, because he saw it as a huge opportunity.

After the war in 1945, Münch was arrested in a US internment camp after being identified as an Auschwitz physician. He was extradited to Poland in 1946 to stand trial in Kraków.

He was specifically accused of injecting inmates with malaria-infected blood, and with a serum that caused rheumatism; however, many former prisoners testified in support of Münch in their witness speeches. The court acquitted him on 22 December 1947, “not only because he did not commit any crime of harm against the camp prisoners, but because he had a benevolent attitude toward them and helped them, while he had to carry the responsibility. He did this independently of the nationality, race-and-religious origin, and political conviction of the prisoners. The court’s acquittal was based, among other things, on his strict refusal to participate in the selections. **Of the 40 Auschwitz staff tried in Kraków at the Auschwitz Trial, only Münch was acquitted. He was called the “Good Man of Auschwitz”, who had saved prisoners from being murdered in the gas chambers. Ende**

*Submitted by John Folsom*





## About us.....

AMVETS (American Veterans) is the nation's most inclusive Congressionally-chartered veterans service organization, representing the interests of 20 million veterans. AMVETS is open to and fighting for all who honorably served in the United States military, including the Reserve and Guard. With more than 250,000 members nationwide, we are veterans serving veterans.

AMVETS Mission Statement: To enhance and safeguard the entitlements for all American Veterans who have served honorably and to improve the quality of life for them, their families, and the communities where they live through leadership, advocacy and services.

AMVETS Charities participates in the Combined Federal Campaign through the Military, Veterans and Patriotic Services Organizations of America federation. Our Combined Federal Campaign number is 10519.

---

### A special "Thank You" from our Post.....

We want to send a special thank you to Richard Duley with the Disabled Veterans of American chapter here in Tallahassee and Nell Hewitt with the American Legion's Post #13, Auxiliary, here in Tallahassee along with other folks that came to help with the registration tables and oversee the golf course where we put all the

*Sponsor signs. We had over 30 prominent sponsors this year. Business interest in our Golf tournament grows every year.*

We also want to take a moment to thank John Folsom and Ray House, former Commanders of Post 1776, for their initiatives over 11 years ago when they started this golf tournament. John and Ray still contribute to the success of our Tournament every year. And another thank you to a new member of our tournament administration this year is Paul Rogerson our Finance Officer that manned one of our tables at the Club where we had our luncheon. Thank you to one and all.

*AMVETS National was chartered in 1947 and the Tallahassee AMVETS Post 1776 was chartered in July 2009. AMVETS Post 1776 meets on the first Thursday of the month at the American Legion Hall on Lake Ella. We invite honorably discharged veterans from all branches of military service, including reservists.*



## Tallahassee's Inaugural Cardboard Boat Race & Homebuilt Boat Show

All proceeds go to Warrior's Restoration, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization. Warrior's Restoration's mission is to provide long-term housing for chronically homeless and at-risk veterans. For more information, please visit [www.WarriorsRestoration.org](http://www.WarriorsRestoration.org).



### Platinum (1) is \$3500

Prominent placement on top of website pages, larger logo in the middle of the back of shirts, logo on materials, mentioned in pre-race and post-race announcements, 20×20 area to set up a display, free boat race entry, and seats on the dock to watch the race.

### Gold (2) is \$2000

Second level placement on Sponsorship page, midsize logo on the back of shirts, logo on materials, 10×10 area to set up a display, free boat race entry, mention in pre-race and post-race announcements.

### Silver (4) is \$1000 (3 spots left)

Third level placement on Sponsorship page, smaller logo on the back of shirts, 10×10 area to set up a display, free boat race entry, mention in post-race announcements.

### Bronze (4) is \$500 (2 spots left)

Lower level placement on Sponsorship page, small logo on the back of shirts, 10×10 area to set up a display, free boat race entry, mention in post-race announcements.

### Friends are \$250

Lower level placement on the Sponsorship page, 10×10 area to set up a display, and a free boat race entry.

**[www.BoatRaceTally.com](http://www.BoatRaceTally.com)**