

Henry J. Thomas Memorial Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 845



Meeting Schedules

- **Post Meeting: First Tuesday of the Month at 7:30 PM**
- **Ladies Auxiliary Meeting: 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM**
- **Home Association Meeting: Bi-Weekly at 7:15 PM**

From the Post Commander



Miguel Hernandez,
Post 845 Commander

I want to thank everyone who has come out to assist, and continue to assist, with events such as Memorial Day, 4th of July, and our adopted military unit program. It makes me proud to see post members come together to make these events a success. I am looking forward to serving such caring people as you're Commander.

We have completed construction on our Post and maintained the building to its original footprint. There are many new faces, please welcome everyone to our Post. Our kitchen is open currently Wednesday thru Saturday for dinners. Look for specials throughout the week.

Keep an open mind and a positive attitude as we progress into the future. Remember that our Post will pay the 1st year membership for a qualified VFW member and 20% off of a life membership.

I thank you again for your valuable time.

Miguel Hernandez
Post 845 Commander

*Volume 2, Issue 1
July, 2011*

Post Events

- 7/4 - Post Picnic
- 7/9 - Music: Steve Cofield
- 7/13 - Car Show
- 7/15 - Music: Miguel
- 7/16 - Music: Radio Wave
- 7/18 - Golf Outing
- 7/21 - Ladies Aux, White Elephant
- 7/22 - Karaoke
- 7/23 - Pancake Breakfast
- 7/23 - Music: Jammer Band

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We're on FACEBOOK!

Veterans of Foreign Wars - Post 845 - Downingtown, PA

Become a Fan and stay connected!



Post Officers

- ◆ **Commander:** Miguel Hernandez
- ◆ **Sr. Vice Commander:** Craig M. Wiley
- ◆ **Jr. Vice Commander:** Lenny Gillespie
- ◆ **Quartermaster:** Robert Broody
- ◆ **Chaplain:** Ralph Bassetti
- ◆ **Adjutant:** Tom Ames
- ◆ **Judge Advocate:** Frank Leman
- ◆ **Service Officer:** Paul Dougherty
- ◆ **Post Surgeon:** Marty Peterson
- ◆ **Officer-of-the-Day:** Tom Wise



Auxiliary Officers

- ◆ **President:** Ginny Pringle
- ◆ **Sr. Vice President:** Susan Hernandez
- ◆ **Jr. Vice President:** Stasha Feret-Peterson
- ◆ **Secretary:** Gina Wiley
- ◆ **Treasurer:** Bridget Wright
- ◆ **Chaplain:** Yolanda Walus
- ◆ **Guard:** Simone Luminello
- ◆ **Conductress:** Carol Gill
- ◆ **1 Year Trustee:** Paula Wyatt
- ◆ **2 Year Trustee:** TBD
- ◆ **3 Year Trustee:** Patricia Gillespie

Home Association

- ◆ President Home Association – Miguel Hernandez
- ◆ 3yr Trustee – Tom Ames
- ◆ 2yr Trustee – Tom Wise
- ◆ 1yr Trustee – Jerry Banks
- ◆ 1yr Trustee – Marty Peterson
- ◆ 1yr Trustee – Craig Wiley

The Kitchen is OPEN!!!!

The Kitchen is open from Wednesday - Saturday 4:00pm - 9:00pm

The food and prices are getting rave reviews! Try some appetizers, a soup & salad or maybe a burger or sandwich. There are tables and booths to eat at, stop in, you WON'T be disappointed.

Daily specials include:

Wednesday - Pasta

Thursday - Wings

Friday - Chefs choice (you'll have to stop in to see what he's making!)

Saturday - Meatloaf



Recent Events

May 30th - The VFW and The Ladies Auxiliary participated in the Memorial Day Parade & Services at the Veterans Memorial at Kerr Park.



June 13th - Participates with the Pennsylvania Hero Walk, raising funds for the Wounded Warrior Project passed through Chester County. They are in their third year of raising funds, which helps soldiers injured in Iraq and Afghanistan pay for medical bills and other expenses. The group will travel over 300 miles, through heat, rain and humidity. They stopped at our post and enjoyed lunch and a welcome by Miguel Hernandez, post commander followed by a visit to the Coatesville Veterans Affairs Hospital. They expect to raise close to \$100,000 this year!

July Events:

7/4 - 4th of July Picnic Come out & join us as we celebrate our independence. Bring a covered dish, the Post will provide hot dogs & hamburgers.

7/13 - Cruise for the Troops - Hot Rods, Muscle Cars, Classic Cars, Customs, Bikes...all are welcome! Free Registration. From 5:00pm - Dusk Cash Drawings

7/18 - Annual Golf Outing! Downingtown Country Club

Sign up & pay at Post. | Tee off at 8:00am | \$80.00/person | \$50.00/to sponsor a hole

Outing includes: Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd, longest drive, closest to the pin for men & women & lunch at the VFW. Proceeds will benefit Folds of Honor.



7/21- Ladies Auxiliary White Elephant — Bring a covered dish and a wrapped gift and get ready for some fun. Starts at 6:00pm

7/23 - ALL YOU CAN EAT Pancake Breakfast 7:00am - 10:00am cost-\$5.00

The Ladies Auxiliary, Words from the President

Greetings Comrades and Sisters,

As the newly appointed President of the VFW Post #845 Ladies Aux. I would first like to personally thank and recognize the exiting Ladies Aux. President, Debbie Albright. In 2006, Debbie stepped up and took the position of President at a time when our Auxiliary was at a very critical fork in the road. Over these last (5) years she has taught me, with her actions, what loyalty, dedication, commitment and determination means, and for that I am truly grateful. I look forward to “taking the baton” from Debbie and carrying it with the same amount of pride and determination as she has during her (5) terms as President. Again, thank you, Debbie!

So, who am I and how did I get here? Well, I grew up in Downingtown and am the youngest sister to (3) older brothers. The daughter of a Truck Driver, my late father, Ray “Montana” Davis, fought in the Korean War. Both my parents became very active members of the VFW Post #845 beginning in the early 80's. My mother, Carol Osborne, encouraged me to join her in becoming a member of the Ladies Aux. at the age of 16. However, I did not become active up until approximately (8) years ago when I saw the Auxiliary was in desperate need of support. Since then I have held the position of Sr. Vice President, Jr. Vice President and most recently Secretary for the last few years. I am currently engaged to a wonderful man with two awesome kids, work a full time job as an Invoicing/Data Entry Manager for a cable construction company and am the mother to a Black Lab and two cats.

But enough about me, please let me introduce to you those who have so graciously chosen to support me in these new uncharted waters I will be entering into as President for the 2011-2012 year:

- ◆ Sr. Vice President- Susan Hernandez
- ◆ Jr. Vice President- Stasha Feret-Peterson
- ◆ Secretary- Gina Wiley
- ◆ Chaplain- Yolanda Walus
- ◆ 3 Year Trustee: Patricia Gillespie
- ◆ 2 Year Trustee: Myrtle Butterman
- ◆ 1 Year Trustee: Paula Wyatt
- ◆ Treasurer: Bridgette Mize
- ◆ Conductress: Carol Gill
- ◆ Guard: Simone Luminello



A sincere thank you to these ladies, who have answered the call to help keep the Post #845 Ladies Auxiliary alive. By accepting these positions, these ladies allow us to continue to carry out the good works we do by supporting the veterans and their families who make the ultimate sacrifice.

My goals for this upcoming year, are pretty simple. The first is to make every attempt to fulfill the Auxiliary's *mission statement* in whatever we do, which is: "**HONOR THE DEAD, BY HELPING THE LIVING**".

A few ideas of how we might be able to accomplish this, but not limited to:

- ◆ Supporting/joining the Men of the Post in their functions, whenever possible.
- ◆ Remaining involved in the Memorial Day, 4th of July & Veterans Day events happening in the community.
- ◆ Continuing to reach out to the veterans residing at the Coatesville VA Hospital
- ◆ Hosting fund raisers for various causes
- ◆ Maybe "Adopting-a-Highway" and cleaning up a local state road
- ◆ Collecting canned/dry goods for veterans or the local food bank
- ◆ Organizing an Auxiliary Tea/Aux. meeting for our elder members during a Saturday afternoon.
- ◆ Supporting the Buddy Poppy Program

My second goal is to educate. Educate myself, along with my sister Auxiliary members, both the new and long-time members, about the workings of the Auxiliary, from an organization stand-point; re-introducing formalities and procedures that have slowly fallen by the wayside over the years through no fault of anyone's. I'd like to start educating the public, letting them know we're here and the sole purpose for which we exist.

Referring back to our Mission Statement, the other half of it reads: ***We set out to serve the veterans of this country and our communities as a testament to the sacrifices and commitment of every man and woman who has served in uniform.*** I feel strongly that the only way the Ladies Auxiliary can accomplish this is by reaching out to our community, to our schools, churches, funeral homes, etc. and educating them on ways we can be a source of support wherever there's a need.

Last, but not least, my third goal is to recruit. During my last (8) years of service in the Auxiliary, we have hosted some extremely worthwhile events, and I can honestly say that there's no greater joy, for me, then knowing I've helped make someone's day just a little bit better. However, the participation in the Auxiliary has declined over the years and in order for us to continue to "do what we do" we need able bodies with positive attitudes, and a willingness to be part of a team to continue our journey.

As Ken Blanchard said, "***None of us is as smart as all of us***". We need you, ladies!! We need your knowledge, your ideas, your thoughts, and your suggestions. We may not be able to implement them all, but we can sure try!

"Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is a progress, working together is success."
Henry Ford said this, and I think he's a man who knew a little something about team work. Won't you join me in "coming together" not only as an Auxiliary, *but as a Post*, so we can experience the success Henry Ford spoke of?



Sincerely,
Ginny Pringle, President
Ladies Aux. VFW #845
484-364-1477 | vcp3667@comcast.net



**HENRY J. THOMAS MEMORIAL
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
POST 845**

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Downingtown, PA 19335
Phone: 610-269-8818
Email: webmaster@vfwpost845.org
Steward/Manager Joyce Jones**



**VFW & Ladies Auxiliary
Business Directory**

Do you own a business or provide a service that you would like the members of the VFW to know about?

Email your business contact information or a copy of your business card to newsletter@VFWpost845.org

Directory open to Regular Members,
Social Members & Ladies Auxiliary



REMINDER: The VFW Post 845 is a NO Profanity Post!

Please refrain from using profanity while enjoying our club so everyone feels welcome.