

# American Legion Post 129

: Post129@comcast.net

February 2014

## Upcoming Events

- **February 2**  
2:00 Four Chaplains  
4:30 Super Bowl Party
- **February 5**  
7:00 House Committee
- **February 6**  
6:00 Planning Board  
6:30 E-Board  
7:00 Auxiliary  
7:30 General meeting
- **February 13**  
7:00 40&8 & Cabane
- **February 14**  
Valentines dinner
- **February 15**  
10:00 ALR meeting
- **February 26**  
6:00 S.A.L. meeting

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## Commander's Corner by Danny Rodriguez

So as I see again, the post is still shining. The National Commander Dan Dillinger paid a short visit to the post, and we have received outstanding comments from the commander and his entourage. We were also talked about at other post that he visited.

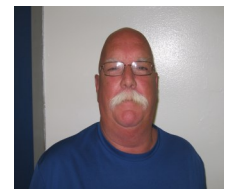
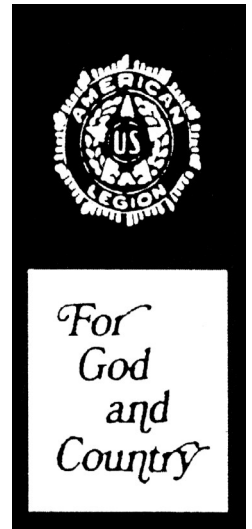
We also showed respect and honor to a returning POW/MIA from the Korean War as he was laid to rest at the national cemetery. He is home and at rest after 66 years.

With deep sadness we say good bye to Doris Hood, who past on January 14. She will be missed.

I want to take a few minutes to talk about membership. At the time that I am writing this we are at 91.4%, this puts us a month ahead of the department goals. I am still hoping to make 100% by the January 31<sup>st</sup>.

We are hosting the meet and greet for the Florida Legacy Run. We will be host to about 180 riders on March 26. They will depart on the 27<sup>th</sup> for a 1180 mile ride that shoelaces across the state.

I have to continue with the thanking the Volunteers for their continued work. Remember they are priceless and keep us shining and going.  
(continued on page 3)



## 1st Vice Comments by Don Grzena

I would like to **THANK** all the volunteers that helped out with Vet for Vet Coffee month at the Five Star house. Thank you to the two Organizations that helped out. You know who you are. We provided coffee and donuts to the Homeless Veterans living at the home. Any questions, please contact me.

### 2014 Cards

By now you should have your 2014 cards. If you don't, then you are suspended from the Legion. According to the By-laws, the only way you can get back into the Legion, is by being voted back into the Legion at the General

Meeting and paying your dues. If you have any questions, please see Jerry or myself to get your card.

(continued on page 6)



# Auxiliary News

by Kelly Bush

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers that helped with steak bingo and Doris Hood's Celebration of Life, she will be truly missed by all of us. Also, for those that attended our Five Star Veterans Center in January. We are blessed to be able to help our community in so many ways. Please come out for our Auxiliary dinner and steak bingo on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Also, continue to bring in your coupons and box tops for education, every little bit helps out. Don't forget to keep track of your volunteer hours, reporting time will be here in April. Upcoming February Events: Four

Chaplains Memorial Service Sunday, 2/2, at 2 p.m. and Fifth District Meeting at Post 233 at 2 p.m. on Sunday, 2/9.

We will be holding an Executive Committee Meeting on February 6, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. before our regular general meeting; I hope all Executive Committee members can be there.

Please continue to support our entire Legion Family and enjoy all of the wonderful breakfast, lunch, and dinner specials available throughout the month. Don't hesitate to contact our Auxiliary AEF

Chairman, Cindy Jordan, if you or one of our members is in need of some financial assistance. *This is your unit.*

Yours in service, Kelly Bush, ALA Unit 129 President



# American Legion Riders

by Lee Fair



We have a lot of events coming up in the next few months. February 2nd is the Four Chaplains ceremony at Post 129, we are escorting the District Commander from Post 316 to Post 129. Riders need to be there at 1200 hours. We will have police escorts the entire route. Valentines Day February 14th is the riders night to do the meal. We are having surf and turf and all the fixings. The donation is \$15. This meal is by reservation only. Reservations are limited to 60 people and must be made and paid no later than February 7th.

We will still have a beefed up steak bingo that night. Meal will be served from 5:30 PM until 7:00 Pm and steak bingo will follow at 7:30 PM.

Looking ahead to March the Department of Florida Legion Riders Legacy Ride which provides money for scholarships for those who have lost family members killed in war will have a meet and greet at our post March 26th at 6pm. They will be departing from our post at 8am the 27th. The total mileage for the ride is about 1,180 miles

and is visiting over 40 posts with overnight stops in Crystal River, Palm Bay, St. Petersburg, Ft. Myers, Port St. Lucie, Leesburg and Jacksonville. Last stop is at Post 137. Anyone wishing to participate may ride the entire ride or any portion they wish. For more information contact: Mike Kirchoff at [goat392@gmail.com](mailto:goat392@gmail.com). We also have a committee set up for our October Wreaths Across America Poker run the 2nd Saturday of October. Lets make it as successful as last year which we raised over \$6,000.00. Hopefully we will be able to do even more this year.

## Officers for 2013—2014

Commander.....Danny Rodriguez  
1st Vice.....Don Grzena  
2nd Vice.....Terry Stickle  
3rd Vice.....Stephanie Cain  
4th Vice.....Frank DeCoste  
Sgt at Arms.....A.K. Rogers  
Adjutant.....Jerry Brandt  
Judge Advocate.....Bob Wilson  
Finance.....Bob Schlatter  
Chaplain.....Brian Hancher  
Service Officer.....Robert Schmitt

### *E-Board Members*    *House Committee*

Debra Left	Bill Wilson
Tommy Williams	Frank Redmond
Lee Fair	Rich Hansberg
Chuck Nist	Kathy Jewell (Aux)
Robert Schmitt	Dale Peterson
	Nolan Bomar
	Dave Jordan

*Auxiliary President,*  
Kelly Bush  
*Commander S.A.L.,*  
JD Kapeghian  
*Chef De Gare 40 & 8,*  
Marie Kraemer  
*La Presidente, Cabane 215,*  
Louise Bagdasarian  
*AL Riders Director*  
Lee Fair

## Commander (continue from page 1)

I have requested that the volunteer lunch be held in March.

The election committee has been formed. If you are interested in running for an officer position. Please let Don G. know.

I am looking forward to the next year. I just want to see how the post and the family are going to shine even more. I want to see us grow. Like I said when I was elected that I wanted us to support and work on the 4 pillars. And we have. Lets keep up the great work. I am also asking that all the members that have done work on the four pillars to report their hours and if you gave monetary gifts please tell us. We report these to national and it lets them know what we are doing.

In case you don't remember what the 4 pillars are they are veterans, child welfare, national security, and Americanism. We can all help by just donating just a little time by volunteering.

Our Four chaplain's service will be held on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our service has been recognized by the department as an outstanding example, and Bill Reno has received awards for it.

For you football fanatics we will be holding a Super Bowl party in the cañteen. Suggest you get there early for a seat Lets remember that the POW/MIA table is there as a reminder that we must not give up the fight for the return of those missing. Do not place anything on or remove anything from the table. Respect it as you would the alter of your church.

## Four Chaplains



All are invited to the American Legion 5th District of Florida's FOUR CHAPLAINS MEMORIAL SERVICE on Sunday, February 2, 2014 at 2pm.

American Legion Ocean Beaches Post 129, 1151 S. Fourth Street, Jacksonville Beach.

For more information contact Chaplain Bill Reno. [Whr2@aol.com](mailto:Whr2@aol.com) or 904-318-0363  
[www.fourchaplains.org](http://www.fourchaplains.org)

## Voiture News by Marie K Spine, Chef DeGare

I hope everyone had a Happy and Safe Holiday Season. Our train, "Big Toot," participated in the Gator Bowl Parade on 31 Dec 2013, carrying 12 Forestry Service Queens. Voiture 215 was well represented, as our own VIP's included Chef de Chemin de Fer Pat Beamer, Past American Legion National Commander Clarence Hill (also a member of Voiture 215), Sous Aumonier Nationale Joe Nolan, and Grand Guard de la Porte D.R. Richards. A Big Merci to all those who helped to make this a huge success.

Just to change things up a bit, it was decided that the Cabane would host the dinner (with the help of Danny in the kitchen) and the Voiture will run the steak bingo.

Upcoming events: North-East Florida, First-Coast Wreck Association Wreck 21-23 Mar 2014 hosted by Voiture 1610, St Augustine: Southland Dixie Promenade 24-27 Apr 2014 at The Plantation Inn and Resort, Crystal

River; Chef de Chemin de Fer Pat Beamer's Homecoming Dinner 26 Apr 2014, at Southland Dixie.

Voyageurs, how would you like to win your 2015 dues paid by the Voiture? It has been passed that the Voyageur who nominates the highest number of eligible candidates between now and 01 Jun 2014, would have their 2015 dues paid by the Voiture.

In an effort to improve communication, I would like to create an e-mail listing for Voiture 215. Please send me an e-mail with V-215 in the subject line and your name in the text block. Dames are welcome to be included in this list, just put C-215 in the subject line. Thank you.

Our next Cheminot and Promenade will be 13 Feb 2014 at 1900. I am looking forward to seeing everyone there, so please mark your calendars. For any questions, concerns, comments or suggestions I can be reached at e-mail address [gambler@hotmail.com](mailto:gambler@hotmail.com) or via text message at 352-697-1749.

Please indicate 40/8 or 215 in the subject line. Thank you for your support.

## Cabane News

When this comes out, a few of us will have attended Mid Winter Grande. It was very enlightening to all of us who attended. Our rendezvous was very informative. February will be a busy month planning for March Raffle. I am sure it will be exciting for all. Keep an eye out for the March raffle. The Cabane cooked dinner on January 31st. I am sure it was enjoyed by all! Come out and enjoy the fun and temp your palette!!

Respectfully,  
Louise Bagdasarian  
La Presidente

# Canteen Update

by Brandi Roberts



Hello from your Canteen Staff

Who knew time could move so fast! Although 2013 was full of wonderful events, fundraisers, and meals we are working hard here at Post 129 to make 2014 even better! This year we plan to bring back events that you have all enjoyed and are continuing to work on new ideas.

The month of February will be full as well. On Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> join us for the American Legion Riders Bike Night with DJ Robert and the virtual shooting range. On Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> we will host the Four Chaplains memorial service at 2pm and a Super Bowl party in the canteen area that evening. You are not going

to want to miss the ALR Valentine's Day event. They are currently working on the menu but I am told it is going to be fabulous! This will be a presale dinner and tickets are limited so please be sure to make your reservation with Richard Jordan as soon as possible. Last day for sales will be February 7<sup>th</sup>.

The Knights to Remember Oldies Revue will be held on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. We are limiting tickets this year to make sure that everyone has room to dance and enjoy. Tickets are on sale in the main canteen are for only \$10. Be sure to get yours early!

We know there is a lot going on at our Post and in an effort to keep everyone informed of all the great events, meals, activities, and specials we have started a weekly email. If you would like to be added to the list please sign up on our new website <http://www.post129.org/> or send me a email directly at brandi-roberts@att.net As always we would like to thank all the members that help out around the canteen there are too many of you to name but we hope that you know how thankful we are for your help. This canteen could not run without you! Let us know your needs and expectations.

## Ask Ethel.....

**Dear Ethel:** Old age is tough. Just when you learn to make the best of life, the best is mostly over. Comment? Silver haired-Sam

**Not So fast, Sam:** Think of how much fun it is to forget something and promptly be forgiven.

**Dear Ethel:** Question-Since women are

Often extremely intelligent, how come they usually dance backward?— Twinkle toes Ted

**Dear Ted:** Because they don't wanna win the race by making like a track star. For the same reason, they frequently wear high heel shoes.



If you have any questions for the "Ask Ethel" column, she would appreciate your input. Send the questions to Ethel at: [triplejj@comcast.net](mailto:triplejj@comcast.net)

## Wall of Honor

We are attempting to start a new tradition at American Legion Post 129. We would like to place up pictures of all ACTIVE DUTY Personnel, in Uniform on our wall.

Please give a picture of your service person to the Commander Danny Rodriguez or Jerry Brandt

## A few of the Events Coming in 2014

February 2:  
2:00pm Four Chaplains Memorial  
4:30pm Super Bowl Party

February 14th: Valentines Day dinner

March: Cabane Raffle month

March 4th: Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras

March 8th: Knights to Remember Oldies musical revue

March 17th: St Patrick's Day

April: Legion Raffle month

April 12th: Comedy night

April 20th Easter Sunday

April 27th: Beaches Parade



## Legion Lore

by Jack Hardebeck



Members of Post 129 have apparently been so preoccupied with football in recent months that many may have forgotten what a fascinating game golf is. Convinced of this, some of our people meet at local courses to play. Naturally, some are less skilled than others and, in fact, sometimes laughingly refer to their brand of the sport as “goof.”

Most of these participants would nevertheless love to raise their adeptness at the game. I, personally, no longer go golfing. Years ago, a “friend” borrowed my equipment and then moved away, taking

it with him. The clubs and bag had been given to me by my dad, who quit playing in disgust over his poor performance on the links. The last straw was the time we were playing at a hilly course where much rain had fallen, preventing mowing of the fairways. He got teed off after he teed off. The numerous white “toad stools” (mushroom-type growths) all looked like golf balls, so he could not find his own, real ball. He took up fishing.

Someday I might resume golfing if I can find a course made of artificial grass.

## Softball is Back!!



We are looking for personnel who would like to play Softball, in the upcoming season. The season will start in the February/March time frame and we will be facing other Softball teams fielded by other Legion Posts. You may not realize it, but American Legion Post revitalize the Softball League for the 5th District, however now we have a hard time fielding a team. If interested, please see Mike Barker JR or Jerry Brandt.

## Mark Your Calendars for a Very Special Event

We are pleased to announce that on the 8th of March we will be hosting an oldies revue with the group, Knights to Remember.

Knights to Remember is a self contained, high energy oldies revue group. Their mixed bag of tunes will surely take you on a musical trip recapturing those glorious carefree yesterdays. “Knights to Remember” has been performing for sold

Out audiences in the North East Florida area for the past few years. Together they project that certain contagious chemistry, giving them the ability to ignite a crowd, keeping them dancing as well as entertained. Tickets will cost \$10 and be available at the canteen. This is a night you do not want to miss.



## Editor's Comments

by Sterling L. Phaklides

I invite your comments. What would you like to see in this newsletter? Do you have a question about any one of the American Legion families (Legion, Auxiliary, ALR, SAL) that we might answer in the newsletter. Maybe others have the same question. Would you be interested in writing a article once in a while. Let me know what you

like or don't like.

Maybe you are even interested in becoming the newsletter editor. The job is always open. It takes some time but it is not only fun it keeps you in the loop with what is going on at the Post. Please let me know what you would like to see to improve this newsletter.

My contact information is: sterling1960@comcast.net or you can reach me on my cell phone 294-4234



## 1st Vice comments (continued from page 1)

Right now, we are at 91.4%!!  
With the E-board permission, I am starting something new with Membership. Any Post Member that gets **Three new members** to join, will get his or hers yearly due paid by the Post. And if you get **six new members**, the Post will pay for two years of your membership. Any questions about this or your cards, please see me.

### Operation Open Door

"**Operation Open Door!**" is back on track. **Thank you** so far to **ALL** that have donated to this worthy cost!!!. I know with the Holidays, that many of yours couldn't give. But now that the Holidays are pass us, I am hoping that I will get some more donations! I have about \$1000 right now. My goal is \$2,000.

**PLEASE** help out with this great project!! I will take checks, money, and loose change. If giving a check, please make it out to the Post. In the "for" section of the check, put down Operation Open Door fund. I will **not stop** until I reach my goal!! Any questions about this, please ask me. Thank you!!

C U around the Post.....:))



## Valentine's Day

A nice holiday because it's the first day of the rest of your wife!

All my wife wanted for Valentines day was a little card...American Express.

On Valentine's day, I wired flowers for my mother-in-law, but she found the fuse!

Valentine's day is like Armistice Day...you declare a truce!

A woman complained that her husband never bought her anything. For Valentine's day this year she wanted something to protect her and something she could drive. So he bought her a hammer and a nail!

## S.A.L. News

by JD Kapeghian



The S.A.L. members and family say a super sad "goodbye" to a very dear friend and 'family' member of this post, Doris "Short-Shit" Hood. Over the years the smile she has put on so many peoples faces, from the stuff that came out of her mouth, will never be forgotten. For her little size, she was and will stay a huge presence for all. Our hearts and prayers go out to her family. By the time you read this newsletter, if it's not too late, please be sure to wish Richard Kasovich the best of luck for him and his family, on their relocation up north. His advice and knowledge of how to make the S.A.L. run as smooth as it has been over my last few years as commander has been priceless. I would like to thank everyone for their participation in our Super Bowl Party. A lot went into it to make it a success. All of the proceeds went to one of the best causes around, the Canines for

Warriors. It is a very admirable organization to donate to, for the rewards our veterans receive from them.

If anyone has not paid their S.A.L. 2014 dues, bartenders have been checking cards to make sure all members have updated their membership. Don't forget to do that. We are close to our 100% goal, please help us reach it. Friday, Feb.7, dinner will be a rotisserie pork tenderloin with roasted potatoes, mixed vegetables and of course applesauce, garlic bread and homemade dessert. On Monday Feb. 17th, in honor of Presidents Day, the S.A.L. will be having collard greens, spineless fried chicken breast and cornbread. Congratulations to whoever won the S.A.L. raffle and the silent auction.

Thank you and goodnight.

# The World According to Me by Patty Rodriguez

It has been my observation that 2014 has not yet blessed many of our Friends and Family members with what they have wished for. This Life may not be the "party we hoped for, but while we're here we should dance."

Our Life is short and time flies by.

We have no replay or rewind.

The Struggle we have today is developing the STRENGTH we need for tomorrow.

Remember We are STRONG.

American Legion 129 Strong.

This is my wish for you: comfort on difficult days, smiles when sadness intrudes, rainbows to follow the clouds, laughter to kiss your lips, sunsets to warm your heart, hugs when spirits sag, beauty for your eyes to see, friendships to brighten your being, faith so that you can believe, confidence for when you doubt, courage to know yourself, patience to accept the truth, love to complete your life.

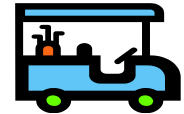
Happiness often sneaks in through a door you didn't know you left open. John Barrymore



# 9 Hole Golf (Sat)

On Saturdays in January we have had 14—23 golfers enjoying the sun and the game of golf. We now have over 40 signed up to play. Come on down and join us. Give me a call at 294-4234 or e-mail me at sterling1960@comcast.net. I send out an e-mail every Tuesday to find out who will be playing the following Saturday. Individuals that are going to play need to let me know so that I can schedule the proper number of t-times. First t-time is around 11:15am. Have some fun, join us.

Sterling



## New Members

**Let's Welcome these new members to American Legion Post 129** (November 2013)

No new members or transfers this month!!

Challenge yourself to go out and get one new member in February. There are many individuals that are eligible in our area that are not members. Just ask one this month

## Who is this Post 129 Member?



We do not have a man or woman in uniform this month. If you know someone who has a picture of themselves and would like to share it with others, , please let Jerry Brandt or Sterling know.



## It's now at Post 129

It began on Tuesday, January 7, 2014 lunch is available from 11:00 to 3:00. Richard Jordan is preparing a limited menu with menu items posted each week. The price range will be from \$4.00 to \$6.00. Come join us and share a mid-day meal. Lunches will be served Tuesday through Friday of each week.

## "The Queen of Diamonds"

In January 2014 a new type of raffle, "The Queen of Diamonds" will be played every Saturday at 7pm.

Information about the "Queen of Diamonds" will be posted.

**The  
American  
Legion**

1151 S. Fourth St.  
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

**POST  
129**

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**Address Service Requested**

If you would like to become a Post 129 booster, please contact the Finance Officer. The dates below are booster expiration dates. Levels of booster sponsorship; Diamond \$100+, Platinum \$100, Gold \$50, Silver \$25, Bronze \$10.  
**BOOSTER LIST**

**Diamond Level, \$100+**

- Bob Schlatter (11/14)
- In memory of F. Joe Cornell (10/14)
- In memory of George A. Campbell (1/15)
- In memory of James M. Chilton (1/15)
- In memory of Arlene G. Chilton (1/15)

**Platinum Level, \$100**

- In memory of Cindy Burroughs (7/14)
- Frank & Margie Redmond (8/13)
- Vince Rogers (1/14)

**Gold Level, \$50**

- Chuck & Sue Nist (4/14)
- James M. Denholm (1/14)
- Charlie Parker (9/14)
- Bill Garrett (6/14)
- Sally & Pearse Doherty (8/14)

**Silver Level, \$25**

- In memory of Brad & Gerry Terrell (12/14)
- Sterling & Linda Phaklides (6/14)
- In memory of Kim White (10/14)
- Nicholas Patrizio (10/14)
- P-Nut & Liz Wilson (11/14)
- C.M. Walker (10/14)
- Nick Patrizio (10/14)

- Louise Taylor Braren (2/15)
- In memory of Jim Forbess 11/14)
- In memory of Donald Forbess (11/14)

**Bronze Level, \$10**

- Estelle Mellon (9/14)
- In memory of Skip Hilliker (10/14)
- William & Fannie Bivens (10/14)
- Maddy Chitko (2/14)
- Richard & Jo Ann Scoggins (4/15)
- Robert Gomez (1/16)
- Russell & Mary Lou Jones (9/14)
- Pete Riebesehl (11/13) MIA Henry Koch
- John & Gloria Molisani (8/15)

Let's  
Fill  
This  
Booster  
List  
Up  
Again