

American Legion Post 129

: Post129@comcast.net

March 2014

Upcoming Events

- **March 5**
7:00 House Committee
- **March 6**
6:00 Planning Board
6:30 E-Board
7:00 Auxiliary
7:30 General meeting
- **March 13**
7:00 40&8 & Cabane
K9s Veterans Day
- **March 15**
10:00 ALR meeting
- **March 26**
6:00 S.A.L. meeting

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Commander's Corner by Danny Rodriguez

I want to take a few minutes to talk about membership. At the time that I am writing this we are at 100%. We should be at 100%. This does not mean we can relax, it just means that I am going to slow down about it. Next goal I have is 110%.

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 27th for a 1,180 mile ride that shoe laces across the state.

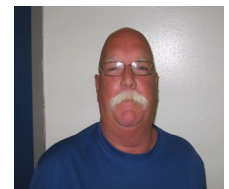
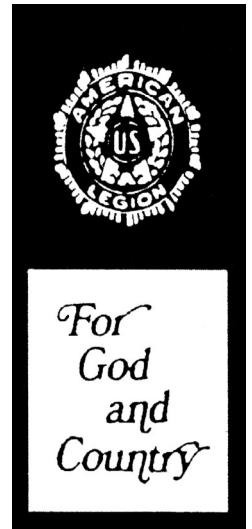
I have to continue thanking the Volunteers for their work.

Remember they are priceless and keep us shining and going. The volunteer lunch is held on March 23rd at 13:00 hours. We will have a simple meal and hopefully some entertainment.

There will be another MIAP service toward the end of the month. If you can attend please do so. These are Veterans that have been forgotten and left on the back shelves of funeral homes. Now is the time to give them Respect and the Honors that they deserve.

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

(continued on page 3)



1st Vice Comments by Don Grzena

Nomination for Officers for the 2014 – 2015 year

Anyone interested in running for any office, please see me about it. You must be a 2014 card carrying member. Elections will be held in May.

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. Right now, we are at 100%!! I want to thank everyone (continued on page 6)



Auxiliary News

by Kelly Bush

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers that helped with our monthly steak bingo and dinner night. Also, thank you to the Women's Club and all of our wonderful members for helping us cut & collect coupons for our troops overseas; keep up the great work!

Please bring your volunteer hours to us this month. We must complete our annual reports by Sunday, April 13th, in order to hand deliver them to the 5th District Chairmen at our next meeting at Post 54, Fernandina Beach.

Please join us on March 21st for another wonderful dinner and steak

bingo night provided by our Auxiliary volunteers. Please continue to support our entire Legion Family and enjoy all of the wonderful breakfast, lunch, and dinner specials available throughout the month. Thank you to our ALR & Canteen for the superb Valentine's Dinner and drink specials; you made us all feel much loved!

We would like to extend a hearty welcome to our new members and transfers to ALA Unit 129: *Elizabeth Hobbs, Cheryl Wineland, Teresa Wineland, Dolores Carlson, Cari Ann Drew, Lorraine Smith, and MaryLou Graleske.*

We look forward to getting to know you better & joining you in honoring and serving of our veterans.

Yours in service, Kelly Bush, ALA Unit 129 President



American Legion Riders by Lee Fair



Thank you to all the riders who volunteered to help on Valentines Day. A special thanks to Richard Jordon for preparing a great meal and to Paulina for making all the beautiful decorations. I received a lot of compliments for the riders for a great night.

March 26th we will be hosting a pre ride get together for the Florida State Legacy Ride which will be departing from 129 at 8AM March 27th. Anyone wishing to participate we have registration forms, waiver forms, emergency medical forms and

medication forms available. Pre registration is \$15.00per rider and \$10.00 per passenger. We also have the itinerary available. Total distance is approx. 1255 mile..The final stop is at Post137 on April 2nd. If you can't participate in the entire ride you may pick any portion of the ride you prefer. The proceeds are used to ensure higher education for children whose parents have been killed while serving our country.

March 1st we will be presenting a plaque to ALR Chapter 283 at their

meeting at 9AM. Anyone wishing to participate we will be meeting at 129 at 8 AM or you may go directly to 283 and be there in time for the meeting. March 1st is also our bike night. Barry will not be able to be there because of other commitments, we will break out the BB guns and targets again if the back hall is available. Otherwise we will have to do some other games such as the horse races, corn hole, if someone has other suggestions let me know before then.

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

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 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 and let us keep up the great work. I also am asking that all the members that have done work on the four pillars to report their hours and if you had given monetary gifts please tell us. We report these to national and lets them know what we are doing. If you don't remember what the 4 pillars are they are Veterans, Child Welfare, National Security and Americanism. We can all help by just

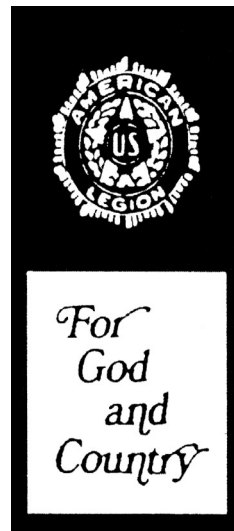
donating a little time by volunteering.

So we have been playing a game called the "Queen of Diamonds", the rules are posted in the post. Just to let you know that the pot is now up to over \$900.00, so now it a good time to get in on it

I have to say goodbye to several of our members. They were called to the Supreme Commander side

One last thing, let us 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. I say this as a reminder to our members and guests not to place anything on or remove anything from the table. Respect it as

would the altar of your church.



The World According to Me

by Patty Rodriguez

Earlier this week, as I was listening to the neighborhood children outside playing, I hear these old familiar words...
"Go ahead and just do it, I Dare you!"

It brings back the memories of when I was growing up with my brother and sister. Those words were part of the daily conversation which also ended up being the famous last words of my own children prior to them getting into trouble of some kind. In raising our children we try to teach them about life and its amazing that they end up teaching us what life is actually all about and how it should and could be. I was immediately reminded about this:

DARE TO BE

When a new day begins, dare to

smile gratefully.

When there is darkness, dare to be the first to shine a light...

When there is injustice, dare to be the first to condemn it.

When something seems difficult, dare to do it anyway.

When life seems to beat you down, dare to fight back.

When there seems to be no hope, dare to find some.

When you're feeling tired, dare to keep going.

When times are tough, dare to be tougher.

When love hurts you, dare to love again.

When someone is hurting, dare to help them heal.

When another is lost, dare to help them find the way.

When a friend falls, dare to be the first to extend a hand.

When you cross paths with another, dare to make them smile.

When you feel great, dare to help someone else feel great too.

When the day has ended, dare to feel as you've done your best.

Dare to be the best you can be.

At all times, Dare to be!

Steve Maraboli

I declare to let March be the Month of each of to "Dare" ourselves to try something new.

Canteen Update

by Brandi Roberts



Wow! We are only three months into 2014 and even I can't believe how busy we have become! This month is full of special events! On top of that we are bringing in monthly drink specials and bringing back Sunday Night game night! Ask your bartender for full details on those. First on Saturday, March 1st we will be hosting the monthly ALR Bike night. I'm sure they will have full details for you in their article but I know they will have food and DJ Robert will be here to keep you entertained all night long! On Saturday, March 8th we will be hosting an oldies revue with the group "Knights to Remember". There group 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 cost \$10 and are available at the canteen. This is a night you do not want to miss! Then on Friday, March 14th the Irish Sing Along will be back at the Post! This Irish variety show has singing,

dancing and so much more is a night that everyone enjoys! The members put a lot of time and practice into this event and I assure you this is a night you will not want to miss!

But we are not done yet!!! On Wednesday, March 26th Post 129 has the honor of hosting the meet and greet party for the 2nd Annual Legacy Ride! Please mark your calendars and plan on being here to help us welcome all of the riders and wish the well on their ride. We also are honored with being

(continued on page 7)

Ask Ethel.....



Dear Ethel: A surf fisherman I know always wears a tie when he fishes on the beach. Can you imagine why? Angleless Angler

Dear Angleless: Fish are probably poor spellers. Maybe he believes that, if he's tied, the fish will think the tide is always coming in and will be more likely to bite.

Dear Ethel: The Internal Revenue Service called and told me to bring my records to them. Unfortunately, I threw all my receipts away and have no records. What should I do?...Taxplayet

Dear Taxplayet: Tell the truth, but, in case they have a sense of humor, bring along some Frank Sinatra records and

A box of thumbtacks labeled "Tax". Let me know if they laugh.

If you have any questions for the "Ask Ethel" column, she would appreciate your input. Send the questions to Ethel at: 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

March: Cabane Raffle month

March 8th: Knights to Remember Oldies musical revue

March 13th: K9s Veterans Day

March 14th: St Patrick's Day Show

March 23rd: Volunteer Lunch

March 26th: Legacy Run Meet and Greet.

March 27th: Legacy Ride Leaves

April: Legion Raffle month

April 4th: Spring into the Blues Weekend

April 20th Easter Sunday

April 27th: Beaches Parade

Legion Lore

by Jack Hardebeck



Attention, former service members: From your days in the U.S. armed forces, how could you forget the foul-ups? I can't. These were the characters who, accidentally or intentionally, managed to impede many activities in my World War II Navy boot company. We had a recruit who could show Ensign Pulver (of the "Mister Roberts" movie cast) a thing or two about goofing off. He consistently kept us from having a good record on inspections. One time, the slob's locker was opened by the inspector and a cockroach walked out. However, his top flop was when our chief petty officer noticed that our hero's locker was

leaning over. Our fastidious leader got help and tilted the locker some more, revealing dirty clothes the offender had neglected to wash.

The worst incident, starring another company creep, was obviously created on purpose. Our inexperienced leader of the marching platoon had the group headed toward a freshly planted flower bed. He forgot to command the group to turn left. A marcher in front, laughing, stomped right into the garden, squashing lots of flowers. The fact that we still won the war despite such behavior is a tribute to our military.

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 Jerry Brandt.

Mark Your Calendars for March 8th 2014

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)

for making us a 100% Post for the third year in a row!! With the E-board permission, I am starting something new with Membership. Any Post Member that gets **Three new members** 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 question 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 you couldn't give. But now that the Holidays are passed 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 our goal!! Any questions about this, please ask me. Thank you!!

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



Cabane News.....

First we want to sent condolences to the Dave Jordan family. He has done so much for so many of us. He will be missed by all of us. Mid Winter was a lot of fun and very informative, after we found the hotel!

We look forward to going back in June for Grand Rendezvous. There will be some exciting new news coming from National for all the Cabanes. Grand Presidente's Homecoming is May17th in Crystal River. Grand Rendezvous is June 20-22 in Sebring, FL. Their will be a wreck in St Augustine on March 20-23rd. Dames, mark your calendar's for the upcoming events!

Look for our Surprise Raffle in March!! **EXCITING!!!**

Our next rendezvous is March 13th at 7 p.m. Look forward to seeing all you Dames!!

Faithfully yours,
Louise Bagdasarian
La Presidente

S.A.L. News

by JD Kapeghian



The S.A.L. would like to say a sad goodbye to a true and dear friend and Legion family member, Dave Jordan. Our thoughts, prayers and deepest regrets go out to his family. He will be very missed. In the same aspect, our thoughts and prayers go out to Don Schupp's family, Floyd Parsons family and Kimberly Scoggins family, all respect members and family of the Legion. I would like to thank everybody for their help raising money for the Canine Warriors with our raffle, silent auction and Super Bowl. Please remember when you write your name and phone number on the back of the raffle tickets that we have for any organization, it is legible to ensure we can get hold of you if you are not present. Winter is almost over and spring is upon us, please be sure to look out for the Memorial Day Train Crawl so we can be sure to get everyone their t-shirts before the cut off date. On Friday, March 7th the S.A.L. is bringing back Friday

night steak night, served with loaded baked potatoes, mixed vegetables, garlic toast and dessert. There will be a sign up sheet for pre-orders, so please let us know as soon as possible if you will be joining us for steak dinner and steak b-i-n-g-o with extra games added. On Monday, the 17th, St. Patrick's Day, we will be making steamed mussels with a garlic butter wine sauce and toast points or sliders (TBD) served with tator tots. Please remember if you haven't paid your S.A.L. dues, have those in as soon as possible to help us reach our goal of 100%!! I want to thank all the volunteers who have helped the S.A.L. with their functions, in any way. I can not tell you how much your support has made all of our lives easier. Please continue to help in any way you can to ensure the success of all our projects. Thank you and goodnight.

Canteen Update (continued from page 4)

the starting point for the ride on Thursday, March 27th. Full details on the ride and party can be found on our website, www.Post129.org

With the event hall looking better than ever the dates are starting to fill up! So if you know anyone that is looking for a venue to hold a wedding, birthday party or other celebration please let them know that the hall is available for rent and to contact Brandi at the Post.

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 e-mail. If you would like to be added to the list please send an e-mail to Brandi at

brandiroberts@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!

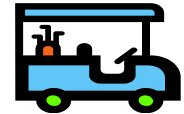
We are continuing to bring new and exciting events to the post! If you have any ideas or would like to get involved please let us know. We can always use your help!

Let us know your needs, expectations, and hopes. We hope to serve you soon!

9 Hole Golf (Sat)

On Saturdays in February we continued to have fun hitting the little white ball. 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)

Lloyd Hyatt transfer from Post 400
Troy Briggs transfer from Post 316
Dwight Deyo transfer from Post 316
Larry Smith transfer from Post 316

Michael Liner U.S. Marines

Matthew Hunter U.S. Army

William Rodgers U.S. Navy

Cullen Chalker U.S. Navy

Eric Jagers U.S. Navy

Ivan Rivera U.S. Navy

Robert Growcock U.S. Navy

Issac Ramos U.S. Navy

Richard Huey U.S. Navy

Josey Floyd U.S. Navy

Francis Rampacek U.S. Army

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

Luck (good & bad)

I have no luck. A girl stopped me once and asked me if I wanted to have some fun. I told her I did. So she sold me a joke book.

I have no luck. I had a ten-dollar check, and the only one who could cash it was a guy I owed nine dollars to!

I'm the kind of guy who gets paper cuts from Get Well Cards.

Luck always seems to favor the guy who doesn't need it.

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"

We now have 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 in the Legion.

**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)
- 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)
- Rush K Abry (2/14)

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