

American Legion Post 129

: LegionPost129@comcast.net

April 2014

Upcoming Events

- **April 2**
7:00 House Committee
- **April 3**
6:00 Planning Board
6:30 E-Board
7:00 Auxiliary
7:30 General meeting
- **April 17**
7:00 40&8 & Cabane
K9s Veterans Day
- **April 19**
10:00 ALR meeting
- **April 20**
EASTER Sunday
- **April 30**
6:00 S.A.L. meeting

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Commander's Corner by Danny Rodriguez

Dear family, our membership is at 101 percent. I want to thank everyone for helping get us there.

May 26th Post 129 will be hosting the Memorial Day service at the Beaches Memorial Park and will start at 1400 hrs. Please come out and show your support for this special event. The ROTC will be doing drills and the flag presentation.

We had a busy month last month and this month will be just as exciting. We are having the elections on the 26th of the month. This is a Saturday and it is also the opening of the beaches weekend so come out and vote for your new officers of the post.

I have a concern with a few of my officers. As officers you are suppose to be running the post, we can not do the business of the post if you do not show up the meetings. I also would like to see more members at the meetings, you have a voice in the control of the post business. If you don't like some things that we are doing than you can come and voice your concerns.

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

I also am asking that all of the members that have done work on the four pillars to report their hours and if you
(continued on page 3)



*For
God
and
Country*



1st Vice Comments by Don Grzena



Happy Easter to everyone! This will be my last article to you as your 1st vice. Due to some things out of my control and the fact that I want to move back to Michigan, I will **NOT** be running for Commander or anything else. I want to **Thank** everyone for your support during my terms as 1st Vice. It has been an

honor to serve this Legion. I am proud to say that we hit over 100% in membership for the third year in a row!! Thank you to everyone for that!

"Operation Open Door!" is no more. Due to lack of donations, I have decided to stop asking for money. The money that has been

collected will go into the Legion General funds. **Thank you** to **ALL** that have donated to this worthy cost!!!

Again, I want to thank everyone for your support as your 1st Vice and we will C U around the Legion.

Auxiliary News

by Kelly Bush

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers that helped with our March steak bingo and dinner night, especially Wanda and her helpers. I really appreciate everyone stepping in to help out since we don't have a second Vice President. Also, thank you to all of our members that brought treats for the K9s!

Please bring your volunteer hours to our regular meeting on April 3rd. 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. If you would like to attend 5th District, it starts at 2:00 p.m.

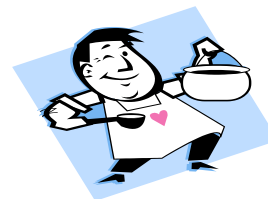
Please join us on April 18th for another wonderful dinner and steak bingo night provided by our Auxiliary volunteers. We will make it a very *Good Friday*!

We will hold elections for new officers on Thursday, May 1st, at 7:00 p.m. Please consider becoming an Officer or Chairman to help with our many great programs & service projects!

Yours in service, Kelly Bush, ALA Unit 129 President



A Happy Volunteer



American Legion Riders by Lee Fair

Thank you to everyone who helped with our meet and greet for the Department of Florida Legacy Ride. The money collected all goes to scholarships for the children of our military that lost their live in battle. Thanks also to those who were here to see them off on March 27th early in the morning and anyone who participated in the ride.

We are working on the wreaths Across America poker run in October. We did great last year and

will do better this year. We need to make sure that all of our departed comrades at Jacksonville National Cemetery have a wreath on their graves to respect their dedication and sacrifice to our country.

The ALR has done several meals for our post and various charities. Thanks to all who participated. We need more that can cook a meal. Richard Jordan had done most of them. It is not fair for the rest of us to rely on him to do them

all. He will help anyone who will that volunteers to cook a meal. Let's all remember why we are members of the American Legion, SAL, Ladies Auxiliary and the riders. It is to support our veterans and community; service. Let's all step up and help.



Officers for 2013—2014

Commander.....Danny Rodriguez
1st Vice.....Don Grzena
2nd Vice.....Terry Stickles
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

<i>E-Board Members</i>	<i>House Committee</i>
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)

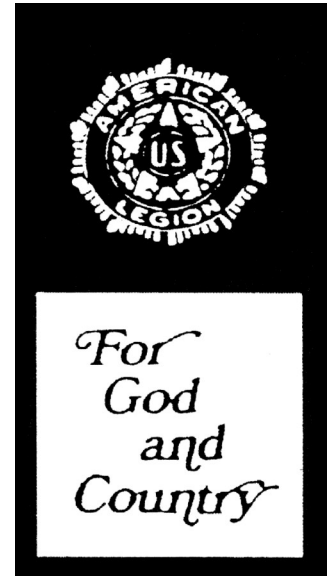
had given monetary gifts please tell us, we report these to national and let them know what we are doing. In case you don't remember what the 4 pillars are they are Veterans, Child Welfare, National Security, and Americanism. We can all help by just donating just a little time by volunteering. Please start to tally them. The reports will be needed soon.

So we have been playing a game called the "Queen of Diamonds", the rules are posted in the post. At the time that I am writing this the pot is now up to over \$1000. dollars. The rules are going to change when someone gets the queen. The

changes will be something that you like. More money to you.



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 guest not to place anything on or remove anything from the table. Respect it as you would the altar of your church.



Locks of Love



Legionaire "Ponytail" Pat Fowler will be having his ponytail cut and donated to "Locks of Love" on April 26th at 2:30pm after our usual golfing Saturday at American Post 129. Locks of Love is a non-religious, non-political, not-for-profit entity that promotes the well-being of children through its program of providing custom hairpieces for disadvantaged children with medical hair loss.

The cost of producing one of these custom quality hairpieces for a child is approximately \$1,000. At this event you will have the opportunity to donate to help offset this expense as well as participate in a raffle for the right to cut one of Pat's locks. There will also be a 50/50 drawing. All the donations

and proceeds will go directly to Locks of Love. All donations are tax deductible.

We look forward to seeing you there and having fun with Pat at this event.



DRUNK (Insults)

I never knew he drank till I saw him sober.

He recently had a sobering experience, the bar closed.

He drinks to calm himself, last night he got so calm he couldn't move.

He only drinks at certain times of the day, morning, noon, four and five.

Twice last week he fell down under his own power.

He had a horrible accident. He was driving while drunk, came to two bridges, and took the wrong one.

He thinks there is only thing worse than drinking....Thirst.

He read about the evils of drinking, so he gave up reading.

Two drunks saw a man siphoning gas from a car. One said to the other, "I hope I never get that thirsty."

Canteen Update

by Brandi Roberts



As many of you have heard Post 129 is raising funds to buy the K9 officers of Jacksonville Beach Kevlar vests. Post 129 wants to help protect the K9 officers of Jacksonville Beach the same way our troops and civilian law enforcement officers are protected — by providing our working K9s with much-needed Kevlar vests. You can help us keep our working K9s safe from harm by donating on our website or participating in one of the upcoming fundraisers.

The first fundraiser for this cause will be the Low Country Boil on April 5th during the ALR Bike night. The amazing volunteer

crew will be hard at work bringing you a fantastic meal while the ALR will keep you entertained with music and games! Please be sure to come on out!

Sunday night game night has been a huge success! Stop on by around 6pm and give it a shot! Everyone is having a great time. Richard is doing a wonderful job in the kitchen during lunch. If you haven't stopped by now is the time!! He is serving lunch Tuesday through Friday from 11am to 3pm.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 3rd! We are bringing back comedy night!! This is a once a year event that you will not want to miss. These are nationally touring comedians that will keep you entertained all night long!!!

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.

(Continued on page 7)

Ask Ethel.....



Dear Ethel: Some cynical gardener said that April showers bring May crab grass. That weed hater should realize that some weeds are good to eat. Agree?---Dandy Lion Trainer

Dear Dandy Yep. I assume you're a member of the Dandy Lions Club. :

Dear Ethel: With all the heavy snow up north this winter, I didn't hear about any St. Bernard dogs finding folks lost in blizzards. Where are all these brave, smart animals?---Saint Seeker

Dear Seeker Possibly they all discovered how to get the cork out of the keg.



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

Who is this Post 129 Member?

U.S. Coast Guard 3 1/2 years, Search & Rescue.
American Legion Riders 4 years
Selected as Post 129 Legionnaire of the year 2013-2014 & nominated for District Legionnaire of the year.
On the Post 129 E-board
An active dart player, pool player and enjoys motorcycle riding.
Jacksonville Beach native.
Family owned steakhouse restaurant in Jacksonville Beach for over 30 years.



Legion Lore

by Jack Hardebeck



Lately, the U.S. media establishment has been packed with the Russian-Ukrainian military crisis. Many of our news pundits have interpreted this as an attempt by Russian leader Putin to reestablish the Soviet Union, which broke up years ago. My late wife and I toured in Russia twice during that historic period. Our travels there gave us a unique view of the Russian military mind as the Soviet Union disintegration took place.

Former Russian soldiers and sailors peopled the city streets, selling parts of their uniforms to tourists, in a pathetic effort to exist as

civilians. We purchased army and navy headgear, military watches, and lots of medals. The numerous decorations illustrated the Russian love of such awards. Their chests must have been heavy with the weight of them. The comparison between this and our American military discharge practice after World War II was stark. We, as soldiers, sailors, and marines, all ranks, were given the G.I. Bill and the opportunity to get a college education and a home. The experience made us more proud than ever to be U.S. citizens

Golf Tournament

NOW HERE THIS!!!!!!

Join co-host Sgt Major Gene Overstreet (12th Sgt Major of the Marine Corps) and R. Lee Ermey for an exciting 18 holes of golf at the Hidden Hills Country Club. Proceeds to benefit Warrior City.

R. Lee Ermey is best known for his role as Gunnery Sergeant Hartman in Stanley Kubrick's Full Metal Jacket and TV Series M*A*S*H.

Tournament date.....April 11th
11:00am Lunch & Registration

1:15pm T-time, shotgun start

Cost: \$125 per player, \$500 per team

Questions: E-mail Jerry at info@rleeeclassic.com or 214-288-3787

Brochures at Post 129

The World According to Me!

.....Patty Rodriguez

Welcome to Today, Another Day, Another Chance. With every day comes the chance to change your life or that of another.

After spending Spring Break 2014 with a few family members and grandchildren, I was quickly reminded how one's mood can change and how deeply one's heart can remember

good and sad memories and how strongly another person can affect your entire well being.

"Respect the old when you are young,
Help the weak when you are strong,
Confess the fault when you are wrong.
Because one day in life you will be OLD, WEAK and WRONG"

Unknown author



Editor's Comments

by Sterling L. Phaklides

Cathy Berry has volunteered to take on the task of American Legion Post 129 publicity chairperson. Cathy will ensure that any occasion or event that occurs within our Legion family will be distributed to the numerous publications available. Please submit all events & dates to Cathy at michelobl@aol.com.

Remember there are deadlines for publication so please let her know as soon as you know of the event.

This is a key to making sure that our community knows what the American Legion Post is all about.



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



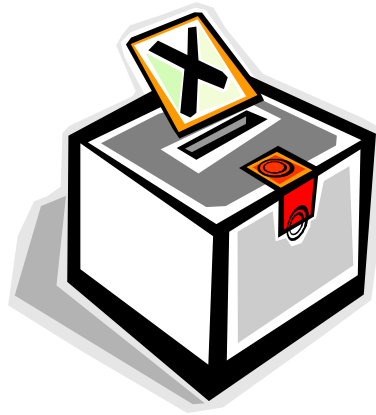
Election of Officers

**American Legion
Post 129 will hold
their General Elec-
tions on Saturday
April 26, 2014 from
10am to 7pm.**

The final nominations for Officers will be held at the General Meeting on April 3rd. If you wish to run for an office please be there to be nominated.

Absentee ballots will be available after April 3rd for all those who need one. Only one per person

PLEASE VOTE



Cabane News.....

March has been low key, we all went out for dinner at the Flying Iguana instead of our March Rendezvous, food and camaraderie was good and just fun just to be together. We were glad to help out our Voyageur's, doing 50/50 on two friday evenings.

May is our large garage sale "A treasure is waiting for you" May 9th and 10th. SPRING IS HERE and its time to clean out the closets, and anything else that is taking up space and not needed or wanted any more, we appreciate any and all donations. We will also have *Home-made Baked Goods and yes Pretzels.*

April 24th - 27th is South Land Dixie .

June 20th - 23rd. The new dates for Grand Promenade, which will be held in Sebring, FL

Look forward to seeing all our Dames at our Rendezvous April 10th at 7pm.

Louise Bagdasarian, La Presidente

S.A.L. News

by JD Kapeghian



The S.A.L. would like to say a sad goodbye to "Harley" John Cobb and to Mr. Jim Steinkraus. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families. They will be sadly missed. On Friday, April 4th, the S.A.L. will be making pan seared 2" thick pork chops, apple sauce, smashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, garlic bread, and dessert! We encourage pre-orders so we can have a general idea of how many to plan for. Steak B-I-N-G-O, with an extra game added. On Monday, April 21st we will making the Legions famous loaded nachos. All dinners will be served from 5:30 til... I would like to thank everyone that participated in our Daytona 500 party! I would also like to thank everyone for helping us reach our 100% goal. I still have many cards for people that have not paid their dues. In order to keep up with your continuous years and your Legion privileges' please renew your S.A.L. card as soon as possible. The sign up sheet for

the pre-Memorial Day Train crawl is now up. Please sign up as soon as possible so we can get everyone a T shirt before the crawl. S.A.L. elections are coming up, April 24th. Please make sure you get out and vote to elect your new officers. Spring is here! There are many projects that need to be done around the post. Volunteers are needed, please see either J.D. or Brandi for details. Thank you and good night.



**SONS OF THE
AMERICAN LEGION**

Canteen Update (continued from page 4)

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 send an email 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 March we continued to have fun hitting the little white ball. Come on down and join us. Give me a call (Sterling) 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

Michael Liner U.S. Marines

Matthew Hunter U.S. Army

William Rodgers U.S. Navy

Cullen Chalker U.S. Navy

Eric Jaggers 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

John Shuler U.S. Army

John Ruble U.S. Army

Andres Gonzaks U.S. Army

William Garing U.S. Air Force

Challenge yourself to go out and get one new member in March.

Tuesday Golf..NEW

We have Saturday 9-Hole Golf and now we have Tuesday 9 Hole Golf. It all starts on Tuesday March 25th at Jacksonville Beach Golf Club. Fees are great for the seniors (65 & up).9 holes, \$14.26 with cart or walk for \$6:21, Non seniors will pay \$20.96 with cart or walk for \$12.89,. It will be a scramble format with first t-time at 12:04pm. Bob Fowler will need to know who is playing the next Tuesday by Friday of each week. Please contact Bob Fowler at: bobbowler47@bellsouth.net or call 904-813-2023.

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***

Non-Profit Org.
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Permit No. 3394

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)
Jack & Ethel (2/15)

Nick Patrizio (10/14)
Louise Taylor Braren (2/15)
In memory of Jim Forbess (11/14)
In memory of Donald Forbess (11/14)
Franklin Friers (3/15)

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