

# American Legion Post 129

: LegionPost129@comcast.net

July 2014

## Upcoming Events

- **July 3**  
6:00 p.m. Planning Board  
6:30 p.m. E-Board  
7:00 p.m. Auxiliary meeting  
7:30 General meeting
- **July 4**  
**Happy Birthday America!**  
11 a.m.—3 p.m. Blood Drive  
5 p.m. Holiday BBQ by S.A.L. & ALR
- **July 5**  
5:30-10 p.m. ALR Bike Night
- **July 10**  
7:00 p.m. 40&8 and Cabane Installations
- **July 11**  
Christmas in July Auxiliary Dinner
- **July 18**  
S.A.L. Steak Dinner
- **July 19**  
10:00 a.m. ALR meeting  
2-6 p.m. Hat Sale  
6 p.m. Luau Night
- **July 24**  
6:00 p.m. S.A.L. meeting

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## Commander's Corner by Danny Rodriguez

Well family, we are starting a new year, and I want to get this year kicked off fast. There have been several ideas given to me, and I am still looking for programs that fit the four pillars of the American Legion.

The Post was over 100% membership last year, and I am looking for the same this year. Renewal will start in July, so please try to renew early. We worked together to make things happen last year, and became stronger. We need to do the same this year.

You found it in your hearts to re-elect me as Commander again, and I want to do a good job again this year. We have a lot of new faces that stepped up and ran for office in the Post. I ask of you, as members, to help support them, as I will. It is a hard thing to do by giving of yourselves the extra time to manage the Legion's affairs.

I am still holding a position within the 5th District as Sgt. at Arms, but I am looking to become a Vice-Commander in the District.

I have the Post in mind and will do everything in my power so that we are recognized through out the state.

One way that you and I can do this is by "blowing our horn" and telling Department everything we do for the Community, the Veterans, and for the Children and Youth Programs. Remember the best way to do this it to get news coverage. If they print it, we can forward it to Department.

To those who wish to help the Post, I have Chairmanships available. Some of them just takes a little work, some require more work. If this is not what you like, I know every function needs volunteers. For example, the fast approaching holiday, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. We need people to help cook, set-up, serve and clean up afterwards. You don't have to do it all. Just an hour or two is great. Just remember to keep track of your time.

I will be making a slip that will be kept on the office door so that you can fill it out and we can keep track of it. These hours are reported to National at the end of the year and this is what National uses to help leverage Congress to help keep the Veterans from losing benefits.

(Continued on page 3)



# Auxiliary News

by Kelly Bush



Congratulations and thank you to the wonderful volunteers who were elected to serve as Auxiliary Officers for 2014-2015. We still have an opening at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President position and several chairmanships, please see Kelly Bush if you would consider serving your unit. Our general meeting will be held on Thursday, July 3, at 7:00 p.m.

We had five Auxiliary members attend the annual Department convention in Orlando and it was very informative.

Don't forget to come out for bingo on July 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be surprises and lots of fun to celebrate Independence Day!

We will hold our annual Christmas in July Auxiliary dinner on Friday, July 11. We will have a great holiday meal and many wonderful silent auction items to bid on.

Yours in service,

Kelly Bush,  
ALA Unit 129 President

## Auxiliary Officers — 2014-2015

President—Kelly Bush  
1st Vice—Maggie McCall  
Treasurer—Vicky Gordon-Haft  
Chaplain—Kathy Jewell  
Historian—Toni Abbott  
Sgt At Arms—Judy Moody

## Executive Committee

Mary Ellen Bolin  
Patty Rodriguez  
Barbara Fowler

# S.A.L. News

by JD Kapeghian



On a lighter note, the S.A.L. would like to congratulate all the newly installed officers for 2014-2015. We are very confident that this will be a great year!

There are many ideas and goals that we hope to accomplish. Our itinerary includes increasing our donations for Wreaths Across America, Canine for Warriors, and T-shirts and backpacks for our local school's Special Olympics.

On July 19th we will be holding a "hat sale" in the back hall. We ask for

new, used and slightly abused hats of all sorts. All contributions of \$2 a hat will go to Wolfson Children's Hospital to assist in buying teddy bears for all the kids. We ask for everyone to buy a hat and if you don't want the hat, there will be a donation box, and all the donated hats will go to Boy's State. We need all the participants we can get for this great cause.

On the 4th of July the S.A.L. and the A.L.R. will be hosting a half rack of baby backs, homemade potato salad, baked beans and garlic toast. Starting at 5pm until 7pm. Preorders are

requested. Hang around for SUPER steak B-I-N-G-O, and the fireworks spectacular!

On July 18th we will be having Friday Night Steak Night! Served with loaded baked potato, fresh grilled vegetables, garlic toast and dessert. As always volunteers are more than welcome and needed!

See you for Christmas in July! Thank you and goodnight!

## Officers for 2014—2015

Commander.....	Danny Rodriguez
1st Vice.....	Tommy Williams
2nd Vice.....	Terry Stickles
3rd Vice.....	Jerry Brandt
4th Vice.....	Joe Michaels
Finance.....	Bob Schlatter
Sgt at Arms.....	Anna Rogers
Chaplain.....	Brian Hancher
Adjutant.....	Ernie Florig

<i>E-Board Members</i>	<i>House Committee</i>
Cathy Berry	Dwight Deyo
Lee Fair	Rich Hansberg
Deborah Left	Kathy Jewell
Dennis McDowell	Dale Peterson
Chuck Nist	Rich Reyman
	Bill Wilson
	Jim Winelnad

<i>Auxiliary President</i>
Kelly Bush
<i>Commander-S.A.L.</i>
J.D. Kapeghian
<i>Director-Legion Riders</i>
Jim Wineland
<i>Chef De Gare 40 &amp; 8</i>
Marie Spine
<i>La Presidente, Cabane 215</i>
Louise Bagdasarian

## Commander (continue from page 1)

We are getting the blood drive started again. I have contacted the Florida/Georgia Blood Alliance and the bus will be here on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Our new blood drive coordinator is Linda Barefoot. So come out and give if you can, it helps us all.

One last thing I would like to say is that we need members to attend the meetings. Remember, if you don't like a decision that we made, and you did not show up at the meeting, you can only blame yourself. I know that I expect my officers to show up, and I would like to see more members as well.



## Happy 4th of July!!!



## Legion Riders' News by Jim Wineland

As your new director, I would first like to say thank you for giving me this opportunity. When I gave my short introductory speech on why I should be considered for the director's position, I mentioned that I wanted to share my experience of what I learned during the Florida In-State Legacy Ride. It amounted to a 1,300 mile education of what the Legion Riders are all about. **Giving back to the veterans is the number one goal.**

Without question, we are here as one of the support legs of the post. We also have to develop a strong relationship with the other two support legs, the Auxiliary and the SAL. Together, all three legs have to make a joint effort to develop functions that support not only the Post, but each other.

When it comes to my vision as a rider, it's hard to believe, but I think we should ride! The Legion Riders are the "billboard" for the American Legion.

We should plan a ride after each meeting, maybe a couple of overnight rides to other posts outside of the 5<sup>th</sup> District. Post 117 hosted the in-state rally and would be a great overnight trip.

One of our goals again this year is to support our Wreaths Across America program. This is our main charity, and we need everyone to join in and support Linda Barefoot, our Event Coordinator. She still has several volunteer positions to fill as we need 30+ volunteers to make this work.

We currently have 70 members and every member has an opinion and a voice. It's up to all of us to support each other and build our organization here at Post 129.

Ride Safe!

### Legion Riders Officers - 2014-2015

Director—Jim Wineland  
 Assistant Director—Deborah Left  
 Secretary—Bill Wilson  
 Treasurer—Bob Schlatter  
 Chaplain—Kathy Jewell  
 Road Captain—Bobby Greer  
 Safety Officer—Rich Reyman  
 Sgt. At Arms—Chuck Nist  
 Assist. Sgt. At Arms—Jerry Delisle  
 Membership—Wanda Brandt  
 Historian—Nicole Neal



## Canteen Update

by Brandi Roberts



Wow are we busy this month! We start off the month with a bang with our Fourth of July celebration!

We will be hosting a blood drive from 11am to 3pm. There will be a special Bingo held at 2pm with bonus cards and incredible prizes! Dave will be serving up a fabulous lunch from 11am to 3 pm.

In the evening the SAL will be serving up a special holiday BBQ starting at 5pm. They will be serving up ribs, baked beans, potato salad, and garlic bread. Group Therapy will be here to entertain you from 5:30pm to 9:30pm and we will have a special viewing area set up outside to watch the local fireworks. It is going to be a day full of

great food, great times, and great friends. We hope that you will be here to celebrate with your Post family!

Then plan on joining us on Sunday, July 13th for a group excursion to check out the NEW casino cruise boat out of Mayport.

We have been offered a special rate of \$36 per person which includes private charter bus to and from the Port, Boarding, Buffett, \$20 in match play, Live Entertainment, FREE drinks while playing, plus two free drinks coupons for use while not gaming!!! And remember no waiting in line if we go as a group! Boarding begins at 10am and the ship leaves terminal at

11am. Don't forget to invite friends and family!

We will be collecting money for the trip from July 1st to July 7th. We must have all names and money turned into the company by July 8th so please if interested make sure you get with Brandi as soon as possible to be added to the manifest.

On July 19th we are holding a fundraiser to raise funds for our toy drive for Wolfson Children's Hospital. We start the day with a hat sale in the back hall from 2pm to 6pm. So what that means is we need your help! Or more accurately we need your hats!

Go through those closets and boxes

## Dear Ethel....



**Dear Ethel:** Isn't middle age the most uncertain time? As a fortyer, my mind says "Go! Go! Go!" but my body says "No! No! No!"---**Youthless**

**Dear Youthless:** Yes. For the middle-ager, a night on the town is followed by two on the back.

**Dear Ethel:** I wonder what happened to the campaign against loud television commercials?---**Ear Plug Doug.**

**Dear Doug::** Looks like it died, maybe because the politicians pushing it learned that their political ads are commercials.



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.

## Hooked on Fishing

THANK YOU to all the volunteers who helped with "Hooked on Fishing" on Saturday, June 21:

Vicki Bastian  
Dee Blowers  
Ernie Florig  
Mary Tarnowski  
Tommy Williams

Cathy Berry  
Patty Kapeghian  
Debbie Left

## Pass the Trash

Come out Sunday nights at 6 p.m. and have some fun playing "Pass the Trash".



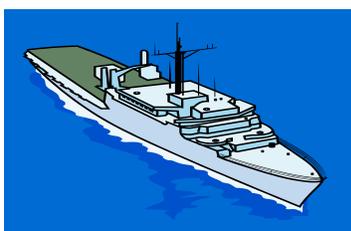
# Legion Lore

by Jack Hardebeck



The current federal administration seems bent on eliminating our armed forces as a respected organization of national defense while making statements of admiration. First we had the failure to send help to Libya, possibly stopping the murderous attack on our people. Then there were the disgusting revelations of neglect and cover-up in the V.A.

It should be no surprise if we see a drastic decline in enlistments and reenlistments. Should this malpractice persist, how long will it be before some ambitious dictator decides to invade a weakened U.S.A.? As a reminder, there's our World War II mantra, "Remember Pearl Harbor!"



# Thank You.....

Debbie and Frank Left did an awesome job making the ramp on the north side of the building!

Thank you for all your hard work!

# Cabane News

by Louise Bagdasarian

Our installation of new officers will be held July 10 at 7 p.m. Congratulations to all the upcoming officers of Cabane #215 for 2014-2015:

La Presidente—Louise Bagdasarian,  
 La Sous President—Vicky Gordon, La  
 Treasurer and Correspondent—Kelly  
 Bush, La Garde De La Porte—  
 Margaret Hardy, La Drapeau—  
 Sharon Milspaug, La Aumonier—

Lorraind Smith, La Cheminot-  
 Annie Anderson, Diane Bark-  
 er, Patty Rodriguez, Helen  
 Mays.

Grande was June 21-22 in Se-  
 bring. It was enlightening and  
 fun time was had by all who  
 attended.

I look forward to our upcoming year. With our great slate of officers, it will be a good one! Wish everyone a safe and fun filled summer!

Faithfully yours,  
 Louise Bagdasarian  
 La Presidente

# Editor's Comments

by Sue Nist

When you see Sterling Phaklides at the Post, buy him a drink and/or extend your thanks to him for being editor of this newsletter for so long! He left some big shoes for me to fill.

Thank you Sterling!

I appreciate everyone's patience as I get used to putting this newsletter together.

Please remember that the newsletter is only as good as the information given to me.

If there is something you'd like to see in the newsletter, let me know, and I will talk to Commander Rodriguez about adding the information in upcoming issues.

My contact information is:  
 susan.nist@gmail.com.



## The World According to Me ...by Patty Rodriguez

In special honor of July 4th, when most people think of having a day off work or a reason to party, I would like all of us to remember what we are truly thankful for and celebrating. This month I have the pleasure of sharing yet another poem written by one of our own Legion Family members.

### The Familiar Stranger

I have round eyes  
Boots and a rifle  
I am a familiar stranger

Yesterday a letter came  
It was like reading a dream  
As new realities callus my brain

Children frolic amid putrid  
Open sewers—their future choices  
Offering only different forms  
of misery

My enigmatic rage is soothed  
By thrusting my maleness on  
Bamboo matting abrades my knees

I am quieted now as she joins  
My dollar with others in a jar  
On a table next to a large crucifix

Later I remember only  
The sing-song music and the awful  
Stench of fish-heads, garlic and  
incense

I hunker down in my jeep with  
Its radio and bullet-inviting  
Antenna as I count the remaining  
days

Many, many years have passed  
And the enemy is no more—  
But again I am the familiar stranger

Michael Diercouff



## Voiture 215

Congratulations to Chef de Gare elect, D.R. Richards, and to all the newly elected and appointed officers of the Voiture and Cabane. Installation will be July 10 at 6pm, with a meal being served immediately following installation. I am looking forward to seeing everyone there, so please mark your calendars.

In an effort to improve communication, I will be forwarding my e-mail listing to incoming Chef de Gare.

For any questions, concerns, comments, or suggestions, I can be reached at e-mail address: [gamblerk@hotmail.com](mailto:gamblerk@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.

Marie K. Spine  
Chef de Gare Voiture 215

## Dart League

The Tuesday night dart league schedule for July is: July 1, July 8 and 15. No dart league on July 22.

A new dart league will be starting on Tuesday, July 29, at 6 p.m.

## Canteen (continued)

and bring in any hats you don't want anymore. Then come out on July 19th and see what you may find!

Then at 6pm on Saturday, July 19th we will continue the fun with a Luau! We are still currently in the planning stages so I do not have details for you but I can tell you we are truly trying to make sure this is a special night! Watch our website for more information and make sure you mark your calendars this is going to be a night you will not want to miss!

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 July 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. We have room for 20 golfers each week. Have some fun, join us.  
Sterling



## New Members



Welcome to the following new members:

### American Legion Riders

Vicki Bastian  
Josh and Tabitha Goughneur  
Tom Hughes  
Phillip Leveridge

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

## S.A.L. (continued)

### S.A.L. Officers — 2014-2015

Commander—JD Kapeghian  
1st Vice—Steve Smith  
2nd Vice—Martin Manley  
3rd Vice—Kenny Pigg  
4th Vice—Phillip Monson  
Sgt At Arms—Kevin Stewart  
Chaplain—Robert Hagg  
Adjutant—Scott Kapeghian

## Membership...

Please renew your membership as early as possible. We would like to be at 100% by Dec. 31, 2014.

## “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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**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 (2/15)  
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