

American Legion Post 129

Post129@comcast.net

December 2011

Commander's Corner by Danny Rodrigues

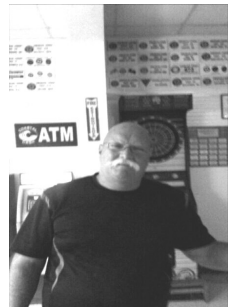
Well the holidays are upon us and as we think of family and friends let us take a few minutes of our busy life's to give thanks to those who are keeping the home fires safe. Let us remember those whom are in harms way and can not be with their families and friends during the holidays. These are the true heroes. Let us also remember the families that wait for some word. For not knowing can be a life time in hell. Let us also remember those who have suffered the loss and for those who have come back not as they had left. For they have given with out asking and suffer the most.

This past month we have had some great times. One that was inspiring is the Marine Corps birthday . We had at least one marine from every conflict that the marines have served in from WWII to the present conflict in Afghanistan. At the time I am writing this the Thanksgiving day dinner has not yet been done but I am looking forward to it. We all know that Terry can put on a meal.

I am going to say one thing on membership and that is lets get them in if you have not do so already. If you have thank you. Please bare with me I am getting the cards out as fast as I can. We were over the goal for November but I have been told that last 25% is the hardest. We have had a few active service persons sign up and I look forward to meeting with them. So if you meet them welcome them to our family and lets get them involved, we have plenty of programs.

If you have come in and seen the black drape on the charter, this is an old program to give respect to a legionnaire whom has passed . I said in the beginning that we needed to get back to the basics and this one of those ways. We all wrote the check by serving at least we can do is to honor those of us who pass.

Remember that I am available to any member when I am at the post and you can call me. If I don't answer it is because I am at work or talking with some one else. Leave a message I will get back with you.



For all upcoming events

See calendar insert
Or Brandi's e-mail

Birthdays for the Month

Signup sheet for
Children's Christmas
party is on the bulletin
board in hall please sign
your young ones up for
the Party on 12/10

SAL Officers

Commander -JD Kapeghian
1StVice- Mike Barker Jr.
2nd Vice—Danny Parker
3rd Vice—Scott Hardy
Chaplin—Robert Haag
Sgt. At Arms—Garth
Collins

S.A.L. Notes by JD Kapeghian

The S.A.L. would like to thank Mrs. Diane Barker for all her support in making the wonderful desserts for our Friday night dinners. Thanks also go out to Erin Donahue, Garth Collins, Pattie Kapeghian, and Rebecca Hart for all their help with another successful oyster night!

S.A.L. members need to bring in toys for Toys For Tots!! Christmas Day we are open, please come join us!.

And in January, S.A.L. is raffling a pier fishing cart with cooler, case of beer, fishing poles, 'Twice the Ice' coupons and tackle box (and more). All proceeds are going to the Special Olympics! So, everyone, PLEASE show your support and buy tickets!

Everyone have a safe holiday and happy New Year!!! See you all next year!



Auxiliary News by Candace Mabry, Auxiliary President

To quote a song, the season we are about to enter is 'the most wonderful time of the year'. I think it's the kids jingle belling and everyone telling you to be of good cheer....hum was that part of the song? To celebrate the holiday your Auxiliary will have our 2nd annual Giving Tree. The tree will have envelopes that can be purchased in the amount of \$2, \$5, \$10, and \$15. You choose an envelope and bring the envelope unsealed to the bartender in the canteen. Every gift is worth at least the price you donate; a gift that truly keeps on giving. If you have gift certificates or would like to donate a gift see Mary Ellen as soon as possible because the Giving Tree is finished Christmas Eve. After Christmas, we will be raffling off a beautiful basket and the winner will be drawn on New Year's Eve. Please help support your Auxiliary, these donations keep your Unit alive and allow us to afford the Children's Christmas party, Girl's State, Special Olympics, our active duty soldiers, our Veterans and so much more.

December 10th will be our annual Children's Christmas Party. It will take place in the back hall from 11:00 – 1:00. It is open to any child or grandchild of the Post that is 10 years or younger. There is a signup sheet in the canteen and the deadline to sign up is December 5th. Santa and Mrs. Claus will once again interrupt their busy schedule to attend. It will be too warm for Rudolf and his gang of reindeers this early in December, so our Jacksonville Beach Fire Department has volunteered again to get the Claus' to our Post!

Special Kudos to Diane Powers and everyone that donated blood this past Veteran's day. Donating blood is truly giving the gift of life.

Renew, Renew, Renew, no I'm not trying to sell a cleaning product, just a reminder it is time to Renew Your Membership. Your 2011 cards will become extinct at the end of December and all bartenders are required to see your 2012 card in order to serve you in the canteen. Don't forget to come out and support the Auxiliary the third Friday of every month for steak bingo and dinner. If you would like to volunteer for a dinner please give Kathy Jewell a call. Special thanks to everyone that has already helped cook on Fridays and Saturdays.

We are having a banner year for National Security thanks to all our ladies that are clipping coupons and Claude Nolan Cadillac. Thanks so much for all you do.

Last year in closing I wrote this paragraph never dreaming it would hit so close to home, but many of our Legion family lost loved ones these past few years so I feel it is worth printing again..

Finally, the holidays should be joyous, but many of our Post family have a difficult time missing a loved one. Let's be there for each other and make a special effort just to listen to the person next to you, it may be all they need to get through the holidays. Everyone be safe and send a prayer for our courageous men and women that are serving both here at home and overseas.

Peace on Earth and God's will to all, Candace

From an internet source

by Jack Gregory

Taken From: The Department of the Navy, Naval Historical Center -Re: Naval Aces

The Navy Department has never officially compiled or issued a list of "Aces". During World War II, the war period with the largest number of aerial shoot downs for naval flyers, the Navy did not keep an overall record of individual scores in aerial combat, hence, there is no official list of confirmed shoot-downs.

The most comprehensive work done on Navy and Marine Corps World War II Aces was written and published by Mr. Frank Olynk. His two books are *USN Credits for the Destruction of Enemy Aircraft in Air-to-Air Combat World War 2, Victory List No. 2*, published in 1982, and *USMC Credits for the Destruction of Enemy Aircraft in Air-to-Air Combat World War 2*.

Officers for 2011—2012

Commander.Danny Rodriguez
1st Vice.....Norm Sullivan
2nd Vice.....Terry Stickles
3rd Vice.....Pete Riebesehl
4th Vice.....Keith Helton
SAA.....Mike Barker
Adjutant.....Candace Kelly
Judge Advocate.....Bob Wilson
Finance.....Bob Schlatter
Chaplain.....Robert Schmidt
Service Officer.....Walt Fanton

E-Board Members House Committee

Keith Ingle	Bill Wilson
Frank Redmond	Tommy Williams
Rich Hansberg	Jeff Durden
Kathy Jewell (Aux)	Taylor Barker
Richard Kasevich SAL	
Nina Lott	
	Dale Peterson

Auxiliary President,
Candace Mabry
Commander S.A.L., JD Kapeghian
Chef De Gare 40 & 8,
James Mayer
La Presidente, Cabane 215,
Annie Anderson
American Legion Riders Director
Jeff Durden

American Legion Riders by Jeff Durden



I hope that all have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year. We will have an informal MEETING/PARTY on the 10th of December. If you can, please bring some type of finger food for all to enjoy. It will start at 3:00pm Air Force time or 1500 for the rest of the military. We have voted on purchasing the motor cycle trailer for the use of ALL of our members. It will be stored at American Legion Post 316 behind their fence. Thanks to 316 for their support of our Riders. New shirts are ordered, short and long sleeve, will be available. We will have a dinner on the 9th, Cindy and Richard are cooking. Please help if you can. December 10th is the kids Christmas party at the post. I am going to ask them if they want us to escort Santa to the post. Look for e-mail. On December 17th Post 316 same thing, we have been asked to escort. Any question see Richard, I will be out of town. Let's support our fellow Legion Families. Thanks to all for your help and support for the first 6 months, let's keep it up.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR

Softball news

by Coach Don

Hi, everyone. Games against Post 283 were closer then the score showed. We had to play a double header against them. First game was 30-1. It was our first game playing as a team. The Second game was 18-11. We had them but they were the home team and score 9 runs against in one inning. Then we played Post 54 the following weekend. Again, a double header. The first game, we lost 9-10 and the second game we lost 10-11. Want to thank all the fans that drove over to Post 54 field. We have two games left. We will be playing 316 on the 20th of Nov at our field. And then our last game will be against Post 88 at their field on Dec the 4th. Will let you know how we did next newsletter.....Coach DON J

Cabane 215 News

Annie Anderson, Cabane President



Hello everyone, first a big Thank you to everyone who participated in the Thanksgiving Basket. Congratulations to the winners and I hope that you had a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday. Our Christmas Party is approaching very fast. As you know we had to change it from Dec. 7th to Dec. 14th at 6:30 PM at Post 129. Mr. Sunshine is entertaining that evening. There will be no gift exchange this year. Please, let me know if you are coming. I have to let Terry know how many will be there for dinner that evening, so he can plan the food purchase. Call me at 904-242-8844 or 904-707-3163 or send me an e-mail to nvywave1@aol.com. Hope to see you at our next Rendezvous on Dec. 8th at 7pm. I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours in Service

Annie Anderson

La Presidente Locale

Canteen Update

by Brandi Roberts



Hello from your Canteen Staff,

December is already here and it's hard to believe! It's been a busy year and December is no different. We will hold our annual Christmas Eve party on December 24th. Island Karaoke will be here to entertain us from 2pm to 6pm. **Post 129 will be open for Christmas Day!** We will open at noon and close when business declines. We will not have food available but if you would like to bring something to share with your Post family you are welcome to.

New Year's Eve will be a little different this year. Karen, Kenny, Garret, and possibly Dave will be here to entertain us from 9pm to 1am. There will NOT be a seat or cover charge this year. It is a no fuss party. There will be party favors and we will put out some munchies around midnight but other than that it is just come, party, drink, and dance! No dinner will be available that evening. We are requesting that if possible everyone brings in some snacks to share.

We are already starting to plan next year's events and I believe it will be another wonderful year. We will be holding our annual Chili cook off on January 15th. So start cooking and experimenting with those wonderful Chili's. If anyone would like to judge please let me know. We are also planning to bring back Comedy night and Monte Carlo night next year. Please let me know if you have any other ideas.

Football season is well underway and the NFL Sunday Ticket from Direct TV has been a huge success!!! You will be seeing every game every week! This year we will be offering buckets of beer during all NFL games and in addition the kitchen will be open! So come to the post to watch your favorite teams win!

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 the bulletin board.

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!

Ask Ethel

Dear Ethel: I understand that great efforts are being made to have a more pleasant atmosphere on our Army bases. For instance, there's a rumor that in the mess halls, there will be strolling violinists playing while soldiers eat. Isn't that wonderful?---Music Fan

Dear Fan: Super. When fish is on the menu, I assume they'll play bass fiddles.

Dear Ethel: In the service, I was in the infantry. We did so much marching that I thought the platoon leader calling cadence should have been shouting "Help! Two, Three, Four; Help! Two, Three, Four." How about that?---Former Footsore Soldier.

Dear Footsore: Ugh. That'll make your corns grow. I'm told that in the Navy, frogmen march to "Hop! Two, Three, Four."

Ask Ethel (8-2011)

If you have any questions for the "Ask Ethel" column, send the questions to Ethel at:

triplejj@comcast.net



Legion Lore by Jack Hardebeck



In a newspaper want-ads section, here's an ad I'd love to see: "Wanted---U.S. combat soldiers coming back from the Iraqi and Afghan wars. Needed for guarding our Mexican border. U.S government will pay border guards a generous bounty for each illegal immigrant apprehended."

Would that it were that easy to achieve at least two national objectives: (1) sealing our Mexican border, and (2) providing lucrative employment for returning soldiers. Some citizens may think that the flood of illegals from the south can never be stopped. I disagree. Consider how effective the Israelis have been on it. I've seen them in action.

Back in the 1980's, my late wife and I toured the Holy Land with a group of other travel agency people. We were entering Israel at an immigration center by the border. The inspectors were Israeli soldiers, in uniform and armed. They were very thorough. Ours was a female. After we went through the metal detector, she had us open all our bags, and she examined the entire contents, right down to the items that obviously needed laundering. I was carrying a movie camera with a pistol grip. She told me to point it at the ceiling and pull the trigger, to make sure it wasn't a gun.

The inspectors didn't whistle while they worked, but there were no bullets whistling by, either.

Notice to all Members

Your 2012

Membership cards
are now available

Post 129 has Lotto!

We can take care of all of your Florida Lottery needs! Remember that every time you buy or cash in a Lottery ticket that the vender gets a percentage of that sale.

Attention: All Facebook users

You can get most current information on the daily activities of Post 129 on our Facebook page. Look us up as American Legion Post 129 Canteen or check our legion website for the link.

Editor's Comments

by Jack Gregory



One important thing I have learned through life is that *"The little things are infinitely more important."* This is based in part on a quote by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in one of his many stories of the fictional character Sherlock Holmes, that I have enjoyed over the years. This quote comes to me from time to time when remembering all the little things, like seeing the look of a child on Christmas morning. Being able to give a gift that comes from the heart or the sunrise or the smells of salt water up close, as examples, you would think these little things would become commonplace, but I see the sunrise as a new revelation each day, whether the time spent at the beach is very brief or a partial day event. And the smile of a child, these are such a small part in the sometimes daily grind of one's life, but I think it's *the little things* that can give us small pleasures to make the path we decide on for ourselves an amazing part of all life's experiences and challenges. Jack Gregory

Things you may not know

The surface area of the earth is
197,000,000 square miles

The human body contains about
6,000 miles of blood vessels

Merry Christmas and don't forget to look for the little things

Comments by Clyde Aston

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS MEANS TO THANK ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED WITH THE 2011 CROAKER TOURNAMENT. FINAL FIGURES ARE NOT IN YET BUT IT APPEARS WE LOST MONEY THIS YEAR, THE FIRST TIME IN THE 9 YEARS I HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE TOURNAMENT. OUR BOAT COUNT WAS DOWN FROM 42 LAST YEAR TO 23 THIS YEAR WHICH REPRESENTS A \$1140 LOSS. THE COLD FRONT MOVING IN ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY WAS ALSO A SIGNIFANT FACTOR. THE GROUP VOTED TO MOVE THE TOURNAMENT BACK TO THE 5-7 OCTOBER PRIOD WHICH WE WILL NO DOUBT DO. IN SPITE OF THIS, ALL BOATERS RECEIVED A GIFT PACKAGE OF ABOUT \$95 PLUS 8 DINNERS AND FREE BEER AND 5 OTHERS RECEIVED \$1000 IN CASH PRIZES. CLYDE ASTON 11/20/11

If anyone has nostalgic or interesting pictures or articles you would like published in this newsletter, please let me know by mid month prior to the next publication. @ jkgregy@yahoo.com

Article submitted by Vicky Buchna

Jax Com-manding Officer Capt. Jeffrey Maclay.

"Our station air show team has worked for almost a year on this event – and the results were outstanding. The NAS Jax MWR and Air Operations Departments, along with fire and security personnel, did a superb job."

Guests of honor were Alfred 'Al' Taddeo and HM3 James Franklin Hicks Jr., a wounded warrior and Purple Heart recipient. Taddeo is the last living member of the original Blue Angels team that was established at NAS Jacksonville in 1946.

For the third year in a row, Taddeo and his wife, Joan, visited from their home in California to be guests of NAS Jacksonville and the Blue Angels. Hicks, who was escorted by his mother, Vivian Arnold, was wounded Aug. 18 in Afghanistan and is currently undergoing physical rehabilitation for his injuries.

"I'm so grateful to NAS Jax for honoring my son here today," said Arnold.

"James, along with other wounded warriors, needs to participate in ceremonies like this more often because it helps them in their recovery."

NAS Jax Executive Officer Capt. Bob Sanders remarked, "It's my extreme honor and privilege to escort this true American hero. James reminds me of the sacrifices that our young men and women make for our freedom."

"On behalf of Commander, Naval Air Forces (CNAF) and the entire CoNA staff, I would like to congratulate NAS Jax for the spectacular air show they coordinated and presented to the general public," stated CNAF CoNA Operations Officer Cmdr. John Tate. "Nowhere else have we seen the spirit and celebration of the Centennial of Naval Aviation theme projected into both the public's eye and the air show events. It was truly an honor to meet recipients of the Distinguished Flying Cross and legends such as the last living original Blue Angels pilot."

Taddeo said, "The people here are always fantastic – especially Captain Maclay, XO Sanders and our good friend (NAS Jax safety officer) Ron Williamson. Joan and I sincerely thank everyone in Jacksonville for their warm hospitality."

Maclay gave special appreciation to the leadership and professionalism of air show coordinator Cmdr. Jim Debold, the base air operations officer.

"This was our third successful air show in a row. Our entire team pitched in to make this an all-hands effort," said Debold.

"Celebrating the sights and sounds of freedom is our way of giving back to the city of Jacksonville and surrounding communities that are so supportive of our military men and women."

"Above all, I want to thank the thousands of spectators who braved the inclement weather – as well as the performers who were so flexible in scheduling their performances each day," added Debold.

Maclay concluded, "I'm delighted to have with us the Deputy Under Secretary of the Navy for Business Operations and Transformation Eric Fanning; Vice Adm. Mark Skinner, principal military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Navy Research, Development and Acquisition; Rear Adm. Brian Prindle, commander, Naval Safety Center; and many other distinguished state and local officials. I salute everyone for their outstanding execution of an event that has thousands of intertwined parts. It's a great opportunity for the visiting public to understand why America's Navy is a global force for good." Air show spectator 13-year-old Kelsey Hellum has attended every air show since she was born.

"I really love coming to the air shows and really love seeing Fat Albert because it's so big. I just love all the airplanes flying and doing their stunts," she said.

"I really like the air show, especially the fighting scenarios between the old planes," said 15-year-old Allen Turpish, a student at Fleming Island High School.

"I'm also looking forward to seeing the Blue Angels fly. One of the pilots came to our school the other day and talked about his career and how he became a Blue Angel pilot. I plan to join the Navy and would like to work in the aviation field, too," he said.

Just For Fun

by Jack Gregory

Recipe for the Month

Sensational Double Layer Pumpkin Pie

4oz Cream Cheese, softened

1 tbsp. milk

1 1/2 Cup Cool Whip, thawed

1 Graham Cracker Pie Crust (6oz)

1 Cup Milk

2 pkg. (4 srv. size) Vanilla Flavor Instant Pudding & Pie Fill

1 can 16oz pumpkin

1 tsp. cinnamon

1/2 tsp. ginger

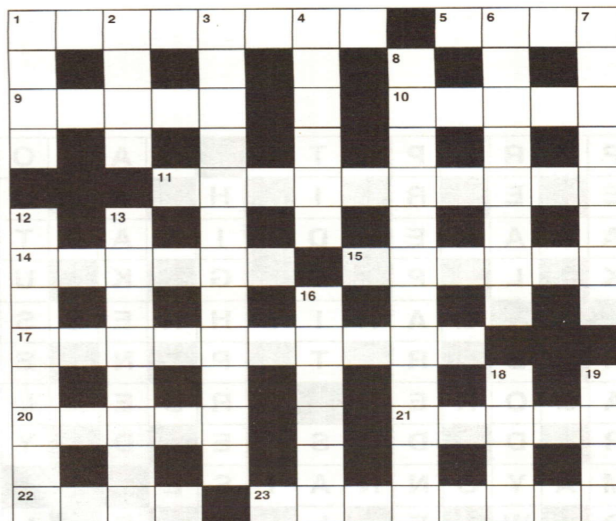
1/4 tsp. cloves, ground

1 tbsp. sugar

Mix cream cheese, 1-tbsp milk, and sugar in large bowl until smooth. Gently stir in Cool Whip. Spread on bottom of crust. In bowl, mix 1c. milk and pudding mix (mixture will be thick). Stir in pumpkin and spices with wire whisk; mix well. Spread over cream cheese layer. Refrigerate at least 3 hours.

Garnish with additional cool whip if desired.

No 6



Across

- 1 - Edges of roofs (8)
- 5 - Starch (4)
- 9 - Rouse (5)
- 10 - Paint (anag) (5)
- 11 - Gaudiness (10)
- 14 - Loves dearly (6)
- 15 - Experience (6)
- 17 - Dressing (10)
- 20 - Sheltered places (5)
- 21 - Shadow (5)
- 22 - Sweet dessert (4)
- 23 - Authorized (8)

Down

- 1 - Mountain top (4)
- 2 - Not imaginary (4)
- 3 - Readiness (12)
- 4 - Morsel (6)
- 6 - Woke up (8)
- 7 - Stupidly (8)
- 8 - Forceful (4-8)
- 12 - Concordant (8)
- 13 - Exterior of a motor vehicle (8)
- 16 - Type of sausage (6)
- 18 - Retires (4)
- 19 - Real estate (4)

The American Legion

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**POST
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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+

Jim Smith (8/12)
Bob Schlatter (8/12)
Dave & Pat (9/12)
Terry & Tracey Stickles
Gary & Marie Esler
Clyde & Nancy Aston
Genell Kriner
William Walker
Fred St Clair
In memory of Joyce Weiss

Sonny & Suzanne Sternberg (10/12)

Platinum Level, \$100

Barbara & Phil Milazo (1/12)
In memory of Cindy Burroughs 3/12
Carl Morrison (8/11)
In memory of Earl Parker
.....

Gold Level, \$50

Bruce & Wilma Corbitt (3/11)
In memory of Barbara Thomas (8/11)
James Stinekraus (8/11)
Sterling & Linda Phaklides (5/11)
.....

Silver Level, \$25

Al & Ginny Terrell (8/11)

G. Collins (7/12)
In Memory of Kim White (10/ 12)

In memory of Brad & Gerry Terrell (8/11)
Jack & Ethel (11/12)
Bob & Pat Deptula (8/11)
Sam Kalasdian (8/11)
Thomas & Townsend (2/11)
John & Sandy Seroyer 4/11)
In memory of USS Stark (5/12)
In memory of Dean Ramon Esler (6/11)
P-Nut & Liz Wilson (11/12)
Bill & Fanny Bivens (8/11)
Nick Patrizio (4/12)
Frank & Marge Redmond (8/11)
J.J. & Helen (12/11)
Franklin Friers (3/12)
Mike & Diane Barker (3/12)

Bronze Level, \$10.

Charlie Parker (8/12)

In Memory of Skip Hilliker 11/12

J.D. Kapeghian (5/12)
Scott & Christy Kapeghian (5/12)
Noah Kapeghian (5/12)
Larry Garner (1/12)
Louise Braren (6/12)
Maddy Chitko (2/12)
Pearse & Sally Doherty (2/13)
Richard & Jo Ann Scoggins (4/15)
Richard & Katy (5/12)
Robert Gomez (1/16)

Robert Schmidt (5/11)
Roy L. & Martha Lewis (4/11)
Russell & Mary Lou Jones (9/12)
Shorty Heiman (11/12)
Towney Kennard (11/12)

Pete Riebesehl (11/12)- MIA Henry Koch

Colette & Charlie Sellers 7/12

Jim Smith (8-11)

