American Legion Post 129

March 2011

Commander’s Corner by Lee Ingraham

As we start the month of March, I’d like to say we had a great February!! We held a Blood Drive on Feb. 5th. The Super Bowl, St. Valentine’s Day and Presidents Day have come and gone for 2011. We hosted the Northern Area Oratorical Contest and the Post 283 Bus Poker Run on the 19th. We are continuing the Veterans Job Placement program each Monday from 10 until 3 – These veteran’s affair reps can help with resumes, job searches, etc. The program is working! The numbers of participants continue to grow. Softball season is upon us. The team had 2 practices in February and will have one March 6th – all at Wingate Park. Once the spring season gets into full swing, please come out and support the team. And of course we are looking forward to St. Paddy’s Day when we all become Irish for a day!

We have posted a nomination committee form on the bulletin board. Frank Bolin is chairing that committee whose purpose is to compile a list of legionnaires who would like to run for a Legion officer position in 2011-2012. If you have any questions, please see Frank.

Bricks for Beaches Veterans Memorial Park & Chaplains Memorial Garden
Members of the Beaches Veterans Memorial Park, Inc are selling engraved walkway bricks
(continued on page 3)

Comedy Night at the Legion

Join us Saturday night March 5th for another great Comedy Night. 7:30pm

Headliner Chris Dubail.

When it comes to his comedy act high voltage non-stop action is what you get at the show. Enjoy some of the entertainment world’s favorite characters as they come to life with physical comedy and quality of dead on impressions. The act is a high energy blend of impressions and stand up with physical comedy and improvisation. From Kramer being in the wrong place at the wrong time, Chris Rock’s view on game shows, Billy Cosby giving dieting advise.

Opening act Billy B
It’s not “His Fault” and Billy B. has just the way to explain that to you. From very humble beginnings, he will leave you busting at the seams as you relate to everyday situations you often hear about, but rarely think can happen to you. A must see show, believe me, you won’t forgive yourself if you just hear about it.

Upcoming Events
- Mar 2
  7:00 House committee mtng
- Mar 3
  7:00 E-board meeting
  7:00 Auxiliary meeting
  7:30 General meeting
- Mar 4
  5:30 Mardi Gras Party
- Mar 5
  7:30 Comedy Night
- Mar 10
  7:00 40 & 8 & Cabane meeting
- Mar 11
  6:30 Irish Show “Sing A Long”
- Mar 15
  5:30 Donations committee meeting
- Mar 16
  7:00 Planning Board meeting

Inside this issue:
Auxiliary News 2
News from the Galley 3
Officers 2010-2011 4
Commander continued 5
American Legion Riders 6
40 & 8 News 7
Canteen update 8
Ask Ethel 9
Cabane 215 News 10
Legion Lore 11
Man in Uniform 12
Editor’s comments 13
American Legion 14
New Members 15
Service Officer comments 16
Booster Roster 17
Calendar is an insert 18
Left, left, left, right, left! It’s time to start marching ladies to wrap up another very successful Auxiliary year. Chairmen it’s time to start writing your year end reports to get to 5th district. PLEASE make sure you copy me on your reports. All volunteer hours must be turned in to Maggie McCall by the end of this month. Remember, if you want to go to convention this year, you must turn in your volunteer hours!

Our gold parties are continuing to add up for the Auxiliary. We had another successful month in February of $1,100. We will have another gold party March 5th – so bring your gold and silver.

I want to thank Shannon, Garth and Erin for a delicious Valentine’s Dinner. Unfortunately we only served 13 dinners... Those of us that were there enjoyed our champagne and Brandi Roberts had our pictures taken and developed before we left that evening. We had a successful booze walk which raised $120. Thanks to everyone that supported this Auxiliary function.

We made our goal and we will be able to send 5 young ladies to Girls State this year. Marie Esler and Pat Cornell have really done a super job again this year. In the next newsletter I’ll be able to tell you who the committee selected.

This is another reminder that we really need some help next year with our committee chairmen and officers. I have 11 committees that had no one chaired this year and other volunteer that headed more than one committee. One or two people cannot do all the wonderful projects that we do each year. If you and a friend have talked about helping, you can be “co” chairs and work through it together!

(continued on page 6)
March 03, 1855 - Congress approves $30,000 to test camels for military use.

March 03, 1955 - Elvis Presley made his 1st TV appearance.

March 03, 1931 - The Star Spangled Banner becomes the National Anthem.

March 06, 1950 - Silly putty is invented.

March 09, 1964 - 1st Ford Mustang produced.

March 17th - On this day everyone is a little bit Irish - it's Saint Patrick's Day!

March 17, 1845 - The rubber band was invented. Can you imagine life without them?!

March 24, 1958 - Elvis Presley joins the U.S. Army.

As we wake up each day and check our sometimes hectic schedules, wondering how we will make it through the day.....The following did in fact happen this month in our History:

Birthday - American football legend Knute Rockne (1888-1931) was born. He was killed in an airplane crash on March 31, 1931, in Kansas. (win one for the Gipper)

March 1, 1961 - President John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps.

March 02, 1983 - Final episode of M*A*S*H.

March 02, 1927 - Babe Ruth becomes highest paid baseball player ($70,000 per year)

March 03, 1855 - Congress approves $30,000 to test camels for military use.

March 03, 1955 - Elvis Presley made his 1st TV appearance.

March 03, 1931 - The Star Spangled Banner becomes the National Anthem.

March 06, 1950 - Silly putty is invented. (1950)

March 09, 1964 - 1st Ford Mustang produced.

March 17th - On this day everyone is a little bit Irish - it's Saint Patrick's Day!

March 17, 1845 - The rubber band was invented. Can you imagine life without them?!

March 24, 1958 - Elvis Presley joins the U.S. Army.

American Legion Riders by Jeff Durden

The American Legion Riders will hold their meeting and breakfast at Post 129 on Saturday March 26th at 10:00am. Please join us.

Laugh a Little

They’ve come up with a new radio for drunk drivers. It’s so loud you don’t hear the crash.

A man had no life insurance, but he did have fire insurance so his wife had him cremated.

A business man told me that he wanted his children to share in his business, but the government beat him to it.

40 & 8 News by Kevin McCallon, Chef De Gare

Voyagers, March is here and there is a lot of work to be done yet. There is some good news about Little Toot the train. All parts have arrived and John Island auto is assembling the train. It’s been three years since we have had the train in a running status. On February fifth Butch Shadwell, Chris Lynch, of the wounded warrior project and the Chef Degare visited Avante Villa. Butch Shadwell made some very nice certificates for all the vets and all received an American flag. All of the vets were very greatfull that they are truly not forgotten. Some were very emotional about the visit.

Don’t forget the wreck is approaching very soon and at the last promenade we had decided the uniforms will not be worn due to the fact that nobody is small enough to wear them. The dates are March 17, 18, 19. The Days Inn Jacksonville will accommodate all friends and voyagers. There will be a very nice hospitality room all for $69 a night. Jimmy Mayer will handle the registration duties and the Cabane will be helping with the guests at the Holiday Inn.

The Petite Communique has to be completed at the end of this term July 31, 2011. I need all inputs early.
Canteen Update

by Brandi Roberts

Hello from your Canteen Staff,

Comedy Night is here again this month! Join us on February 5th for our nationally touring comedians for 2011. We will be holding Comedy Night in the back hall the first Saturday of every month so come on in – it’s a great time that you will not want to miss.

As I write this we have purchased the new TV’s and are planning to start with the remodeling this weekend, so hopefully by the time you read this we will be finished! So come on in and check out your new and improved Canteen. Next project is to re-felt the pool tables. Another big change this year is that we have brought in the Florida Lotto! We are excited by this and hope you are to. If you play the Lotto please consider buying your tickets here. When you buy or cash in a lotto ticket the retailer that you use gets a percentage, wouldn’t you rather have your American Legion get that money then someone you don’t know?

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!

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

---

Ask Ethel

Dear Ethel: I’m an Auxiliary member as well as a country gal. I’ve spent most of my life going barefoot when possible. I’d like to dance shoeless at the Post, but I’m told it’s frowned on, if not banned. What’s the problem? --- Barefoot Babe

Dear Babe: Many of the male dancers wear clodhoppers that could make you flatfooted, if not pancake-footed. Besides, remember what the Bible says: “How beautiful are thy feet with shoes, O prince’s daughter!...” (Song of Solomon—7:1)

Dear Ethel: I think that the month most despised in the Army is March, recalling that exhausting command, “Forward, march!” Am I wrong? --- Former Foot Soldier

Dear Foot Soldier: Maybe not, but there’s always May, a possibly nicer month: “May I wish you good slogging, Sarge? I’m going on leave.”

If you have any questions for the “Ask Ethel” column, send the questions to Ethel at: triplejj@comcast.net

---

Cabane 215 News

by Annie Anderson, Cabane President

Hello everyone, we had a very successful Rendezvous. We collected several items and money for our March “Irish” Basket of Cheer, Merci to the Dames who made the donations. Please come and take a look at the baskets and get your tickets. The drawing will be on Saturday March 19th at the 40/8 Banquet. The Northeast Florida First Coast Wreck starts on Thursday March 17th through Saturday March 19th.

Anyone that is interested in helping the Voyageurs and Dames in the Hospitality Room please contact me 707-3163. The Hospitality room will be at the Days Inn on Atlantic Blvd., Neptune Beach, FL. The Dames Luncheon is Saturday March 19th at 11:30 am at Parsons Seafood Restaurant, 9th Street, Jacksonville Beach, followed by the Banquet that evening. Cocktails at 6 PM and Dinner served at 7 PM. I do have all the information so please don’t hesitate to call me. We have the date for our annual Rummage Sale May 13th and 14th. Don’t get rid of your items now, keep them and donate them to the Cabane. This is one of our biggest fundraisers. Next Rendezvous is Thursday March 10th 7 PM hope to see you there.

Merci
A radio talk show host remarked recently that our war in Afghanistan seems to have nearly disappeared from the news media. I hope the USA isn’t slipping into inflicting the terrible treatment that our Vietnam vets suffered via some civilians during and after that war. Poet Rudyard Kipling dealt with the similar experience he and other British soldiers had at home during duty in India. His poem “Tommy” is an example. (“Tommy” or “Tommy Atkins” is the British equivalent of our generic term for U.S. soldiers, “G.I.” or “G.I. Joe”.)

An excerpt from “Tommy”: “O it’s Tommy this, an’ Tommy that, an’ ‘Tommy go away’; but it’s ‘Thank you, Mister Atkins,’ when the band begins to play…” Another: “For it’s Tommy this, an’ Tommy that, an’ ‘Tommy wait outside’; but it’s ‘Special train for Atkins,’ when the troopship’s on the tide…”

Kipling’s verses show dramatically how hypocritical a few thoughtless civilians can be. I admit, though, that until I read it, if somebody asked me, “Do you like Kipling?” I probably would have replied, “I don’t know. I’ve never kipled.”

An amateur huntsman came back to the hunting lodge and said, “I shot an elk.” Another guest said, “How’d you know it was an elk.” The amateur hunter said, “By his membership card.”

Two men are bird hunting. One takes aim and shoots. He starts to jump up and down, saying, “I got me a pheasant, I got me a pheasant.” The other bird hunter said, “That’s an Owl.” The first one said, “Don’t matter. I eat the meat, I don’t care about the voice.”

“If you are the first one to identify the person in uniform and notify Post Commander Lee Ingraham he might buy you a drink.”

Last month’s Man in Uniform was John Burroughs.

We need more Post 129 boosters (see the current boosters on page 8) If your name is not on this list you can be added by sending a check attention to our finance officer, Bob Schlatter. We need your help. Thank you in advance.

Another Fancy Pants fish dinner is on the schedule for Friday April 1.
The American Legion:

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization. Focusing on service to veterans, service members and communities, the Legion currently has about 2.4 million members in 14,000 posts worldwide. These posts are organized into 55 departments: one each for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico and the Philippines.

The American Legion's national headquarters is in Indianapolis, with an office in Washington, D.C. The national organization has a full-time staff of about 300 employees. The Legion has several standing national commissions and committees that work with department, district and post leadership to develop programs, increase membership and recruit volunteers. Associated organizations are the American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion.

Over the years, The American Legion has founded many programs for children and youth, including American Legion Baseball and Boys Nation.

New Members

November 2010: Franklin L. Abbott, USN, Vietnam; Robert M Culbertson, USA, Vietnam; Bryce Kreischer, USN, Gulf; Joseph E. Lee, USMC, Gulf; Harry Maxwell Jr, USN, Vietnam; Peter J. Riebesehl, USA, WWII; Michael, Michael Smith, USAF, Gulf;

December 2010: Ira David Ashley, USA; James F. Benson, USA, Vietnam; Donald S. Bulford, USA, Vietnam; Henry Clay Burnett, USMC, Vietnam; Dale Levesque, USA, Gulf; Gregory Lamar Scruggs, USN, Lebanon, active duty; John C. Henry transfer from Post 400.

January 2011: Ronald G. Buchman, USMC, Vietnam; Glenda J. Carter, USA, Lebanon; Robert R. Deering II, USA, Lebanon; John Stuart Howell, USA, Lebanon; Randy Lee Rhodes, USA, Gulf, active duty; James C. Wineland, USAF, Vietnam; transfers...Dennis McDowell, Post 316; William J. Grill, USA, Vietnam, Post 400; Stephen M. Price, USAF, Vietnam, from Post 316; Carl E Waldron, USN, Gulf from Post 87; Christopher Wilson, USA, Gulf from Post 316:

HELP

The Auxiliary is asking all parents and grand parents for pictures of their children or grandchildren for a special project. Put name and phone number on back of the picture and turn it into Candace, Mary Ellen or Brandi. The picture will be returned to you.

Auxiliary ....continued form page 2

Membership is doing great we are at 91%. If you have not renewed, please do because now they are past due and we are looking forward to a New Year beginning in July. Keep clipping those coupons and if you know someone that has a child or relative serving overseas, please let Vicki Gordon-Haft know so she can send them a blue star banner.

A newsboy was standing on the corner with a stack of papers, yelling, “Read all about it, Fifty people swindled! Fifty people swindled!” Curious, a man walked over and bought a paper, and checked the front page. Finding nothing, the man said, “There is nothing in here about fifty people being swindled.” The newsboy ignored him and went on, calling out, “Read all about it, Fifty one people swindled!”
Survivors and Dependents Benefits -- Death After Active Service

One of the more difficult tasks a survivor faces after the death of the veteran is completing the numerous claims forms for VA survivors' benefits. The anxiety and fear of the unknown - who to call, what to do, or where to go for help - can be an unpleasant experience. To help ease the burden and to ensure you will have the necessary details for filing a claim, here are some basic quick tips.

Documents Needed

a. the veteran's discharge certificate or DD 214
b. the veteran's VA claim number or Social Security number
c. the veteran's death certificate
d. Government life insurance policy
e. a copy of all marriage certificates and divorce decrees (if any)
f. a copy of each child's birth certificate (or adoption order)
g. veteran's birth certificate to determine parents' benefits

Where to Get Help

a. VA.gov web site, click on Veteran's Services
b. Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents (An informative pamphlet)
c. VA service representatives can answer questions about benefits eligibility and application procedures. Contact the nearest VA benefits office at 1-800-827-1000. VA facilities also are listed in the federal government section of telephone directories under "Veterans Affairs".
d. For local assistance contact Walt Fanton (904) 994-2564 American Legion Post 129's service officer.

Starting 24, January Worksource Veterans Mobile Access Point Team Will be at American Legion Post 129 Every Monday from 10AM-3PM.

They provide veteran career services such as resume writing, job searches, career counseling and many other employment related services.
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
Bob Schlatter
Dave & Pat Terry & Tracey Stickles
Gary & Marie Esler
Clyde & Nancy Aston
Genell Kriner
William Walker
Fred St Clair
In memory of Joyce Weiss

**Platinum Level, $100**
Barbara & Phil Milazo (1/12)
In memory of Cindy Burroughs (6/11)
Carl Morrison (8/11)
In memory of Earl Parker

**Gold Level, $50**
Bruce & Wilma Corbit (3/11)
In memory of Barbara Thomas (6/11)
James Stinekraus (8/11)
Sterling & Linda Phaklides (9/11)
Sonny & Suzanne Sternberg (10/11)

**Silver Level, $25**
Al & Ginny Terrell (8/11)
In memory of Brad & Gerry Terrell (8/11)
Jack & Ethel (11/11)
Bob & Pat Deptula (8/11)

Sam Kalasdian (8/11)
Thomas & Townsend (2/11)
John & Sandy Seroyer (4/11)
In memory of USS Stark (5/11)
In memory of Dean Ramon Esler (6/11)
P-Nut & Liz Wilson (11/11)
Bill & Fanny Bivens (8/11)
Nick Patrizio (4/12)
Frank & Marge Redmond (8/11)
J.J. & Helen (12/11)

**Bronze Level, $10**
Caroline Whelpley (6/11)
Ed Zazzarino (10/11)
Frank Brown (7/11)
George Layton (3/11)
In memory of Earl Parker (6/11)
In memory of Edwina MacCangno (4/11)
In memory of Jack W. Cox (2/11)
In memory of Sean Seroyer (5/11)
In memory of Dottie Smith (7/11)
In memory of George Rivers (5/11)
In memory of Skip Hilliker (10/12)
Charlie & Betty Parker (7/11)
In memory of John Kapeghian (6/11)
In memory of Jim Read (12/11)
Martha & Roy Hauge (7/13)
Joe & Pat Cornell (2/11)
John & Patty Kapeghian (5/11)
J.D. Kapeghian (5/11)

Scott & Christy Kapeghian (3/11)
Noah Kapeghian (5/11)
Larry Garner (1/12)
Louise Braren (6/12)
Maddy Chitko (2/11)
Pearse & Sally Doherty (2/11)
Richard & Jo Ann Scoggins (4/11)
Richard & Katy (5/11)
Robert Gomez (1/16)
Robert Schmitt (6/11)
Roy L. & Martha Lewis (4/11)
Russell & Mary Lou Jones (9/11)
Shorty Heiman (11/11)
Towney Kennard (11/11)