

# American Legion Post 129

: Post129@comcast.net

March 2011

## 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

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## 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. 5<sup>th</sup>, 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 19<sup>th</sup>. 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 6<sup>th</sup> – 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)



*For  
God  
and  
Country*



## Comedy Night at the Legion

Join us Saturday night March 5<sup>th</sup> 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 advice.

### 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.

# Auxiliary News

by Candace Mabry, Auxiliary President



Left, left, left, right, left! It's time to start marching ladies to wrap up another very successful Auxiliary year. Chairmen its time to start writing your year end reports to get to 5<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> – 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)



## News from the Galley

by Danny Rodriguez, 2nd Vice

I would like to again thank everyone who has volunteered to do dinners in the galley this past month and looking forward to seeing more of you volunteering for this upcoming month. We really need the help. We have openings so please see myself, Terry or Brandi to sign up.

I would also like to thank JD and his crew for the oyster Mondays that they have done. These happen on Trivia night so you need to watch

the calendar and bulletin board.

We had the northern are oratorical contest at the post and I have to tell you that I was very impressed with these young people. Their knowledge and ability to speak on the constitution was very impressive.

There will be a Mardi Gras celebration on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March. So come and enjoy good food and join in the fun. I would also like to thank Sam

M. in advance for the Saint Patrick's Day dinner to be held on the Friday the 11<sup>th</sup>. The traditional corn beef and cabbage is planned, so put on your green and come out. There are a lot of things going on and now that the weather is changing look for more fun events to come up. I am looking for help with a few BBQ's that I am planning. So please let me know if you can.

## Officers for 2010—2011

Commander. ....Lee Ingraham  
1st Vice.....Norm Sullivan  
2nd Vice.....Danny Rodriguez  
3rd Vice.....Don Grzena  
4th Vice.....Terry Stickles  
SAA.....Mike Barker  
Adjutant.....Candace Kelly  
Judge Advocate.....Bob Wilson  
Finance.....Bob Schlatter  
Chaplain.....Robert Schmitt  
Service Officer.....Walt Fanton

### E-Board Members House Committee

James Smith	William Wilson
Joseph Newberry	Frank Redmond
Sterling Phaklides	Rich Hansberg
David Jordan	Marie Esler (Aux)
Taylor Barker	Tom Dawson (SAL)
	Russ Rhodes
	Danny Henderson

**Auxiliary President,**  
Candace Mabry  
**Commander S.A.L.,**  
Tom Dawson  
**Chef De Gare 40 & 8,**  
Kevin McCallon  
**La Presidente, Cabane 215,**  
Annie Anderson  
**American Legion Riders Director**  
Jeff Durden

**Commander Lee (continued)**

to help fund the remaining phases of the park at Mayport Rd. and Atlantic Blvd. in Atlantic Beach.

The park opened on Veterans Day last year, but organizers want to build a great lawn and a memorial to honor fallen Chaplains and members of the Armed Forces, by service, during U.S. Military campaigns. The brick sales will help fund some of these projects. Brick prices vary depending on your status, but will be no more than \$75 each. They can be engraved, with three lines of 15 letters each, memorializing those whom supporters that want to be remembered. Send tax-deductible contributions to VFW Post 3270, 915 S. Eighth St., Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250, marked BVMP, call Liz Hill at 904-234-2692 or go to [www.beachesveteransmemorialpark.org](http://www.beachesveteransmemorialpark.org) and click on "Click for Bricks."

**This Month in History** by Tom Paine

**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

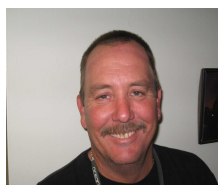
**March 17<sup>th</sup>** On this day everyone is a little bit Irish- It's [Saint Patrick's Day!](#)

**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 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 19<sup>th</sup> at the 40/8 Banquet. The Northeast Florida First Coast Wreck starts on Thursday March 17<sup>th</sup> through Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup>.

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 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am at Parsons Seafood Restaurant, 9<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. 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 10<sup>th</sup> 7 PM hope to see you there.

Merci

## Legion Lore

by Jack Hardebeck

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 kiplied."



## Humor??

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."

"Any luck shooting." "I shot fifteen ducks." "Were they wild?" "No, but the farmer that owned them was."

## Man in Uniform

(Guess who this person is)

Who is the Post 129 member on the right? (answer in next months newsletter) .

This individual was in the U.S. Air Force from 1963 to 1967. He was an aircraft mechanic. This airman has served on committees and has been a great volunteer at Post 129.



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.

## Editor's comments

by Sterling L. Phaklides

By the time you read this newsletter the canteen will have taken on a new look. The canopy will be down and you will see several new very large TV sets placed around the bar. It looks great. Cleaner air, better for the sound system along with many other advantages. Stop in and take a look. I believe you will like it.

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.

Each of these dinners have brought in a great crowd. Get here early and have some great food and see the "Cool Old Guys" in action.





## 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!"

# Service Officer comments

by Walt Fanton



## 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.**

# The American Legion

1151 S. Fourth St.  
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

**POST  
129**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
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Jacksonville, FL  
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+**

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 3/11  
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)  
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 (5/11)  
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 (3/11)  
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 (3/11)  
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 (5/11)  
Roy L. & Martha Lewis (4/11)  
Russell & Mary Lou Jones (9/11)  
Shorty Heiman (11/11)  
Towney Kennard (11/11)

