

American Legion Post 129

January-February 2016

Upcoming Meetings/ Events

- **Planning Board at 6 p.m.**
Jan. xx and Feb. 3
- **House Comm. at 7 p.m.**
Jan. xx and Feb. 3
- **E-Board at 6:30 p.m.**
Jan. 7 and Feb. 4
- **Auxiliary at 7 p.m.**
Jan. 7 and Feb. 4
- **General at 7:30 p.m.**
Jan. 7 and Feb. 4
- **Cabane at 7 p.m.**
Jan. 13 and Feb. 11
- **ALR at 10 a.m.**
Jan. 16 and Feb. 20
- **SAL Meeting at 6:30 p.m.**
Jan. 28 and Feb. 25
- **Jan. 16**
Chili Cook-off
- **Jan. 23**
Pool Tournament
- **Jan. 31**
Post Crawl
- **Feb. 7**
Super Bowl Party!
- **Feb. 13**
Auxiliary Show
- **Feb. 20**
Ping Pong Tournament

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Commander's Corner by Ernie Florig

Dear Legion Family,

Happy New Year 2016! I can't believe we're already halfway through the Legion year. Thanks to the officers, program chairmen, and numerous volunteers who've stepped up during the past six months to ensure our services to Veterans and the community were accomplished. We've truly been blessed with an abundance of time, talent, and treasures from our Legionnaires, family members, and supporters!

December 2015 was another busy month at our Post. Thanks to 1st Vice Commander Joe Maichle and the kitchen staff of 2nd Vice Commander Terry Stickles, 4th Vice Commander Rick Miller, and Kathy Maichle, we were able to host the 5th District's welcoming dinner for Department Commander Jim Ramos. The month 5th District meeting was also held at our Post and was well attended by Legionnaires and Auxiliary members from the surrounding posts. I send y'all a sincere thanks from Department Commander Ramos and 5th District Commander Lawson Dukes for the hospitality and welcoming spirit!

On December 7, I represented our Post at the Fleet Reserve Association — Branch 290's Pearl Harbor memorial service at Mayport Road. It was a solemn occasion and was well-attended by service organizations throughout Duval County. After the ceremony, I had the pleasure of meeting Navy sailor Bob Boudreau, who was serving aboard the USS West Virginia (BB-48) during the attack. Bob described the chaos and how the USS West Virginia was sunk by six aerial

torpedoes and two bombs. Eventually the USS West Virginia was refloated and refitted at Bremerton, Washington. The mighty Colorado-class battleship was returned to service and was instrumental in the invasion of Leyte Gulf in the Philippines.

January 2016 will include key Post events such as the High School Oratorical Contest, Boys State interviews, a blood drive, and a chili cook-off. Please review the weekly email updates from Canteen Manager Brandi Haught for dates and times. To subscribe to the free weekly updates, go to the Post 129 Website at www.post129.org. The sign-up portion is at the bottom of the home page.

The annual 5th District Four Chaplains memorial service will be held at Post 250, 3939 County Road, Middleburg, on Sunday, Feb. 7, at 2 p.m. The ceremony will be emceed by Post 250 Chaplain Bob Lucas.

I'm proud to announce that our Post has two Department certified Service Officers. Last November, Past Commander Danny Rodriguez completed the service officer's course and has assisted some members. As a friendly reminder, Bob Schmitt is the elected Post Service Officer, and I appointed Danny as the Assistant Post Service Officer. Having two



Newsletter items should be emailed to Sue Nist at susan.nist@gmail.com

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Auxiliary News

by Toni Abbott



Hello All!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year! So much has happened through the year and it's hard to believe that a new year is upon us.

I'm so happy with all the accomplishments throughout 2015 from the Auxiliary ladies and our Legion family. I know that everyone will continue to do great things in 2016. As we leave 2015, I want to thank everyone who helped us in so many ways to support our troops, our friends and family.

Since our last newsletter, the ladies of the Auxiliary donated \$1,000 to BEAM. This donation will help BEAM's food pantry. The clients of BEAM can select their own food in a mini-supermarket environment rather than being given a pre-packaged bag containing some items they may not be familiar with or use. Clients feel more empowered and free to choose what best meets their families' needs, resulting in less discarded food waste. I love BEAM and I know others do too. It's truly a great resource for so many people at the beaches.

Did you know that we truly have our own Santa Claus here at the Legion? Well, we do. San John Burroughs asked the Auxiliary elves for their help to "pay it forward". The elves came through and Santa John was able to give four new bikes to members' children of the American Legion Post 129. I know there were some happy children come Christmas morning. We would also like to acknowledge Cindy Jordan, Marie Esler, and John Burroughs for their contributions to Girls State and the Auxiliary!! Everything is appreciated!

The Auxiliary Silent Auction was a total success. Of course, it would not have been so successful without our volunteers who donated baskets, which were awesome! And with the help of those who made sure the auction ran smoothly, we raised more than \$1,000, which will help serve our Veterans and community!

The Auxiliary room is almost complete. Of course, none of this would have been possible if we did not have Joe Maichle's help in painting the room and changing the ceiling tiles. And he did this all in time for us to hold our District meeting!

Many of our guests gave us positive feedback. Next, we will be working on the floors and putting on the finishing touches.

I hope everyone has a great start to their New Year.

Toni Abbott
Auxiliary President



Let  FREEDOM RING!

S.A.L. News

S.A.L. Officers 2015-2016

Commander — Brian Hancher*
1st Vice — Kenny Pigg*
2nd Vice — Martin Manly
3rd Vice — Terry Stickles*
4th Vice — Phil Munson
Sgt. Of Arms — A.J. Rodriguez*
Finance Officer — Steve Smith*
Adjutant — Rob Nicholson
Chaplain — Brian Hancher*
Historian — Rob Nicholson
*Appointed

*Happy
New Year*

Saturday Golf League

We play every Saturday at Windy Harbor Mayport Naval Station. The first t-time is 10:30 a.m. When you register to play, you will receive a reminder each Monday asking if you will be playing. The format is 9-hole Captain's Choice. Join today, have fun. For more information, contact Clint Swinehart at [904-253-5856](tel:904-253-5856) or e-mail him at swineiam@bellsouth.net.

Legion News

By Joe Maichle

Fellow Legionnaires:

The month of December has come and gone. At the time of this newsletter, our membership is at 85%, which is pass our next goal. Thanks to everyone who has renewed. For those who have not renewed, remember dues as of the first of the year are now \$45.00. Please see either myself or the Commander to renew.

I would like to also take the time to thank our kitchen staff who served up a wonderful dinner on December 5 for the Department Commanders dinner. Everyone who attended enjoyed their evening.

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Let's get everyone together and make our Post one of the 100% membership posts in the Department. If you have not renewed your membership, please stop by the Post and renew today.

For God and Country,

Joe Maichle



Commander's Corner (continued)

service officers gives us the continuity we need to assist a post with 600 plus members. Thanks to Bob and Danny for their dedicated service!

Legion Up!

Ernie Florig
(904) 515-8390

I'd like to extend a sincere thanks to one of our favorite couples, Frank and Terri Hotmer. Frank is being transferred to Guam. Frank and Terri have been dedicated and loyal to our Post members and programs. You can always count on their smiling faces and sense of humor as they volunteered numerous hours towards various fundraisers and events. We wish them fair winds and Godspeed as they make the long trek cross country and eventually to Guam. We love you two and you'll be in our thoughts and prayers!



Happy New Year!

Officers for 2015—2016

Commander.....Ernie Florig
1st Vice.....Joe Maichle
2nd Vice.....Terry Stickles
3rd Vice.....Kevin Robbs
4th Vice.....Rick Miller
Sgt at Arms.....Mike Liner
Finance.....Bob Schlatter
Chaplain.....Brian Hancher
Adjutant.....Kevin Robbs
Judge Advocate.....Dennis McDowell
Service Officer.....Bob Schmitt
Historian..... Kelly Rice

E-Board Members House Committee

Linda Barefoot
Bob Daigle, Sr.
Jeff Durden
Lee Fair
Chuck Nist

Jerry Brandt
Stephanie Cain
Kathy Jewell
Rob Nicholson
John Quimby
Frank Redmond
Bill Wilson

Auxiliary President
Toni Abbott
Commander-S.A.L.
Brian Hancher
Director-Legion Riders
Jim Wineland
Chef De Gare 40 & 8
Marie Spine
La Presidente, Cabane 215
Sharon Harville

Canteen Update

By Brandi Roberts



Hello from your Canteen Staff,

Wow 2016! Where did last year go? Looking back, I believe we had a great 2015! So many events, so many improvements, and so much fun! But I think 2015 will be even better.

We start off the year with our annual chili cook off on Saturday, Jan. 16. If you would like to participate, please let Brandi know as soon as possible. Then on Saturday, Jan. 23, we will be holding a pool tournament. Please watch the weekly email for details.

On Sunday, Jan. 31, we will be going on a Post hop. What's a Post hop? It's a lot like a pub crawls, but instead of the local area bars, we will be visiting other Posts in the area. The route has not been determined yet, but I am sure it will be a great time!

On Sunday, Feb. 7, we will hold our annual Super Bowl party! There is no better place to watch the game. So plan on coming up to the Post! Tickets will be on sale mid-January. As you favorite bartender for details. On Saturday, Feb. 13, the Auxiliary is planning a show, so mark your calendars. On Saturday, Feb. 20, will be holding a Ping Pong Tournament in the evening. There will be a signup sheet 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!



American Legion Riders by Jim Wineland



Happy New Year to All!

First, I would like to thank everyone for a great 2015! We got a lot done and more to do in 2016. I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas with their families and friends.

Update on our Navy Seal's home upgrade. By the time you read this article, the main rooms of his home have been painted and the floors installed. The windows were ordered in mid-December, with a four-week lead time because of the holidays. We will still have a sliding door to replace and a hand full of minor things to finish.

Just to keep you up-to-date on 5th District happenings, we conducted a workshop to discuss scheduling between the posts. As all the Riders know, we constantly step on each other when it comes to scheduling. We came up with a plan to present to the District, which involves assigning each post with their month to have their ride. As an example, 283's will

Be September, 129's would be October, Post 9's will be May. We had eight of the 12 ALR posts that will ride next year agree to this approach. Fun runs and minor runs would be scheduled around these dates. I will keep you posted on the results.

Some ARL 129 business for you, we have voted to change our meeting time from 10 a.m. to 9 a.m., still on every third Saturday of the month. This way we can catch up with other scheduled rides on those dates. We will also change the By-laws to SOPs while we are making this change. I will keep you posted on the effective date.

Dates to Remember:

Jan. 9: SCOOTINAMERICA at Adamac in Jacksonville.

April 10-16: In State Legacy Run starting in Deland and ending in Melbourne.

May 13-15: The State Rally in Punta Gorda.

Please put applications for the ALR in the Road Captain's mailbox in the back hallway. If it's too small, please let us know and we'll get a larger box. Thanks!

As you can see, there's a lot going on with lots to do.

Ride Safe!
Jim

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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 (11/15)
In Memory of Al "Sharkey" Wiltshire (2022)

.....
Platinum Level, \$100

In Memory of Cindy Burroughs (7/16)

.....
Gold Level, \$50

Chuck & Sue Nist (4/16)
Charlie Parker (9/16)
Bill Garrett (6/16)

.....
Silver Level, \$25

In Memory of Brad & Gerry Terrell (12/15)
In Memory of Kim White (10/16)
P-Nut & Liz Wilson (11/16)
Louise Taylor Braren (8/16)
Paul "Shorts" Urff (8/17)
Frank and Joan Baagoe (3/16)
Sally & Pearse Doherty (5/16)
In Memory of Skip Hilliker (6/16)
Gordy & Petie Havey (9/16)

Bronze Level, \$10

Estelle Mellon (9/16)
Maddy Chitko (2/16)
Richard & Jo Ann Scoggins (4/19)
Robert Gomez (1/16)
Russell & Mary Lou Jones (9/17)
John & Gloria Molisani (8/17)
Thomas Selig (7/16)
William and Fannie Bivens (2/16)
In Memory of John C. Ford (5/17)