

American Legion Post 129

January/February 2020

Upcoming Meetings/Events

- **Planning Board at 6 pm**
Jan 7 and Feb 4
- **House Comm., 6:30 p.m.**
Jan 7 and Feb 4
- **E-Board at 6:00 p.m.**
Jan 9 & Feb 6
- **Auxiliary at 7 p.m.**
Jan 9 and Feb 6
- **General Mtg at 7 p.m.**
Jan 9 and Feb 6
- **ALR at 9 a.m.**
Jan 4 and Feb 1
- **SAL at 6 p.m.**
Jan 8 and Feb 5
- **Cabane at 7 p.m.**
Jan 16 and Feb 13
- **Chili Cook Off**
Jan. 11
- **Super Bowl Party**
Feb. 2
- **Fat Tuesday Party**
Feb. 25
- **ALR Casino Night**
Feb. 29
- **Newsletter Deadline**
Feb. 20

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Commander's Corner by Joe Maichle

Greetings Legionnaires & Family:

First, let me wish everyone a Happy New Year in case I don't see you around the Post. I hope all your New Year's dreams and wishes come true.

As I reflect on the past year, a lot has changed around the Post for the better I believe. We completed the renovation of the newly named Freedom Hall which opened in February as a NON-SMOKING part of the Post and added a meeting room for use by the Legionnaires, SAL and Riders. We replaced the old canopy and upgraded the kitchen. If you haven't been to the Post recently, stop by and see all the improvements.

A big thank you to Jim Wineland who lead the negotiations for the two lots next to the Post. It has been four years that we have been trying to get a lease or purchase the lots and we have finally signed a long-term lease on both lots with first rights to buy if they are put up for sale. You will be seeing some improvements on the lots in the near future.

As of this newsletter, we are # 2 in the District at 86.15% which is ahead of the Department goal for February 2020. At this time we only need 77 members to renew to make 100%.

On November 9, we held the Early-Bird Luncheon and everyone who attended was treated to several games of bingo and received \$20 for their win. A big thank you to Ernie Florig for putting together this event for all those early birds.

On November 28, 2nd Vice Commander Terry Stickles and his wife, I understand it was a great meal and that they served over 150 dinners. Way to

go Terry and your crew.

On December 8, the District meeting was held at the Post and we were honored to have the Department Commander Rick Johnson, Department 1st Vice Commander Jerry Brandt, Department 3rd Vice Commander Michael (Gambler) Raymond, Department Auxiliary President Ann King-Smith at the Post.

On December 15, the Auxiliary hosted the Children's Christmas party at the Post. Santa arrived escorted by our Chapter 129 American Legion Riders. Santa presented a gift to all the children present and a great time was had by all. Thank you Auxiliary members for starting off the Christmas holidays for the children.

Congratulations to all the new members and transfers we have had in the last couple of months. Welcome to our family.

Up Coming Events

Jan 9th – E Board & General

Membership meeting

Jan 11th – Clean up Veteran grave sites at Warren Smith

Cemetery

Jan 18th – Boys State Interviews

Feb 2nd – Super Bowl Party

Feb 6th – E Board & General Membership Meeting

Feb 8th – Clean up Veterans grave sites Warren Smith

Cemetery

Feb 14 – Valentine's Day Celebration

For God and Country
Joe Maichle, Commander



*For
God
and
Country*



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

Auxiliary News by Mary Tarnowski



Hoping everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy and safe New Year.

December was a busy month for the Auxiliary. It started off on December 2nd. I was presented with a Proclamation from the City of Jacksonville's Mayor recognizing the American Legion Auxiliary's 100th Birthday. District President, Annie Anderson, Commander, Joe Maichle, Post 129 Judge Advocate, Jeff Durden, Millie Boddroff and David Tarnowski were present. The plaque is now on display in the Auxiliary room. What a great honor it was to receive it.

What a surprise our members and I had at our meeting on December 5th. Our Department President, Ann King-Smith, District President, Annie Anderson, and Department Community Service Chairman, Jill Lux, made a surprise visit to our Auxiliary meeting. They also made a visit to the Deck the Chairs and were very impressed with our chair.

The District Meeting was held at our post on December 8th, and was also attended by De-

partment President, and Department Community Service Chairman. There were around 40 members present. Thanks to Carole Hanson, who helped me get the room organized and hang up our plaques. Thanks to all who brought an unwrapped toy to the District Meeting for the Children's Christmas Party at the VA Clinic.

Our children's Christmas Party was held on December 15th. As usual Santa made his grand entrance escorted by our own Legion Riders. There were around 40 children with parents present. They decorated cookies, made Christmas decorations and of course met with Santa and got a present. Thanks again Erin for all you do and each year it gets better and the presents are so thoughtful for each child. Thanks to Santa – Rich Nicholson and his Elf – Nicole Neal. A special thanks to JD who cooked the meal; Millie who helped with the shopping; and Renee who made the cookies for the children to decorate. Thanks to John Burroughs and everyone that helped Erin get this party done!

It is time to renew your membership if you haven't done so. As of December 6th, your Unit was at 72% thanks to the efforts of our new membership chair Millie. We leaped from 11th place to 3rd!! Our goal is to reach 101%. Remember after December 31st if you are coming to the Post, you must show your membership card for 2020 for access.

I would like to welcome all our new members and transfers. Welcome, welcome and hope to see you at our next meeting which is the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

Volunteer hours will be due the end of February so start finalizing them now and get them entered on the web site.

For God and Country
Mary Tarnowski

S.A.L. News by Pat Fowler

I hope everyone had a blessed and thankful Christmas and Happy New Year! We look forward to a great 2020 for all of our Legion Family. Wonderful things are going to happen in the coming year for our Post.

Thank you to 2nd Vice Commander Scott Hardy for organizing a very successful Christmas card signing at Marsh Landing Publix. We were able to get a lot of cards signed for our troops overseas and also get the word out to the community about our Post. All of our Legion family where represented, Legionnaires, Sons, Auxiliary and Riders.

Congratulations to all who helped make the Children's Christmas party a big success. Thank you to SAL member Rich Ni-

cholson who once again darned the costume of Santa Claus for the very joyful Children's Christmas Party.

SAL will be holding the monthly raffle for January and will be raffling not 1, not 2, but 3 bags of cash. That means we will have 3 winners! Tickets will go on sale January 1 and will be available in both Freedom Hall and Liberty Hall.

Membership renewals for SAL are over 75%. We need your help to reach our goal is to be at 100% membership renewal. Your membership card for 2019 expired on December 31, 2019. To continue your canteen privileges, you must renew your membership. Grab any SAL officer to renew your membership to help us reach 100%.

SAL will be serving dinner on the second Friday of every month. Come out and join us for steak bingo, dinner and a fine band on January 10th.

SAL will also be serving a special Valentine's Day Dinner on February 14th. We will be serving surf and turf (grilled shrimp and steak) with baked potato, salad, garlic bread and dessert. The price will be \$12 each or bring your special guest and pay just \$22 per couple. Our dinners have been a big success this year and are a major part of our fundraising activities.

Thank you for supporting the Sons of the American Legion as we continue to instill the principles of the four pillars of the American Legion which are: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth.

Cabane News by Annie Anderson

Hello Everyone,

Our annual Christmas Party at Whiskey Jax, was well attended, everyone had a good time and as usual the food was awesome. Merci to all who came.

The Dames will be preparing the dinner on Friday, January 31, as well as hosting steak bingo. Our Chef Danny will be preparing the fried fish dinner and the

Dames will prepare all the fixins. We will also have steak bingo Saturday, Feb. 1. As usual, on that Friday night, we will have our regular bake sale.

Merci to the Dames who attended Grande Mid-Winter in Kissimmee. Our Cabane Locale report was given, in addition to a report for what we are planning for the next several months.

Everyone please save your discards again, we will have our annual Rumage Sale again. More information in the next few months.

Next formal Rendezvous is Thursday January 16th at 7 pm.

For God and Country
Annie Anderson
Presidente Cabane Locale 215

Canteen Update

By Brandi Haught



Happy New Year! It's hard to believe that it is already 2020 but here we are – and an exciting year it will be. We start the year off with our annual chili cook off on Saturday, January 11. All entries for the cook off must be at the Post no later than 1 pm. After the judges have made their decisions, the winner's chili will be available for purchase.

On Sunday, January 26, we will go on our 5th Annual Shut Up & Drink Tour. We are planning to visit Post 88, Post 137, and Post 233 this year. This is always a great event and I promise you do not want to miss it. Cost to join in on the fun is only \$20 which includes your shirt and the bus.

We also will be having our annual Super Bowl Party on Sunday, February 2nd, our Fat Tuesday Party on Tuesday, February 26th, and the ALR is planning their annual Casino Night on Saturday, February 29th. Details are still being worked out on these events so watch the weekly email and boards at the Post for more information.

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 our website or see Brandi.

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 ideas. We hope to serve you soon!

*Happy
New Year*

American Legion Riders by Trent Taylor



I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! The Riders had a great 2019 and I expect 2020 will be even bigger and better.

Since the last Newsletter, the Riders, along with other Chapters in the Mighty 5th District, escorted the Vietnam War On Terror traveling wall from Bruce Rossmeyer Harley Davidson to Anastasia Baptist Church in St. Augustine. It was a very moving experience watching the wall being assembled in the Church.

On Veterans Day, several of the Riders rode in the parade in Downtown Jacksonville. Our Department of Florida ALR Chairman, Jim Wineland and I rode down to Winter Haven for the Third Annual Challenge 22 event. This event brings attention to the fact that 22 Veterans commit suicide a day. All the pro-

ceeds went to Project: VetRelief. December 14, the Riders escorted the wreaths to the Jacksonville National Cemetery for Wreaths Across America. On Dec. 15, we also escorted Santa to the Post for the Children's Christmas party.

Our annual fundraiser, Charity Casino Night, will be on Saturday, February 29th. Tickets are \$30 per person. Each ticket is valid for a raffle ticket, dinner (provided by Mission BBQ) and casino money for gaming. Those who attended last year can tell you that it was a lot of fun! The gaming tables/dealers are provided by a professional service. Our committee is busy gathering sponsorships and prize donations. If you know of anyone or a business that might be interested in donating for this event, please contact any Rider. This year the proceeds from our Casino Night will

benefit Project: VetRelief Suicide Prevention Initiative.

Also in February, we will hold our annual Rider's Summit in Cocoa Beach. There will be a lot of classes with good information that we can bring back to the Post and District.

We have our Bike Night on the fourth Thursday of every month at Graffiti Junktion in Jacksonville Beach. Each month it seems to get better and better, so come out and enjoy some great food, good company, and get a free ticket for a chance to win a \$25.00 gift certificate from Graffiti Junktion.

Until Next Time, Ride Safe!
Trent

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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 (11/19)
Dieter Arnold (3/19)
In Memory of Al "Sharkey" Wiltshire (2022)
In Memory of Cindy Burroughs (7/19)
In Memory of James King Smith (1/20)

Platinum Level, \$100

Bill Garrett (8/20)
Robert Gomez (1/20)

Gold Level, \$50

Chuck and Sue Nist (3/19)
Paul "Shorts" Urff (8/19)

Silver Level, \$25

In Memory of Kim White (10/21)
Victor & Marlen (11/19)
Louise Taylor Braren (3/19)
Gordy & Petie Harvey (11/19)

Bronze Level, \$10

Richard & Jo Ann Scoggins (4/19)
Maddy Chitko (1/19)