

American Legion Post 129

January 2015

Upcoming Events

- **Jan. 1**
Happy New Year!
- **Jan. 3**
5:30-10 p.m. ALR Bike Night
- **Jan. 7**
6:00 p.m. Planning Board
6:30 p.m. E-Board
7:30 General meeting
- **Jan. 10**
Chili Cook Off
- **Jan. 17**
10:00 a.m. ALR meeting
- **Jan. 24**
Golf Tournament

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Commander's Corner by Danny Rodriguez

Well, family, as I sit here and think back on the past year, I have to say that it has been an interesting year. We have had great times, and we have had our sad days. We have lost some great members, and we have gained great new ones. We have adopted the USS Hue City. We are getting more and more active duty members joining the American Legion. They have jumped in to helping the programs of the Legion, and all I can say to them is, thank you for all that you do and thank you for your service.

If you have not renewed your membership, you cannot be served in the canteen until you do. You must see Tommy Williams or Ernie Florig to get your cards. This is by my order. Too many hands in the books creates chaos. I have been talking to the 2nd Vice and am considering doing away with the early bird meal and working it out in the form of early birds will get extra off the membership dues. Please let me know what you think.

We have a lot of things coming up, like the Post 129 Golf Tournament, the Northern Area Commander's Ball, and a statewide golf tournament, just to name a few. There are much more.

During the January meeting, I will be setting the election

committee so we can get the nominations for the upcoming year. I advise you if you wish to run for an office to please let us know as soon as possible.

I hope everyone had a good Holiday season and a safe one. Now we need to start to buckle down and finish this year and get ready for the next year. I want to thank you all for the support you've given me. We could not have done the things we have done without you.

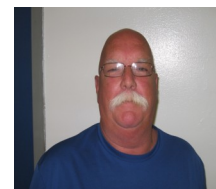
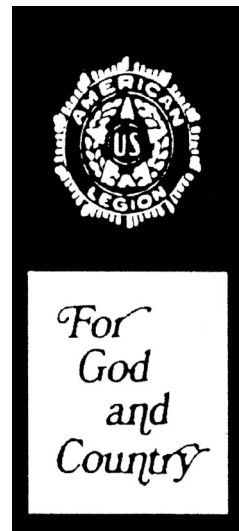
We received a note from the Department Commander that I would like to thank everyone for. Here is what he wrote to us:

"To Post 129 Commander and Legion Family,

I want to personally thank you for the warm hospitality extended to my wife and I during my most recent visit (December 7, 2014). With your Post in the forefront of your community, the American Legion will always be that Shining Light. Keep up the Great Work for our Veterans, Families, and our Children and Youth.

Sincerely,

Jay Conti, Sr.
Department Commander"



Auxiliary News by Kelly Bush



We will NOT have a general meeting on Thursday, Jan. 1. Happy New Year!

Thank you to Ann Nickola and crew for a fabulous meal in December. We have our next monthly Auxiliary dinner and steak bingo on Friday, Jan. 9. Please come out and support your unit! There is a sign-up sheet in the Auxiliary room if you can cook a monthly Friday meal.

Thank you to Erin Flynn and her wonderful elves for the great Christmas party for the children. Remember: Erin is available to tutor children if you know a child in need of her services.

On January 24, we will host a golf tournament to benefit Girls/Boys State.

Please see Candace if you can help on that Saturday or solicit a door prize gift for this wonderful program. See the flyer on the back of this month's calendar for information on the event.

Yours in service,

Kelly Bush
ALA Unit 129 President



S.A.L. News by J.D. Kapeghian



The S.A.L. would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! On January 1st, we will be having our annual Hangover Crawl. At this present time, as far as we know, Big Toot is running. Our goal is to get at least 25 members and/or friends signed up A.S.A.P. The price is only \$10. Due to the short time frame we had to put it together, we were not able to order t-shirts. Feel free to wear any past crawl shirts you may have. If all goes well, we should be able to get t-shirts for the Memorial Day Crawl. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board by the kitchen.

We would like to congratulate the Legion on their success with the Queen of Diamonds game.

On Friday, Jan. 16, we will be serving 2-inch thick pork chops, bacon infused green beans, apple sauce homemade mashed potatoes and dessert. Also, come join us for Super Steak B-I-N-G-O!

S.A.L. dues are past due. Officers will be checking cards at the door after Jan. 1 to ensure that everyone has a current membership card. Please see one of the officers or the bartenders.

January is S.A.L.'s month for the raffle. The "Bag of Cash Extraordinaire" will be the theme. See bartenders for details.

Thank you and good night!

Officers for 2014—2015

Commander.....Danny Rodriguez
1st Vice.....Tommy Williams
2nd Vice.....Terry Stickles
3rd Vice.....Jerry Brandt
4th Vice.....Joe Maichle
Sgt at Arms.....Anna Rogers
Finance.....Bob Schlatter
Chaplain.....Brian Hancher
Adjutant.....Ernie Florig
Judge Advocate.....Bob Wilson
Service Officer.....Ken Aune
Historian.....Kelly Rice

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| E-Board Members | House Committee |
| Cathy Berry | Dwight Deyo |
| Lee Fair | Rich Hansberg |
| Deborah Left | Kathy Jewell |
| Dennis McDowell | Dale Peterson |
| Chuck Nist | Rich Reyman |
| | Bill Wilson |
| | Jim Winelnad |

Auxiliary President
Kelly Bush
Commander-S.A.L.
J.D. Kapeghian
Director-Legion Riders
Jim Wineland
Chef De Gare 40 & 8
D.R. Richards
La Presidente, Cabane 215
Louise Bagdasarian

Boys and Girls State by Sterling Phaklides

The Boys and Girls State programs are nonpartisan and teach young men and women responsible citizenship, and love for God and Country. The participants are exposed to the rights and privileges, the duties and responsibilities of a franchised citizen. The training is objective and practical with city, county, and state governments operated by students elected to the various offices. Activities include legislative sessions, court proceedings, law enforcement presentations, and assemblies.

Boys State began in 1935 and Girls State began two years later. High school boys and girls who have completed their junior year, spend an intensive week of study working together as self-governing citizens in our state capital. All their expenses for this week are covered by local Posts and Units. Two boys and two girls are then selected to represent their state

in Boys and Girls Nation at our capitol in Washington, D.C.

Both Post 129 and Unit 129 have been honored by having our delegates chosen to represent us for this week. The candidates are chosen from the top students who excel in GPA, sports, community service, and other school activities. Post 129 and Squadron 129 send eight boys to Tallahassee, and Unit 129 sends five girls. The majority of our representatives come from our beaches and Ducan U. Fletcher High School.

The American Legion family is focused on service to veterans, active service members and communities. We are a patriotic organization devoted to mutual helpfulness which is committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities.

We honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families both at home and abroad.

Post 129 is having a golf tournament to send these worthy students for an experience that is life changing. Our tournament is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015, at Jacksonville Beach Golf Club. For more information, go to our Website at www.post129.org and then click More...and golf tournament.

2015



Happy New Year!

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American Legion Riders by Jim Wineland



I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and enjoyed the time spent with family and friends. I am amazed when I think about the fact that the 129 ALR Chapter started just a few years ago with the original charter members of thirteen, and today we have over 80 members. The 129 Riders came together to make 2014 a great year. Now, we have the challenge of matching or exceeding our accomplishments in 2015.

At the last 5th District meeting, Chapter 129 Riders came in second among all of the chapters by accumulating \$13,000 in donations, 38,408 miles, and 7,204 volunteer hours since June 2014. As your director, that was a proud moment, and we should never lose sight of how far we have come in such a short amount of time. We have more things planned for next year, along with some

smaller and more localized events. As always, it's a group effort, and we always have plenty of room for anyone that would like to participate.

We have reached the end of the year, and we all need to make sure we are current with our dues. In order to continue your ALR membership, you must be a current member of the Legion, Legion Auxiliary, or the Sons of the American Legion in good standing first. Then you can be a member of the American Legion Riders.

As I mentioned, we are still growing. Welcome new members Terri Hotmer, Chip Robinson, and Barbara Green Kapeghian to our ALR family.

See you on bike night or our next meeting. Happy New Year!

Ride Safe!

Canteen Update

by Brandi Roberts



Hello from your Canteen Staff!

We will be holding our annual chili cook off on January 10th. So start cooking and experimenting with those wonderful chili recipes. If anyone would like to be a judge, please let me know. On January 24, we will be hosting a golf tournament for Boys and Girls State. You can sign up in person at the Post or on our Website. Also remember on February 1st we will be holding our annual Super Bowl party! Ask your bartender for details.

We are planning to bring back Comedy night and Monte Carlo night this year. Please let me know if you have any other ideas.

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!



January 24, 2015 Golf Tournament

American Legion Post 129 is hosting an 18-hole golf tournament on Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015. The proceeds from this tournament will benefit the Boys and Girls State program.

The format of the tournament will be a Captain's Choice with over 100 golfers expected to play. Sign up for the tournament today. You can sign up as an individual, and we will place you on a team, or you can get a couple of your friends and make up a team of four. The easiest way to sign up and pay online is to go to our Website (www.post129.org). You can also sign up in person. The bartenders will have a sign up sheet behind the bar. Let them know you want to sign up. You can then pay at the bar and receive a receipt that will show paid.

Registration will start at 10:30 a.m. on Jan. 24. The event will be a noon with a shotgun start scramble. The cost for the tournament is \$60 per person, which includes 18 holes of golf, golf cart, range balls, lunch, arrival gift packet and awards dinner following the tournament at American Legion Post 129. There will also be other fun things such as the opportunity to purchase mulligans, a putting contest, as well as prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive and straightest drive.

We are also looking for volunteers to help us with the pre-tournament activities, as well as tournament-day tasks. If you have any questions, you can call: Candace Mabry (904) 708-2445 or Sterling Phaklides (904) 294-4234.

Wall of Honor

We are attempting to start a new tradition at American Legion Post 129. We would like to place pictures of all ACTIVE DUTY Personnel, in Uniform, on our wall.

Please give a picture of your service person to the Commander Danny Rodriguez or Jerry Brandt.

Queen of Diamonds

Please join us every Saturday night at 7 p.m. for the Queen of Diamonds.

Rules are on the board at the Post.

Good Luck!



Pass the Trash

Come out Sunday nights at 6 p.m. and have some fun playing "Pass the Trash".



Commander's Corner (continued from Page 1)

Welcome new Legion members:

Melissa Black — Navy (Active Duty)
 John Bolan — Marine Corps (transfer)
 William Cauley — Navy
 Eric Dryer — Army
 Carl "Chip" Robinson — Air Force
 Robert Tanguay — Coast Guard (transfer)

Thank You!

Thank you to the following businesses that are supporting our golf tournament:

Beach Bowl
 Beach View Club Hotel, Jekyll Island
 Blue Sky Golf Club, Jacksonville
 Days Inn and Suites, Jekyll Island
 Edwin Watts Golf
 Jacksonville Jaguars
 Jekyll Island Golf Club
 Mattiace Golf
 Signarama, Jacksonville Beach
 TTX Railcar
 Windsor Parke Golf Club

Did you know...

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization, committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service-members and veterans.

The American Legion is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization with great political influence perpetuated by its grass-roots involvement in the legislation process from local districts to Capitol Hill. Legionnaires' sense of obligation to community, state and nation drives an honest advocacy for veterans in Washington. The Legion stands behind the issues most important to the nation's veterans

community, backed by resolutions passed by volunteer leadership.

The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The organization belongs to the people it serves and the communities in which it thrives.

www.legion.org

Cabane News

by Louise Bagdasarian

Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and made it through ok! Now it's back to a new year full of vim and vigor for all of what is ahead.

Our next rendezvous is Thursday, January 8 at 7 p.m. Don't forget your beret!

I look forward to seeing you then.

Faithfully yours,
 Louise Bagdasarian
 La Presidente

Editor's Comments

by Sue Nist

Would you like to know more about your Post and the programs the Legion family supports?

Would you like to know how you can be more involved or what you can do to help with various projects and volunteer opportunities around the Post?

Please send me an email letting me know what information you're interested in, and I will do my best to find out the information and include in the newsletter.

My contact information is:
susan.nist@gmail.com.



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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 (11/14)
In memory of F. Joe Cornell (10/14)
In memory of George A. Campbell (1/15)
In memory of James M. Chilton (1/15)
In memory of Arlene G. Chilton (1/15)

Platinum Level, \$100

In memory of Cindy Burroughs (7/15)

Gold Level, \$50

Chuck & Sue Nist (4/15)
Charlie Parker (9/15)
Bill Garrett (6/15)
Sally & Pearse Doherty (8/14)
Rush K Abry (2/15)

Silver Level, \$25

In memory of Brad & Gerry Terrell (12/14)
Sterling & Linda Phaklides (6/15)
In memory of Kim White (10/16)
Nicholas Patrizio (10/14)
P-Nut & Liz Wilson (11/15)
C.M. Walker (10/15)
Jack & Ethel (2/15)
Nick Patrizio (10/14)
Louise Taylor Braren (2/15)

In memory of Jim Forbess 11/14
In memory of Donald Forbess (11/14)
Franklin Friers (3/15)
Paul "Shorts" Urff (8/15)

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Bronze Level, \$10

Estelle Mellon (9/15)
In memory of Skip Hilliker (10/14)
William & Fannie Bivens (10/14)
Maddy Chitko (2/15)
Richard & Jo Ann Scoggins (4/15)
Robert Gomez (1/16)
Russell & Mary Lou Jones (9/15)
John & Gloria Molisani (8/15)
Thomas Selig (7/15)
Pete Riebesehl (9/15) MIA Henry Koch