

# American Legion Post 129

May-June 2016

## Upcoming Meetings/ Events

- **Planning Board at 6 p.m.**  
May 4 and June 1
- **House Comm. at 7 p.m.**  
May 4 and June 1
- **E-Board at 6:30 p.m.**  
May 5 and June 2
- **Auxiliary at 7 p.m.**  
May 5 and June 2
- **General Mtg at 7:30 p.m.**  
May 5 and June 2
- **Cabane at 7 p.m.**  
May 12
- **ALR at 9 a.m.**  
May 21 and June 18
- **SAL at 6 p.m.**  
May 5
- **40 & 8 at 7 p.m.**  
May 12 and June 9
- **May 7 at 8 a.m.**  
Hooked on Fishing
- **May 29 at Noon**  
Pub Crawl
- **June 19 at 3 p.m.**  
Suns Game

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## Commander's Corner by Ernie Florig

Dear Legionnaires and Family Members,

A healthy indicator of how well an American Legion Post is doing can be measured by how the Post recruits and retains members. Well, give yourselves a high-five and a pat on the back for achieving the Department's membership goal of 100 percent! As of April 22nd, we received the paid dues for our 610th member. Our Post is the first in the 5th District with over 600 members to reach the high standard of 100 percent. For our collective efforts, we'll be receiving a special flag streamer from National Commander Dale Barnett, and now we're eligible for consideration for the annual Post Excellence Award. Thanks to many Legionnaires who contributed to this huge effort, and especially to 1st Vice Commander Joe Maichle, 3rd Vice Commander Dave Tarnowski, Past Commanders Danny Rodriguez and Jerry Brandt, and Finance officer Bob Schlatter!

During the month of March, we supported Northern Area Commander Jeff Durden with his annual ball and fundraiser for Boys State and Fisher House. The kitchen crew and the students from Sandalwood High School's Air Force Junior ROTC did an outstanding job preparing and serving the meals. Our Post also made a \$1,000 donation to Department Commander Jim Ramos for Fisher House. Fisher House provides free lodging facilities to family members of service members who are hospitalized in a military or VA medical center. There are six Fisher Houses in Florida.

On March 18, we attended the Change of Command Ceremony for the USS Hue City at Naval Station Mayport. On March 26, we supported the City of Jacksonville Beach Easter Egg Hunt. We served food and

refreshments to 300 lively children and numerous siblings and parents. Thanks to our great volunteer crew: Sue and Chuck Nist, Lisa Gorman, John Burroughs, Rick Miller, Terry Sickles, and Joe Maichle!

During the month of April, our dedicated corps of volunteers continued to do the good work of the American Legion. We attended the University of North Florida Army ROTC's annual awards banquet and presented four cadets with the American Legion's Academic Achievement medals, and four cadets with the Military Excellence medals. We congratulate the cadets for their "best of the best" achievements and smartly salute the six graduating seniors who will be entering active duty service!

At our April 7 general meeting, we presented the American Legion Pony Express badges to Legion Riders Jo Ann Blik, Bobby Greer, Wayne Parrott, Wayne Pollard, and Jim Wineland. These dedicated riders from our Chapter 129 rode April 10-16, starting the In-State Legacy Run at Deland Post 6 and finishing at Melbourne Post 81. During their run, they visited 50-plus posts and racked up 1,650 miles. Our riders collected \$8,000-plus of the \$33,600 raised by the total of 68 riders. The Legacy Run fundraiser is the primary funding source for the American Legion Legacy Scholarship. The scholarship is used to fund the undergraduate education of surviving children of service members who were killed while serving on active duty post-9/11. For more information, visit website [www.legion.org/scholarships/legacy](http://www.legion.org/scholarships/legacy).



Newsletter items should be emailed to Sue Nist at [susan.nist@gmail.com](mailto:susan.nist@gmail.com)

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## Auxiliary News



First, thank you all who made my first year somewhat easy! I'm grateful for the support of the Auxiliary ladies. We were able to accomplish great things this year and I hope that it continues with new leadership.

Please make our newest members feel welcome at the friendliest Post on the coast. These new members are: Karen Andux, Susie Brown, Majorie Eckhardt, Kimberly Gottman, Teresita Guy, Sharon Pickering, Danielle Rogers and Mary Ann Smith.

Toni Abbott,  
Auxiliary President

### 40 and 8

The next Promenade of the 40 and 8 is May 12 7 p.m. at Post 129. The Promenade for June is the 9th at 7 p.m.

Michael Kocijan, Conductor V215  
mikejin77@aol.com



### Cabane

Hello Dames: Our next Rendezvous will be May 12 at 7 p.m. at Post 129. We will have nominations and election of new officers for the upcoming year. Please come join us. Grand Rendezvous will be in Sebring, Fla., Jun 9-12.

Sharon Harville  
(904) 635-7373

## S.A.L. News

by Brian Hancher

The S.A.L. met on Saturday, April 9, and donated monies in the following amounts: Legion Riders Legacy Fund — \$500; Wounded Warriors fund for the deaf and blind — \$240; for musical instruments for underprivileged 3rd graders — \$225; for our portion of the Easter party for the children of sailors on the USS Hue City — \$100.

Following is the slate of officers who have been nominated for next year:

Commander: Brian Hancher  
1st Vice Commander: Terry Stickles  
2nd Vice Commander: Martin Manley  
3rd Vice Commander: Open  
4th Vice Commander: Open  
Finance Officer: Steve Smith  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Brian Haught  
Chaplain: John Caputa

We are working to identify a meeting time that members can attend. The next meeting will be held Thursday, May 5 at 6 p.m. The floor will be open for nominations at this meeting. If you're an S.A.L. member who would like to be more involved, please come to the meeting.

For God and Country,  
Brian

## Sterling Memorial Golf Tournament

Join us at the Jacksonville Beach Golf Club for the Second Annual Sterling Memorial Golf Tournament on Saturday, June 4! You are all invited to join us for a scrambling good time!

We have a great day planned for you starting with registration at the Post at 11 a.m. with a free Bloody Mary bar. After registration, we will head over to the course where the tournament will begin at 1 p.m. with a shotgun start — captains choice. We will have many great tournament prizes, silent auction items, raffles, 50/50's, as well as mulligans for sale.

The tournament cost is only \$60 per person and includes 18 holes of golf with cart, box lunch, beverage, range balls, arrival gifts, dinner and awards banquet immediately following at Post 129.

The golf course is located at 605 Penman Road South, Jacksonville Beach, Fla.

So register now and remember to invite your friends to play. Thank you in advance for your support of the American Legion Post 129 Sterling Memorial Golf Tournament to benefit Boys and Girls State.

## Let's Go Fishing!

Cathy Florig and Jerry Brandt will go fishing off the Jacksonville Beach pier on the 2nd Saturday of each month starting April 9th. American Legion Post 129 will buy the shrimp for the bait. All we need is the number of members planning to attend. Individual members will be responsible to pay for their access to the pier. Bring your pole!

## Saturday Golf

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](mailto:swineiam@bellsouth.net).

## Post Elections

Legionnaire elections will be held on May 17 from Noon to 7 p.m. Absentee ballots will be available after the General Meeting on May 5.



If you wish to run for an office, please be present at the General Meeting on May 5. You will need someone to nominate you and to 2nd the nomination.

## Commander's Corner (continued)

We have a winner! On April 23, at its 21st week, the winner of the Queen of Diamonds drawing is Vivian Richmond. Vivian's winnings was \$3,836! Join us on Saturdays for the weekly drawing. Ticket sales close at 6:45 p.m. and the winning ticket is drawn at 7 p.m. Thanks to Joe Maichle and Danny and Patty Rodriguez for handling the ticket sales and the stress of guaranteeing to the winning ticket.

On April 24, 55 volunteers representing our Post, Auxiliary Unit, SAL and Chapter Riders converged on the Jacksonville Beach fishing pier parking lot to participate in the annual Opening of the Beaches two-mile parade. We gave out hundreds of Flags, candy, and information pamphlets along the parade route. We are the first Post in northeast Florida to conduct the Walk for Veterans, an American Legion initiative, to highlight the 22 suicides that occur daily among Veterans, and to bring attention to improving the VA healthcare system. We also raised \$300 from t-shirt sales to donate to Project Vet Relief, a

Department of Florida program to aid needy Veterans. Besides our outstanding walkers, I'd like to thank Fred St. Clair for organizing the parade logistics, Joe Maichle for t-shirt sales, Jerry Brandt for creating the info pamphlet, and Linda Wiltshire for printing support. This Post event was truly a team effort!

We need your help in identifying living Korean War Veterans in our Post. The South Korean government has donated a commemorative book entitled "Korea Reborn — A Grateful Nation Honors War Veterans for 60 Years of Growth". We will issue these books while supplies last.

For those interested in purchasing a Post 129 polo shirt, Joe Maichle has coordinated with Stitches and Screens, Atlantic Beach, to produce the shirts. To be cost effective, for the initial order we need a minimum of 24 shirts, at an approximate cost of \$30 each. Two sample shirts are available for viewing at the Post and the sign-up order form is ready. Please contact Joe Maichle concerning questions about the shirts.

During the month of May, we'll be needing volunteers for the Hooked on Fishing youth tournament, placing Flags on gravesites on the Saturday before Memorial Day at Warren Smith Cemetery, and retrieving the Flags the following Tuesday. Tuesday, May 17, is our annual elections for Post officers. Please come out to cast your vote between the hours of Noon and 7 p.m.

In closing, we'd like to wish our ladies a "Happy Mother's Day!" on May 8. Start your special day with a free Post breakfast from 9-11 a.m. As for the men, we wish you a "Happy Father's Day!" on June 19. Join us at the Post for a free breakfast from 9-11 a.m.

For God and Country,

Ernie Florig  
(904) 515-8390

## 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	Jerry Brandt
Bob Daigle, Sr.	Stephanie Cain
Jeff Durden	Kathy Jewell
Lee Fair	Rob Nicholson
Chuck Nist	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,

Mark your calendars for Memorial Day weekend. We will be holding our annual pub crawl with a slight twist. This year our first stop will be Post 233 in Palm Valley. From there we will head over to the beach bars. These crawls are always fun. Be sure to sign up in the canteen if you are interested. Cost is \$20 per person and includes a t-shirt.

In June we will be heading out to a Suns game on Sunday, June 19. We will all meet at Post 129 and take a bus downtown for the 3 p.m. game. The cost for this event is only \$20 and includes your transportation to and from the game, as well as your ticket for the game.

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 who help out around the canteen. There are too many of you to name, but we hope 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



Well, this election term is wrapping up again, seems like we just get started and it's nomination time again. Please consider an office or position not only in the Riders, but in your respective Post family. We need new ideas and more volunteers to continue to improve. It's rewarding, and I've enjoyed my time as Director. If re-elected, I will look forward to the coming year. I would also like to thank you all for your support over the last couple of years. We have accomplished a lot during this year. It's a long list, but the major one was upgrading our Navy SEAL's home.

Please remember to turn in all of your miles, hours, and donations to Kathy so she can finish up our year-end reports. Remember, anything that is connected with the Riders counts. Just as a comparison, last year we accumulated 82,444 miles, 14,663 hours, and donated more than \$20,000 to several different programs or agencies. It's going to be interesting to see how we compare year after year.

Just a little side note to cover the In-State Legacy Run: five individuals from ALR 129 accumulated approximately 8,250 miles, 420 hours, and donated \$3,010 to the Scholarship fund from our Post's Legion Families. We stopped at about +50 Posts during the seven days and raised a grand total of about \$34,000. If you can, please join us next year, cages are permitted.

### Dates to Remember:

**May 7:** Boots on the Ground

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

**May 21:** Pediatric Cancer Treatment Foundation Poker Run

**May 26:** Bike Night at Graffiti Junction, Jacksonville Beach

Watch for information on Vets4Vets in July

Ride Safe, and again, thanks for your support!

Jim



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## 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+**

Bob Schlatter (11/16)  
In Memory of Al "Sharkey" Wiltshire (2022)

.....  
**Platinum Level, \$100**

In Memory of Cindy Burroughs (7/16)  
In Memory of Snakebite (5/16)

.....  
**Gold Level, \$50**

Chuck & Sue Nist (4/16)  
Charlie Parker (9/16)  
Bill Garrett (6/16)  
In Memory of Audine Hoover (5/16)

.....  
**Silver Level, \$25**

In Memory of Kim White (10/16)  
P-Nut & Liz Wilson (11/16)  
Louise Taylor Braren (8/17)  
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)