

American Legion Post 129

November 2015

Upcoming Events

- **Nov. 5**
6:30 p.m. E-Board
7 p.m. Auxiliary Meeting
7:30 p.m. General meeting
- **Nov. 7**
5:30-9:30 p.m. ALR Bike Night
- **Nov. 11**
VETERANS DAY!
2-4 p.m. Open House
- **Nov. 12**
7 p.m. Cabane Meeting
- **Nov. 15**
4-7 p.m. Early Bird Dinner
- **Nov. 16**
6:30 p.m. Paint Night
- **Nov. 21**
9 a.m. to Noon Open House
Pancake Breakfast
10 a.m. ALR Meeting
- **Nov. 26**
2-4 p.m. Thanksgiving Dinner

Commander's Corner by Ernie Florig

Dear Legion Family,

November is a special month because we get a reprieve from the sweltering heat, but more importantly, we as a Nation and community get to celebrate Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. Our American Legion service organization is unique in that all 2.3 million members served on active duty during a wartime period designated by Congress, and all were honorably discharged. As Post Commander, I render a sharp salute to all 630 members of Post 129 and thank you for your service to our Country and the personal sacrifices you endured while on active duty!

I offer a special invitation to veterans and family members to join us for the annual Veterans Day ceremony on Nov. 11, 0930 hours, at the Beaches Veterans Memorial Park (BVMP), which is next to Post 316 in Atlantic Beach. Our Post is a member of BVMP. Later in the day, 1400-1600 hours, Post 129 will be hosting an open house for all veterans. Please join us as we personally thank veterans for their service to our Nation!

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, please keep your thoughts and prayers on our troops who are currently serving around the world. Also, if you don't have plans for Thanksgiving, consider leaving the cooking to 2nd Vice Commander Terry Stickles. Terry will be preparing an awesome traditional feast at the Post home.

October was another busy month of activities for Post 129. On Oct. 3, our Legion Riders held a Roll the

Dice Bike Run as a fundraiser to assist in-home repairs for fellow Legionnaire Chet Smith. Chet is a retired Navy SEAL and while he was on active duty many years ago, as a member of SEAL Team Four, he was permanently disabled in a training accident. As you know, a lot of planning goes on behind the scenes to ensure everything goes well on run day. Thanks to Event Coordinator Jo Ann Blik and the many Riders volunteers who supported this special event!

On Oct. 10, 1st Vice Commander Joe Maichle and I attended the Eagle Court of Honor at Troop 15 to recognize Eagle Scout Michael Guarno. We presented Michael with the American Legion Good Citizen Citation and an Eagle Scout challenge coin. Congratulations to Michael for earning the highest rank of scouting, which is only achieved by 2% of scouts! Michael is the third Eagle Scout our Post has recognized this year.

After a couple of years' absence, our Post hosted the annual Croaker Tournament on Oct. 10. We sincerely thank Tournament Director Linda Wiltshire and her committee of outstanding volunteers for presenting an outstanding program!

Our Post celebrated the Navy's 240th birthday on Oct. 13. 1st Vice Commander Joe Maichle emceed the event. Pat Fowler and Kelly Rice had the honor of cutting the birthday cake. Thanks to the canteen customers for cheering on our sailors!



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

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Auxiliary News

by Toni Abbott



Hi to All!

First, my apologies as my portion of this newsletter will be short.

Briefly, I would like to mention that over the past few months, I have tried to think of ways that the Auxiliary could spread their wings to other non-profit organizations both veteran and community related.

At our last meeting, I introduced an idea to the Auxiliary for each person to provide an organization of their choice that we could and would sponsor. This provides us with a wonderful opportunity to actively develop respectful and supportive relationships among the community and our Legion. These relationships can build a strong sense of community and satisfaction in providing opportunities for us, veterans and their families, and

others. I'm excited to see the organizations that our women want to help and hope to foster the same enthusiasm that I have within our whole Legion family.

Again this month, we had an awesome...and I mean an awesome dinner! I would like to thank Wanda and Jerry Brandt for the delicious seafood pasta that was served at the start of October. It was a great meal and we had an awesome response. In fact, the meal was so good, I made the meal again three nights later for my own family!

So my friends, not to be so abrupt, but because my time is limited with personal issues, as we each have, please note that my commitment to you is not.

Toni Abbott
Auxiliary President



S.A.L. News

by Brian Hancher

I'd like to thank the Croaker Tournament Committee for allowing the S.A.L. to sell spaghetti dinners in the canteen while they were serving the Captains' Dinner. It was nice of them to share their food since the kitchen isn't quite big enough for two groups to share.

At the last meeting, the S.A.L. donated \$500 towards the Riders' Habitat project. Follow the Riders' news for more details on this worthwhile project.

Membership currently stands at 44%. If you haven't renewed, get your dues in by Nov. 11 to get the Early Bird discount! If you're in the canteen and there isn't an officer available to process your renewal, just put your dues in the S.A.L. lockbox outside the office and one of us will issue your card. Last time I looked, there were several cards in the box behind the bar.

For God and Country,
Brian

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



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.

Can you Crochet?

How many of us are asking ourselves at the end of the day: Did I love enough? Did I laugh enough? Did I make a difference? These are among many of the questions that seem to keep us awake at night.

I would love to have as many Legion family members, or friends of members, assist me in making crocheted Granny Squares in a project for 2015-2016, with the potential to continue.

If interested, please see me at the Post for feel free to email me for the specifics.

Patty Rodriguez
ajmema2@hotmail.com

Legion News

By Joe Maichle

Cabane News

Fellow Legionnaires:

Time is starting to run short for early bird renewal. Early bird renewal must be done by Nov. 11, 2015. Don't forget that dues are going up after the first of the year. At the present time, the Post is at 69.8% on renewals. If you know of anyone that has not renewed, please have them contact the Commander or myself. Also, if you know anyone who is a veteran and is not part of our Legion Family, bring them in. Maybe they will join. For those who have joined or transferred to our Legion Family, welcome!

Don't forget that the Early Bird dinner will be on Sunday, Nov. 15, from

4-7 p.m. RSVP must be made prior to the dinner so we can get a count of who will attend. RSVP to one of the following email addresses: legionpost129@comcast.net or mcop1995@bellsouth.net.

For God and Country,
Joe

Hello Dames:

I want to thank all who participated in our October activities. We had our Rendezvous at V Pizza, workshop in Orlando, and ended with steak bingo and bake sale on Friday, Oct. 30.

Our November Rendezvous will be Nov. 12, at 7 p.m. Please come and join us if you can!

Sharon Harville
La Presidente

Commander's Corner (continued)

Each month I will single out and thank those dedicated volunteers who quietly work behind-the-scenes to make our Post a better home. Thanks to Genell Kriner for collecting the baked products at Publix on Thursdays at 0500 hours! Thanks to Sue Nist for serving as our Newsletter Editor and distributing the newsletters each and every month! Thanks to Richard Hansberg for running the Tuesday night dart league for a very long time — this year the dart league donated \$5,000 to Special Olympics and the Post received a Diamond Level of Excellence plaque from the Department of Florida! Thanks to "New York" Tom Dermody for serving monthly free pancake breakfasts for our members and guests! And, thanks to

Patty Rodriguez for crocheting those wonderful quilts for families and the various fundraisers within our Legion family!

In closing, I wish our veterans a well-deserved Veterans Day and to our Legion Family, have a safe and blessed Happy Thanksgiving!

For God and Country,

Ernie Florig
Cell: 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,

Can you believe the year is almost gone? Wow, it has gone fast! Although we only have two months left of 2015, they are going to be packed!

If you haven't already, now is the time to come on down to the Post for some good food! Christy Finley has taken over for lunch, and she is getting rave reviews! Terry Stickles is back for dinners and our members couldn't be happier. Since we have two great cooks in the kitchen, we have you covered! Come on down, you will not be disappointed.

We start this month with the ALR Bike Night on Saturday, Nov. 7, at 5:30 p.m.

Our Veterans Day Open House is Wednesday, Nov. 11, from 2-4 p.m. The Legion is putting this event together, so watch for additional details.

On Sunday, Nov. 15, from 4-7 p.m., we will be having our Early Bird dinner. If you haven't done so already, get those memberships renewed! Most dues increase after Nov. 11, so why not save a few dollars. Plus, you will get a free meal at the Early Bird dinner.

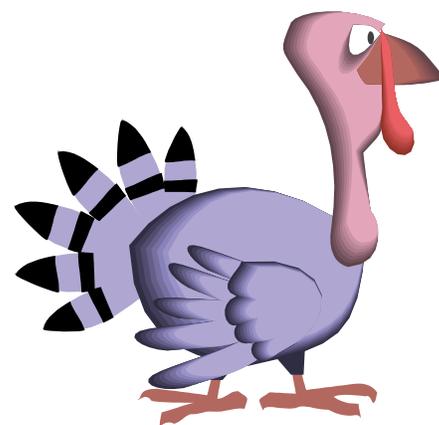
On Monday, Nov. 16, 6:30 p.m., we will have our first Paint Night fundraiser. This event will be held in the back hall and will be non-smoking. Come get creative for a cause! Tickets are only \$45 and include two free drinks, appetizers, door prize raffle and your own masterpiece to take home. Space is limited, so see Brandi to reserve your spot today!

On Thursday, Nov. 26, Terry Stickles will be cooking his famous Thanksgiving dinner. Remember, this is a reservation only dinner, so please sign up early. Tickets are only \$7 per person, and include a full Ham & Turkey dinner with all the fixings! You can't beat it!

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



Last month my article focused on the great Legion family we have at our Post. The Legionnaires, Sons and Auxiliary supported our charity Dice Run, not only by their donations, but the total support of the project. The highlight of the event was the appearance of the veteran that will have the expenses covered to make upgrades to his home by the donations collected from the ALR, Home Depot Foundation, Miller's Ale House at Beach and Hodges who furnished the food and servers, local businesses and the continued support of Beaches Habitat for Humanity.

The success of the Dice Run could not have been done without all of our volunteers, lead by Jo Ann Blik. The core

group really pulled it off! I would start mentioning names, but I know I would miss someone, so I will leave it at that by saying, "Thank You" to all involved. We not only succeeded expectations, but we also had a lot of fun during the process. Now the real work begins on getting the house completed.

Nothing ever stops, the 5th District will be running a "Round Robin" run to support Project Vet Relief.

Save the Dates: Oct. 24, 31 and Nov. 7. Every weekend is a new run and you will have to register online at floridalegion.org—Legion Riders—Round Robin. Registration is \$5 for each run.

Nov. 7 is the third and final weekend. You must end up at Post 129 to turn in all of your documentation and money. We will need at least two (2) other posts to help count and verify miles and collections. The results have to be sent to the ALR State Adjutant on Monday, Nov. 9.

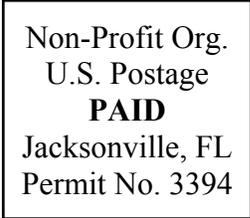
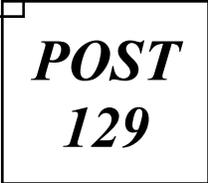
Don't forget the In State Legacy Run April 10-16, starting in Deland and ending in Melbourne. The State Rally is in Punta Gorda May 13-15, 2016.

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

Ride Safe!
Jim



1151 S. Fourth St.
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250



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 (11/15)

Platinum Level, \$100

In Memory of Cindy Burroughs (7/16)

In Memory of Al "Sharkey" Wiltshire (2022)

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)

Sterling & Linda Phaklides (6/15)

In Memory of Kim White (10/16)

P-Nut & Liz Wilson (11/15)

C.M. Walker (10/15)

Jack & Ethel (2/15)

Louise Taylor Braren (8/16)

Franklin Friers (3/15)

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)

Pete Riebesehl (9/15) MIA Henry Koch

William and Fannie Bivens (2/16)

In Memory of John C. Ford (5/17)