

# American Legion Post 129

September-October 2016

## Upcoming Meetings/ Events

- **Planning Board at 6 pm**  
Oct. 5
- **House Comm. at 7 p.m.**  
Oct. 5
- **E-Board at 6:30 p.m.**  
Sept. 1 and Oct. 6
- **Auxiliary at 7 p.m.**  
Sept. 1 and Oct. 6
- **General Mtg at 7:30 p.m.**  
Sept. 1 and Oct. 6
- **Cabane at 7 p.m.**  
Sept. 8 and Oct. 13
- **ALR at 7 p.m.**  
Sept. 6 and Oct. 4
- **SAL at 5:45 p.m.**  
Sept. 1 and Oct. 6
- **40 & 8 at 7 p.m.**  
Sept. 8 and Oct. 13
- **Never Forget!**  
Sept. 11
- **POW/MIA Service/Legion  
Birthday**  
Sept. 16
- **Croaker Tournament**  
Oct. 22-23
- **Halloween Party**  
Oct. 28
- **Florida/Georgia Watch Party**  
Oct. 29

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## Commander's Corner by Ernie Florig

Dear Legionnaires and Family Members,

I'm starting this article with a very important announcement. At the August 4<sup>th</sup> business meeting a motion was approved to call for a vote to make Post 129 a non-smoking facility. The motion included an amendment to call for the vote at the October 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. business meeting. Consider this a thirty day written notice to all Legionnaires.

On June 26<sup>th</sup> our seven Boys State candidates graduated from the week-long program, with an emphasis on practicing our democratic form of government. Congratulations to Scott Gann, Raj Patel, Chris Berta, Brian Swicegood, Dane Barber, Billy Laubach and James Strickland! At our July 7<sup>th</sup> business meeting Scott Gann gave an inspiring testimonial of his Boys State experience. Scott was grateful to our Post for affording him the opportunity to attend Boys State.

Speaking of Boys State, the annual Croaker Tournament – our major Boys State fundraiser -- is just around the corner, October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you know someone with a fishing boat, or want to help out with the tournament, please contact Chairperson Linda Wiltshire at [lwiltshire@momentumhc.com](mailto:lwiltshire@momentumhc.com). Linda is also looking for prizes for the tournament, so if you'd like to make a donation or know a local business who help, please let her know.

On June 26<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> District Vice Commander Danny Rodriguez presided over our installation of Post officers. Officers from Auxiliary Unit 129, Sons of the American Legion Squadron 129 and American Legion Riders Chapter 129 were installed. A giant thanks to

the many volunteers who made this a first rate event, and especially 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Terry Stickles and crew for providing excellent refreshments!

On July 4<sup>th</sup> our Post sponsored a blood drive and collected nine pints. Thanks to Chairperson Linda Barefoot for coordinating this lifesaving drive. Linda Wiltshire assisted and has graciously accepted the blood drive Chairperson role. She'll be scheduling another blood drive on Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>, so be on the lookout for that. Thanks to Terry Stickles for providing refreshments for the July 4<sup>th</sup> open house.

At our July 7<sup>th</sup> business meeting, Jerry Brandt was unanimously endorsed as a candidate for the high office of Department of Florida 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander. Jerry continues to set the standard for volunteerism at the Post, District, Northern Area and Department levels. Please join us in congratulating Jerry for earning this hard-earned endorsement and pledge to support him on this journey.

Our annual volunteer appreciation event was held on July 17<sup>th</sup>. Forty seven volunteers attended and were treated to a variety of finger foods from Terry Stickles' kitchen. Thanks to Terry, Rick Miller and Kathy Maichle for preparing an excellent feast for our hard working volunteers. Volunteers were also entertained with our version of \$teak bingo – we had ten highly appreciative winners!



*For  
God  
and  
Country*



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

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# Auxiliary News by Candace Mabry



Fall – my favorite time of the year. Temperature getting cooler, kiddies back to school, football in full gear, and most importantly your, Unit 129 racing out of the blocks (small Olympic lingo there).

I wrote the last newsletter before we even had Christmas in July stating that everyone enjoyed the event and thanks to all. Well, those words aren't enough. Ocean Beaches Unit 129 started our year off with a mission to help the communities of West Virginia that were devastated by flooding. In our meeting July 7, we voted that all monies we raised up to \$5,000 we would match, and we also made the Red Cross our 'charity of the month' for the \$1,000 donation. We organized (3) raffles, (2) auctions, cake walk named let's make a deal, steak bingo and two dinners cooked by members of the Post that 100% went to our cause. On Friday, July 22, we had our annual Christmas in July with Santa and Mrs. Clause in attendance, and we served 72 dinners! I am happy to report that we raised \$3,000, which our Unit matched, plus the \$1,000. On Thursday, August 4, I presented Diana Sifton with the American Red Cross a check for \$7,000 for the Disaster Relief for West Virginia. Family of 129, we could not have done this without each of you, heartfelt thanks to you all.

During our August meeting – 30 minutes ladies – Beth Pickton asked us to bring

in dresses we no longer needed to donate to Cinderella's closet. These dresses would then be given to the wives of enlisted men that were going to be pinned as chiefs. We had great success and we even had dresses donated from Unit 283. Also during the meeting, we voted to donate \$1,000 to the NRA (National Rowing Association). Diana Kelley's son, Jack, was chosen to compete in Rotterdam, Holland, in the Men's Quadruple Sculls event beginning August 21<sup>st</sup>. Can't wait to report updates.

We also welcomed new members in July: Patricia Hinkle and Lisa Demarchand in August: Laurel Howell, Allison Howell, Holly Dearnheer, Jennifer Walton, Carole Hansen, Elizabeth Butler, Elisabeth Palmer.

September and October will be just as fast paced as the past two months. Remember our dinners take place the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month. Please come out and support. Mary Tarnowski is looking for volunteers for the kitchen. If you have that favorite dinner you are dying to share with the Post, please reach out to Mary or myself. We are planning to participate in Make a Difference Day October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mary Ellen Bolin is creating a patriotic show that we will perform at Cypress Village. If you would like to participate please see me.

Everyone has been wonderful bringing in empty prescription bottles and plastic bags for homeless veterans. There will be two new 'collection' bins that will be in the Auxiliary office. PLEASE put your donations in those two bins and not throughout the Post. Thanks so much.

Members both new and old, we are still looking for chairmen for various committees. There are so many wonderful volunteer opportunities; I don't want you to miss out. The Department of Florida's website [alafl.org](http://alafl.org) has a font of information. We are also creating a tri-fold pamphlet that gives an overview of the programs.

Speaking of members, don't forget it is time to renew your 2016 – 2017 dues. Renewal is only \$25 for Senior members and \$3 for Junior (under 18). Let's go for 100% this year!

For God and Country,  
Candace Mabry

**Let  FREEDOM RING!**

## Cabane

Hello Dames: Our monthly Rendezvous will be Sept. 8, at Cinco De Mayo on Atlantic Blvd., and Oct. 13 at Post 129. We will be having steak bingo and a bake sale on Friday, Sept. 30.

Sharon Harville (904) 635-7373

## 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](mailto:swineiam@bellsouth.net).

# Legion News

by Joe Maichle

Legionnaires:

To all who have renewed, thank you! We are now at 48% and our goal as set by the Department is 55% by September 5 is well in reach.

If you know someone who have not renewed please remind them to do so. If they can not make it to the post, drop me email at [mcop1995@gmail.com](mailto:mcop1995@gmail.com)

with their name and address, and I will gladly go to them to renew their membership.

Also welcome aboard to all of those who chose to join Post 129. New faces are always welcome.

For God and Country,  
Joe Maichle, 1st Vice



## Commander's Corner (continued)

We partnered with the Jacksonville Beach Police Department to support National Night Out on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. This event was held at Latham Plaza to emphasize the role of public safety, with an emphasis on youth. We served 200 hotdogs, which were lovingly prepared by Rick Miller, Chuck Nist and John Burroughs. Our booth was manned by Children and Youth Chairperson Lisa Gorman, Joe Maichle, Cathy Florig and Mike Liner. Thanks to our volunteers for making this event a success!

Danny Rodriguez, Jerry Brandt, Jeff Durden, Joe Maichle, Jim Wineland and I attended the 5<sup>th</sup> District meeting at Post 316. The most important topic was the upcoming 5<sup>th</sup> District monument dedication at the Jacksonville National Cemetery on September 10<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10 a.m. Please come out and witness a historic dedication – the monument encompasses the entire Legion family organizations and all branches of service.

I always want to end my report by thanking our corps of dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to support our many Legion programs. Visible and worthwhile programs that serve veterans and our community generates membership – and membership generates great programs! Thank y'all for your hard work and dedication!

For God and Country,

Ernie Florig  
(904) 515-8390



## Officers for 2016—2017

Commander.....Ernie Florig  
1st Vice.....Joe Maichle  
2nd Vice.....Terry Stickles  
3rd Vice.....Dave Tarnowski  
4th Vice.....Rick Miller  
Sgt at Arms.....Mike Liner  
Finance.....Bob Schlatter  
Chaplain.....Brian Hancher  
Adjutant.....Jerry Brandt \*  
Judge Advocate.....Kevin Robbs \*  
Service Officer.....Danny Rodriguez \*  
Historian..... Lisa Gorman

### *E-Board Members      House Committee*

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Jeff Durden    | Harry Becker  |
| Pat Fowler     | Wayne Blas    |
| Chuck Nist     | John Caputa   |
| Fred St. Clair | Frank Kleese  |
| Jim Wineland   | Genell Kriner |
|                | Bob Schmitt   |
|                | Bill Wilson   |

### *Auxiliary President*

Candace Mabry

### *Commander-S.A.L.*

Brian Hancher

### *Director-Legion Riders*

Jim Wineland

### *Chef De Gare 40 & 8*

Mike Kocijan

### *La Presidente, Cabane 215*

Sharon Harville

# Canteen Update

By Brandi Haught



## Meetings

10/5  
Planning Board at 6 p.m.  
House Committee at 7 p.m.

9/1 & 10/6  
SAL Meeting at 5:45 p.m.  
E Board at 6:30 p.m.  
Auxiliary at 7 p.m.  
General Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 6 and Oct. 4  
ALR Meeting at 7 p.m.

## Special Events

9/14 – Croaker Tournament Meeting at 6:30 p.m.  
9/16 – Shrimp Boil at 5:30 p.m., POW/MIA Service at 6 p.m., Legion Birthday 7 p.m.  
9/18 – Air Force Birthday Cake Celebration  
9/28 – Croaker Tournament Meeting at 6:30 p.m.  
10/8 – ALR Poker Run  
10/13 – Navy Birthday  
10/14 – October Fest Dinner  
10/15 – Lion's Barktober Fest  
10/21 to 10/23 – Croaker Tournament  
10/23 – Fish Fry (time TBD)  
10/28 – Halloween Party 7 p.m.  
10/29 -- Florida/Georgia Watch Party



## American Legion Riders by Jim Wineland



We have adopted two charities this year, first is "Heroes on the Water." The proceeds from our October poker run will help support their annual operating budget. The second charity is Hart Felt Ministries. They presently have eight veterans' homes that in need of repair. We have already furnished the money for material purchases to facilitate repairs to two of the homes.

"Hart Felt Ministries" is a straight forward charity with a focus on our older populations, which many are veterans or veteran's widows. They have a network of several different contractors with a mix of skills, and several church organizations that donate their free time to help the individuals or families with their needs.

"Heroes on the Water" has a focus on our younger veterans. HOW was founded in 2007 and helps our Nations warriors and veterans from all branches of the United States military unwind using therapeutic qualities of fishing from kayaks. Their unique kayak fishing program allows

participants a chance to decompress from the stress associated with combat, and the physical rigors of rehabilitation. Warriors enjoy these benefits while on guided fishing trips held in local communities around the country. What looks like a day trip of paddling and fishing is in fact something much deeper and long lasting.

The "Heroes on the Water" program is unique in that it is a long-term activity, not a one-time event. They believe that the effectiveness of the program is a direct result of engaging the wounded military personnel for the long-term. HOW has served over 23,800 warriors and families members. Please come and join us on October 8 and help support this charity.

In an effort to try and accommodate more members, we are going to try some date changes to see if this is something that will help increase attendance at our meetings. Member participation is greatly needed to be successful in supporting our charities.

### Dates to Remember:

- ALR 197 Fun Run, Sept. 3
- Post 283's Poker Run for Five Star, Sept. 24
- Our Poker Run for Heroes on the Water, Oct. 8
- FL ALR Round Robin Kickoff, Sept. 30/Oct. 3
- ALR 316 4th Zombie Ride, Oct. 29
- Legacy Ride, end of February 2017
- In-State Rally following the in-state Legacy Ride at Post 137
- Bike Night at Graffiti Junktion Sept. 22 and Oct. 27

Please put applications for the ALR in the Road Captain's mailbox in the back hallway. Thanks!

Ride Safe, and again thanks for your support!

Jim

# American Legion- Ocean Beaches

1151 S. Fourth St.  
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

**POST**  
**129**

Non-Profit Org.  
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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)  
In Memory of Cindy Burroughs (7/17)

#### **Platinum Level, \$100**

In Memory of Snakebite (5/17)

#### **Gold Level, \$50**

Chuck & Sue Nist (7/17)  
Charlie Parker (9/16)  
Bill Garrett (6/17)  
In Memory of Audine Hoover (5/17)

#### **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)  
Franklin Friers (7/17)

#### **Bronze Level, \$10**

Estelle Mellon (9/16)  
Richard & Jo Ann Scoggins (4/19)  
Russell & Mary Lou Jones (9/17)  
John & Gloria Molisani (8/17)  
Thomas Selig (7/16)  
In Memory of John C. Ford (5/17)