

American Legion Post 129

September/October 2017

Upcoming Meetings/ Events

- **Planning Board at 6 pm**
Sept. 6 and Oct. 4
- **House Comm. at 7 p.m.**
Sept. 6 and Oct. 4
- **E-Board at 6:30 p.m.**
Sept. 7 and Oct. 5
- **Auxiliary at 7 p.m.**
Sept. 7 and Oct. 5
- **General Mtg at 7 p.m.**
Sept. 7 and Oct. 5
- **Cabane at 7 p.m.**
Sept. 14 and Oct. TBD
- **ALR at 9 a.m.**
Sept. 9 and Oct. 7
- **SAL at 6 p.m.**
Sept. 7 and Oct. 5
- **40 & 8 at 7 p.m.**
Sept. 14 and Oct. 12
- **September 4**
Happy Labor Day!
- **September 11**
Never Forget!
- **Oct. 14**
AL Post 129 Has Talent Show
- **Oct. 27**
Halloween Party

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Commander's Corner by Joe Maichle

Greetings Legionnaires and Family Members,

This being my first article as Commander, I would like to thank everyone for their support and trust in electing me the Commander of the "FRIENDLIEST POST ON THE FIRST COAST" and we are. I am truly honored to hold this position and look forward to serving the Legion family and community the best way I know how. I look forward to hearing your concerns and ideas in making the Post even better than it is right now. I will have an open-door policy and anytime that I am at the Post and you wish to talk to me, do it. I do not bite.

On July 9th we had the installation of officers for the Legion, Sons of the American Legion, Ladies Auxiliary, and the American Legion Riders. The installation of post officers was presided over by National Vice Commander Paul Martel. What an honor it was to be installed by one of the National Vice Commanders. I am sure each officer installed felt the same way.

The Post hosted a Casino Night on July 15th to benefit Boys State. The night was very well attended and the monies raised will help send delegate's to Boys State that are sponsored by Post 129. A big thank you to Linda Wiltshire and her committee for putting on such a great night that was enjoyed by all. Everyone is looking forward to the next Casino Night.

On August 1st the Post joined with Jacksonville Beach Police Department for National Night Out at Latham Park. A special thanks to Rick Miller, Jim Wineland, and Pat Fowler who all helped preparing the 300 hot dogs. Our booth was staffed by

Ernie and Cathy Florig, Chuck and Sue Nist, Pat Fowler, and Kathy Maichle. All 300 hot dogs and much information about the American Legion and the post was handed out.

On Saturday August 5th, we celebrated the Grand Reopening of our remodeled Canteen. It was truly an event that made Post 129 stand out. A special thanks to Rob Nicholson who was the MC for the event. In attendance were the following dignitaries: Mayor of Jacksonville Beach Charlie Latham and his wife Cathy, Department of Florida Commander Steve Shuga, National Vice Commander Paul Martel, along with many officers from surrounding posts. Our very own Department 3rd Vice Commander Jerry Brandt and his wife Wanda, Department 3rd Vice President, and Northern Area Commander Jeff Durden were also in attendance.

Up coming events: September 4, celebrating Labor Day at the Post from 3 p.m. till 5 p.m. September 5th is POW MIA Recognition Day at the Post at 6 p.m. September 16th we will be celebrating the Post's birthday at 6 p.m. along with a membership drive all day. September 18th we will celebrate the Air Force's birthday at 6 p.m. There will also be a blood drive on this day from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please try and donate. Most important date... SEPTEMBER 30TH IS THE LAST DAY FOR EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!



*For
God
and
Country*



Newsletter items should be emailed to Sue Nist at 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 is starting strong.

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. We were able to raise over \$1,000 in the silent auction and the dinner was a huge success. Thanks to Mary, Millie, Rick and Terry plus more for all your help in the kitchen. Thanks to everyone that donated and purchased baskets to the silent auction, especially to Bob and Heidi that made the most awesome corn hole game.

We had a special meeting in July and voted to assist two towns where Barbara Fowler grew up that had a devastating flood. We voted to give to two Units in Wisconsin \$2,500 each to help our fellow American Legion Auxiliary members.

I am happy to report in our August meeting we gave \$1,000 to True Blue Navy a non-profit that is helping our Mayport families and building parks and recreation facilities. We also voted to help a non-profit school Chabad of Southside where Erin Flynn is a teacher to help these kids experience field trips.

September and October will be just as fast paced as the past two months. Remember our dinners take place the 3rd Friday of the month, please come out and support. Millie Boddorff is looking for volunteers for the kitchen. Genell thank you so much for your generous donation for the August dinner! If you have that favorite dinner you are dying to share with the Post, please reach out to Millie or myself.

Everyone mark your calendars for October 14th. We are having an American Legion Has Got Talent. We are looking for new talent and old. If you need a skit or have a song, please see either Mary Ellen or myself. I have heard of some of the acts and it will be a must see – save the date.

Everyone has been wonderful bringing in empty prescription bottles and plastic bags for homeless Veterans. We are no longer excepting plastic bags, but thank you all that have donated. I also wanted to say that those of you that are clipping coupons, we almost came in first for the state. Thank you for what you do and please keep clipping!

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 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 2017 – 2018 dues. Remember that we passed a new membership by-law. If you re-join by November 11th your senior dues are \$25 and juniors are \$3. Any renewal after that date is \$30 for seniors and \$5 for juniors. Let's go for 100% this year!

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart." Elizabeth Andrew

For God and Country,
Candace Mabry



Cabane

Our August Rendezvous was very informative as we begin our new year. Merci to all the Dames who were able to attend.

Our next Rendezvous will be Thursday, September 14th. At 7P.M. Dame Annie Anderson and I will be at Nationale and hope to bring back good information.

Our October Rendezvous will be a social at an area restaurant. This will be discussed in September and I will send further information via e-mail. If you have not been to a Rendezvous for awhile this would be a fun one to attend and enjoy the fellowship.

We will be having Steak Bingo and a bake sale on Friday, September 29th. If each Dame would donate a bake good it would be appreciated. In the past these events have been excellent fund raisers for our programs.

Respectfully,

Vicki Gordon-Haft, La Presidente

40 and 8

The next 40 & 8 Promenade is on Sept. 13 at 7 p.m. Some Monsieur's are going to the Grand Promenade, in Shreveport "98th Promenade Nationale 2017" leaving Wednesday, the 13th or Thursday, the 14th - traveling by car. The Oct. Promenade is on Thursday Oct. 12 at 7 p.m.

Regards,
Michael Kocijan, Chef du Train
mikejin77@aol.com

S.A.L. News

by Brian Hancher

The slate of officers for the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 129 for 2018 is as follows:

Commander: John Caputa
1st Vice Commander: Terry Stickles
2nd Vice Commander: Robert Storms
3rd Vice Commander: Scott Hardy
4th Vice Commander: Rob Nicholson
Finance Officer: Steve Smith
Sergeant at Arms: Brian Haught

Legion News

by Jim Wineland

Fellow Legionnaires:

As Joe Maichle mentioned in his last article, I now have the honor of serving as your 1st Vice Commander of Ocean Beaches Post 129. Joe's shoes are going to be a real challenge to fill. During his two years as 1st Vice Commander, he made his 100% membership goal for Post 129.

Well we have started off with a "bang". We are currently pushing 45% on our renewals. Pat Fowler (3rd Vice Commander) and I will be at the Post at least twice a week to give you the opportunity of saving a few dollars on your renewal if you sign up before September 30th. Pat also has membership responsibilities. I'll let Brandi know my schedule so it can be posted in the weekly newsletter. There are some changes. The early bird period will run from July

from July 15th through September 30. If your dues are paid during this period, you pay \$35. Dues paid after September 30 will be \$45. There will be no Early Bird dinner this year as voted on last year at the General Assembly Meeting. Let's keep up the good work and maintain 100% membership.

Getting our renewal to 100% is one thing, but we need new members. If you know a few Veterans that are looking for a friendly Post, put on your sales hat and get them signed up. If you need some help or have any suggestions, do not hesitate to contact me.

For God and Country,
Jim Wineland



Commander's Corner (continued)

A big welcome to the following members who were voted in during the August meeting: New members: Tyler Carter, Dwayne Colby, Morris Sills, Rick Crenshaw, and Benjamin Green: Welcome also the following transfers: Richard Burno and Thomas Redding. If you see a new face around the Post, make them feel welcome.

In closing, I would like to thank all the volunteers who gave of their time and talent to help complete the remodeling of the canteen. Also, to all the volunteers who help around the Post on a daily basis, a big thank you! Volunteers make our Post what it is.

For God & Country,
Joe Maichle



Thank you!

As chair of the Canteen Remodel Committee, I would like to thank Pat Fowler, Brandi Haight, Joe Maichle, Rick Miller and Bill Wilson.

This was a big effort on a big project that we can all be proud of.

Chuck Nist



Officers for 2017 — 2018

Commander.....Joe Maichle
1st Vice.....Jim Wineland
2nd Vice.....Terry Stickles
3rd Vice.....Pat Fowler
4th Vice.....Rick Miller
Sgt at Arms.....Mike Liner
Finance.....Bob Schlatter
Chaplain.....Brian Hancher
Adjutant.....Ernie Florig *
Judge Advocate.....Jeff Durden *
Service Officer.....Danny Rodriguez *

E-Board Members

Lee Fair
Karl Murphy
Chuck Nist
Fred St. Clair
Dave Tarnowski

House Committee

Jerry Brandt
John Caputa
Genell Kriner
John Quimby
Bob Schmitt
Lura St. Clair
Bill Wilson

Auxiliary President

Candace Mabry

Commander-S.A.L.

John Caputa

Director-Legion Riders

Jim Wineland

Chef De Gare 40 & 8

Mike Kocijan

La Presidente, Cabane 215

Vicki Gordon-Haft

Canteen Update

By Brandi Haught



Wow where has this year gone! Football season is right around the corner! Remember we are your front row ticket to the game! With the NFL ticket and nine large flat screen TV's, you will never miss a play by your favorite team! The ALR will be back in the kitchen serving up their famous wings so plan on making Post 129 your football headquarters. We also have the MLB package now so if baseball is more your speed, come on up to the Post and ask any bartender to turn on your favorite team live!

In October the Auxiliary is planning another show. These shows are always incredible so plan on joining us on Saturday, October 14th. More details so. Also in October the ALR is planning a fun run. See any ALR member for more details. We will be holding our annual Halloween Party on Friday October 27th so start thinking about those costumes.

We are also in the starting to plan a group cruise for April of 2018. There is a short survey on our website of you would like to give your input. More details to come so watch your weekly email this will be a vacation you will not want to miss.

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 hopes. We hope to serve you soon!



American Legion Riders by Jim Wineland



All of the new officers are in place and we are ready for another year of Poker Runs, Fun Runs, and helping our Veterans.

We have a new run scheduled this year. We have moved our date from October 14th to October 21st and joined up with the Beaches Lyons Club "Bark-tober Fest" to raise money to support K9's for the Blind. The minimum we can raise is \$3,000 so we can name the dog. Our goal is to raise more so we can name at least two dogs. If you remember last year, the Legionnaires raised enough money to name a dog and the picture is on the wall for all to see.

We haven't finalized all of our plans yet, but we are going to try a few new things. We are going to add a bus for those who don't ride. Maybe have one of the dogs and his handler ride along. We may play a little poker or try a dice run again. Our goal is to change things up to generate more interest in the event.

At the conclusion of our event, we turn it over to the Beaches Lyons Club. They will follow up with a full night of activities. The event includes dinner, dancing & music furnished by the Kenny Holiday Band featuring Rod Steward and Mick Jagger as their tribute artists. Their event will also be catered by Carrabba's Italian Grill, plus there will be a Silent Auction, Door Prizes, and Raffles. It's going to be a great day!

Don't forget...Graffiti Junktion, our ALR Bike Night on the fourth Thursday of every month from 5 to 9 p.m. Graffiti has also added a DJ on Bike Night for us. Graffiti Junktion will donate 15% of total sales to our fund, which helps support our building upgrades for Veterans' homes. Come join the fun.

There are several events over the next few months.

Dates to remember:

September 9 – 5th District Cook off
 September 21 – Ride to Dragons Tail
 September 23 – Post 283 Five Star Poker Run
 September 30 – Post 401 Benefit Run
 October 7 – Post 316 Bike Rodeo and Gun Raffle
 October 14 – Post 137 – Rolling for the Cure
 October 21 – Post 129's Fun Run and Beaches Lyons Club K9 for the Blind Bark-tober Fest
 October 28 – ALR 316 Zombie Run
 November 2-5 – AL Fall Conference Orlando

Ride Safe,
 Jim

American Legion- Ocean Beaches

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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 (11/17)
Dieter Arnold (3/18)
In Memory of Al "Sharkey" Wiltshire (2022)
In Memory of Cindy Burroughs (7/18)

Platinum Level, \$100

In Memory of Snakebite (5/17)

Gold Level, \$50

Chuck & Sue Nist (7/17)
Bill Garrett (6/19)
In Memory of Audine Hoover (5/17)

Silver Level, \$25

In Memory of Kim White (10/18)
Louise Taylor Braren (8/17)
Paul "Shorts" Urff (8/19)
Franklin Friers (7/17)
Victor & Marlen (11/18)

Bronze Level, \$10

Estelle Mellon (9/17)
Richard & Jo Ann Scoggins (4/19)
Russell & Mary Lou Jones (9/17)
John & Gloria Molisani (8/17)
Thomas Selig (7/17)
Maddy Chitko (1/19)