



# LEGION NEWS POST 283

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Chartered 1956



[www.facebook.com/legion283](http://www.facebook.com/legion283)

[www.floridalegion283.org](http://www.floridalegion283.org)

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## Commander's Report

Happy Holidays Post 283! From my family to yours we wish you all the best in the Holiday Season and a great New Year.

Our Post had a very busy November. We were extremely well represented by the Post during Fall Convention in Orlando the 1st through the 4th. Our members were able to attend classes on various programs and operational aspects of The American Legion expanding their knowledge and making contacts throughout the state. Thanks to all that took time out of their busy schedule to attend. We also were able to send some much needed donations from the 283 family out to those affected by Hurricane Michael. On the 11th Lena organized a Flag Retirement with a great turn out from the local JROTC units and Cub Scouts. The 12th Jim and Jodi Welch provided their expertise and got all our members ready to participate in the City of Jacksonville Veteran's Day parade. After some downpours I think all had fun representing our great Post. Thanks to all that put up with the weather and to Jim Wallace for taking care of the trailer etc. The open house after was great. Thanks to Chris for running the second annual Turkey Shoot. The Early Bird Dinner on the 17th was a success and it was nice to see everyone that came out to participate. We were able to help some folks out with donations of non-perishable foods so they could celebrate Thanksgiving. Awesome job by everyone involved. Thanks to Randy Whisman for running a very successful blood drive on the 18th. As always, the 22nd Thanksgiving open house meal was phenomenal. We as Post have so much to be THANKFUL for. Special shout out to Richie and his AWESOME team that provided our Post with numerous meals that rival any meal anywhere. I appreciate all the hard work that goes on to make our events a success.

The Post will continue to be busy in December. On Friday the 7th we will be observing Pearl Harbor Day and decorating a tree outside that has been donated to the Post. Everyone is welcome to join in the spirit of the holidays. Our Department Commander Dianne Boland will be visiting the District 5-9 December with a visit to our Post on 8 December in support of Final Salute a program that assists Female Veterans and for the 5th District Cocktail Party later that evening. In preparation we will have a modified Post clean-up on December 1st. Come out and lend a hand. Happy Birthday to the National Guard on the 13th. We will be having our Adult Christmas party on the 21st. It will be a potluck so bring a dish and enjoy the festivities. On the 22nd our Awesome Auxiliary will be hosting the Children's Christmas party from 1-3. Sign up is available on the Auxiliary bulletin board. The Christmas open house will be held on 25 December starting at 1 PM. Bring a dish and ring in the New Year on December 31st. I am looking forward to a great new year and seeing you all at the Post.

Please remember that December 31st, 2018, marks the deadline to renew your 2019 membership dues. Please be prepared to present your card upon request by our

dedicated staff. They will be checking on 01 JANUARY 2019 so have your card with you. Please be patient with them!

I am looking for Ham Radio Operators. If you or anyone you know is interested please see me. Also, we are in need of volunteers to assist with Cub Scout Troop 283. Please contact Rusty Crowdus, Lena Null Wood or myself for more information.

For God and Country,  
Scott Pageau, Commander  
904-422-6055  
spageau\_70@yahoo.com

## 1st Vice Report

As of this November 15th we are at 60.78% membership. We need to be at 75% by December 7th to meet our next membership goal. As you can see, we are behind, so if you have not renewed, please do so as soon as you can.

There are many ways to renew your membership. You can leave your payment with me or Nancy directly. Another option is to leave your payment with a copy of your 2018 card in an envelope with your name and stating renewal for 2019 in the LEGION box by the bar. We will process your new card and it will be available for pick-up at the bar for 5 days. If not retrieved in that time frame we will mail it to you. Too busy to stop by in person no problem. You can go online to renew by visiting [www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew) but please ensure you click on Post 283. Another effective way to renew is through the mail. You can mail your dues to:

American Legion Post 283  
Attn: Adjutant  
9549 Fort Caroline Road  
Jacksonville FL 32225.

Nancy or I can be contacted at [mombluestar@att.net](mailto:mombluestar@att.net) or [retiredcjngnr76@gmail.com](mailto:retiredcjngnr76@gmail.com) should you have any questions or need assistance with Legion membership.

As always, new members, as well as transfers, are welcome. If you know anyone that meets the eligibility criteria to join invite them out to see what we are all about. I can tell you from traveling around the 5th District and the Department we are a busy post with a lot going on. We have a lot to offer in ways of programs and events.

Membership in the American Legion as a Legionnaire is reserved exclusively for those that have served in a time of war. The dates listed below are mandated by the United States Congress in the charter they have granted the American Legion. You must have been an active member in one of the five branches of service (or the Merchant Marine for the period specified) and have an HONORABLE Discharge to be eligible to become a member. The dates are as follows:

- AUG 2, 1990 - PRESENT GULF WAR/WAR ON TERRORISM
- DEC 20, 1989 - JAN 31, 1990 PANAMA
- AUG 24, 1982 - JUL 31, 1984 LEBANON/GRENADA
- FEB 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975 VIETNAM WAR
- JUNE 25, 1950 - JAN 31, 1955 KOREAN WAR
- DEC 7, 1941 - DEC 31, 1946 WORLD WAR II
- APR 6, 1917 - NOV 11, 1918 WORLD WAR I
- U.S. MERCHANT MARINE - DEC 7, 1941 - AUG 15, 1945

Proof of service is normally established by either a DD-214 showing your period of service, or an Active Duty ID card. The dues for the year are as follows; if you are 70 years old or older and have been a member of post 283 for a minimum of 5 years **consecutively** your dues are \$29.00. For everyone else dues are \$40.00.

We would like to WELCOME our new members to American Legion Post 283. Welcome to the top post in Florida.

**New members for November are:**

Pedro Palmer Jr – Air Force (AD)  
Norman J. Walker – Coast Guard  
Raymond L. Swindle - Marines  
Adam Morrow - Marines

**Transfers for November are:**

Anthony K. Jones – Army/Post 400  
Paul Ogletree – Marines/Post 439  
Brett Main – Navy/Post 54  
Lisa M. Schmucker – Navy/Post 400

For God and Country,  
Jeff Lafferty  
Post 283 1ST Vice Commander  
Squadron 283 Commander  
5<sup>th</sup> District SAL Vice Commander  
Cell: 904-608-3433

### **2nd Vice Report**

Happy Holidays to all. I hope everyone enjoyed a great Thanksgiving with friends and family.

Legion Steak Night is December 7. Join us for a great night out. Dinner is served from 6:00-7:30. Your choice of ribeye or swordfish with baked potato, salad, sauteed onions and mushrooms, dinner rolls, and dessert all for just a \$12 donation. Sidewalk 65 will provide live music starting at 7:00.

Survey Say's returns on the 19th at 7pm. Cheese Burgers and French Fries will be served from 6:00-7:30 for a \$5 donation. Come play this Family Feud style game and have a tasty burger on Hump Day.

The ALA will be hosting the adult Christmas party on the 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00. They will be serving Pot Luck and hors d'oeuvres. There will be a sign-up sheet for bring-a-dish on the bulletin board. The kid's Christmas party is on Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1-3 pm.

We will have an open house dinner on Christmas Day beginning at 1:00. Come out for a traditional Christmas dinner and celebrate with your Legion family.

New Year's Eve Bring-A-Dish dinner/party will be at 6:00 on Monday the 31<sup>st</sup>. Live Music begins at 7:00 with Rio Grande. Ring in the new year with all your friends at Post 283.

For those of you who don't know, the post has Karaoke every Saturday beginning at 7:00. Come sing your favorite songs or just watch some of your friends butcher your favorite songs. The more you drink, the better we sound.

Don't forget, Live Bingo is every Thursday at 6:30. The ALA offers dinner from 5:30-7:00. Come eat, play, and win. I'll see you at the Post!

Richie Sours  
2nd Vice Commander  
Jim J. Gilleo Post 283  
[2ndvice@floridalegion283.org](mailto:2ndvice@floridalegion283.org)

### **3rd Vice Report**

I am truly thankful to all our volunteers from the Legion, Riders, ALA, SAL, JROTC's, Cub/Sea Scouts, and all others that come out to help and participate in our Post programs and events. Without you our post cannot be successful in fulfilling our post mission/goals. Specifically,

I would like to thank all those who participated in our Veterans Day Flag Retirement Ceremony on November 11, the Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony on November 12<sup>th</sup>, Turkey gun Shoots that were held on Nov 11 and 12, and finally the Blood Drive on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

We are presently seeking out applicants for American Legion Boys State Program. American Legion Post 283 pays for the program and transportation for accepted applicants. Boys State is among the most respected and selective educational programs for U.S. High School students. Students become part of the operation of local, county, and state government. Participants learn the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of citizens; structure of city, county, and state governments; law and court systems; parliamentary procedures and Florida political History. FLORIDA BOYS STATE IS hands on experience in leadership by taking part in the political process through role-play and civic exercises. Students who attend maybe eligible for the SAMSUNG Scholarship Program and/or the "TWO plus TWO" Scholarship Program. For more information about Boys State please visit <https://www.floridalegion.org/programs> or contact Lena Wood for an application or to schedule interviews at [lena.nullwood@gmail.com](mailto:lena.nullwood@gmail.com) or 904 334 3715.

Post 283 Oratorical Contest will be held on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 beginning at 5:30 pm at the post. Part one of the Oratorical contest consists of a prepared speech from 8 -10 minutes at length about a phase of the Constitution of the United States that emphasizes the duties and obligations of a citizen to our governments. Part two of the Oratorical contest consists of speech 3 to 5 minutes at length about 1 of 4 assigned amendments that will be picked on January 9<sup>th</sup>. Prizes will be awarded. For more information about the Oratorical contest and to preview amendments for part 2 of contest please visit

<https://www.floridalegion.org/programs/oratorical> or contact Lena Wood at [lena.nullwood@gmail.com](mailto:lena.nullwood@gmail.com) or 904 334 3715 to sign up to participate.

Chris Garcia is beginning classes and shooting practices for kids wanting to participate in the American Legion Jr Shooting Program and become part of the Post Competition Shooting Teams. Shooters use the .177 caliber competition air rifles and other equipment supplied to Post 283 via \$16,800 NRA grant. Both male and females are welcome to participate. Please contact Chris Garcia at [quickfuze@msn.com](mailto:quickfuze@msn.com) or 214-326-3065 for more information and to sign up.

Finally, the ALA are collecting donations for XMAS food baskets. Anyone wishing to make a difference in a families Christmas or holiday dinner please donate canned or boxed goods at the post. Donations will be accepted until Dec 19<sup>th</sup> to allow family food boxes to be made up and delivered by 21 December. Thank you in advance for your donations.

For God and Country  
Lena Null Wood  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander  
American Legion Post 283  
Blood Drive Chairman  
ROTC/JROTC Chairman  
Volunteer Coordinator

### **SAL Report**

I want to thank all of the volunteers who routinely prepare, cook, and clean up for all of the meals the SAL does. I want all of you to keep in mind that your time and effort does not go unnoticed, and the funds generated goes a long way in help our Veterans, their families, and



support our Children and Youth Programs.

We have an awesome group of Officers who do an amazing job for our Squadron. I'm very proud of each of you, and thank all of you for what you do. With that said, we need to start thinking about next year. From what I can see so far, there will be some changes and vacancies coming up for our elected positions. I care deeply about our Squadron and our Post Family. I want to see our success continue. Please, everyone, please consider if there is a position you would be willing to fulfill. If you have any questions, please see me.

Our membership as of November 19th was 42.86%. However, Val has been working hard and has sent in a number of new cards, so we should meet our goal of 45% by December 6th. If you have not renewed yet, please do so as soon as you can.

### **God Bless America, and God Bless our Troops!**

For God and Country!

Jeff Lafferty

Squadron 283 Commander

[SALcommander@floridalegion283.org](mailto:SALcommander@floridalegion283.org)

904-608-3433

## **Auxiliary President's Report**



We hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving spending it with your families and friends.

Can't believe this year has went by so fast and we are already in December, we have a lot of great things happening this month. We will be collecting non-perishable items for our Christmas baskets we hope you can

donate the list will be posted at the post.

Let's start this month with peace and harmony and bring joy to everyone. We will be having our Post clean up December 1st at 8:00 am.

December 7th at 5:30 we will be decorating a Christmas tree outside under the pavilion so come out and help the Post family start the Holiday season.

We are hosting a Final Salute Baby Shower December 8th from 11:00 – 2:00 pm in the dining hall and a Meet and Greet from 6:00 – 8:00 pm come out to meet the Department Commander and our Department President.

Sunday December 9th will be our PJ Breakfast so come out in your PJ's and enjoy our breakfast.

Ladies our Meeting is December 12th Executive at 6:00 and General Membership at 7:00 remember to bring your Christmas Socks filled with goodies and an Ornament to exchange this meeting is about having fun and celebrating Christmas with your Unit. Bring snacks for everyone to share.

December 19th at 7:00 in dining room we will be doing Gingerbread houses so bring your house and any extra candies so come out and show your talents and have fun they will be raffled off at our Adult Christmas December 21st. There is a sign-up sheet on the Auxiliary board so let's have some fun. Our children's Christmas Party is December 22nd at 1:00 -3:00 sign-up sheet is on the Auxiliary board so sign your children up to see Santa Claus and his helpers.

Christmas Open House on Christmas Day and then we bring in the New Year December 31st at our Post home.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!!!!

For God and Country

Unit President

Michelle Mohilchock

## **Legion Rider Director's Report**

I am sure every rider has been pleased with being able to ride without sweat rolling down your ??.

I want to express my appreciation to all of our riders who have taken an active role by participating in rides, volunteering to cook and or assist with the monthly rider meal and other family meals.

We have returned to planned rides following the monthly meeting and have set the beneficiaries for our 2019 charity fund raisers(k9lines&wreaths across America).

Be sure to come out for the rider dinner on 12/28/18 the menu will be....meat/veggie Lasagna by Val and Brendon. Should be a good one.

Hoping everyone had a great Thanksgiving and that a wonderful Christmas is had by all.

Ride With Pride

Phil Jansen

ALR Director Chapter 283

## **Post Service Officer Report**

Greetings Legion members! I hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving! This month I would like to talk about Tricare Open Season and the new FEDVIP enrollments. I am going to provide some valuable information and remember I am always available for questions.

### **TRICARE OPEN SEASON 12 NOV-10 DEC 2018:**

**If you are happy with your plan: No action** is required during Open Season. As long as you remain eligible and continue to pay any applicable fees, you will stay enrolled and remain in the same plan going forward.

**If you would like to make a change or enroll for the first time:** You can choose between Prime, Select and direct care or enroll for the first time. TRICARE Standard is no longer a TRICARE option. For Standard-like benefits, you must enroll in Select

- View a side-by-side comparison of plans

[TRICARE.mil/ComparePlans](https://www.tricare.mil/ComparePlans)

- In some geographic areas, enrollment selections may be limited

Find out what plans you may be eligible for [Plan finder](#)

### **Change your enrollment status in one of the following ways:**

- Go to [Beneficiary Web Enrollment](#) for the easiest way to make a change
- Fax your [East enrollment form](#) to (866) 836-9535
- Mail your [East enrollment form](#) to Humana Military at:  
TRICARE East Region

c/o Humana Military, Attn: PNC Bank, PO Box 105838, Atlanta, GA 30348-5838

For more information on TRICARE's Open Season, visit [HumanaMilitary.com/OpenSeason](https://www.humana.com/OpenSeason)

\*The National Defense Authorization Act for 2017 requires beneficiaries to enroll in a TRICARE plan.

### **FEDVIP ENROLLMENT 12 NOV-10 DEC 2018**

On December 31, 2018, the Defense Health Agency's TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) will end. However, as directed in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2017, retired uniformed service members and their families, who were eligible for TRDP, will have the opportunity to enroll in the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP). The first opportunity to enroll in FEDVIP will be during the next Federal Benefits Open Season, which runs from **November 12 through December 10, 2018** (ET), with coverage effective January 1, 2019. If you are currently enrolled in a TRDP plan, you will not be automatically enrolled in a FEDVIP plan for 2019. You must enroll during open season.

**FEDVIP Eligibility:** In general, retired uniformed service members and their families who were eligible for the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) are eligible for FEDVIP dental coverage and, if enrolled in a TRICARE health plan, FEDVIP vision coverage. In addition, family members of active duty uniformed service members who are enrolled in a TRICARE health plan are eligible for FEDVIP vision coverage. Coverage is effective January 1, 2019, if you enroll during the Federal Benefits Open Season.

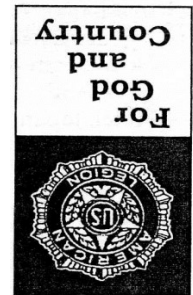
Make sure you check out [va.gov](http://va.gov) and [Tricare.benefeds.com](http://Tricare.benefeds.com) for additional information. Give me a call at 904-868-0624 or email at [psopost283@gmail.com](mailto:psopost283@gmail.com) for any and all questions. Melissa Black Post Service Officer/Female Vet Advocate (FVA)



# American Legion Post 283 December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS</b>		DEPARTMENT COMMANDER VISIT COCKTAIL PARTY 6 – 8 PM ON THE 8TH		BE SURE TO REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR DAY ON THE 7TH		1 ALR MEETING 9AM  BRISTOL KARAOKE
2 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00  JAGS @ 1:00	3	4 SAL PIZZA 5:30 – 7:30 PM  HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	5 HUMP DAY SNACKS  SAL MEETING 7:00 PM	6 ALA MEATLOAF 5:30 – 7:00  BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	7 LEGION RIBEYE/SWORD FISH STEAK NIGHT 6 – 7:30 SIDEWALK 65	8 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER VISIT FINAL SALUTE 10:45 – 1:30 JIMBO & DEBBIE KARAOKE
9 ALA BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00  5 <sup>TH</sup> DIST MTG POST 129 @2PM	10 LEGION MEETINGS EXEC 6:30 PM GENERAL 7PM	11 SAL BACON CHEESEBURGERS 6:00 – 7:30 PM  HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	12 HUMP DAY SNACKS ALA MEETINGS EXEC – 6:00 PM GENERAL – 7PM	13 ALA PULLED PORK SLIDERS 5:30 – 7:00 BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	14 SAL FISH FRY 6 – 7:30 PM  BIG BABY LIVE	15   BRISTOL KARAOKE
16 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00 NATIONAL GUARD BIRTHDAY	17	18 SAL PIZZA 5:30 – 7:30 PM  HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	19 HUMP DAY SNACKS SURVEY SAYS 7PM CHEESEBURGERS 6 – 7:30	20 ALA COWBOY STEW 5:30 – 7:00  BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	21 ALA ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY 6:00 POTLUCK, BRING A DISH DOUBLE DOWN	22   JIMBO & DEBBIE KARAOKE 7PM
23	24	25 CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE STARTING AT 1:00	26 HUMP DAY SNACKS	27 ALA SLOPPY JANICE'S  BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	28 LEGION/SAL CHEESESTEAKS 6 – 7:30  BLACK WATER SWAMP	29   JIMBO & DEBBIE KARAOKE 7PM
30 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00	31 NY EVE BRING A DISH - MUSIC BY RIO BRANDE					

LOOK FOR US ON-LINE AT [WWW.FLORIDALEGION283.ORG](http://WWW.FLORIDALEGION283.ORG) AND [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LEGION283](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LEGION283)



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