

LEGION NEWS

Arlington American Legion Post 283

9459 Ft. Caroline Rd., Jacksonville, Florida 32225

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VOL. 14, NO. 4

April 2014



Commander's Report

On Sunday March 9th at sunset, we had a Flag Retirement Ceremony. We had support from First Coast JROTC, Terry Parker High School JROTC and a couple of legion members. It was Americanism, Honor, and traditions at its finest. The chili cook off was hot and spicy with other combinations that were meaty and mystifying. The family came together and provided a fine BBQ-lunch for some veterans at Five Star Veteran's Center. Between the Legion, Auxiliary, SAL, and the ALR we were also able to provide live entertainment and a donation of \$453.00. Thanks to all who supported. The St Patty's day dinner by the auxiliary was another fine fair of food as usual.

Tom Dora, 5th District Commander and Bob Brewster, Past District 5 Commander and Past Northern Area Commander, will be providing Legion training at the post on the 5th of April. His course is a normal eight hour course that he has slimmed down to only a couple of hours. It will start at 11 am. The topics will be all across the spectrum from officer positions and responsibilities' to operations and protocols. He has a wealth of information to share of the legion and is a great asset to answer legion questions. Please don't miss out on this opportunity.

Please put on your calendar our next Blood drive is April 6th at the legion from 830 until noon. There is a free breakfast made by our SAL for all who participate. We have to conclude the breakfast at 1030 so we can support the kids Easter party. The Easter party is from 1-3. Look for the Easter Bunny to come a hopping along. Don't forget the SAL Squadron 283 first annual Chip toss and shoot event on Saturday April 26th. Participation is limited to members of the American legion and VFW. Signed in guests are welcome. If you like Lumpia, there will be some extra available for sale after the dinner on the 29th. Check for the signup list on the bulletin board and let Craig know how many you want for .50 each.

The 6th Annual Department American Legion Convention will be held at The Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld from June 12-15th. The reservation cutoff date is May 19th. For more information you can go to the legion web site and the flyer and itinerary is also posted on the bulletin board at the post.

We have started our Post 283 Honor Guard. Legionnaire Alan Allen is heading up this project and looking for some volunteers who may be interested. Please contact him at alan.allen@portsamerica.com if you have questions or would like to be a part.

More nominations for next year's officers were accepted at the last general membership meeting and will continue April 14 during our general membership meeting. April 14th will be the last opportunity for nominations. Elections will be May 17th from 7am until 7pm. Nominees so far are:

Commander - Troy Horsley, 1st Vice - Jim Welch, 2nd Vice - Jeff Lafferty, 3rd Vice - open, Finance Officer - Craig Vaneffen, Sgt-at-arms - Alan Allen, Asst Sgt-at-arms - open, Historian - Terry Howard, Chaplain - Haim Cassorla

, Executive Committee - Phil Jansen, Mike Dux, and Board of Directors - Corry Glasner

Hope to see you at the post.

For God & Country
Troy Horsley- Post 283 Commander

1st Vice Report

Welcome to April 2013! Membership renewal continues to roll in, we are at 102%!! Remember if you have not paid your dues you will be unable to participate with events at the Legion and you will not be able to be signed in until you are current. Thank you to everyone that has paid their 2014 dues. Remember you can pay your 2014 dues at the Post, by mail or online at www.legion.org/renew. You can pay in any one of these fashions, but still pick up your new card at the Bar, just drop me an email if you paid online, or place a note on your renewal form.

Welcome to our new members. I'm asking everyone to become a recruiter for the Post. We need you to go out and bring in anyone who might be interested in joining by for a tour of our great post and we will give them a calendar of upcoming events. The prospective member must meet the following criteria: To qualify for membership, you must have served at least ONE day of Active Duty during the periods shown on the form. Another important item is that you must attach a copy of the DD214, "honorable discharge", or an active duty ID card showing as evidence of your eligibility for membership in the American Legion. If you do not have a copy of the DD214, you can go on-line to the following address to receive one: www.vetrecs.archives.gov, or www.myfreeDD214.org. If you need additional help with this feel free to contact our office at the Post and they will be happy to assist you with any questions you may have. We continue to add members to the email list for the monthly newsletter, and would love to add you to the list. The more people we add, the less we send, which saves printing and postage. To have your name added to the electronic list email me at jameswelch88@comcast.net.

For God and Country,
Jim Welch
jameswelch88@comcast.net
904-710-3568

2nd Vice Report

Not too much news on the kitchen front. All the dinners by the various groups have been great. Be sure to check the monthly calendar for the upcoming dinners in April. Wednesday "Hump Day" has also been a great success.

For God and Country
Thomas "Chick" Gagnier

3rd Vice Report

Legion 283 Family can you believe that April is here already. Time flies when you are having fun.

Our next blood drive will be held on the 6th of April from 8-12 AM. All donors will be given a breakfast for donating sponsored by the SAL. If you are unable to get a breakfast due to time or scheduling the breakfast slip will

be honored at another SAL breakfast. Come out and support your community with a donation of a unit of whole blood.

Post 283 is sending five deserving young men to represent us at Boys State from 6-13 July. We are extremely impressed with each of our delegates and are excited to hear about their experiences.

Thanks to both First Coast High School and Terry Parker High School NJROTC units for their assistance in the execution of the Flag Retirement we held on the 9th of March. We would also like to thank Boy Scout Troop 181 for folding the Flags prior and post retirement. Lastly, it was touching to see the members from the post that participated in retiring some flags and were a part of the ceremony.

After the ceremony, I was asked by a participant about flag etiquette. I was able to find some literature for the member. Having spent 24+ years in this military I thought I knew a lot about the flag, the history and ceremonial representation. After reading through only a little bit of the reference material I realized how much I didn't know and believe I should have. Please allow me to share some of what I learned over the next few months. I learned that even though we fold the flag a specific way there is a representation for each fold which I had never been exposed to before.

United States Flag Folding Program

We fold from the stripes toward the stars, for whereas the stripes represent the thirteen original colonies, they are now embodied in the fifty sovereign states represented by the stars.

FIRST FOLD – A symbol of life

SECOND FOLD – A symbol of our belief in the eternal life

THIRD FOLD – Made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks and who gave a portion of life for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.

FOURTH FOLD – Represents our weaker nature; for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in times of war for his divine guidance.

FIFTH FOLD – A tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but she is still our country, right or wrong."

SIXTH FOLD – Stands for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

SEVENTH FOLD – A tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all the enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

EIGHTH FOLD – A tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor mother, for whom it files on Mother's Day.

NINTH FOLD – A tribute to womanhood It has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that the characters of the men and women who have made the country great have been molded.

TENTH FOLD – A tribute to father, for he too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since he or she was first born.

ELEVENTH FOLD - In the eyes of Hebrew citizens, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and

King Solomon and glorifies, in their eyes, the god of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

TWELFTH FOLD – In the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

When the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our National motto, "In God We Trust."

For God and Country
Scott Pageau

S.A.L. Commander's Report



Well, it appears the year is rapidly going by fast. Just two more months to get your SAL dues paid for the year 2013-2014.

During the summer conference held in Orlando the Detachment of Florida voted and approved to increase the amount of dues paid per SAL member throughout the State to \$2.00. This is the first time dues have been

increased since the year 2002. In our March general membership meeting the issue was brought to the floor with regards to raising our SAL dues starting in 2014-2015. A motion was made, second and after discussion the membership approved raising the dues to \$20.00 per member, \$10.00 for dual members and leaving children's dues at \$6.00. Again, this will take effect starting in June of 2014.

The first round of nominations for SAL officers were held during the March general membership meeting. Those nominated and accepted are as follows. Commander, Tom Harris – First Vice, Kevin Winn – Second Vice, Jeff Lafferty – Chaplin, Jeff Roberson – Sgt. At Arms, Terry Wallace. Joe Clardy was nominated for Financial Officer but was absent. The second round of nominations will be held in the April meeting which is the first Wednesday of the month.

I would like to thank Jeff Lafferty for heading up our SAL BBQ and visit to the 5 Star Veteran's Center on March 8th. I would also like to thank all those Legion, SAL, Auxiliary and Rider members who attended in support of this event. There are way too many homeless Veteran's out there but it is good to know some have a place where they can go to get training and support to assist them getting back on their feet and move on to a productive life. Please keep this organization in mind and think about whatever each of our groups can do to support them. Any dollar amount or material needs they have should be considered. JOB WELL DONE!

It's almost here. Yes, the CHIP, TOSS & SHOOT EVENT. This will be the SAL's first annual event and hopefully we can make this continue in the years to come. It is Saturday, April 26th starting at 1:00 PM. If you intend on participating in the Toss Event (Horseshoe Tournament) be there by 12:00 PM so we can pair up those who want to play. Pairs will be selected by draw. There will be an outside bar and food will be available. On a side note Terry Howard has challenged me in a brisket cook off. So you know at least one person will be providing some fantastic brisket. You be the judge. Put the word out to the other Post and hope to see you there. There will be three fifty/fifty pots and the winner of each event will get half the pot. ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE 5 STAR VETERAN'S CENTER.

For God and Country
Tom Harris, Commander



Auxiliary President's Report

Welcome spring.

At the Auxiliary general membership meeting on Wednesday, April 9th, we will have nomination of officers. The following officer positions are available, President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Historian, Chaplan, Treasurer, Sgt at Arms, Assistant Sgt at Arms, and Executive Committee. Please see Peggy or Sylvia if you are interested, as well there is a sign up list on the Auxiliary bulletin board. Our elections will be held at 7 p.m. on May 14th. You must present a 2014 auxiliary membership card on May 14th to be eligible to vote. The Auxiliary does not have absentee ballots.

Our Constitution and Bylaws Chairman, Jann Schneider will be bringing before the General Membership on Wednesday, April 9th at 7 p.m. the first round of changes to our new Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules to be voted on. This must be voted on at 2 general membership meetings prior to submitting to the Department of Florida.

A huge shout out thank you to Mari, Marge, Peggy, MaryAnn, Too Tall and all others who assisted in the success of our St. Patrick's Day dinner. We sold 59 dinners in 20 minutes--that has got to be record. Thank you to all who participated in the 50/50 drawings.

Kat, Deb, Sylvia, Bettiemae, Linda and Liz made a trip to Regents of Jacksonville nursing home and not only hosted a twilight bingo for the veterans but provided 10 lap blankets made by Sally King, baked goods and gift bags for the veterans.

New member, Rosemary Harper, donated a refrigerator to the Auxiliary. Thank you Jim and Chuck for installing the locks.

The Men of 283 Calendar, April 2014-August 2015 is now available for a \$5.00 donation. All the proceeds from this calendar will benefit Prostate Cancer.

St. Patrick's Day goodies and fun were brought to Clyde E. Lassen Nursing home in St. Augustine last month by Janice Dixon, Sylvia Curnette, and Debbie Collier. Nice job.

The month of April the Auxiliary will be focusing on Five Star Veteran Center. We will be collecting towels, pillows, cleaning and laundry supplies. The Five Star Veterans Center is Northeast Florida's largest nonprofit, transitional home and program for veterans in need.

Jim Guilleo donated Officer Friendly coloring books, crayons and pencils to our Children's Easter Party.

The Children's Easter Party is Sunday, April 6th from 1-3 p.m. Cut off for signup is April 2nd.

Did you know that a fellow auxiliary member is a published Author-Francina " Ms Caramel" Lucas has been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary since 1997. She now lives in Florida. She will be having a booking reading and signing on Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 2-5 p.m.

Friday, April 18th, Auxiliary Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner featuring homemade spaghetti sauce and meatballs, salad, garlic bread and dessert by Mari. \$7.00 donation.

Friday, May 2 the Auxiliary will host a Cinco de Mayo dinner. Featuring Chicken Enchiladas, rice, vegetable. Details to follow next month.

Once again we are featuring a few of the chariman programs that the auxiliary participates in.

They are as follows:

LEADERSHIP Preparation of future leaders for the organization is a vital concern for the American Legion Auxiliary. A comprehensive leadership course has been developed in each of the Departments. Trained leaders

conduct Leadership courses within the Department. Every Unit member is urged to learn more about the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary. Knowledge of the organization enhances member participation in support of Unit programs.

LEGISLATION Purposes American Legion and Auxiliary members are interested in legislative measures which come before the United States Congress and the state legislatures. Through lobbying efforts The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary are able to influence legislation of benefit to veterans, the community and our nation.

Welcome new members, Kathleen Allen, Deborah Collier, Kimberly Dickerson, Nooreen Contreras, Phyllis Harris, Amanda Rosado, Beverly Gould, Paula Schultz, Brenda Johnson, Joan Tatsak, Jenny Tillett, Shyla Tillett, Geraldine Hood, and DeAnn Reese.

Thank you ladies for breaking our attendance record with 35+ at our last meeting. The auxiliary is only as strong as it members and it shows. We are growing in leaps and bounds, welcome all. At this time the auxiliary has 100% membership and growing.

Please pray for the safe return of our troops and continue to support them and their families. Thank you to all who volunteer at our post home and in the community.

For God and Country,
Robbin Walker, Auxiliary President

Legion Rider Director's Report



Greetings! At the March meeting we had 73 riders in attendance. This included 18 riders from post 129 who stopped in to present a plaque to ALR283 for our support to Wreaths across America. We have added 2 new members and a renewal since last meeting putting our roster to around 159. We started nominations for officers. After the meeting we rode to the Veterans Nursing Home in St. Augustine as well as the Battle Museum in Green Cove Springs.

At the 5th district ALR meeting on March 2, at post 54, I spoke of the Five Star poker run coming up this September and how well our riders group is doing. I also invited all to Mardi Gras, which was on Friday March 21st.

The Florida in State Legacy Run starts on March 27th, from post 129 and ends April 3rd.

The next Five Star planning meeting is Thursday, April 3rd, 7pm. We will name the band and declare the route.

Nominations have begun for the next year and will continue until May 3rd. Elections will take place at that meeting. The next ALR meeting is April 5th at 0900. There will be a ride after the meeting, so please plan to attend. (Bring helmet).

The USO Poker Run at Post 316 is on April 12th. The April Camping trip is upon us, April 18th-20th. This is a great relaxing weekend in the Ocala National Forest. It's rustic and will put you back to your pre-techno roots. Sign up, pay up before the trip and get ready for some fun. Only a few spots left. On April 26th is the SAL Shoot, Pitch and Toss event.

May will bring the Boots on the Ground Run on the 10th, ALR State Rally at Palm Bay FL, 16th-18th ALR Dinner on the 23rd. June Convention is Coming. Details to come.

A big THANK YOU, to those that attended the Five Star BBQ on March the 8th. It was a success.

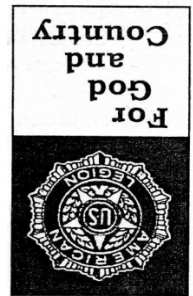
Rodney Fullwood Jr.
Director ALR Chapter 283
Alr5thfl.org/ directoralr283@gmail.com



American Legion Post 283 April 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mark your calendars for these upcoming events!		1 SAL PIZZA 6 – 7:30 PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	2 HUMP DAY SNACKS SAL MEETING 7PM	3 SOFTBALL SPAGHETTI BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	4 LEGION FISH & CHIPS LYONS	5 ALR MEETING 9AM JAMMIN' JIM KARAOKE
6 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 10:30** CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY 1-3PM	7	8 SAL CHICKEN SALAD WRAPS 6 – 7:30 PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	9 HUMP DAY SNACKS AUX MEETING 7PM	10 PORK SANDWICHES BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	11 SAL FLOUNDER SANDWICHES SPEKTRA	12 AUX BOOK SIGNING FRANCINA LUCAS 2 -5 KAREN KARAOKE
13 LEGION 5 TH DISTRICT POST 54 SOFTBALL 283 @ 1689	14 LEGION MEETINGS EXEC 6PM GENERAL 7PM	15 SAL PIZZA 6 – 7:30 PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	16 HUMP DAY SNACKS	17 SOFTBALL CRUNCHY CHIX CASSEROLE BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	18 AUX HOMEMADE SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS DOUBLE DOWN	19 JAMMIN' JIM KARAOKE
20 *EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH 10 – 1 DONATION \$8	21	22 SOFTBALL HAM, GREEN BEANS & CORNBREAD HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	23 HUMP DAY SNACKS	24 CHICKEN LEG QUARTERS BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	25 ALR DINNER MIDLIFE CRISIS	26 SAL CHIP, TOSS & SHOOT EVENT NOON – 'TIL KAREN KARAOKE
27 *** SAL BKFT 8:30 – 11:00 SOFTBALL GAME 283 @ 137	28	29 CRAIG'S LUMPIA HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	30 HUMP DAY SNACKS	*EASTER SUNDAY BRUCH MENU: BAKED HAM W/PINEAPPLE, QUICHES, CHIX POT PIE, SALMON, FRENCH TOAST, VEGGIES & MORE	**BLOOD DRIVE 8 - 12 ON APRIL 6TH - DONATORS EAT FREE	***LEGION DISTRICT CONST. CONFERENCE POST 316 APRIL 27TH 9AM

AMERICA – THE LAND OF THE FREE BECAUSE OF THE BRAVE



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