

LEGION NEWS

Arlington American Legion Post 283

9459 Ft. Caroline Rd., Jacksonville, Florida 32225

Phone 641-8111 Chartered 1956

VOL. 14, NO. 12

December 2014

Commander's Report



November has come and gone and I hope all had a great turkey day. We had several great things happen this past month. The early bird dinner turned out lots of members from the family who were able to get their 2015 membership completed. The Veterans Day parade in

downtown Jacksonville had two floats from the post with several members of the family present along with Boy Scout troop 181. It was followed by a good afternoon lunch and fellowship with a little karaoke at the post. The post was also well represented at the American Legion Fall conference in Orlando. Lots of good training and information was provided to Legion, Auxiliary, SAL and ALR members who attended the several available courses. Thanks for those who went and spent their off time learning how to serve our fellow veterans, their widows and orphans better.

There is a collection box at the legion for Christmas food supplies for our local community. If you know of a member in our family network that is need of our support this year for Christmas, please contact our Auxiliary President Ms. Walker, myself or our first vice Jim Welch so we can make sure we can provide them with a holiday basket.

December proves almost as busy as November. We have the Department of Florida Commander, Auxiliary President for the State of Florida, and the state of Florida SAL Detachment Commander visiting our post on the 5th from 4pm-6pm if you would like to come by and meet your state representatives. Don't forget Pearl Harbor Day on the 7th. There will be a flag retirement on the 7th at sunset. Operation Homefront Christmas party will be on 13th from 10-2 which will bring lots of people to our post. Please be patient as this is going to be serving our active duty personnel in our area and their families. The kids Christmas party will be on the 14th from 1-3 followed by the adult Christmas party on the 19th. We will have dinner Christmas day from 1 to until it all runs out. It will be our traditional fare of turkey and ham with all the fixings. If you know of someone unable to have a holiday meal or are spending Christmas by themselves please bring them to the legion with you.

On New Year's Eve, the post will be open until the arrival of the New Year with the band playing until midnight. For those of you, who did not stay up to see the ball drop at midnight, come to the traditional New Year's Day Bloody Mary breakfast. It will be from 830 till 11am.

On the 1st, make sure your dues cards are up to date. As per our by-laws, people who are delinquent in their dues cannot be signed in by another member. Please remember to have your dues cards available for presentation to our staff. They are not picking on any one, they are just doing their job per the lounge rules and operation posted on the bulletin board and will ask everyone to present their 2015 membership cards.

From my family to yours, I hope you and your family have a great and safe holiday season. See you at the post.

For God & Country
Troy Horsley- Post 283 Commander

1st Vice Report

I hope everyone had a Great Thanksgiving. The Early Bird Dinner was outstanding. We have not met any of our four Membership goals this year the post is at 61%, the goal for December was 80%. If you have not renewed your 2015 membership, the Post needs your help to reach our Membership goal. If you haven't paid dues by December 31, your membership will expire.

Any member who allows their membership to expire may not be the escorted guest of a member of the post, or any post, nor may they purchase or have anyone purchase anything from the post. Extenuating circumstances for financial hardship, illness, or deployment will be evaluated by the Board of Directors on an individual basis.

I would like to welcome our newest members to the post; Edward Lizon, Ryan Phillips, Sherrill Sink, Jeff Perkins, David Grund, David Johnson and transfers Roger Bump, Paul Gawronski, Niles Johnson, Kenneth White, William White, and Michael Baker.

As always you can renew on-line by visiting www.legion.org/renew. You can also register for the Automatic Annual Renewal Program. The Legion will maintain a record of those participating and about July 15th each year, will automatically process the renewal, charging the credit or debit card of the members choice. Once dues are successfully renewed, an email confirmation will be sent to the member. Also the post cannot process credit card payments. We send them to the Department to be processed. You must include your **card number, expiration date and 3-digit code from the back of the card**. Also I am at the post most afternoons and can have your new card in a few minutes while you wait, have a beverage and visit with friends.

God bless our Veterans and Troops at home and abroad.

For God and Country,

Jim Welch

jameswelch88@comcast.net

904-710-3568

2nd Vice Report

By the time everyone gets this, we would have filled ourselves with the Thanksgiving Feast and the joy of time with friends and loved ones.

Last month's Steak Night was a tad off, but much was going on and people out of town. We still served over 70. The shrimp skewers continue to taper off each month. If it continues this month, we will likely discontinue the shrimp.

Our new commercial freezer is up and running beautifully. It maintains the temperature at 0 degrees, +/- 4 degrees. Perfect.

We served over 100 dinners for the Early Bird Dinner. We had positive feedback from the Stuffed Smoked Meat Loaf.

I want to apologize for my mess up (yes, I know it's hard for you to believe I made a mistake) on putting the Veterans' Day Open House incorrectly in last month's calendar. Ken served over 100 people during the actual Open House. We just had none left for the 6:00 to 7:30 time period. I know that was a letdown for the Trivia crowd. Thanks so much for not forming a lynch mob. I lived to serve another day.

Congrats to all who entered the Pot Luck Cook Off. It was a huge success, with so much good food. (Thanks for the idea Teri) The judges had a hard time deciding, and the votes were close. Congrats to Troy's Mother (Sorry, I've never asked her name) for winning 1st place. Everyone loved her yummy, homey dish, and she was excited. You'd have thought her name got called on Price Is Right. We will do this one again.

This month is packed with food and festivities as well. I won't list them all here, as they're in the calendar. I've included the 1st of January in December's calendar so everyone will know what's planned for New Years. We do have our traditional Christmas Open House Dinner. I can't be there, but Ken always does a phenomenal job. I would like to see a few of you step up and help him prep, serve, and clean up.

Don't forget to end your Holiday season with our Traditional New Years Day Bloody Mary Breakfast. Ken and Harry will be serving it up with style and smile. What a great way to start the year out; having a Bloody Mary and watching those two fine specimens of manhood cooking your breakfast.

I'll be out of town the week before Christmas, until the weekend after. With that said, I hope all of you have a very Merry Christmas, and keep in mind the reason for the season.

Please keep our military and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

For God and Country
Jeff Lafferty
Post 283 2nd Vice
Squadron 283 2nd Vice

3rd Vice Report

December is upon us and I would like to wish each family member a safe and happy holiday season from my family to yours. We have had an exceptional year and I would like to thank you all for making it a great year.

We held our blood drive on the 23rd of November from 0800 -1200. Results will be in the January edition due to time constraints with newsletter submission. I would like to thank all of the donors that came out to donate. Without your generosity we wouldn't be able to have these successful events. Thanks to the SAL for an awesome breakfast as always and the Auxiliary for an impressive bake sale. I would like to send special thanks to Ms. Janice Dixon for the never ending assistance and Ms. Sally King who ran the operations in order for me to play softball in a huge game against Post 316. If you were unable to give and would like to give to the post account between our scheduled blood drives please notify the person registering you that you would like your donation to go to account #1045. That is the American Legion Post 283 account. Our next blood drive will be held on 31 January 2015. Sign-up sheets and more information will be in the January issue.

The post is still looking for contestants to represent the post in the Oratorical contest to be held in January throughout the 5th District. Our post deadline to have our contest complete is 18 January 2015 with the winner representing us at the District level on 24 January 2015. For more information go to www.legion.org/oratorical/rules.

Our search to represent the post doesn't stop there. We are looking for delegates to attend the 72nd Boys State session. It will be held from 14 -20 June 2015. Details can be found at www.legion.org/boysnation/stateeligibility.

In the early morning hours on December 7th 1941, the Japanese Navy launched an attack on Pearl Harbor that in the words of President Franklin Roosevelt was "a date

which will live in infamy". On this day our country lost 2,403 lives both military and civilian. Our Navy lost four Battleships with another four damaged. The attack also sank or damaged three Cruisers, three Destroyers, one Mine Sweeper and almost 200 planes. This year on December 7th 2014 we will be conducting a flag disposal ceremony at dusk. We have invited the Terry Parker NJROTC, First Coast NJROTC, Sandalwood AFROTC, Boy Scout Troop 181 and Cub Scout Pack 181 to participate. As always ALL members of the Legion family are welcome to come out and be a part of the ceremony.

The post is currently looking for a volunteer or two to assist with the duties of taking care of our flags that we place out in front of the Legion on open house days and on the graves of our veterans on Memorial Day. Please contact myself or the Post Commander for more details.

Lastly, the Disaster Preparedness Team would like to thank Bruce Firster for conducting a bake sale on 18 November. All the donations will go to the National Emergency Fund. The team was able to send a donation of \$550.00 in October to the fund.

For God and Country
Scott Pageau



S.A.L. Commander's Report

Were getting to the end of the year and after reviewing the membership roster I noticed there are quite a number of you that have not renewed your dues. If you see me in the Post I will have the cards so if you need to renew come get with me. We are presently at 56.2% and need to hit our goal set by Detachment at 60% by



December 5th.

I want to thank the Squadron for sending me to the Fall Conference in Orlando. There were some interesting topics brought up regarding some new Legion programs which I will discuss in the next meeting. I also went through my first day of the SAL College which was pretty interesting. My second and third classes will be in the Spring and I am looking forward to attending. An interesting point made was the SAL College is opened to all three groups of the American Legion. So if you're interested in attending watch out for the notices when the courses will be given. Another thanks goes to Chuck Patterson, Past Commander, who is now a 5th District Children's and Youth Chairman for being allowed to address the SAL assembly at Fall Conference to make a presentation regarding the Boy Scouts of America Camp Shands project. Good job Chuck.

Even though I was unable to attend the Veteran's Day Parade I was informed it turn out to be a great event. One of the largest parades' in the Nation. With that said I would like to give a special thanks to "Joe Clardy" and his crew for rebuilding the trailer used for the float. It looked great in the parade line and I know all that participated were proud to be a part. Another thanks goes to our Parade Entertainment Coordinator, Harry! Job well done everybody.

And to end this month's report, I want to say again Jeff Lafferty and his turkey crew did another fantastic job frying turkeys on the back porch and with putting on a fine Thanksgiving Dinner for our members and guest. Jeff as you well know, is Second Vice for both the Legion and SAL. He works his fanny off and is entitled to a "thank you" for all he does. I'm not sure if you are aware of all the hours he spends running around shopping, doing prep work, preparing meals, planning and monitoring the calendar. So when you see Jeff around the Post just say, Thanks Jeff.

For God and Country
Tom Harris, Commander

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

Merry Christmas & Happy Hanukkah

Auxiliary President's Report



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, which is annually on December 7, commemorates the attack on Pearl Harbor, in Hawaii, during World War II. Many American service men and women

lost their lives or were injured on December 7, 1941. National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day is also referred to as Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day or Pearl Harbor Day.

November was an extremely busy month for the auxiliary. We returned with a lot of information from convention. We held a very successful Bake Sale. Thank you to all who made yummy treats, cakes, and cookies to make the event such a huge success. December brings a visit from Department President, Erna Schwabe to our unit/post home on Friday, December 5th at 5 p.m. Join us in welcoming her to our post home and celebrate our accomplishments with her.

The next fifth district meeting will be at Post 129 on Sunday, December 7th Pearl Harbor Day at 2 p.m. The auxiliary meeting is Wednesday, December 10th at 7 p.m.

On Sunday, December 14th we will host the annual Children's Christmas Party. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. Due to space limitations, we will only be able to host 30 children. Please, please two parents per family-- Space is very, very limited and we need to comply with the limited amount of seating. We ask that you please list an item your child might want from Santa, under \$10.00 please. The party will begin at 1 p.m. sharp, rain or shine.

The auxiliary is hosting the annual post Adult Christmas Party on Friday, December 19th at 6:30 p.m. We will be featuring appetizers. This is our way of saying thank you to our post home for supporting the auxiliary programs. Mari makes some wonderful items.

Thank you for the overwhelming response of non-perishable items for the Thanksgiving Baskets for the less fortunate and veterans in our community. We will be continuing with this program for the annual Christmas Baskets. Please continue to support our post home in the efforts to provide a wonderful holiday season for a family.

Welcome new members: Dorothy Lepisto, Jacqueline Powell, Peggy Schmidt, Ashley Shirmann, Babette Altizer, Patricia Duncan, Sandra Cochran, Susan Overdor, Ruby Altizer and rejoining member Angelique Turner.

A gentle reminder, according to the auxiliary bylaws, any member failing to pay membership dues by 12/31 shall be delinquent and suspended from membership privileges. Thank you to all members who have paid their 2015 dues and continuing to support the auxiliary programs.



Legion Rider Director's Report

Season's Greetings Riders and Friends,

At the rider's meeting November 1st, there were 55 members present to present the \$20,056.89 check to the Five Star Veteran Center. That next day, the Times Union covered the story in the metro section of the paper. At Fall Conference the Legion Riders and SAL 283 were recognized by Detachment of Florida Officers for our Five Star efforts. Commander Tom Harris and Past Commander Chuck Patterson of the Squadron 283 were given a standing ovation for 283 Americanism. It's a beautiful thing when a family works together. Congratulations to all. A Job well done!

At the Fall Conference Nov. 7-9, Beth and I, attended several classes and meetings. The Dept. of Florida has made a few recommendations that we will be putting to practice as ALR Riders. There is now a phone app for the riders to access on the go. It can be downloaded to your phone from FloridaLegion.org. It has the link to the first edition of the Rider's Manual, and the SOP.

Membership time is upon us. After Jan 1st. dues go to \$25.00. Renew your post dues first, you have to show your 2015 card to renew your rider membership! If you are a lifetime rider you still need to present a 2015 membership card to stay active. We had 6 new members for November and that puts us at 182. At the December Meeting on the 6th, Beth and I, will have the laminator available. Update your email address to directoralr283@gmail.com.

The riders participated in the Veteran's Day Parade, The rededication of the Eternal Flame at Evergreen, the M.I.A.P. ceremony at JNC, Post 54 Toys for Tots poker run, and a benefit ride for Greaser, a fellow rider. The riders at 283 are very active in our community. In December we have the Toys for Tots escort ride on the 6th, The 137 Legacy Ride, and Wreaths across America on the 13th.

The 5th District ALR meeting will be Nov. 30 at post 194 St. Augustine at 2pm. 194 has a new rider chapter and is eager to get busy in the Mighty 5th.

Merry Christmas to all and Happy New Year. The greatest gift you can give is LOVE. Spend time with your family and friends as often you can.

Visit Face Book: American Legion Riders Chapter 283, Arlington FL

Ride Safely, Ride Wisely and just enjoy the Ride!

Rodney Fullwood Jr.

Director ALR Chapter 283

Alr5thfl.org/ directoralr283@gmail.com

Face Book: American Legion Riders Chapter 283, Arlington FL

December 7, 1941 –

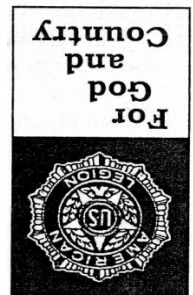
"a date that will live in infamy"



American Legion Post 283 December 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mark your calendars for these upcoming events!	1	2 SAL PIZZA 6 – 7:30 PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	3 HUMP DAY SNACKS SAL MEETING 7PM	4 SOFTBALL CHICKEN PARM BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	5 LEGION DEPT CMDR VISIT LEGION STEAK DINNER 6 – 7:30 GUITAR RED	6 ALR MEETING 9 AM JAMMIN' JIM KARAOKE.
7 PEARL HARBOR DAY - FLAG RETIREMENT AT SUNSET SAL BREAKFAST 8:00 – 11:00	8 LEGION MEETINGS EXEC 6:30 GENERAL 7:30	9 SAL MEATBALL SUBS 6 – 7:30 PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	10 HUMP DAY SNACKS AUX MEETINGS EXEC – 6:30PM GENERAL – 7PM	11 AUX DINNER BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	12 SAL BEEF STEW DINNER DOUBLE DOWN	13 JIMBO & DEBBIE KARAOKE
14 CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY 1 – 3:00	15	16 SAL PIZZA 6 – 7:30 PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	17 HUMP DAY SNACKS	18 SOFTBALL SLOPPY JOES BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	19 AUX ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY BACKWOOD BOYS	20 JAMMIN' JIM KARAOKE
21 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00	22	23 DISASTER PREP TATER TOT CASSEROLE HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	24 HUMP DAY SNACKS	25 CHRISTMAS DINNER OPEN HOUSE 1 'TIL THE FOOD IS GONE	26 ALR SPAGHETTI DINNER 6 – 7:30 SPEKTRA	27 KAREN KARAOKE
28	29	30 YOOPER PASTIES BY CRAIG 6 – 7:30 HARRY'S TRIVIA	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE MUSIC BY	January 1 283 TRADITIONAL BLOODY MARY BREAKFAST 8:30 - 11		5 TH DISTRICT MTG FOR AUX & LEGION @ 129 IS ON DEC. 7TH

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW! BARTENDERS WILL CHECK ID CARDS STARTING JANUARY 1ST



Non Profit
 Organization
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 Permit No. 3312
 Jacksonville, FL

Arlington American Legion, Post 283
 PO Box 8581
 Jacksonville, FL 32259