

LEGION NEWS

Arlington American Legion Post 283

9459 Ft. Caroline Rd., Jacksonville, Florida 32225

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July 2014



Commander's Report

Hello legion family. Hope all is well with you and yours. We had a lot happen at the post in June. We held a Flag Retirement ceremony at sunset on the 14th in observance of Flag Day. The 3rd vice Scotty Pageau ran the procession with lots

of help from various post members along with Cub Scout Troop 181. They spent two and a half hours helping to retire the colors. The 96th Annual Department American Legion Convention was held in Orlando where the Post family received numerous awards for their good deeds this past year. Need to check the wall for plaques and awards from 2013-2014. The Auxiliary made an exemplary breakfast for Father's day and true to form, no one went away hungry.

July's events are stacking up. On the 4th of July we will have an open house. There will be entertainment from 1-4pm. The menu will be leg quarters and hotdog's with lots of fixings and sides. Don't forget it is a Friday night and we will have a good band playing from 7-11pm. The installation of Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion officers will be the 6th of July at 2pm. Our first legionnaire executive board and general meeting with the newly installed officers will be held the 14th of July. We have a blood drive on the 20th. Free breakfast provided by the SAL for all who participate. The SAL is cooking up a BBQ dinner for our Post 283 baseball team on the 26th. Surely it is not an event to miss.

The American Legion baseball Post 283 Wolves are playing baseball against the other legions and are winning most of their games. Coach Philips is doing great things for them. The games for July are the 1st against Post 88 at 6pm and 9pm at Wolfson High School, the 5th against Post 197 at 1pm and 4pm at Wolfson high school, the 8th against Post 88 at Terry Parker High School. They will be playing at Terry Parker High School from the 17th thru the 20th in our area tournament with the American Legion State tournament being played at Terry Parker High school the 24th to the 27th. Get out and have some fun with our legions youth baseball team.

In case you have not noticed, our Disaster Preparedness Committee has been trying to raise money and have volunteered to cook some meals for us this month. If you get a chance please come out and support.

I am also looking to get our housing committee started again. If you are interested on being involved with the future of the post, please come to the meeting on the 14th of July.

The 2015 membership drive has begun. The new cards are in and available. Please come by the post and renew your membership. We will have another early bird dinner for everyone who gets their cards early.

Hope to see you at the post.

For God & Country
Troy Horsley- Post 283 Commander

1st Vice Report

Welcome to July 2014. I would like to thank everyone for your continued support and trust in re-electing me as your First Vice Commander for 2014-2015. I will do my

upmost to carry on and work with all new and old officers to maintain our post as one of the best posts in Florida. We are always looking for new members, so if you know anyone who would like to become a member feel free to get them in contact with me or any other officer and we will get them signed up. I would be happy to assist in getting the info needed to help prospective members apply for membership or other info on the programs that are available to them.

Thank you members for exceeding the 100% membership renewals for 2014, we are currently at 108%!! On that note, we need to begin the process for renewing your membership for the upcoming year. We will be having an early bird dinner for those who have renewed their membership prior to November 1st. So let's make it our goal to reach 100% by the deadline and see everyone at the dinner, date and time to be determined.

I would like to welcome our new members to American Legion Post 283, Stephanie Kline, Robin Mathers, Allyson Watts, Brian Reynolds, Matthew Hill, Thomas Donnell, and Dean Vincent, and 2 transfer members Howard Collins and Ralph Tackett. Welcome to be greatest Post in Florida.

For God and Country
James Welch 1st Vice Commander
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2nd Vice Report

I'd like to start by saying how honored I am that the Post 283 Membership has entrusted in me to perform the duties of 2nd Vice Commander for the upcoming year. I promise I will work hard, and I am looking very forward to working with all of the groups within **OUR 283 FAMILY**. I'm excited just thinking of all of the upcoming events and meals throughout the year and I'm proud to be a part of it. I will strive to coordinate things within our Family to eliminate any scheduling conflicts, and for all events to run as smoothly as possible, just like you are already accustomed to.

One of my goals is for the kitchen to **ALWAYS** be clean, safe, and well stocked for your use. Ken, our Kitchen Manager, and I will always be working towards that goal. Throughout the year, I will be very open for ideas, comments, and suggestions from anyone. Remember, your officer's work for you, the member. Your thoughts matter. If you have something important, please go to the meeting and make your voice be heard. I also welcome any constructive criticism.

Please check the calendar below for all of the July meals and entertainment.

Please keep our Military Members, 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

The month of July has arrived and as usual our American Legion 283 family is busy as ever. I hope this finds each of you enjoying the summer and getting some well-deserved relaxation.

Please remember to put the Sunday 20th of July on your calendars as the summer blood drive will be held from 0800 – 1200. As it is difficult to schedule The Blood Alliance in the busier summer months it is imperative that we get as many donors out to donate as possible. You can sign-up in the post or online. The SAL will be serving breakfast that morning and anyone attempting to donate will receive a breakfast coupon that is redeemable for a breakfast.

Our five delegates for Boys State attended their orientation meeting at Post 137 on 19 June and will be departing to participate in this year's program on the 6th of July. They are all fine young gentlemen that we can be proud of. We wish them all the best in their travels.

I have had the privilege of seeing the 283 family come together and accomplish a couple of amazing things recently. The first, headed up by Chuck Jarvis, was the placement of 3000 flags on the graves of veterans in eight separate cemeteries. The effort was conducted by Legion members, Boy Scout Troop 181, Cub Scout Pack 181, Terry Parker High School NJROTC and First Coast High School NJROTC. That said, due to school and work commitments we were unable to get as much participation to retrieve the flags put out the following week. Thanks to Chuck Jarvis, Sally King, Bill Gehm, Sherril Lebarge, Jim Wallace, Janice Dixon and their Unknown Soldier for accomplishing this huge feat. We will look into options to give everyone an opportunity to assist in the retrieval of the flags next year. On Flag Day we conducted an Unserviceable Flags Ceremony at sunset at the post. With the help of numerous Legion members and Cub Scout Pack 181, we were able to dispose of 500 plus flags. I would like to personally Thank to all those involved.

Our Post 283 Baseball team is off and running with their first season. Their Home Field is located at Wolfson High School. Good luck Wolves! The July games are as follows:

July 1st Post 283 @ Post 129 6&9 PM
July 5th Post 197 @ Post 283 1&4 PM
July 8th Post 283@Post 88B 6&9 PM
July 17th-20th Area Tournament
July 24th-July 27th State Tournament

Lastly I would like to share a couple of myths about the American Flag that I saw on the American Legion website. First it is often believed that you must destroy the flag when it touches the ground. This is a myth. As long as the flag remains suitable for display, the flag may continue to be displayed as a symbol of our great country. Secondly, it is also believed that the Flag Code prohibits washing or dry-cleaning the flag. This is another myth. There are no such provisions. The call depends on the type of material.

For God and Country
Scott Pageau

Disaster Preparedness

The Disaster Preparedness Team is raising funds to donate to the National Emergency Fund. Although the American Legion has been assisting Legionnaires in the aftermath of disasters since the 1920s, the National Emergency Fund was created in the wake of Hurricane Hugo in 1989 and is used to provide assistance to both Legionnaires and posts. This important fund has provided \$8 million to assisting those qualified Legionnaires and posts in need. Our next fund raiser will be a spaghetti dinner prior to Bingo on the 24th of July. Anyone interested in completing training courses to enhance their personal knowledge in disaster preparedness is invited to go to <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.aspx> to complete free online courses.

S.A.L. Commander's Report



First I need to start this report off by issuing a recant. During the Chip, Toss and Shoot event it was John Yoho that ran that event. John provided buckets of balls (now drowned) and gulf clubs for our players use and at no cost to the Squadron. It was also this event that brought in \$1,052.00 in the 50/50 pot which was split with the winner.

My apologies to John for not recognizing his participation with making this event a success. Job well done John!

It's June and now membership renewal time.

Remember dues have increased to \$20.00 for the year 2014/2015 for SAL members, \$10.00 for Duel members and remain \$6.00 for children under 18 years of age. For the year 2013/2014 the Squadron hit 104% with a total of 238 members. Great job Kevin for your hard work as First Vice Commander/Membership Chairman and thank all of those who renewed your membership and support the Squadron. On another note. Be a part of you Squadron. Don't be just a DMO (Drinking Member Only). For those of you who frequent the Post, if DMO makes you feel guilty, well it should. After all, you are a standing member. Ask what you can do for your Squadron. Get involved, attend the monthly meetings, be a part of the program. I assure you there is something you can do, just ask! Squadron meetings are the first Wednesday of each month. BE THERE SAL.

I, Kevin Winn, Jeff Lafferty and Chuck Patterson had the pleasure of representing Squadron 283 at State Convention. Squadron 283 is the number "1" in the State. During convention we were recognized and presented four awards for the year 2013/2014. Greely Pain Memorial Award, 1st Runner Up, Special Olympics, Jim Mitchell Memorial Award, 1st Runner Up, Most Donated to Detachment, 1st Place, Best Children & Youth Report and the Special Olympics Diamond Award 2013 for a donation of \$11,500.00. I would like to report our yearend total donations for 2013/2014 which included donations at convention last year in the amount of \$23,500.00 and to the local community and Veteran's organizations in the amount of \$9,781.00 resulted in the amount given, \$33,281.00. In addition, this year during the 2014 Convention the Squadron donated \$6,000 to Special Olympics, \$5,000 to Children's Miracle Network, \$6,000 to Child Welfare Program, \$6,000 to VA&R and \$7,000 to COTA (Children Organ Transplant Association) for a total of \$30,000.00! FANSTATIC !! What a way to start the new year off. I feel confident the Squadron will exceed a donation total of over \$40,000 given for the year 2014/2015. None of this happens without the participation of our members and your personal involvement. I can only say, thanks to all of you.

Our dinners are doing great with the leadership of our Second Vice, Jeff Lafferty. Jeff and I have been discussing our monthly menu and are looking for ideas as to what to provide. If anyone has any suggestions please feel free to discuss with Jeff. We are always open to fresh ideas and of course volunteers to work the dinners. As you are well

aware it is pretty much the same folks doing the various dinners each month whether it's breakfast, pizza night or our Friday night event. Sometimes these folks need a break. If you occasionally would like to step up and help out just mention to Jeff you may be available. Shoot, you may even find you like it. It's hard work but we have a lot laughs and a lot of fun.

For God and Country
Tom Harris, Commander



Auxiliary President's Report

Happy Independence Day.

We have just returned from a wonderful 93rd Annual American Legion Auxiliary convention in Orlando, Florida. Post 283 did very well. Please come out to the installation on Sunday, July 6th at 2 p.m.

and support the legion family in celebrating their accomplishments for this past year. I don't want to spoil the surprises so if you cannot make it, I will report in next months' newsletter.

The auxiliary ladies hit the ground running with a fabulous Father's Day Breakfast serving over 150 guests.

Thank you Susan Veronee and her very special ladies, Candy Anderson, Bettiemae Kitchens, Linda Nogle, Sylvia Curnutte, Patti Hill, Sally King, Janice Dixon and Peggy Miller.

The USO Welcome Center at the Jacksonville International Airport received much needed supplies from the Auxiliary this month.

We hosted a twilight Bingo night at Regents Nursing home this month for some very special patients.

We helped a female veteran and her 9-year-old daughter, transitioning out of Sulzbacher Center, by presenting them with a Buddy Basket filled with much needed supplies to being their new life.

This month the auxiliary will begin the chairmanship programs and the newly formed Fund Raising committee will swing into action. Look for some great things coming in the next few months or join us on our meeting night. We still have some chairmanships available, please come and take a look.

We will begin to Stuff the Bus once more with school supplies for the local USO and school children in our area. We would like to help as many children as possible start school on the right foot with the right supplies. Please see the auxiliary board for details.

Welcome new members, Theresa Townsend, Barbara Caprio, and Sheena Hill.

The next auxiliary meeting will be Wednesday, July 9th at 7 p.m.

Friday, July 11th the auxiliary will be serving THE PICNIC featuring Chicken shishkabobs, Warm bacon potato salad, Regular potato salad, Calico beans, Cole Slaw, and dessert, donation \$7.00.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your confidence in me to bring Unit 283 auxiliary to another level this coming year. I look forward to meeting and working with each and every one of you.

A special thank you to the entire auxiliary for their outstanding volunteer efforts this past year. You have really made a difference in the lives of our veterans, children and their families in our community. You rock.

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

STAND DOWN FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

Each year, the city of Jacksonville Military Affairs and the Disabled Services Division host a Stand Down for Homeless Veterans. This event is very important to those in our communities who have proudly served our country and now find themselves in need of assistance. This year the Stand Down will take place on September 19th and 20th at the Jacksonville Fairgrounds. The American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 283 proudly supports this effort. We have a table at the event and provide new socks, undershirts, boxer shorts, and new or gently used ball caps to our Veterans. With that said, there will be a box at the Post beginning in July to accept donations. We are hoping that you can find it in your budget and your heart to help out. All donations go strictly to homeless Veterans and go a long way in our effort to help these men and women.

If you would like more information on this program, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. Thank you. God Bless our Veterans!!

Bettiemae Kitchens

Legion Rider Director's Report

Best Chapter of 2013-14,

Happy 4th of July! We continue

to grow as we added three new members at the June Meeting. At the June meeting, I introduced the new sign in sheet with a column for miles and hours. Just this little tracking tool has yielded

220 miles and 36 hrs. reported by 10 different riders. Great work! Please continue this and write them on the sign in sheet or E-Mail them to me. 27 ALR went on a fun ride to St. Augustine after last meeting. This fun run was educational as well as, well, fun. We will fun ride again after the July meeting on July 12. 0900. If you're not riding, cages are welcome.

Installation of Officers will be July 6th at 2pm. Congratulations to all. Thank You again for letting me continue as your Director for another year. I have also been asked to serve as the 5th district Vice Chairman. Janice Dixon will also serve as the 5th District Adjutant for the ALR. Gary Lester from Chapter 137 will be our 5th District Chairman. 2 Officers for the 5th District are from our Chapter.

News from Convention: Chapter of the Year is no longer. The awards are now divided onto size class and evaluated that way. You probably know by now, but I'm telling it again. Chapter 283 won Best Chapter in the X-large category. Chapter 250 won middle and Chapter 233 won for the small size chapter. The riders for our 5th District placed well this year. A RIDERTASTIC year indeed! Chapter 283 also made a \$2000.00 Donation to the Legacy Fund at Convention.

Five Star Center planning is going well. We are ready to start riding out and promoting the Poker Run for September 27. The next meeting will be Thursday, June 26th at 7pm. Bring in your door prizes and raffle stuff. The ALR dinner will be June 27th so come and eat Scallop Potatoes and Ham. Officer Installation on July 6th and the ALR Next general meeting will be July 12 at 0900.

Mark the calendar: June 21, 5th District Training at Post 137/ June 27th, MIAP Call to Honor/ 5th District Picnic at 137 is on Oct. 4th. Visit alr5thfl.org for more dates.

Live well, ride safe!

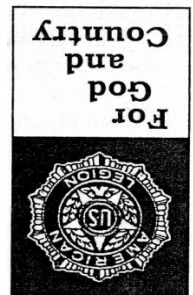
Rodney Fullwood Jr.
Director ALR Chapter 283
Alr5thfl.org/ directoralr283@gmail.com



American Legion Post 283 July 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*WE WILL HAVE KARAOKE BY JAMMIN' JIM FOR THE OPEN HOUSE ON THE 4TH		1 SAL PIZZA 6 – 7:30 PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	2 HUMP DAY SNACKS SAL MEETING 7PM	3 SOFTBALL CHILI DOGS & SLAW BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	4 *INDEPENDENCE DAY OPEN HOUSE 1:00 BIKER BOB BAND	5 ALR MEETING 9AM JAMMIN' JIM KARAOKE
6 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS 2PM	7	8 SAL MEATBALL SUBS HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	9 HUMP DAY SNACKS AUX MEETINGS EXEC – 6:30PM GENERAL – 7PM	10 SUSAN'S CHICKEN & RICE BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	11 AUX CHICKEN SHISHKABOB DINNER DOUBLE DOWN	12 KAREN KARAOKE
13	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 BEEF STROGANOFF BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	18 SAL FLOUNDER SANDWICHES BACKWOOD BOYS	19 POKER RUN @283 LAST BIKE OUT 10:30 JAMMIN' JIM KARAOKE
20 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00 BLOOD DRIVE 8 - NOON	21	22 SOFTBALL CHICKEN PARMESAN HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	23 HUMP DAY SNACKS	24 DISASTER PREP TEAM SPAGHETTI BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	25 ALR DINNER BRISKET BY COREY SPEKTRA	26 SAL BBQ DINNER FOR 283 BASEBALL TEAM 3PM KAREN KARAOKE
27	28	29 LASAGNA BY CRAIG HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	30	31 SOFTBALL MEATBALL SUBS BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	Mark your calendars for these upcoming events!	

Happy Independence Day! Freedom isn't free . . . Thank you to all who paid that price!



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