

LEGION NEWS

Arlington American Legion Post 283

9459 Ft. Caroline Rd., Jacksonville, Florida 32225

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October 2014



Commander's Report

Hello legion family and welcome to October. September and summer has gone to pass but not without great deeds being done by our legion family. The open house on Labor Day had a great meal prepared and we served over 150

free meals. The karaoke was awesome and the flag retirement was completed with assistance from Boy Scout Troop 181 and First Coast High School NJROTC. We had the CPO Selectees from the USS Farragut washing cars and helped them raise some much needed funds. The legion first Friday night steak night was a huge success so we will plan on continuing to do them the first Friday night of each month. The softball team has started their season. For their first game, our Legion riders came out and supported them by doing colors. The riders also have been very busy with the March of Dimes biker for babies ride, and the toys for tots ride. The family did so many more things in September that I just don't have room to recognize but they have not gone unnoticed by our community and veterans. Great job to everyone.

Hopefully everyone has gotten their membership renewed. The October drawing for the \$50.00 dollar raffle has come and passed. If you have not renewed, don't forget to get it done soon so you are eligible for our early bird dinner on the 2nd of November. All Legionnaires, Auxiliary and SAL who have their 2015 Post 283 membership cards are going to get a free dinner. You may receive something from National American Legion HQ requesting you to renew your membership. If you have already renewed thank you and disregard, if not please do so.

The 5th district legionnaires will be having a family picnic at post 137 on October 4th from 11 am until. It is open to the entire legion family. On October 12th, we are sponsoring the entire 5th district at our post for the monthly district official visit. The meeting begins at 2 p.m. We will celebrate the US Navy's birthday on the 13th. Our kids Halloween party will be on the 19th from 1-3. Look for the sign-up sheet on the board. The Adult Halloween party will be on the 31st at the post. SAL BBQ dinner at 6pm with the Auxiliary costume judging starting at 9 pm. Looking down the road, we are sponsoring the 5th district fun cruise on 17 November. Sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board along with the particulars for the Mid-winter convention on Orlando from the 7th -9th Of November.

The softball season is in full swing. The games are usually Sunday mornings at 10 am. The game schedule and location of the games is posted on the general announcement board at the post. If you are interested in playing, get a hold of Jody Welch. If you can't play and want to come out and support your team that would also

be great. Most games are followed by returning to the home teams post for food and fun.

We are looking to be the place for you to come to watch football. The legion has voted to switch to direct TV so we will have the entire match ups at the post. So come one and come all and enjoy fellowship with the family members.

Hope to see you at the post.

For God & Country
Troy Horsley- Post 283 Commander

1st Vice Report

Hi everyone, welcome to October. I would like to start by thanking everyone for their hard work around the legion. We have gotten a lot accomplished this past month. We missed our Membership goal of 55% renewal by September 3th; our actual percentage was 47%. At this time I would like to welcome new members to our legion family, Tyrelle Hines, Dave Oberg, Martha Nelson, James Homol, Christopher Estes, Naomi Allen, Kyle Garrison and Leonard Lund. Also welcoming transfer memberships of Michael King, Adam Gresham, Eric Bertsch and Willie Crews. You have joined the greatest Post and Legion Family in the Country!! This month the post would like recognize our members with 40 years and over continuous membership. William Gehm 49, Jack Collins 48, Donald Enders 46, Rosemary Pricci 46, Fred Cancilla 44, Michael Tessler 42, James Gennette 41, Eleanor Maher 41, David Mueller 41 James Gilleo 40, George Ridgeway 40, and Kenneth Rowden 40 years. Thank you for your service to The American Legion! The early bird dinner is a month away, I would like to encourage everyone to renew by the deadline so you can join us for a wonderful dinner. Please encourage family and friends to renew by the end of the month so they can join us for the wonderful event. I have run across some information on a Jacksonville Veterans Program where you have access to free training, certification and job placement in home building, remodeling and construction through a partnership between Home Builders Institute and FL Dept. of Economic Opportunity called Pre- Apprenticeship Certification Training (PACT). Training is conducted in facilities maintenance to include carpentry, electrical wiring, masonry, landscaping, painting, plumbing and weatherization. Training is conducted at the Vets Training Complex on Lane Ave. For more information and to register, email LaTanya Guillory at lguillory@bbi.org or call 625-3299. I would like to invite everyone to stop by the post and enjoy all of the wonderful programs/activities that all chapters have going on. Thank you for letting me serve as your 1st Vice Commander.

This year the post is having a drawing for a \$50.00 gift card for all member who paid their dues by October 1st. drawing we be at the early bird dinner on November 2nd.

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

2nd Vice Report

The Legion's first Steak Night went over well, as far as the feedback I've received. We sold around 80. We'll have 100 on hand again on October 3rd. The addition of the shrimp skewer also received positive feedback. With that said, we'll keep them around also. I want to thank everyone for the help, as well as the Air Force ROTC from Sandlewood. Those kids really helped us out. Reminder: **we can use all the help we can get for this meal. I would love to see more Legionnaire involvement on the first Friday of every month.** We are still perfecting the process. That will improve each month.

I have been approached on several occasions recently concerning the kitchen / hall not being properly cleaned. This is not fair to the next group using it, and is in violation of health codes. Not to mention this can attract roaches and rodents. I will be posting a list of items to be done after use of the kitchen / hall. Whoever is in charge of the meal, please use this list and make sure someone is covering it.

We have another issue that has been growing. That is food brought into the post on days food is being served. Everyone needs to remember, someone is donating their time and effort to prepare, serve, and clean up. We do this for one main reason. To raise funds for our many charities and people in need. That's what the American Legion Family does. With that said, please refrain from bringing outside food into the Post on days someone is preparing a meal. Doing so is in some cases competing with the dinner being served. I have personally noticed several occasions when this cost us the sale of a meal. I feel this is disrespectful. If you do not wish to purchase the meal being served on a particular night, please eat before you come up.

On a happier note, many have been asking about doing wings for football games; such as Ken did last year. All I can say is; it's coming! Probably before you get this newsletter.

Last but not least. The SAL 2nd Vice asked me to pass along a note about breakfast. As you know, breakfast has increased to \$7.00 due to ever raising food cost. But we do recognize the fact that some folks do not eat a large breakfast. With that said, we will now offer a \$5.00 breakfast as well. With it you can get two eggs however you like them, one meat item, and two of any of the other MANY sides.

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

The month of October has arrived. Where has the year gone? The post is still looking for chair persons for all of the programs listed in last month's newsletter. Please contact any of the Legion Officers for information about available positions.

Our next post blood drive will be held on November 23rd from 8am - 12pm. Please come out and support your post and enjoy an SAL breakfast at the same time.

We are looking for students to participate in the post Oratorical Contest. In order to be eligible participants must be citizens of or lawful permanent residents of the United States. All contestants must be bona fide students herein described as any student under the age of 20 years on the date of the national contest who is presently enrolled in a high school or junior high school (public, parochial, military, private or home school). The curriculum of the school must be considered to be of high school level, commencing with grade 9 and terminating with grade 12. Students must be enrolled in high school or

junior high school during the time of participation at any level of The American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest. Contestants must either be legally domiciled within or attend an educational institution within the department that they enter competition. Contestants can enter competition through only one department. High school students that graduate early during the school year are eligible to compete if they are not enrolled in a college, university, trade school or other institution of higher learning at the time of the department finals contest. Further information can be obtained at www.legion.org/oratorical/rules.

We are also looking for delegates to represent the post in the Boys State program. To be eligible to participate in Boys State, only males who have successfully completed their junior year of high school and who have at least one more semester remaining are considered. Previous participants of a Boys State competition are not allowed to attend a second session. Only those who illustrate leadership, character, scholarship, loyalty and service in their schools and community should be considered. Merit and ability are the basis for evaluation during the actual citizens selection process. More information can be found at www.legion.org/boysnation/stateeligibility.

The post held a Flag Retirement Ceremony for 01 September 2014 at sunset. We were able to retire approximately 250 flags with the assistance of Boy Scout Troop 181, First Coast NJROTC and Legionnaires from the post. Thanks to all and we will conduct another one in the next few months.

We had the Sandalwood AFROTC out to assist with the monthly Friday steak dinner. They did a great job and we look forward to having them back in the future. The Terry Parker NJROTC joined us as well as Boy Scout Troop 181 in support of the ALR Poker Run on 27 September. Great job to all!

For God and Country
Scott Pageau

S.A.L. Commander's Report



HELLO SQUARDON 283! It is with regrets that I must inform our membership that due to personal reasons Kevin Winn has stepped down as First Vice/Membership Chairman. For over the last two plus years I must say Kevin has done a fantastic job and we are going to miss his being there for the SAL. Bob Bertram, Past First Vice, has stepped up and will take over the position. In

the meantime until Bob gets back in gear please see me for renewals or new membership applications. We are at 30% membership and moving forward. November 2nd is the Early Bird Dinner. In order to be on the receiving end of the "FREE" dinner you must have had your dues paid by November 1st.

Saturday October 25th Squadron 283 will be hosting THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION ORGANIZATION COURSE at the Post. The course will also be hosted by 5th District and is open to all Legion and SAL members at no cost. The course will cover things relating to the Sons of The American Legion which will include a video of the history of the SAL and accomplishments of the Sons. Additional items will cover responsibilities of Squadron Officers, running a Squadron meeting, programs supported by the Sons, membership and Sons reporting requirements. I encourage all SAL members to attend and invite Legion members to attend as well. The course will start at 8:30 in the morning and groceries will be provided.

October 31st is the SAL Florida/ Georgia BBQ Dinner. This is an all-day cooking affair and I will need help pulling this off. Any member who would like to be a part of the cooking team please let me know. We will be posting a sign up list on the bulletin board for "any" member who would like to buy a slab of ribs. So be looking out for the sign up sheet if you are interested. THAT'S ALL FOLKS!

For God and Country
Tom Harris, Commander



Auxiliary President's Report

Welcome fall and HAPPY HALLOWEEN.

We would like to begin by saying thank you to all who attend our auxiliary dinners prepared by our great chef Mari and her crew. The donations received from these dinners help us to support our veterans, their families and children. Mari is grateful to all who help.

Sunday, October 12th our post will host the 5th district meeting for auxiliary members and legionnaires at 2 p.m. All are invited to attend. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet other unit members as well as the district officers and chairmen.

October 17th the auxiliary will feature a homemade Spaghetti dinner, salad, fresh bread and dessert, \$8.00 donation.

The children's Halloween Party is scheduled for Sunday, October 19th, 1-3 p.m. Come on out all you ghost and goblins for food, fun, and a costume contest. Age limit 10 years old, 2 adults per family. There will be a sign up sheet on the auxiliary board on October 1st. We are need of donations of candy and smaller items like Halloween pencils, erasers, etc. to stuff their treat bags with. Jim Gilleo thank for the safety information you provide for our children.

On Halloween night, Friday, October 31st--Mark your calendars and get out your creative thinking cap---It's the Adult Halloween Party by the American Legion Auxiliary 283. We will be having lots of fun. There will be door prizes, 50/50 and a costume contest. The contest will be held around 9 p.m. Hope to see you there.

It is with great pleasure that we announce our new membership chairman, Beth Fullwood. Speaking of membership, it is that time of year ladies to renew your auxiliary dues. Become part of or continue to be part of the largest women's patriotic service organization in the world. We are the wives, mothers, daughters, sisters, grandmothers, granddaughters and great-daughters of veterans who served our great country during times of war. Some of us are veterans ourselves. Our dues are only \$25.00. Thank you to all who already have paid. You may drop your dues at the lounge or in the auxiliary designated box or the mail. The early bird dinner is November 2. You will not be able to attend unless your 2015 membership dues are paid by November 1st. We would love to see everyone there.

The 5th district has put together a fun cruise on Victory Cruise out of Mayport. This event will occur on November 29th. The cost is \$36.00 including boarding pass, transportation from the post home, lunch buffet, and \$20.00 in slot play. Please contact robbinwalker53@yahoo.com to make your reservations or sign up at the post home. The bus will be leaving at approximately 9:30. Cruise from 11.

Thank you to all who participated in and donated to the Stand down for the homeless veterans. It was a huge success and over 300 veterans attended and received much needed services and clothing.

Welcome new members: Patricia Reffitt, Mary Gennette, Linda Gorsuch, Patricia Andralliski, Shirley Belle Yarbrough, Sharon Powers Summerlin, and Linda Lund.

Congratulations to Jann Schneider, Vice President, Susan Veronee, executive committee. Kat and Deb continue to do a wonderful job for community service for Regents Nursing Home as well as Sulzbacher Center. Ella Rae Jansen-thank you for doing our flyers.

Please let Janice Dixon know if you don't receive emails from the auxiliary regarding unit activities. email janicedixon2132@comcast.net to be added or contact her at 571-4541.

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 to all, Happy Halloween!

We have come full circle with our 7th Annual Poker Run,



The riders as a whole selected the Five Star Veterans Center as the benefactor of this year's event. After a committee of fellow rider evaluated several charities, it was decided to go this way. With the Post commander's blessing we started the planning. This year's run is on track for success. The challenges we

found were the community as a whole did not know who or what the Five Star Center was. We were blessed when the media started running stories about them and it came to light. Companies like Home Depot, The Weaver Foundation, just to mention a few, gave donations to the Center. This allowed them to keep moving forward. Biker groups like VEMA, have also held events to help. With our event this will also keep their program going. Currently they have an average of 25 residents in the program. 25 Young veteran soldiers who need help with job placement, VA benefits, and healthcare. They are there because they served for you and I. Thank You Riders, for doing the right thing.

- October 4th is the next meeting, Time to renew.
- October 11th, Wreaths Across America Poker Run at Chapter 129.
- October 12th, 5th district meeting at post 283.
- October 24th, ALR Dinner, TW's famous Fried Ribs. Red Shirt Friday
- October 25th SAL Class at Post 283.
- October 31st, Halloween Friday.
- Renew your memberships in the Legion/Aux/SAL and bring your card (required) to renew your Riders memberships for 2015, reminder as of Jan 1st; the dues for ALR will be 25.00. We have 169 Members and 1 Junior Member.

We work together, we ride together and we will stand together.

Rodney Fullwood Jr.
Director ALR Chapter 283
Alr5thfl.org/ director283@gmail.com
Face Book: American Legion Riders Chapter 283, Arlington FL

Coach's Corner



The 2014 Fall Softball season got underway on September 14th. The league has expanded to seven teams and the title is up for grabs. American Legion posts 54 and 88 reestablished teams while post 129 and the Fleet Reserve post 290 joined the league.

Due to field maintenance issues, 283 opened its season against the Fleet Reserve post 290 at Abbess Park. Four teams played at the park on opening day with the American Legion Riders from post 283 beginning the season with an opening ceremony parading the colors and our very own Matt singing the National Anthem. GREAT JOB!

Your post team came out with a vengeance looking to start off the season with a win against the unknown opponent. Before a very large crowd on both sides of the field Post 283 got the bats and gloves rolling in the first inning and never looked back defeating 290 19-9. What a game, Fun was had by all.

The season continues as follows:

10/5 283 at 316
10/12 137 at 283
10/19 283 at 54
10/26 Bye

We would like to thank to all of our fans that come out and support us on a weekly basis. Special THANKS to Susan Veronee and Patti Hill for cleaning up after the last home game and a special thanks to Ken for the great cooking!! Keep an eye on the calendar for some special meals in October!!

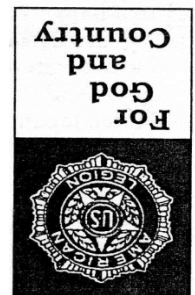
For God and country, Scott Pageau and Jodi Welch



American Legion Post 283 October 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mark your calendars for these upcoming events!			1 HUMP DAY SNACKS SAL MEETING 7PM	2 AUX LASAGNA DINNER BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	3 LEGION STEAK DINNER SPEKTRA	4 ALR MTG 9AM SAL 5TH DIST. PICNIC POST 137 JAMMIN' JIM KARAOKE
5	6	7 SAL PIZZA 6 – 7:30 PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	8 HUMP DAY SNACKS AUX MEETINGS EXEC – 6:30PM GENERAL – 7PM	9 SOFTBALL BRATS & GERMAN POT. SALAD BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	10 LEGION SHRIMP ETOUFFEE OVER BROILED FLOUNDER SCHOOL DAZE	11 LEGION ACADEMY SUSAN & BOB KARAOKE
12 LEGION ACADEMY SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00 \$7 DONATION	13 LEGION MEETINGS EXEC 6PM GENERAL 7PM COLOMBUS DAY	14 SAL REUBEN SANDWICHES HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	15 HUMP DAY SNACKS	16 AUX CHIX PARM SANDWICHES BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	17 AUX SPAGHETTI DINNER BACK TRACK	18 JAMMIN' JIM KARAOKE
19 KIDS' HALLOWEEN PARTY 1 - 3	20	21 SAL PIZZA 6 – 7:30 PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	22 HUMP DAY SNACKS	23 SOFTBALL OCTOBERFEST WEINER CHILI BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	24 ALR TW'S FAMOUS FRIED RIBS & JEFF'S BAKED BEANS DOUBLE DOWN	25 SAL ORGANIZATION COURSE KAREN KARAOKE
26 NAVY DAY SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00 \$7 DONATION	27	28 FRIED CHICKEN BY CRAIG HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	29	30 SOFTBALL CHICKEN PARM BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	31 AUX ADULT HALLOWEEN PARTY SAL FL/GA BBQ GUITAR RED	

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN! RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW!



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