



AL233FL Newsletter



Volume 14, Issue 3

'SMOKE FREE POST'

March 2014



560 N. Wilberness Trail ~ Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Legionnaire meetings, first Thursday each month, 7:00pm
Auxiliary meetings, second Thursday each month, 7:00pm
Son's meetings, third Thursday each month, 6:30pm
Rider's meetings, first Sunday each month, 11:00am



Canteen hours:

MON-FRI: 1100 until ?? hrs.
SAT: 0900 until ?? hrs.
SUN: 0900 until ?? hrs.
(St.Johns County - closing hour is 2:00am)

Website: www.AL233FL.org

Email: info@al233fl.org

Post telephone: 904.285.2484

Sunday: Breakfast 9am-11:30am

Wednesday: Dinner 6:30pm-8:00pm

Friday: Dinner 6:30pm-8:00pm

Mon-Fri: Lunch 11:00am-1pm

We are a Smoke Free Post, 24/7



NEVER FORGET ~ POW's & MIA's

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Commander - Roy Havekost

Past Commander 2012-2013

Email: Commander@AL233FL.org

Let me first say thank you to those veterans that came out to vote on February 6th. As everyone should be aware, the Post is now non-smoking (inside) 24/7. Smoking is allowed outside and on the pavilion. I have met with the Planning Committee and a cleanup of the ceilings and walls as well as replacement of the rugs will be getting underway shortly. If you are a non-smoker member, please come down to your Post and help out by getting involved in one or more of the American Legion projects that Post 233 supports, serving on a committee, or maybe just helping out with dinners or breakfasts. We welcome all newcomers and we appreciate our current volunteer members.

February yielded some other happening at the Post too. Diane Dorsey announced her plans to retire. Rita Connolly has been chosen to replace her as Canteen Manager. Best of luck to Diane (and Mark) on your retirement. If you come to the Post on Monday-Wednesday daytime, Mike Barker our new bartender will be serving you. Welcome Mike.

Unfortunately we had a small kitchen fire on the stove last month. Fortunately the damage was very minimal but cleanup was extensive as a result of fire extinguisher used. Fortunately this fire was a 'blessing' as the gas company discovered a gas leak under the building when they were called to turn the gas back on. The leak has been repaired and we are back in full service. The bills incurred have been submitted to our insurance company. A special thank you to all our members who were present that night and helped extinguish the fire. Also, thanks goes out to St. Johns Fire-Rescue for their response.

Elections for 2014-2015 are just a few months away (May). Please give some consideration for running for a position, ie Executive Committee, Vice Commander, Chaplain, Historian or maybe you would like to serve on a committee ie House, Planning, Boys State, Americanism. There are many Legion projects that we are and could be involved in and we are always looking for new faces and fresh ideas, so please come forward and help your Post. Our next meeting is Thursday March 6th at 7:00pm, see you then.

For God and Country,
Roy



Adjutant - Sheri Martinez

Email: Adjutant@AL233FL.org

Our membership renewals are at 89.147% as of February 25th. Just a reminder, any member that signs up 3 new members (not including transfers) will have their 2015 dues paid automatically by the Post. In addition, any member that does not have a DD214 or other acceptable documentation of membership eligibility on file at the Post will not receive a 2015 Legion Membership card for next year. This is an IRS requirement to which all Posts must comply.

For God & Country,
Sheri



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1st Vice Commander - Mark Dorsey

Past Commander 2002-2003, 2003-2004

March 22nd will be our Early Bird Dinner. Chef Paul Zito promises a wonderful Flank Steak Dinner special. Pre-register with the bartender. More details on the evening will be posted on the website and facebook.

Please bare with us while we make some much needed improvements within the Post. We will try to keep any inconvenience to the absolute minimum. Thank you.

For God & Country,

Mark



4th Vice Commander - Charlie Walker

If you have come into the Post recently you will notice that most of the wall plaques, pictures and memorabilia are missing. They were removed temporarily so that the ceiling and walls can be cleaned professionally on Thursday February 27th . We will still be open as usual and for lunch.

For God & Country,

Charlie



Chaplain - Wilbur Burnett

Our dear Heavenly Father, let us not forget all those veterans who founded our great parent organization and make it possible for us to join together so that we might carry on all their traditions and programs.

For God & Country,

Wilbur



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**E-Board Member/ Planning Cmte./ Service Officer -
Maury Lazenby**

On Sunday, March 2nd, we will have the Boys State Candidates at the Post for breakfast. If you would like to meet them, come on in and show your support for this Legion program. I'm sure the candidates will enjoy meeting our veterans.

For God & Country,
Maury



Judge Advocate - Ric Smith
Email: JudgeAdvocate@AL233FL.org

Larry Sheets, Department Judge Advocate, has reminded all Florida posts with bylaw changes to submit updates. Currently there is a fifteen day turnaround on approvals. Bylaws without changes may be updated with a cover letter, copy of same attached, to comply with the three year rule. Also, post elections should be on target for nominations and voting scheduled for May, 2014.

The Defense Department has issued a scam alert for all Army soldiers, retirees, family members and Army civilians on a website called " My Army Benefits". This is nearly identical to the official Army website "MyArmyBenefits"(no spacing between words). The phony site is collecting Army Knowledge Online or AKO, email accounts and passwords. It also claims to grant access to unclaimed and accumulated benefits for active duty soldiers. DOD advises not to log in to this phony site and delete suspicious emails immediately.

For God and Country,
Ric



Auxiliary - President Judy Mills

In the month of March the Auxiliary will be holding a cookbook dinner night on Wed, March 5th. We will be promoting recipes from our Volume II of our cookbook. There is a sign up sheet at the Post for all to fill in what they are going to make. You can also call into the Post and ask the bartender to put you name and dish on the list.

The Auxiliary is also responsible for cooking on Wed, March 26th and we are still in need of a cook team for that night as well. Please contact Kathy Helmly or myself if you are interested in cooking or sponsoring this meal.

On Saturday, March 29th the Auxiliary will be hosting a dinner (menu TBA). Kenny Holliday and his mates including Michael Eatmon and Pete Duffy will be performing on stage. Proceeds from this evening are going to the AL Post 233 Building Fund. You don't want to miss this evening; fun is to be had by all.

We are doing well with our membership and currently we are at 89% for the 2014 term. If you have not yet paid your



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2014 dues please do so now. If you have a 2014 card and you receive a renewal notice from ALA National please disregard it. You can mail you dues to our PO BOX 51138, Jax Beach, FL, 32240 or drop it at the post.

Speaking of membership, everyone please try to bring at least one new member to our Unit for this year. The more members we have the more we can get accomplished for our programs. If you bring a new member to our Unit you will get a free Auxiliary Wed night dinner.

Thank you to all ALA members who put the many volunteer hours in. Our year end reports are due to Dept on April 15th so now is the time for you to start compiling your volunteer's hours, mileage and money spent doing things for our veterans. Don't wait until the last minute to do this.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
God Bless Our Troops
Judy Mills ALA President



SAL - Commander Jeff 'Tex' Ward

Sons,

Congratulations to us for another successful "WET BURRITO" night! Jason Bass produced the always delicious meals with help from his wife Alyson (who worked her tail off!), Mike Shaar, Howard Sheble, Gary Kalendek, Randy Cottle and Legionnaire Robert Scarlett (pearl diver extraordinaire!) Together we served 171 burritos – and then turned around and did another 40 the following Wednesday night! Fantastic job folks!

Thank you to all of you that have paid your 2014 membership dues. Our membership is now at 95%. We have a very good record of 100% membership renewal and we want to continue that streak. I encourage all members to pay their 2014 dues. You can send your check or give it to the bartender. (\$25.)

As I state in every newsletter, we are responsible for one Wednesday dinner a month. Please help us by volunteering at least once a year. That is not asking too much, is it? If you know when you can do it please let me know the date and I will make the arrangements. Even if you can't help out at least be there to buy a meal and support your Squadron and Post. Or, if you cannot afford the time to volunteer you can always contribute as a Gold Sponsor with a \$100. donation. This will help pay for the food and someone to cook it. The next S.A.L. dinner is Wednesday, Mar. 19th. Any ideas?

Our t-shirts and ball caps are for sale. The shirts are Navy Blue or Grey for \$25. The caps are fully embroidered Navy Blue for \$20. They both look very sharp and are selling like hotcakes! We only have 2X and 3X shirts left but we are ordering more M, L, and XL. Well worth the investment and it helps raise money for our charities. I encourage you all to purchase at least one of each and wear them as often as possible to the Post – especially for SAL events!

There are many fun and exciting events and fundraisers coming in the near future so keep your eyes on the newsletter, visit the website (www.al233fl.org) and Facebook page (*palm valley post 233 american legion*) or better yet, come in to your Post and have a drink and see what is happening!

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding our Squadron or Post 233 issues, or are not receiving my email updates please contact me on my phone (904-233-0976) or email (flagman49@yahoo.com) – or better yet, attend the meeting and share your thoughts with the rest of us!

The next SAL meeting is Thurs. Feb. 20th @ 6:30pm. (note new time!) **REMEMBER: *It is a privilege to be a member of the Sons of the American Legion organization!*** As descendants we are honoring our forefathers who have served in the Armed Forces and in many cases sacrificed their lives for their country. Now is the time to give back! If the same names keep showing up in this column it is because the same people are doing the volunteering.

Please be sure to keep all of our service men and women and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

God Bless Our Troops
Jeff "TEX" Ward
Commander – Squadron 233



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Canteen Manager – Rita Connolly

Our Canteen Manager, Diane Beason, has decided to retire. I have been asked to assume the position of Canteen Manager and I have accepted with enthusiasm. I know that I have a lot to learn and will do my best to do as good a job as Diane has done for so many years. We will miss you, Diane, and hope that you really enjoy your retirement.

This month Sunday, March 2nd, we will have a Pancake Breakfast from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. Please plan to join us for pancakes with syrup, bacon or sausage and scrambled eggs. We are in great need of volunteer cook teams to work on the first and second Sundays of every month. Please contact me at the Post if you would like more information.

Wed., March 5th the Auxiliary will have their “Cook Book Dinner”. Members of the Auxiliary will prepare dishes with recipes from the new cook book. Please plan to join us for this delicious and plentiful buffet.

On Saturday, March 22 the Legion will present the “Early Bird” dinner. If you paid your 2014 dues before last Veteran's Day (in November), you are entitled to a free dinner. This year's meal will be prepared by Chef Paul Zito, so you know it will be delicious. When visiting the Post before March 15th, you may sign up for the dinner. Ask the bartender on duty to add your name to the list. You may also call the Post to sign up.

Thank you all for your good wishes in my new position as Canteen Manager.

Rita



MARCH BIRTHDAY'S



2	Ron Joy
3	Michelle Sears
6	Ronnie Bass
7	Bill Rutkowski
8	Janet Kibler
	Ken Crocker
10	Elizabeth Ann Payne
11	Brenda Cowgill
	Diane Aprile
16	Sandy Jones
	Karia Singleton
	Duke Horner
	Bob Craig

17	C.P. Connelly
18	Betty Bacom
22	Barbara Green
25	Debbie Muehlheuser
	Connie Warren
27	John Berry
29	Huff Lehman
	Donna Floyd
	Sara Priester
31	Kim Mullins

Your birthday can be listed here by sending your name, month and day to webmaster@al233fl.org or call Roy @ 287-6909



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IMPORTANT NOTICE

As of March 2013, event flyers were no longer a part of the emailed newsletter. Event flyers can be viewed on the Post website from the Special Events Page. The reason for event flyer elimination was the file size of each flyer which ultimately made the emailing of the entire newsletter a violation of the terms and conditions of the free email service being used. The monthly event calendar is now produced using Google Calendar. This permits a real time version to be viewed as changes and additions are entered. Under the old system, once the calendar was printed and emailed, changes and additions could not be made. If you are not connected to the internet, you are missing out on important information.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.
Commander Roy Havekost

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

POST 233 "MEAL DEAL" SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Are you one of those people who would love to volunteer to help your Post but you don't trust your culinary skills or aren't able to manage the kitchen duties?

We've got a DEAL for you! There are others willing to do the work for you and better yet, you get all the credit. Become a Post 233 LEGIONNAIRE MEAL SPONSOR and all the planning, shopping, cooking, service and clean-up will be taken care of and you will be honored as that Wednesday evening's Meal Sponsor. Your dinner will be on the house and you can even request a favorite meal you would like to have prepared.

There is a Sponsorship Level for everyone and your Sponsorship is a tax deductible donation to American Legion Post 233. Your donation will be used to offset the food cost and compensate the evening's Chef for their time and effort on your behalf.

GOLD SPONSOR - 100.00 - SILVER SPONSOR - 50.00 - BRONZE SPONSOR - 25.00

POST 233 is a FREE WiFi spot.

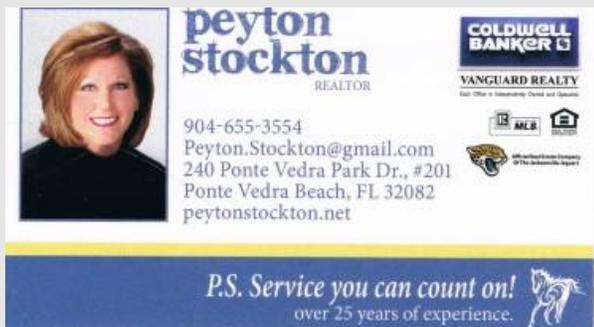
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\$25.00 per year to advertise your business card on both the monthly newsletter and Post website.

Make check payable to American Legion Post 233.

Your check and business card can be left in the Commanders mailbox.

Business cards that missed the payment deadline will be posted immediately to the website when your payment is received.

More business card advertising available here...



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FEBRUARY 2014 GRADUATING CLASS



Thank you for your service and welcome home!

MIAP will hold its second "Call to Honor" on Friday, March 28, 2014. This service will be at 1:30pm at the Jacksonville National Cemetery and members of our communities are welcome to attend.

We will inter 20 veterans whose cremated remains have sat on funeral homes shelves for decades.

Information on the interments for Friday,
March 28, 2014

Rank	ARM Y	A F	NAV Y	MC R	W WI	WW II	Kore a	V N	
	12	1	5	1	6	6	1	2	
CPT		X						X	infant son
S SGT	X					X			
LCDR			X					x	
SGT	X				X				spouse
S2C			X						
PVT	X								
LCPL				X					active duty
PFC	X					X			
PVT	X				X				
1LT	X					X			
STM2			X						
SP5	X								
PFC	X				X				
SA			X		X				spouse
SSG(ret)	X					X	X	X	
PVT	X					X			
MAJOR	X				X	X			spouse
BSMTH1			X		X				spouse
SFC	X								
TBA									

**THE GARBAGE DUMPSTER IN THE FRONT OF THE POST IS NOT
FOR MEMBER OR NON-MEMBER PERSONAL USE.**

The Post pays a monthly fee(s) based on the amount of pickups made by the trash company. Dumping debris in our dumpster is costing us more \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$. Please STOP! Whoever you are.

Thank you, *The House Committee*



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Pre-Order Your Florida Legion License Plate Now!!!

**WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE CREATION OF THE FIRST
AMERICAN LEGION LICENSE PLATE FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA!**

**EACH PLATE COSTS \$35.50 WITH A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS GOING
TO SUPPORT THE FLORIDA AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE PROGRAM,
GILCHRIST FUND AND OTHER VETERAN SUPPORT SERVICES.**

**BEFORE PRODUCTION CAN BEGIN, WE NEED YOUR HELP TO
PRE-SELL 1,000 VOUCHERS!**

**VISIT THE FLORIDA LEGION WEBSITE
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO PRE-ORDER.**

**YOU CAN ALSO PURCHASE YOUR VOUCHER THROUGH YOUR LOCAL TAX
COLLECTOR'S OFFICE OR A PRIVATE LICENSE PLATE AGENCY. ONCE YOU
PURCHASE YOUR VOUCHER, YOU WILL RECEIVE A SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATE
VOUCHER RECEIPT. AFTER 1,000 VOUCHERS HAVE BEEN SOLD, PRODUCTION
WILL BEGIN AND VOUCHER HOLDERS WILL BE NOTIFIED THAT THEY CAN
EXCHANGE THEIR VOUCHER FOR THEIR SPECIALTY PLATES.**



POST OFFICERS

2013-2014

LEGIONNAIRE

Commander: Roy Havekost
Adjutant: Sheri Martinez
Finance Officer: Tom Leppeard
1st Vice Cmdr.: Mark Dorsey
2nd Vice Cmdr.: Don Mills
3rd Vice Cmdr.: Stu Lilly
4th Vice Cmdr.: Charlie Walker
Chaplain: Wilbur Burnett
Sgt. at Arms: Robert Scarlett
Historian: vacant 2013-2014
Service Officer: Maury Lazenby

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dan Wortmann
Maury Lazenby
Charlie Waters
Mike Eatmon
James Durnal

LEGION RIDERS

Director: Jarrod Buchman
Asst. Director: Jared LoPiano
Secretary: Virna Waldron
Treasurer: Kathy Church
Road Captain: Bill Marshall
Sergeant at Arms: Kevin Terranella
Historian: Becky Blaylock
Chaplain: Jeff Ward
Asst. Chaplain: Linda Williams

AUXILIARY

President Judy Mills
1st Vice Pres.: Linda Williams
2nd Vice Pres.: Kathy Reichard Helmly
Treasurer: Allyson Bass
Secretary: Angie Kees
Chaplain: Ann Cook
Sgt. at Arms: Sylvia Bass
Historian: Debbie Eatmon
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Diane Dorsey
Dee Durnal
Joni Corlew

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander: Jeff 'Tex' Ward
1st Vice Cmdr.: Howard Sheble
2nd Vice Cmdr.: John Paparelli
Adjutant: Steve Willis
Sgt. at Arms: Mike Shaar
Chaplain: Will Hurley
Historian: John Gabbard

Palm Valley Post #233
The American Legion
560 N. Wilderness Trail
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

PLACE
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HERE



Mailing Address:

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