



# AL233FL Newsletter



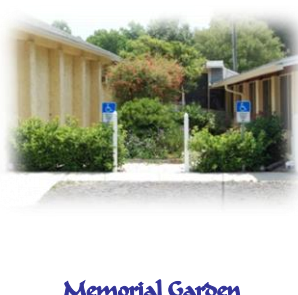
Volume 15, Issue 4

'SMOKE FREE POST'

April 2015



Our Post Home



Memorial Garden



Commander Louis 'Pappy' Martin Pavilion

560 N. Wilderness 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: 11:00am until ?? hrs.**

**SAT: 4pm until ?? hrs. Happy Hour 4-7pm**

On event Saturday's, call for opening time

**SUN: 9am until ?? hrs. Happy Hour 3-7pm**

**Website: [www.AL233FL.org](http://www.AL233FL.org)**

**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/AL233FL](http://www.facebook.com/groups/AL233FL)**

**Email: [info@al233fl.org](mailto:info@al233fl.org)**

**Post telephone: 904.285.2484**

**Monday-Friday: Lunch 12:00n-2:00pm**

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

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

**Sunday: Breakfast 9:00am-11:30am**



We are a Smoke Free Post, 24/7  
Smoking only allowed outside,  
since February 2014



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**NEVER FORGET ~ POW's & MIA's**



**2014**

**OFFICERS**

**2015**



Cdr. Roy Havekost



1st Vice Cdr. Dan Wortmann



2nd Vice Cdr. Don Mills



3rd Vice Cdr., Service Officer & Adjutant Sheri Martinez



4th Vice Cdr. Charlie Walker



Chaplain William 'Bill' Reno



Finance Tom Leppard



Sgt. at Arms Sonny Kirkwood



Service Officer & E-Board Maury Lazenby



E-Board Jim Durnal



E-Board Mike Eatmon



E-Board Ted Veber



E-Board Mike Williams



Judge Advocate Ric Smith



Asst. Adjutant Jim Crutchfield



Historian JR Mathis (pic coming soon)



Auxiliary President Judy Mills

- AUXILIARY:**  
 1st V. President Kathy Helmlly  
 2nd V. President Amy Blair  
 Treasurer Allyson Bass  
 Secretary Angie Kees  
 Chaplain Celeste Sheble  
 SAA Sylvia Bass  
 Historian Linda Mathis  
 E-Board Dee Durnal  
 E-Board Debbie Eatmon  
 E-Board Patty Williams



SAL Cdr. Jeff 'Tex' Ward

- SAL:**  
 1st Vice Cdr. Howard Sheble  
 2nd Vice Cdr. Mike Shaar  
 Adjutant-Finance J. Crutchfield  
 Chaplain Will Hurley  
 Historian John Gabbard



Riders Director Bill Marshall

- RIDERS:**  
 Asst. Dir. Kevin Terranella  
 Treasurer Kathy Church  
 Secretary Virna Waldron  
 Chaplain Linda Williams  
 Road Capt. Bill Marshall  
 SAA Kevin Terranella  
 Historian Virna Waldron  
 Historian Kathy Helmlly



Canteen Mgr. Rita Connolly

- BARTENDERS:**  
 Anita  
 Allyson  
 Beth  
 Debbie  
 Amy

**Commanders corner:**



April is here. A reminder to all legionnaires that nominations will be held again at the April 2<sup>nd</sup> general meeting. Those members interested in running for office (2015-2016) must be at the meeting to accept their nomination. Nominations will be taken one last time at the May 7<sup>th</sup> general meeting, after which elections will be held. The current list of nominees is:

Commander	Sheri Rodriguez
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Cdr	Jim Durnal
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Cdr	Susan Severson
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice Cdr	Al Hernandez
4 <sup>th</sup> Vice Cdr	
Chaplain	Bill Reno
Sgt. At Arms	Sonny Kirkwood
Historian	JR Mathis
Finance Officer	
E-Board	Mike Williams
E-Board	Jim Crutchfield
E-Board	
E-Board	
E-Board	

The following positions are appointed after the election by the commander elect: Adjutant, Service Officer, Judge Advocate, House Committee Chairman and Executive Committee Chairman.

I look forward to our newer members getting involved in Post operations and wish all of our nominees good luck in the upcoming election.

Once again, the 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Department Convention will be held in June in Orlando. Many courses are being offered not only for seasoned officers but also newly elected Post officers. The tentative convention agenda can be found on both the [district](#) and [department](#) websites.

For God and Country,  
**Roy Havekost, Commander**



Uniform accessories, apparel, pins, tacks, decals, patches and much more, for all Legion, Auxiliary, Sons and Riders needs.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander**



If you would like to know more about upcoming events, please email [AmericanLegionPost233@yahoo.com](mailto:AmericanLegionPost233@yahoo.com) and we will add you to our email lists.

In March, we hosted The Great Chowder Cook Off. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event so successful. 1<sup>st</sup> Place went to Don Mills, 2<sup>nd</sup> to Diane Dorsey, and 3<sup>rd</sup> to Ed Butler. Don Mills also won People’s Choice. If you have any suggestions about what food to “cook off” next time, please let me know.

The Legionnaire’s also had an extremely successful Wednesday Night Pot Roast dinner on March 25<sup>th</sup>. We sold 49 meals and all proceeds were profit because the meal was donated.

We will be cooking again on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, May 6<sup>th</sup>, and May 27<sup>th</sup>. The following Legionnaire’s have stepped up to either cook or sponsor the meals:

- April 22<sup>nd</sup> ..... Ed Butler
- May 6<sup>th</sup> ..... Susan Severson
- May 27<sup>th</sup> ..... Jim Crutchfield

We will publish the menus as soon as we have them. Legionnaires, please consider volunteering to cook, serve, or clean up on a Legionnaire Dinner night. If you can’t, but would like to help, please consider sponsoring a meal. For \$100, we will find a cook team for you.

Again, it is **volunteers** that make these events so successful. Please consider taking your turn to help man an event because when the same people volunteer over and over, they do not get to enjoy the event as much as everyone else. Here is a list of events that are coming up over the year:

- May 16<sup>th</sup> .....Spring Fling featuring Kenny Holliday & MIKE Jagger
- June (date TBD) .....Summer Kickoff Cookout – Free to current members
- July 4<sup>th</sup> .....Fourth of July/Membership Drive
- September (date TBD) .....End of Summer Cook Off
- October 10<sup>th</sup> ..... WWII Luncheon
- November 21<sup>st</sup> .....Early Bird Dinner – Prime Rib
- December 12<sup>th</sup> ..... Cowboy Night

One event per year is all we ask! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me at (904) 790-2551. You can collect money, help setup, help with dishes, serve food, help clean up afterwards, or fundraise to help make our events more cost effective. We need **you** to help us make Post 233 the best Post possible.

For God and Country,  
**Sheri Rodriguez, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Cdr.**

**Adjutant**



Thank you to all the Legionnaires that helped us reach over 100%. We are currently at 104.27% but it is not too late! If you have not already renewed, please mail it in, drop it off at the Post, or renew online at [www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew).

For God and Country,  
**Sheri Rodriguez, Adjutant**



**Entertainment**

Here are the groups that are currently booked. If you know of anyone who would like to play at the Post, please contact me. Thank you!

- April 3<sup>rd</sup> ..... Frankie Martin, Jr.
- April 10<sup>th</sup> ..... Patrick Rose
- April 17<sup>th</sup> ..... Bozman
- April 27<sup>th</sup> ..... Neil Dixon
- May 1<sup>st</sup> ..... “Cinco de Uno” featuring Be a Star Karaoke
- May 8<sup>th</sup> ..... Don Miniard

For more details information go to our e-calendar online at: <http://www.al233fl.org/ecalendar.htm> .

**Sheri Rodriguez, Entertainment Chairperson**



**WELCOME ABOARD:**

*Frank Schiatano, Navy; Robert Ottesen, Army; Joshua Schumm, Marines; John Schumm, Navy; Daniel Woods, Navy; Christopher Thompson, Navy; Leonard Parkinson, Army; Tammy McGee, Navy; Susan Severson, Air Force; Edward Severson, Air Force; Joseph Melville, Army; Walter Smith, Navy; and John Barnett, Navy.*

*Just as a point of information, Post 233 has signed on 98 new members since March 2014. Maybe a non-smoking Post is really an answer to increased membership? Thank you to all our members who have recruited new members.*

**CANTEEN:**



Any member or group who wish to volunteer to cook Sunday breakfast, or Legion Wednesday dinners, or Friday nights, please do not hesitate to contact the Post. We will gladly show you the ropes in the kitchen and appreciate any and all help. If you sign up to help in the kitchen, your meal is either half price, or you may receive some drink chips.

Remember to visit the Post on Friday’s to play our newest fundraising game SPIN TO WIN \$\$\$\$\$. The jackpot continues to grow each week that there is no winner. Play from 7:00pm to 9:00pm drawing time. Winning ticket holder must be present to SPIN TO WIN!



**Rita Connolly, Canteen Manager**



According to the Department of Veterans Affairs 22 veterans commit suicide each day. Stop22 is a National awareness campaign to show our military members, both active and retired that they are not forgotten. K9s for Warriors, Ponte Vedra, FL, is doing their part to help post 9/11 veterans with PTSD and TBI and helping spread #STOP22 awareness. As American Legion Post 233 Commander here in Ponte Vedra, I challenge all American Legion Posts across the nation to show support for #STOP22 and #K9sSTOP22. Post 233 intends to recruit at least 22 new veterans, can you OUTDO our 22?



## Auxiliary:



Hi everyone I hope to find everyone in good health and enjoying this beautiful weather we are having right now, but I know it will change.

The Auxiliary has a basket in the Legion to be raffled off Friday April 3rd if any of you are in the Legion please grab the bucket from the bartender and SELL, SELL, SELL tickets please, and good luck to everyone who has already purchased tickets.

April 8th the Auxiliary will be cooking a Wednesday night dinner the menu will be posted later we hope you all will come out and enjoy a wonderful meal prepared by the Auxiliary.

This past Thursday the Auxiliary delivered a buddy basket filled with all kinds of things, clothes, and baskets that resembled an Easter basket to an ex lady Marine and her four children who are in need of just about everything, Post's 283 and 401 were there with donations also. Posts 316 and 37 sent gift cards. Annie Anderson our 5th District President was on hand to help with this great gesture. Friday I returned to the home and picked up the mother and brought her back to the valley to the Presbyterian Church where she had full run of their food bank and huge garage sale it was awesome we had a blast finding things they needed, the Church provided them with a \$100.00 voucher and I want to thank them and Ms. Cherie Lee who set this up and Ms. Marleen who made it all possibly a big THANK YOU they were all very happy and pleased.

The Auxiliary regular meeting will be held on April 9th at 7:00pm please try to attend for we will be holding nominations for officers.

The 5th District meeting will be held on April 12th at Post 54 in Fernandina Beach if you would like to attend let me know and we can car pool.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY  
GOD BLESS AMERICA  
*Judy Mills, President*

## Trivia:



What was Fairbanks claim to fame as an officer in the Navy during World War II?

Answer: will appear in next months newsletter.

## JACKSONVILLE NATIONAL CEMETERY SUPPORT COMMITTEE

March 30, 2015

As newly elected Secretary for the JNCSC, I would like to give you this update. Since JNC opened in January 2009 we have interred over 8,700 veterans, spouses and dependents.

The JNC has a total of 526 acres and will be able to service veterans for over 100 years. If you have not been out to the JNC I strongly encourage you to do so. The staff under the direction of Acting Director, Don Murphy, go out of their way to accommodate the families for burials of their loved ones and members of various organizations that hold events there.

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, MIAP –FL held its 5<sup>th</sup> Call to Honor, interring 8 veterans and 2 spouses whose unclaimed cremated remains sat on a funeral home shelf dating back to 1971. Most of these were WWII veterans.

The Vietnam Veterans Association Chapter 1046 held it Vietnam War Veterans Memorial Dedication on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. This was a well attended and very emotional service as this is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ending of the VN War.

The AMVETS of FL has also had the Carillon Bell Tower fixed after it was struck by lightning back in the fall. These bells chime on the half hour and the hour up to 9:30pm daily. It has the capability of playing over 2,000 songs suitable for a cemetery. The AMVETS program has placed Carillon Bells in 93 cemeteries across the nation since 1948.

The Tallahassee National Cemetery will have it opening dedication on May 22, 2015. I and other MIAP volunteers will be attending this event. If you would like to join us please contact me.

The date for the Scottsmeer, FL (Cape Canaveral) opening will be sometime in the fall.

The City of Jacksonville will hold the annual Memorial Day Service at the JNC on Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00am. This event is open to the public, please mark your calendar and plan to attend. The address for the JNC is 4083 Lannie Road, Jacksonville, FL. It is off of Lem Turner off of 295.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Church, Secretary JNCSC

(904) 219-3035





MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT – FL  
MARCH 30, 2015

I would like to thank American Legion Post 233 for again donating the name plates for the urns for the 10 people (8 veterans & 2 spouses) that we interred on Friday, March 27, 2015. The longest that any of these sat on a funeral home shelf dated back to 1971.

This service was our 4th Call to Honor that MIAP-FL has had working with Hardage-Giddens Funeral Home (our 5<sup>th</sup> total). Thank you to AL Post 233 Legionnaire James Durnal for being a Pall Bearer for this service for his second time. AL 5<sup>th</sup> District Commander, Tom Gora, was our Key Speaker and the 5<sup>th</sup> District was well represented by many members of the Legion, AUX, SAL & ALR. THANKS to ALL who attended this service. Our next and final service with Hardage-Giddens Funeral Home will be in June. I will keep everyone posted when we have the date set.

If you personally know any funeral home directors please pass their name on to me so that I may contact them to see if they have any unclaimed cremated remains at their location. It helps if we are referred by someone. We are still in need of volunteers. There are many ways you can help MIAP and you can put in as much time or as little time as you desire.

NATIONWIDE PROGRESS TO DATE AS OF 3/27/2015:

**Total Funeral Homes Visited - 1,748**

**Cremains Found - 10,899**

**Veterans Cremains Identified - 2,521**

**Veterans Interred - 2,299**

Please go to our website at [www.miap.us](http://www.miap.us) to read more about what we are doing nationwide. Our goal here in FL is to contact every funeral home, crematorium, medical examiners offices and hospitals to locate every unclaimed cremated remains.

You may also contact me at anytime if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Church  
MIAP-FL State Coordinator  
[miapjax@yahoo.com](mailto:miapjax@yahoo.com)  
(904)219 3035

**Call to Honor 5**





## APRIL BIRTHDAY'S

1	Claire Tillis	17	Julie Scofield
3	Judy Mills	18	Marcia White
	Kathy Helmly	21	Beverly Geltmache
4	Mary Ann Vaccaro	22	Susan Caruso
8	Bill Breden	23	Luke Thornton
9	Jim Campbell		D. Wes Stout 4-23-1914
11	Steve Willis	24	Ric Smith
	Patricia Owings	30	Jim Watford
13	Allyson Keen Bass		
	Jo Ann Jones		
16	Sue Hord		

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

### 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**



### Planning an outdoor Party ?



**Consider renting our pavilion area for your next birthday, anniversary, family gathering, business meeting or picnic. For details contact our Canteen Manager or any of our bartenders for more details.**

**Go to AL233FL.org for pix. Call 285-2484.**

**Smoking is permitted outside and at the pavilion bar.**

**POST 233 is a FREE WiFi spot**

**ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS CARD ON THE POST TV FOR ONLY \$75.00/YEAR**

**Ask the bartender for details**

**The Post 233 calendar of events is online at:**


<http://www.al233fl.org/ecalendar.htm>

If you have a smart phone, you can connect to the e-calendar with your gmail account and have all the Post 233 event dates at your fingertips.

**SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES THAT HELP SUPPORT YOUR POST**

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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...



# AMERICAN LEGION 5<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT



## FUND RAISER



### JACKSONVILLE NATIONAL CEMETERY MEMORIAL MARKER



The local American Legion Posts in Northeast Florida are raising funds to erect a memorial at the Jacksonville National Cemetery

(This is an example not the final design)

The estimated cost of a memorial is \$16-18k

PLEASE HELP THIS EFFORT TO RAISE FUNDS FOR  
THE MONUMENT



### SMITH & WESSON MP 10 .308 CALIBER RIFLE ON RAFFLE

**\$10 PER RAFFLE TICKET**

DRAWING WILL BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH A 5TH DISTRICT AMERICAN  
LEGION POST ROUND ROBIN EVENT ON MAY 23, 2015

(Winner will pick rifle up at a registered dealer so clearance and legal registration is accomplished)

GET TICKETS NOW, LIMITED QUANTITIES WILL BE SOLD

Contact: Gary Lester 904-590-5395 or [lectergr@gmail.com](mailto:lectergr@gmail.com)

SEE 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Sheri Rodriguez for tickets/information



## **MARCH GRADUATING CLASS**



*Thank you for your service:*

*Linda & JJ*

*Carly & Raven*

*Carrie & Jersey*

*Denise & Ginger*

*And welcome to your new life...*



**COMING ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6<sup>th</sup> 2015**  
**and every Friday night thereafter**

**Post 233s**

**'SPIN TO WIN' \$\$\$\$ FUNDRAISER**

- **Tickets (\$1 each) will be sold from 8pm to 10pm with a weekly drawing at 10pm**
- **Winning ticket holder will spin the wheel to win a cash prize**
- **Prize amount (\$500) will increase each week if there is no winner**
- **Complete fundraiser rules posted at the bar**
- **Prize amounts will be listed weekly on Facebook or you can call the Post at 904-285-2484**
- **Post 233, 560 N.Wilderness Trail Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082.**

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Palm Valley Post 233  
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL  
All rights reserved



**Post 233 Election of Officers, 2015-2016 term**

**MAY 7, 2015**

**Nominations were held at the March general membership meeting and will again be open at the April 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup> meetings. Nominees must be present to accept or decline a nomination. Voting will take place at the May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting in concurrence with the meeting agenda and pursuant to Post By-laws, Article V Section 1.**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Roy Havekost".

**Roy Havekost,**

**Commander Post 233**

## Addition to April 2015 Newsletter Palm Valley Post 233

ALR CHAPTER 233  
MARCH 30, 2015

The ALR Chapter 233 members were busy in the month of March. The Riders continue to support all events at Post 233. Several members assisted the cook teams on Friday nights, TACO Tuesdays and Sunday breakfast. ALR members also go outside the post to support events that other ALR Chapters hold. Below is a list of things that the ALR did in March.

Attended the ALR 5<sup>th</sup> District Meeting at AL Post 137  
Attended the AL 5<sup>th</sup> District Meeting at AL Post 194  
Cooked breakfast at AL Post 233 with a special of Corned Beef Hash  
Attended ALR Chapter 88 for breakfast and did an MIAP presentation  
Joined ALR Chapter 88 for Bike Night  
Attended the MIAP Call to Honor #5 at the Jacksonville National Cemetery  
Attended the Vietnam Veterans Association Memorial Marker Dedication  
Attended the North East Florida Veterans Council Meeting

On Saturday, May 2, 2015 the ALR will be hosting a "Derby Day". Details will be forth coming. We will have a raffle basket at the Post very soon.

On Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup> AL Post 233 will host the ALR 5<sup>th</sup> District Round Robin Poker Run. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend these events to support ALR 233.

Please keep ARL Director Bill Marshall and BJ Atkins in your prayers as they are both dealing with broken collar bones and other medical issues.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Church  
ALR 233 Treasurer

*Thank you to those who have contributed to this newsletter.*

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

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