



AL233FL Newsletter



Volume 21

'SMOKE FREE POST'

December 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: 4:00 pm until ?? hrs.

SAT: 11:00 am until ?? hrs. Happy Hour 4-7pm

On event Saturday's, call for opening time

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

Monday-Friday:

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

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

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

Website: www.AL233FL.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/AL233FL

Email: info@al233fl.org

Post telephone: 904.285.2484



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



2015

OFFICERS

2016



**Commander
Sonny Kirkwood**



**1st Vice Commander
Jim Durnal**

**NO PICTURE
AVAILABLE
AT THIS TIME**

**2nd Vice Commander
Susan Severson**



**3rd Vice Commander
Bob Bleak**

**NO PICTURE
AVAILABLE
AT THIS TIME**

**John Schumm
4th Vice Commander**



**Chaplain
William 'Bill' Reno**



**Finance Officer
Tom Leppard**

VACANT

Historian



**E-Board
Maury Lazenby**

**NO PICTURE
AVAILABLE
AT THIS TIME**

**E-Board
Ed Butler**



**SAA
JR Mathis**



**E-Board
Ted Veber**



**E-Board
Mike Williams**



**Judge Advocate
Roy Havekost**



**E-Board
Jim Crutchfield**



**Auxiliary President
Kathy Helmly**

AUXILIARY:
1st Vice President Amy Blair
2nd Vice President: Vacant
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 Commander
Howard Sheble**



**Rider's Director
Kevin Terranella**

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

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

Bartenders:
Debbie, Allyson, Amy, Coop, Patty, Carline, and Anita



Commander's Corner:

Hello Post 233 Family:

Membership! Membership! Membership! American Legion (National) will be raising dues January 1st by \$8.00 – please renew early and save \$8.00 for every year you pre-pay. Post 233 dues will go to \$45 annually effective January 1st – please renew now! Please note the Bartenders have been tasked to see your membership cards for 2016!

Our Post is in a financial struggle due to many issues and I plan on holding a “town hall” meeting in January to present our status and plan to move forward – more details to follow!

Drink chips will go away effective January 31, 2016 – so if you have drink chips I encourage you to use them.

I close with a big **THANK YOU** to all the folks that have been volunteering and stepping up-to-the-plate – let’s keep that force growing!!! I wish you a very safe Holiday Season and Prosperous New Year!

For God and Country,

Sonny Kirkwood, Commander 2015-2016



2nd Vice Commander's Corner:

For God and Country,
Susan Severson, 2nd Vice Commander.



3rd Vice Commander's Corner:

For God and Country
Bob Bleak, 3rd Vice Commander



4th Vice Commander's Corner:

For God and Country
John Schumm, 4th Vice Commander



Judge Advocate:

On November 13-15, I attended the Annual Fall Conference for the Department of Florida, in Orlando. While there, I attended much of the General Session Meeting, the Judge Advocate training class instructed by Department Judge Advocate Larry Sheets, and I was the instructor for the Social Media training class on “Promoting your Facebook presence.”

During the Judge Advocate training, the Constitution and By-Laws of National and the Department of Florida were reviewed with particular attention given to Post trials. At the local level, Post by-laws should be reviewed every three years and resubmitted to Department for approval.

The primary purpose of a Post Judge Advocate is to advise the Commander, Post Officers and Executive Board on legal matters, including National and Department Constitution and By-Laws interpretation. Experience in this area is attained not only from this legal training but also past American Legion experience, training and offices held, that help prepare one for this position. In my case, my training includes graduate of The American Legion Extension Institute, graduate of The American Legion LEAD School (Leadership Education And Development), Post Commanders training, Post Operations training, Judge Advocate Training, Adjutant Training among other in-service classes, offices held: Executive Board, several Vice Commanders positions and Post Commander for three terms. In addition, I presently hold chairmanships at both the district and department level, which is an aid in keeping abreast of current Legion positions and issues.

Important dates to remember for Post elections in 2016, no elections can be held before March 19th and all elections must be completed no later than June 6th, 2016.



Director of the Rider's Corner:

For God and Country,
Kevin Terranella, Director



Auxiliary President's Corner:

Hello to the entire Legion family!

I trust everyone had a very blessed Thanksgiving. We have so much to be thankful for. Let’s be ever mindful of those service men and women who were unable to be home as they are abroad ensuring our freedom; as well as those loved one’s lost this year. This months “Presidents Awards” go to ladies that most exemplified service and volunteerism. This award was bestowed to Patty for her amazing contributions she has made over many years as an Auxiliary member, assisting the Auxiliary and many Legion events, she was one of the original committee members of the football Sunday team, and with her input and contributions she has truly shown the family concept. Next, Carolee works diligently in the field exemplifying Patriotism of service not self. She offers companionship to at least 8 families by shopping for them bringing them bread and simply spending time with them. Next, Linda Williams when the need arose Linda jumped in making flyers, the monthly calendar and all around assisting the Legion Family. Often at the last minute she has been called upon to create a flyer on the spot and somehow always manages to put one together for the entire Legion family. Additionally she

For God and Country,

Roy Havekost, Social Media Chairman
Department of Florida & 5th District Florida
socialmedia@legionmail.org

Adjutant's Corner:

No report this month.



DONN'T WORRY- BE HAPPY!



Football @ Post 233:

I just want to thank everyone for your continued support and outpour of donations – see you at your Post this Sunday.

Ted Veber

Football @ Post 233 Coordinator
E-Board Member

assists maintaining the Legion web site. Thank you for your great communication and awareness within the family. Finally, Debbie Eatmon, when I think of this lady the first thing that comes to mind is her contagious smile and her love for our post and our veterans. As a teacher at Ocean Palms has implemented several programs to teach our youth the importance of assisting veterans, Americanism, and “Star Spangled Kids” educating children about the U.S. Constitution from the aspect of patriotism and Americanism. She is the liaison between Ocean Palms, Unit 233 and Post 233. Ocean Palms Elementary is having its 2nd annual "Coops to Troops" Last year they collected over \$188,000 in coupons and will exceed that number this year. Thank you Debbie for being active with the Family Unit and educating our youth.

Thank you to everyone that made donations for our Thanksgiving baskets that were given to Ocean Palms needy families. Three very large baskets were made and the Eatmon's donated the turkeys. Just as an example one recipient went to a family with 3 children where both parents recently lost their job due to your generous donations we ensured this family had a very nice Thanksgiving dinner as well as many meals after. Let's make our Christmas baskets just as awesome, we are collecting dry/canned goods now!! Carl has volunteered to donate the Christmas turkeys. Thank you Carl!!

✚ Just a few dates to remember: (It is important that you review the December calendar closely for more information, we have a lot of exciting event coming up!!)

- December 3rd – we will decorate the post for Christmas, time TBA
- December 5th is our Bake sale!! Bring in your goodies by 3, this is always a great fundraiser so we can support our many charities.
- December 11th is the cut off for signing up children for the Kids Christmas party, the ALA will pay up to \$15.00 per child, and you can also sponsor a child. Sign-up sheets are at the Post. Children must be present to receive a gift from Santa and Elfie!!
- December 19th is the Kids Christmas party.
- December 23rd is our Wednesday night dinner
- December 29th is our Sunday Breakfast.

If you haven't renewed your membership, now is the time to do it. All members must have and show their 2016 card before January 2nd to ensure no lapse in their ability to enjoy the post. Our monthly meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7:00pm, our next meeting will be held on December 10th. I hope to see a lot of new faces!

Please come support the many events at the post to support the entire Legion family!

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
GOD BLESS AMERICA

Kathy Helmly, President 2015-2016



SAL Commander's Corner:

SAL Commander's Corner

No input this month.

For God and Country,

Howard Sheble
SAL Commander
shebles@msn.com



DECEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

Please visit the website for birthdays and much more!!!

Your birthday can be listed here by sending your name, month and day to 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.

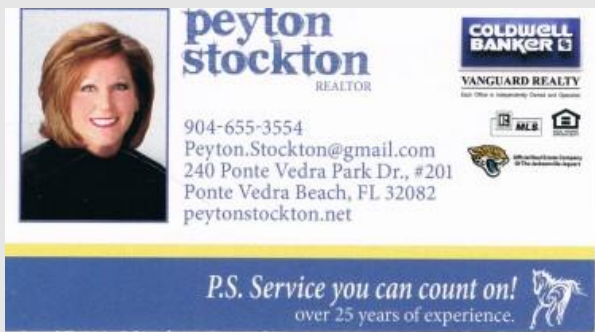
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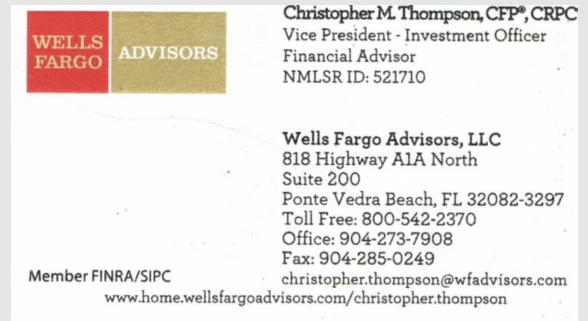
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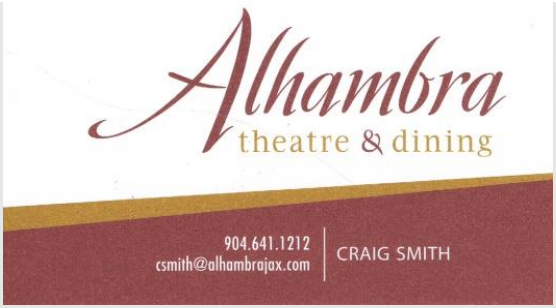
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\$25.00 per year to advertise your business card on both the monthly newsletter and Post website.

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.



Display your card here!

