



Palm Valley Post 233
 P.O. Box 2494
 Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32004
 904-285-2484

THE VALLEY LEGION NEWS



Dan Wortmann, Legion Commander
 Roger Akey, SAL Commander
 Linda Williams, ALA President
 Kevin Terranella, ALR Director

Volume 16, Issue 7 'Smoke Free Post' December 2016
 Editor in Chief: Dan Wortmann Publisher: Roy Havekost



Our Post Home



Post website: www.AL233FL.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/AL233FL

District website: www.AL5thDistrictFL.org

Email: info@al233fl.org Post telephone: 904.285.2484

BINGO every Thursday night: **7:00pm**

Canteen hours:

MON-FRI: 4:00pm until ?? hrs.

SAT: 11:00am until ?? hrs.

SUN: 9:00am until ?? hrs.

(St.Johns County - closing hour is 2:00am daily)



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



Palm Valley Post 233

560 N. Wilderness Trail

Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Legionnaire meetings, first Monday each month, 7:00pm

Auxiliary meetings, second Monday each month, 7:00pm

Son's meetings, third Monday each month, 7:00pm

Rider's meetings, third Sunday each month, 12:00nn

In this issue:

Page 1	Index
Page 2	Holiday Greeting
Page 3	Commander, 1st Vice Cdr. and Adjutant reports
Page 4	2nd Vice Cdr and ALA reports
Page 5	SAL and House Committee reports
Page 6	HC cont'd, PC Club, BINGO and ALR reports
Page 7	ALR report cont'd.
Page 8-9	Paid Advertizing Business Cards and Cowboy Night Flyer
Page 10	ALA late entry



NEVER FORGET ~ POW's & MIA's

Merry Christmas 2016

Happy New Year



*The Officers and Committee Chairmen of Post 233 wish all of our
Region Family members and their families a happy, healthy, blessed
and above all, a safe Holiday Season.*

2016



2017



Commander Dan Wortmann ~

Here we are in late November and the month is almost gone. We have been very busy with the start at Ocean Palms School putting on a very nice Veterans Service with all of the wonderful kids. Congratulations to the 2 girls and the winner of the state Legion contest, quite the award!

Then on Veterans Day Service at the Ponte Vedra Valley Cemetery. Thanks so much, SAL Commander Roger Akey and Auxiliary President Linda Williams for placing the wreaths, we are one big family!

Thank you for all of the food donations and all of the help for our annual Thanksgiving dinner. As far as the food went we had plenty of leftovers with only a light showing local members and guests. The good part is that all of our friends and guests had family and friends to go to and celebrate.

We lost a few good members this past month so let's keep their families in our thoughts and prayers.

And, last but not least, at the K-9's graduation last week I invited them to come back on an annual basis to have the graduation ceremony at our post, and got a good response.

So, let's keep up the good work at our Post!!!

For God and Country,
Dan



Adjutant Ted Veber ~

Legionnaire Membership presently is at 60% of the Florida Department Goal. Now is the time to renew. If you haven't renewed as of yet, please do so as soon as you can. We started the year with a total of 465 members. As of now we have a total of 280 2017 membership cards processed. This number includes renewals, new members and transfers. This means 185 members have not paid their dues for 2017. The success of Post 233 relies heavily on the income derived from member dues. Now is the time to act, we need your help!

For God and Country,
Ted



1st Vice Commander Jim Durnal ~

Just a friendly reminder, your current dues card will expire on December 31st. Bartenders will be required to check for 2017 dues cards starting on January 1st. You will not be served without a 2017 membership card. Renew before the end of the month to avoid any embarrassment.

Details will be forthcoming for the Early Bird Dinner.

For God and Country,
Jim

 **2nd Vice Commander Susan Severson ~**

December is going to be a very busy month with private parties and our regular events. I am asking everyone who can volunteer to please contact me (Susan, 904-382-6802). If you can volunteer for 30 minutes, an hour, or any other amount of time, I am encouraging you to "pay it forward" to your Legion brothers and sisters and help me make sure that all planned events are a success here at Post 233.

As we enter 2017, I have a couple of volunteers who have let me know that they will be available less time due to other commitments. If I cannot get Legion folks on board, I will have to cancel some upcoming events, and that would be a real shame. Let's celebrate being a Legion family with our hands, not just our lips!

For God and Country,
Susan

 **ALA President Linda Williams ~**

First of all, THANK YOU EVERYONE for all the food donations. We had plenty of food for 6 boxes and some left over for the Christmas baskets.

OUR NEXT ALA COOKBOOK Dinner will be December 7, 2016.

The Children's Christmas List will be at Post 233 to sign up your kids up. They must be 10 or under. You will have from December 1st till December 10th to get them on the sign up list. Kids, grandchildren, friends kids, and neighborhood children, all children 10 or under are welcome. A Gift and goody bag will be handed out by Santa and Elfie. The Palm Valley Fire department will be at Post 233 bringing Santa for the children.



Thank you to Social Media Chairman Roy Havekost and Commander Dan Wortmann for their certificate presentation recognizing Auxiliary Unit 233 for the continued awareness in getting the word out to our community about the programs and goals at Post 233 through Facebook.

Wishing everyone a safe and blessed Holiday Season.

For God and Country,
Linda



SAL Commander Roger Akey ~

This was another busy and successful month for the SAL. As you may know, the SAL is responsible for two Friday night dinners, the third Wednesday dinner, breakfast for the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of each month and we operate our Thursday night Bingo Games as well as providing support for the Sunday NFL (Jaguars) game day. Also, we are now sponsoring Saturday evening karaoke which will help Canteen profits.

It is that time of year to pay your dues. We know the renewal cards were just sent out but our renewals are lagging so we need you to step up and get your 2017 dues paid as soon as possible. Last month, we voted to modify our dues structure. SAL dues have increased to \$35 beginning November 12, 2016 for the rest of the year. So, in future years you have an incentive to pay early to save money and qualify for the Early Bird benefit. See Howard, our Adjutant, with your payment.

Communication is important so when you pay your dues, please give us a current email address. In the event of a necessity to provide information, schedules or in case of emergencies, we will have the ability to contact you.

We certainly appreciate all of you who volunteer to help at our events. Last year we had 123 members so we should not have to beg anyone for help. If you could volunteer just one time a year, we would have all the help we could use. Failure to participate is your loss. We have a quality SAL Squadron and you can be a part of it by attending our meetings on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7PM and volunteering when you can.

Have a safe and joyous Holiday Season!

For God and Country,
Roger



From the House Committee ~

Here is what we have planned for the month of December:

Friday, Dec. 2: SAL dinner, w/Johnny Bravo

Sunday, Dec. 4: SAL breakfast

Monday, Dec. 5: Private Party 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 6: Taco Tuesday, Private Party, Texas Hold 'em Poker, and Legion Meetings

Wednesday, Dec. 7: Auxiliary Cook Book Dinner, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 8: Bingo, Private Party

Friday, Dec. 9: LEG dinner, Live Music by Collage

Sunday, Dec. 11: LEG buffet 9 a.m.; Dept. of FL Commander and ALA President will be in attendance

Tuesday, Dec. 13: Taco Tuesday, Texas Hold 'em Poker

Thursday, Dec. 15: Bingo

Friday, Dec. 16: SAL Steak Dinner, Live music by Highway Jones. Post 233 Christmas Party with cookie/pastry (not cake!) bake-off: prize for best cookie or pastry recipe and prize for best presentation.

Saturday, Dec. 17: Auxiliary Children's Christmas Party, 1 - 4 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 18: ALR breakfast, Private party for Kenny Holliday (all members welcome), 6 - 10 pm.

Tuesday, Dec. 19: Taco Tuesday, Texas Hold 'em Poker

Thursday, Dec. 22: Bingo

Friday, Dec. 23: LEG dinner

Sunday, Dec. 25: NO breakfast, Auxiliary Christmas Luncheon 12 - 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 27: Taco Tuesday, Texas Hold 'em Poker

Thursday, Dec. 29: Bingo

Friday, Dec. 30: SAL dinner

Chrisi plays Karaoke most Saturday nights at Post 233. Please check the calendar on our website and with the bartender on duty for event updates.

For God and Country,
Susan



Past Commanders Club Roy Havekost ~

The Past Commanders Club Pig Roast held on November 5th was a success. Net proceeds will be used to send one youth to Boy's State in 2017. Thank you to all PC's and members who helped to make this event successful, especially to Chef's Don and Ben Mills for the all night cooking marathon.

For God and Country,
Roy



From the BINGO Staff ~

Once again, November was a very good month for our Bingo Program! Although, we chose not to hold games on Thanksgiving Day, we had a profitable month.

Participation has been varying week to week but we continue to make everyone happy with our payouts. This month, we paid out \$500.00 the first week, \$375.00 the second week and we had over 30 players on the 17th. Everyone was pleased and eager to win yet we managed to save some of the income for our charitable contributions.

The Canteen benefited from several active Thursday evenings.

I want to thank a couple of people who stepped up during my absence on the 17th. Jim Whaley called the program and Dee Durnal made her famous goulash which helped Howard with food preparation. It had to be good because Howard indicated we sold out. Thanks again Jim and Dee.

Most evenings begin with most people enjoying our light meal for a donation of \$3.00 and drinks from the Canteen. Once the games start, most seem very quiet as they want to concentrate but soon the room comes alive and a party atmosphere takes over the room. By the time we play games 6 & 7, it is very loud and people actually cheer for one another. Lots of laughs are heard.

Let's build our Bingo Program so please participate, invite your friends and/or neighbors. We are open to the public for Bingo so no need for you to be present if you encourage others to participate.

Our team consisting of Howard Sheble, Patty Williams, Jim Whaley and our bartender, Debbie, keeps the evening moving. Everyone has a good time and the Canteen benefits.

Come on out and join the fun. See you soon.

Have a safe and joyous Holiday Season.

For God and Country,
Roger



ALR Director Kevin Terranella ~

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Wreaths Across America at the Jacksonville National Cemetery (JNC) will be held on December 17th at 1145. Attention Riders: Hundreds of area Riders and other patriotic bikers with the outstanding support of Law Enforcement will escort the wreaths to the JNC. Staging area and time to be announced when available on .

Pre-Registration for the 1st ALR Summit in Cocoa Beach, January 20-22, 2017 is open. Pre-Register on-line at floridalegion.org under Legion Riders or <http://tinyurl.com/ho4ey3s>. All Pre-Registrations will be entered for a drawing for a Leather Harley Jacket from Space Coast Harley.

Change of date! Our annual February charity event this year to support Fisher House will be held on February 18th a week earlier than previously announced...

...This change came about to avoid peeling off support for the the Florida In-State Legacy ride February 26th - March 4th 2017. The last 3 days of the Legacy Ride is the Florida State Rally and this year will be hosted at Post 283. The Legacy Ride/Rally could bring 1000 Riders to various 5th District events March 2-4.

American Legion Riders from Post 233 have been very busy: On November 4th, BJ Atkins (ALR Chapter 233 Road Captain) member of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association of Florida supported Sea Park Elementary School's appreciation to Veterans for Veterans Day, in Satellite Beach. They brought in an OH-6 LOH (Light Observation Helicopter), Cayuse, loving known as the Loch, on a trailer. In Vietnam, this Helicopter would fly at tree top level in order to "pick a fight" with Charlie and the North Vietnamese Regulars.

Speaking of Veterans Day (Friday, November 11th) ~ we were well represented in the 5th District, we had members that participated and supported in the 18th Annual Veteran's Day Celebration at Ponte Vedra Valley, the featured speaker was Colonel Dan Davis, United States Army, Retired currently serving as Chaplain for Special Forces Association, Chapter 88 "Green Berets" in Jacksonville, FL. Kathy Church (MIAP FL State Coordinator/AUX Unit 233 ~ 1st vice/ALR Chapter 233 ~ Treasurer/Membership) marched in the St. Augustine Veteran's Day Parade, and Virna Waldron (ALR Chapter 233 ~ Secretary) participated in the Veteran's Day Parade in Fernandina Beach, sponsored by the American Legion Post 54 (Fernandina).

The next day (Saturday, November 12th), American Legion Chapter 54 and Marine Corp League Detachment 1017 held their 8th Annual Toys for Tots Poker Run. The mission of the Toys for Tots programs is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community. It was a beautiful day to ride for a great cause.

Virna and a couple of 5th District ALR members went on a fun run to the Retirement Home for Horses at Millcreek Farm in Alachua, Florida (nonprofit 501C (3)). Millcreek Farm provides a lifetime care to horses seized by law enforcement agencies, rescued by the SPCA or humane societies, horses retired from government service such as police patrol or state and federal parks, and unwanted horses that are destined for slaughter. This is a great day trip! 300 Acres of land, 130 horses, and admission is 2 carrots! They are open to the public on Saturdays from 11A-3P. Admission is 2 carrots! Learn more about this great place on their website: <http://millcreekfarm.org/>

Kathy Church and Linda Williams (AUX Unit 233 President/ALR Chapter 233 ~ Chaplain) attended the Fall Conference in Orlando, where the ALR 5th District was awarded the Fall 2016 Round Robin trophy in support of Project Vet Relief. If you don't know, ALR 5th District was also awarded the Summer 2016 Round Robin trophy at Convention earlier this year. Yes, that is two trophies, both in the 5th District. Also Kathy Church will be part of the American Legion Riders Department Finance Committee.

THERE ARE DRUNK RIDERS. THERE ARE OLD RIDERS. THERE ARE NO OLD, DRUNK RIDERS.

PLEASE JOIN THE RIDERS AT THE FOLLOWING:

- Riders host breakfast the 3rd Sunday of every month 9-11:30AM.
- Riders host TACO TUESDAYS! Eat more Tacos!
- ALR General Membership meeting is the 3rd Sunday of every month at 12PM and all are welcome.
- For membership information contact Kathy Church at bartenderpost233@yahoo.com
- Stay connected: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/alr233/> ~ <http://www.facebook.com/groups/alr5thDistrictFL/> ~ <http://www.alr5thfl.org/>
tweet us @ ALR233FL

Riding for God and Country,

Virna Waldron – Secretary 817-791-3583 mobile

Kevin Terranella – Director 904-657-7298 - mobile

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\$25.00 per year to advertise your business card on the monthly newsletter.

Make check payable to American Legion Post 233.

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

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS CARD ON THE POST TV FOR ONLY \$75.00/YR. Ask the bartender for details



560 N. Wilderness Trail Palm Valley Ponte Vedra Beach 904-285-2484

7th ANNUAL COWBOY NIGHT

Saddle up partners...it's time for another rootin' and tootin' evening with Dakota Don, Beaumont Ben and the Laredo Ladies

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28th 6:30pm til ??



Come and experience the best BBQ
in all of Palm Valley
Bring your best gal, guy and partners
enjoy a fun filled rootin' tootin' evening

Due to the popularity of this event we ask that you
RSVP with the number of members and guests that
plan on attending. We need a count so we will have
enough food and fixins

RSVP by January 15th, 904-285-2484
Leave your name and count with the bartender.

WE NOW ACCEPT



Copyright 2016 Palm Valley Post 233. Proceeds support Legion programs.

BBQ PORK BUTTS cooked onsite by
Dakota Don & Beaumont Ben will be
served up with all the fixins by the
Laredo Ladies. ALL for a small donation
of only **\$10.00**

Food service will begin at 6:30pm til
9:00pm (or until we sell out)

*Entertainment by Wanda and Big John
from 7:30pm til ??*



Karaoke

'Be A Star'

PUBLISHERS NOTE:

The internet has become a wonderful communications device for everyone. Although designed to be flawless, sometimes information does get lost in internet space and then mysteriously reappears. This ALA article was sent in before the deadline but did not reach us until after the deadline. For that reason it is being included on this late entry page of the newsletter.

It is with great sadness, that we had to say goodbye, to one of our AL Members Ira Lee Chelette, 79, of Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, passed away October 31, 2016. Ira was a member of the American Legion Post 233, volunteered with the Beaches Senior Center and gave his time to his community in many ways. We will have a brunch in celebration of his life, November 26, from 11 am – 1pm at Post 233! ALA member Carolyn Chelette (Wife), has invited all of Post 233 to come and join in on the Celebration of Ira's life!

I would like to make a shout out to all Post 233 Members! THANK YOU ... THANK YOU ... THANK YOU!

November 1, 2016 we started with a call out to all members for our ALA annual Holiday Food Baskets. Post 233 members brought in enough food to fill 6 large boxes. 3 boxes of food each one with a Turkey, was taken to Ocean Palms Elementary School, November 21, 2016 by Debbie Eatmon! The other 3 boxes of food were delivered to three families in our community. Each box had a \$25.00 gift certificate to Winn Dixie for their Turkey's. The Auxiliary also donated \$100.00 to ShadCo (St Johns County Sheriff's office). Officer Kemp works with the homeless veterans and homeless children in St. Johns County.

The month of November was busy, busy, busy. We started off with the 1st Wed. of the month with our ALA Cookbook dinner! It was delicious! Moving on to November 10th, Ocean Palms Elementary School had their 3rd annual musical show for our Veterans. Honorable mentions, three fifth-grade students were presented with contest awards by Linda Williams (ALA Unit 233 President) for their essays on "Americanism". First place from ALA State of Florida: Ava Pollock (Ava received a certificate and a medal.) Honorable Mention: Sasha Crowe and Natalia Engl also received certificates. Thank you ALA member Debbie Eatmon (school teacher at ope) for all you do with your students and the entire SCHOOL. Debbie is also working with the school collecting (COUPS for TROOPS) (An ALA COUPON PROGRAM helping our Veterans and families overseas). November 11th Veterans Day we started at 10:30 am at Ponte Vedra Valley Cemetery for their annual Veterans Day Service! The Auxiliary President placed a wreath in honor of our Veterans, and our junior member Sarah Paul (age 7) helped place the wreath at the service. AL, ALA, SAL and ALR promoting Post 233's FAMILY! We then rushed to POST 233 where Auxiliary members were waiting to serve our Veterans and their families a free Luncheon to honor our past, present and future veterans. November 18-20 was ALA Conference down in Orlando, it was very interesting and we learned lots of great stuff for our Post! Thanksgiving luncheon was soooooo delicious. Thank you all who donated food and a big thank you for those that served and cleaned up!

- Dec. 1st Please sign up children 10 and under for our Children's Christmas Party Dec. 17th find the list at the Post. Dec. 10th last day to sign up!
- Dec. 16 ALL Initiates for the ADULT Christmas Party, Entertainment Highway Jones
- Dec. 17 Children's Christmas Party, Santa and Elfie and the Palm Valley Fire Department.
- Dec. 25 Merry Christmas! See you for the Christmas Luncheon at Post 233

The Auxiliary will be cooking Wednesday Night Cook Book Dinners the 1st Wednesday of every Month (December 7, 2016 from 6:30-8:00 pm).

The Auxiliary Monthly Meeting is the 2nd Monday of each Month (December 12, 2016 at 7 pm). If you need more info please contact me at lindaw186@bellsouth.net

The Auxiliary Breakfast is the 4th Sunday of the month (December 27, 2016 from 9:00 am to 11:30 am).

Don't forget our next 5th District Meeting December 11, 2016 at 2pm ~ Post 129 – 1151 S. 4th Street, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250.

December 4,11,18, 2016 - Don't forget Auxiliary Member Celeste Sheble is supporting Post 233'S NFL Volunteer TEAM by singing the National Anthem! Go Jag's!

By coming to Post 233 you support the American Legion Post and the women of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 233 we make a difference in the lives of all Americans. We educate our children, organize our community events and help our nation's veterans through legislative action and volunteerism.

Volunteer it feels GREAT! 10 minutes, 1 hour? Whatever you can do we'll take it! As they sayIt takes a VILLAGE to have a small but Mighty Post!

As always please keep our Service Men and Women here and afar, family, friends and our community in your prayers.

For God and Country,
Linda Williams, ALA Unit 233 President