



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 17, Issue 4** **'Smoke Free Post'** **April 2017**  
**Editor in Chief: Dan Wortmann** **Publisher: Roy Havekost**



Our Post Home



Memorial Garden



Commander Louis 'Pappy' Martin Pavilion

Post website: [www.AL233FL.org](http://www.AL233FL.org)

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

District website: [www.AL5thDistrictFL.org](http://www.AL5thDistrictFL.org)

Email: [info@al233fl.org](mailto:info@al233fl.org) Post telephone: 904.285.2484

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

**Canteen hours:**

MON-THU: 4:00pm until ?? hrs.  
 FRI: 8am until ?? Breakfast & Lunch served  
 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  
 Since February 2014



**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*

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	LEGION meeting April 3 <sup>rd</sup> , E-Board 6pm, General Membership 7pm



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

**Commander Dan Wortmann ~**  
[www.facebook.com/groups/AL233FL/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/AL233FL/)

A few months ago I mentioned about how if there is a problem, at the Post, fix it and then the problem goes away. Don't whine about it so it makes a bigger problem. This is a **BIG SHOUT OUT** to someone who has finally listened to what I'm talking about. Someone who is in the kitchen who found out the gas stove among other things wasn't working right and contacted me and the gas company and scheduled to have it fixed and paid for it !!! Over \$400.00. Thankyou Doreen Freeborn for all you do . And I sincerely hope our members come out and say thank you to you personally **A JOB WELL DONE !**

I hope that everyone that has come out recently likes the pavilion and the new colors. Thanks to the men, Jeff, Roy, Mike and JR who helped with the project. There are a few things still to do to make it work and I am sure the committee will have it finished for the K-9 party.

Thank you Jim for cooking on Fridays and all of the other times you have pitched in!

Last night we had another K-9 graduation with 8 women warriors and K9s with a full crowd of spectators watching the ceremony. Don't forget next month on April 20 we are hosting the 5 year celebration for K-9's at our Post. The K-9's are catering the event with a smoker truck with all kinds of barbequed food. Kenny Holiday will be playing with his band and the pavilion bar will be open for business. So come join the party and a fun time.

Thanks for everyone's help on Taco Tuesdays and Bingo Thursdays and for all of the fun we are having there !

For God and Country,

*Dan*

**APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup> GENERAL MEETING**

**NOMINATIONS**

**FOR POST OFFICERS**

**STAY INVOLVED...RUN FOR OFFICE**

**VOTING TAKES PLACE IN MAY**

Come out and show your support at the monthly graduations next date April 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at the Post 233 Pavilion



A BBQ food truck will be onsite for after graduation food service! The Pavilion bar will be open.

The Post 233 calendar of events is online at:  
<http://www.al233fl.org/ecalendar.htm>

**POST 233 is a FREE WiFi spot**

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



**WANTED!** Any member experienced in desktop publishing to take over the Valley Legion News monthly newsletter publishing duties, in June 2017. Contact Roy Havekost if interested, 904-287-6909.

**Adjutant Ted Veber ~**

We currently have approximately 50 Post 233 members who have yet to renew for 2017. As per a membership push directive recently initiated by Legion National Commander Charles S. Schmidt our Post 233 Membership Team will be in contact with all of our non-renewals. Post 233 efforts rely heavily upon the receipt of membership dues. We need your help and support!

On another note, the House Committee held a special session concerning a recent incident at the Post. Former SAL member Jim Whaley has been banned from the Post for one year on the charges heard.

For God and Country,

*Ted*

## ALA President Linda Williams ~

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/264057610291208/>

Please join the ALA in a moment of prayer for the loss of our veterans, members and loved one's who have passed away this month! May they all rest in PEACE! And may their families find Peace.

*And Spring arose on the garden fair,  
Like the Spirit of Love felt everywhere;  
And each flower and herb on Earth's dark breast  
rose from the dreams of its wintry rest.  
~Percy Bysshe Shelley, "The Sensitive Plant"  
Happy Spring everyone!*

Springing forward into April!

Get involved become an ALA Officer? What? Me? Run as President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, Historian, Sgt-at-Arms or I could be on the House committee, or the Executive Committee ??? as April brings us to our election time in May ... We need you ALA MEMBERS to come forward and let's pull together to get a great team of officers for ALA Unit 233 new upcoming year 2017-2018! Interested in more get with Kathy Helmlly and Angie Kees.

Many thanks to all the VOLUNTEERS at Post 233!

During the month of March, we have had GOOD food, GOOD music, and Good fellowship! Let's keep this going! We can stand together to change but we need to be willing to work together because together we are stronger!

**The Auxiliary WILL NOT BE cooking Wednesday Night Cook Book Dinners on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every Month ANYMORE.**

Effective April 6<sup>th</sup> the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month, the ALA will now be sponsoring a lite dinner such as sloppy joes, chili dogs, chicken salad sandwiches and items like this for a \$5.00 donation to the ALA. Tagging on to help promote SAL BINGO!

Don't forget our next 5<sup>th</sup> District Meeting Sunday, April 9, 2017 at 2pm – Post 54 – 626 S. 3<sup>RD</sup> Street, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034.

The Auxiliary Monthly Meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each Month (April 10th, 2017 at 7 pm). If you need more info please contact me at [lindaw186@bellsouth.net](mailto:lindaw186@bellsouth.net).

The Auxiliary Breakfast is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month (April 23rd from 9:00 am to 11:30 am).

By coming to Post 233 you support the Post and the women of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 233 to 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 say ....It 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*

## Past Commanders Club Roy Havekost ~

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/PastCommandersClub233FL/>

The next meeting of the club will be held on Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30am. Come early and have breakfast before the meeting. Last month the PCC presented a Certificate of Appreciation to The Sherwin Williams Paint Co. for their help with technical application guidance for our Pavilion refurbishing project.

For God and Country,  
PCC Chairman

*Roy*

## Judge Advocate, Roy Havekost ~

<http://www.AL233FL.org>

There are many classes being run at this years annual convention in Orlando. If you are thinking of running for a Post office, I would highly recommend attending a training class associated with the position you are nominated for.

Stay involved with the Post, help work toward the goals and objectives of the American Legion by learning more about the legion and its' programs.

Knowledge is an important tool for your toolbox, but you can't use it if you don't have it.

For God and Country,

*Roy*

## SAL Commander Roger Akey ~

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SAL233/>

In March, the SAL continued by providing one Friday night dinner and a very successful third Wednesday dinner plus we operated our Thursday night Bingo Games. Also, we are now sponsoring Saturday evening karaoke which will help Canteen income.

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

We had a great meeting this month and accomplished most of our agenda items. Among them was consideration of the charities to receive our support this year. The charities or projects under consideration are the Guardian Ad Litem program, Special Olympics, Children of Fallen Patriots, Canines for Warriors and the replacement of the flooring in the Men's Restroom in the Post. If you have others, please let us know by the next meeting or best of all, attend. We will vote next meeting.

We also held the first round of nominations for 2017-2018 officers. The results are Howard Sheble, Commander; Todd

## From the BINGO Staff ~

GOOD NEWS! We now have our number board working and our new blower. Some players that have not attended are amazed at how 21<sup>st</sup> century we have become!

In March, we had two of the best weeks since we began. Of course, the Canteen continues to benefit from our activities. Our base of participation has been stable week to week and it allows us to be profitable. Furthermore, it allows us to make our players happy with our payouts. As I indicated, we gave out \$650 on March 2nd, \$650 on March 9<sup>th</sup>, \$425 on March 16<sup>th</sup> and \$550 on March 23rd. Thus far in March, we have paid out \$2275 with another week to go. Who says it doesn't pay to play?

Let's keep the seats filled as we are about to reach our maximum payout. Plus, a new Pull Tab Game will start soon. The winner of that game gets an amount equal to the payout in pull tabs. They could win a handsome sum.

The Lucky Ball pool started again on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and now stands at \$99. It builds until someone wins.

Most evenings begin with most people enjoying our light meal and drinks from the Canteen. We are very happy that the ALA will provide the meal on the first Thursday of the month and on the third Thursday, Kathy Church will provide a meal for the benefit of the MIA program. Come join us and help two programs at the same time.

Let's continue to 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. We have ordered additional signs so, hopefully, our area visitors will increase. Our team consisting of Howard Sheble, Patty Williams, Dan Deon and our bartender, Debbie, keeps the evening moving. We could use additional volunteers. Another Verifier, a substitute Caller and a substitute Cashier would be helpful. Please contact me or Howard Sheble if you are interested. Remember, everyone has a good time and the Canteen benefits.

Come on out and join the fun and maybe share in the payouts. See you soon.

For God and Country

*Roger Akey*



**American Legion Department of Florida  
Annual Convention  
Marriot Orlando World Center  
Orlando, FL  
June 29 to July 2, 2017  
Plan to attend a training class or two!**

Kleven, First Vice Commander; Kevin Munger, Second Vice  
**SAL contd**

Commander; Steve Willis, Finance Officer and Adjutant; Mike Shaar, Sergeant-At-Arms; Open, Historian and Roger Akey, Chaplain. We will entertain additional nominations at our next meeting and the elections will take place at our May meeting. Our next meeting is April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Again, we will open the floor for second round officer nominations. Failure to participate is your loss. We have a quality SAL Squadron and you can be a part of it by attending our meetings and volunteering when you can.

Volunteering is not a choice but a responsibility. Think about it.

For God and Country,

*Roger*

## ALR Director Kevin Terranella:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/alr233/>

### **Everyone is invited!!**

Join us for a tour of Gainesville Fisher house Wednesday 5 April. Cars and bikes will be departing Post 233 at 0900. We will be delivering our Post's \$3K donation to Gainesville Fisher House that was raised at last month's ALR fun run. After the tour, we will be eating lunch at Post 16 in Gainesville, then a refueling pit stop at Post 202 in Keystone Heights. April also happens to be Merry-Go-Round month to support the Florida American Legion Children and Youth Programs. By participating in car, or motorcycle you will also be supporting core Pillars of our American Legion!

### **Thanks again:**

I'd like to thank everyone in the Legion Family who donated their time, talent or treasure to make our 5th Annual Run in support of Gainesville Fisher House a success.

\*\*\*SPEED COSTS MONEY. HOW FAST IS YOUR WALLET?\*\*\*

### **April Showers:**

Adequate tire tread not only ensures tire integrity, it allows water to be channeled away from the contact patch, which helps maintain grip under wet conditions.

Using a quarter, ensure that when placed within the tread groove, there's enough tire tread to extend past the top of Washington's head. If it doesn't, it's probably time to replace your tire.

### **Better or not?**

Motorcycles are better than woman because... Motorcycles don't mind you wearing your boots while riding. Woman are better than motorcycles because... After a good ride a woman will kiss you.

### **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!

**WANTED!** Any member experienced in desktop publishing to take over the Valley Legion News monthly newsletter publishing duties, in June 2017. Contact Roy Havekost if interested, 904-287-6909.

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**LEGION OFFICER NOMINATIONS  
WILL CONTINUE AT THE  
APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup> MEETING**

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**NOTICE TO MEMBERS**

Once again, I am making a request to our members for someone to please step forward and take over the publishing duties for the Valley Legion News. I know that I am not the only member in the Post that knows how to operate a computer. The job only requires a minimal amount of time to compile the articles that are sent to you by our officers and other members.

In my anticipation of being elected to district vice commander for 2017-2018, I must thin out some of my current responsibilities in order to take on new ones. My last publication of the Valley Legion News will be the May 2017 issue where I can hopefully announce a new successor to the position of publisher.

Thank you,  
Roy

- ALR General Membership meeting is the 3rd Sunday of every month at 12PM and all are welcome. - For membership

**ALR contd**

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,  
*Kevin*

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**Canteen report ~**

Spring has sprung at Post 233. Thanks to several generous donations, our pavilion renovation is well underway and we are looking forward to many events with the weather warming up. Thank you to Commander Dan and the small, but dedicated, crew of volunteers for the new paint job. Also, thank you to the generous members that donated towards the project. Reserve your date to rent the pavilion and/or back yard, as dates are likely to fill up quickly as the weather improves. The SAL, ALA, and ALR continue to support the post with their growing Taco Tuesdays, Bingo Thursday and Monthly Cookbook dinners. We are looking forward to hosting a very special graduation ceremony for K-9 for Warriors on April 20. Please come out and show your support for the graduates and their dogs.

For God and Country  
*Pam*

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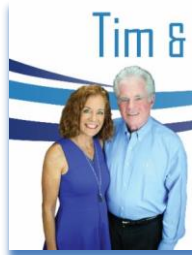
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\$25.00 per year to advertise your business card on the monthly newsletter.

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.

**WANTED!** Any member experienced in desktop publishing to take over the Valley Legion News monthly newsletter publishing duties, in June 2017. Contact Roy Havekost if interested, 904-287-6909.

We are also looking for someone to take over the Post Advertising TV updating. This can be done using the Post computer. Contact Susan Severson if interested.

**SUPPORT COMMITTEE AT JACKSONVILLE NATIONAL CEMETERY**

**4083 Lannie Road  
Jacksonville, FL 32218  
March 23, 2017**

Pictured below are two aerial pictures of the Jacksonville National Cemetery taken by Michael W. Smith, ALR 283 & PGR.

The SCJNC with the lead of Chairman, Steve Spickelmier, is working with JNC Director, Al Richburg, and employees to resolve parking issues during events that take place at the JNC.

Per a staff member of JNC as of 3/22/17 the number of interments since the opening in January 2009 is above 12,000. JNC serves north Florida and south Georgia.

The Support Committee is currently working with JNC on several memorial events to be held at the JNC. These include the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to honor Vietnam veterans, 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to honor WWI veterans and Memorial Day to honor those who died in active duty service.

Dates for these memorials are:

Vietnam – TBA, we are waiting on a date to be determined by the VA Administration.

WWI – April 6, 2017 @ 12noon, details TBA

Memorial Day – Saturday, May 27, 2017 @ 10:00am, details TBA

The next quarterly meeting of the Support Committee will be on Monday, April 3, 2017 at 7:00pm at Community Hospice, located at 4266 Sunbeam Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32257.

\*\*Veterans may now pre-register to be interred in a National Cemetery. The first step is to fax your DD214 to (866) 900-6417, then call the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at (800) 535-1117. NCSO is open 7 days a week from 7:00am – 6:30pm. They can also answer any questions you may have.

All veterans and delegated family members should have a copy of the DD214 on hand. Copies may be obtained by requesting military service records online, by mail, or by fax. (Includes DD 214/Separation Documents, Personnel Records, Replacement Medals, and/or Medical Records). [The website to use is www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs). Below is the information that you will need to request a DD214 or other info.

The veteran's complete name used while in service \*

Service number\*

Social security number\*

Branch of service\*

Dates of service

Date and place of birth (especially if the service number is not known).

If you suspect your records may have been involved in the [1973 fire](#), also include:

Place of discharge

Last unit of assignment

Place of entry into the service, if known.

All requests must be **signed** and **dated** by the veteran or next-of-kin.

**If you are the next of kin of a deceased veteran**, you must provide proof of death of the veteran such as a copy of death certificate, letter from funeral home, or published obituary.

Archives must have at least the info starred above\*.

If you have not yet visited the JNC or any of the other 8 national cemeteries in Florida, please take the time to do so. Many people do not even know that there is a national cemetery in their area or that a veteran, spouse of a veteran and a dependent child can be interred in a national cemetery (if the veteran was honorably discharged).

See next page for a listing of all 9 Florida National Cemeteries. What a good subject for a middle or high school student to do a report on.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions on this report

Kathy Church  
SCJNC, Secretary

	CITY	FLORIDA NATIONAL CEMETERIES	ACRES	NOTABLE COMMENTS	STATUS
1	Bushnell	Florida National Cemetery – interments started 1988	512.9	located n the Withlacoochee State Forest	open for caskets & cremains
1	"	"	"	Has a Carrillon Bell donated by AMVETS	"
2	Jacksonville	Jacksonville National Cemetery – Jan 2009	526	Has a Carrillon Bell donated by AMVETS	open for caskets & cremains
3	Lake Worth	South Florida National Cemetery – 2007	313	5th NC in FL, 125 in National System	open for caskets & cremains
4	Mims	Cape Canaveral National Cemetery - Jan 12, 2016	318	Still under construction	open for caskets & cremains
5	Pensacola	Barrancas National Cemetery - 1838	UNK	Located on Naval Air Station Pensacola	open for caskets & cremains
6	Sarasota	Sarasota National Cemetery - Jan 09, 2009	295	Has a 2,800 seat amphitheatre-Patterson Foundation	open for caskets & cremains
7	St. Augustine	St. Augustine National Cemetery - 1828	1.4	VA list 1828 & 1839 as first burials???	Closed for new internments
7	"	"	"	Located on St Francis Barracks, FL headquarters, FLNG	
8	St. Petersburg	Bay Pines National Cemetery - April 25, 1933	27.3	Located on grounds of VAC, Pinellas County	Can only inter cremains
8	"	"	"	Has a Carrillon Bell donated by AMVETS	"
9	Tallahassee	Tallahassee National Cemetery - Oct 16, 2016	250	Still under construction	open for caskets & cremains

There are 135 National Cemeteries in 40 states





