

Legion News

Volume 17, Issue 2 **Editor in Chief: Dan Wortmann** 'Smoke Free Post'

February 2017

Publisher: Roy Havekost







Our Post Home

Memorial Garben

Commander Louis 'Pappy' Martin Pavilion

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-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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MIA's



NEVER FORGET POW's

Commander Dan Wortmann ~

www.facebook.com/groups/AL233FL/

I would like to say a very big thankyou to a lot of people who are doing great things for the Post to keep the doors open with great ideas. The Sunday football has been very good for the post. Friday's, we are doing breakfast and lunches, 38 lunches = 3 more than 2 weeks ago so I hope it keeps going and it's getting better each week.

To the few people who are causing problems in the Post we need to have that stopped! I have been Commander since May22nd and have been trying to have a one big family Post about getting along and communicating better with all of our factions. It seems to get a little lax at times and causes problems when we don't need them. So when you volunteer to do something, DO IT! If you see a problem fix it! Don't go around and complain about it, because it makes the problem worse. If you see a problem you own it and fix it. No more whinning!!!

For God and Country,

Dan



1st Vice Commander Jim Durnal ~

Planning on early bird dinner on Feb 25th. Probably roast beef. It's good to see the success of Taco Tuesday, steak nights with Collage, Bingo, and football Sunday. But all the hard work by our volunteers doesn't mean squat if we can't get along with each other. Do your job, don't try to do everybody else's. We need to stop all the cussing going on in the post. There is no need to use the F bomb. It's very unbecoming!

For God and Country,

Jim

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.



Graduation
Dates:

1/26/2017

2/23/2017

3/23/2017

4/20/2017

5/18/2017

6/22/2017

7/20/2017

8/17/2017

9/14/2017

10/12/2017

11/16/2017

Come out and show your support at the monthly graduations at Camp K9 in Nocatee

Post 233 will be hosting the April graduation onsite at our pavilion.

12/14/2017

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



Adjutant Ted Veber ~

Football @ Post 233

Our NFL season long series of events comes to an end, of course, with the Super Bowl on Sunday February 5 at 6:30PM. It's the New England Patriots versus the Atlanta Falcons. The crowd will decide which team is our favorite at approximately 6:15. When they score a touchdown everyone's next drink is half price. Our Celeste will sing the National Anthem, we'll raffle more than 20 prizes at halftime, we'll do a 50/50 at the end of the 3rd quarter and play our card games. Free snacks will be available. Bring food to share with others if you can and invite your friends to come on out and join in on the fun.

Friday is Funday at the Post. We now open at 8:00am. Breakfast and lunch is served. The food is great and it's a lot of fun. Come on out and help support the efforts of our Post.

For God and Country,

7ed

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! Long time ALA member Linda Walker passed away January 17, 2017. May they all rest in PEACE! And may their families find Peace.

January – Wow – Slowing down from the yearend holidays – it's time to take a deep breath and let it out Slowly because we are already moving into February?

As the NFL play-offs wind down we have to give a BIG SHOUT OUT to Ted and all the NFL TEAM volunteers! What a great Football Season for POST 233 football fans! We thank you all for a Football season WELL DONE! We are looking forward to the SEASON FINALLY (Super Bowl 2017)!

During the month of January, 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!

Thanks to the Don and Ben Mills and the Laredo Ladies and all volunteers for a great 7th Annual Cowboy Night!

February the Auxiliary will be cooking Wednesday Night Cook Book Dinners the 1st Wednesday of every Month. Next one is February 1, 2017 at 6:30-8:00 pm. Pork Tenderloin sliced and smothered in gravy with all kind of fixings.

February 11th, dinner 6:30 – 8pm . ALA Valentine Dinner Dance! Chef Paulie and team, **Chef MENU** (**for a \$15.00 donation**) **Savory Prim Rib au Jus**, **Braised Asparagus**, **Sassy Stuffed baked Potato**, **Valentine Salad & Dinner Roll! Bring your Sweetheart**, **friend**, **wife**, **boyfriend**, **for a night to remember! Entertainment Daniel Scheider! Dinner and Dancing!**

SAL Commander Roger Akey ~

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

January was another busy month for the SAL. The SAL provided three Friday night dinners, the third Wednesday dinner and will provide breakfast on Sunday, January 29th plus 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 income.

If you have not paid your dues, please do so as soon as possible. Our reported membership level is now at approximately 70%. Gentlemen, see Howard, our Adjutant, with your payment. 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.

Mark your calendar for February 15th. Our new member, Kevin Munger, has volunteered to prepare dinner from his mother's secret recipe. It will be Chicken Parmesan, spaghetti with homemade sauce, fresh garlic bread, Caesar Salad with homemade dressing and croutons. Maybe Cheesecake for dessert? Let's turn out and support Kevin!

We had a good turnout at our meeting this month but would like to see you there. It is that time of year to think about new officers and what charities we will support this year. We certainly appreciate all of you who volunteer to help at our events. Last year we had 123 members so we should not have

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. 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/

CALLING ALL 233 RIDERS: Your participation is needed in with our 5th Annual Fun Run to benefit the Gainesville Fisher House on February 25th. Please come to our next scheduled meeting at 1200 February 19th, as we will be wrapping up the final details. Volunteers will be needed! LEGION FAMILY: Post 233's Fun Run is seeking donations in time, talent, and treasure from anyone or any of our Legion Family who would like to support and be a part of

ALA cont'd ~

Don't forget our next 5th District Meeting February 12, 2017 at 2pm ~ Post 233, 560 N. Wilderness Trail, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082. Please wear your RED shirts ladies! Everyone please come and support the Post.

The Auxiliary Monthly Meeting is the 2nd Monday of each Month (February 13th, 2017 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 (February 26th 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 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



SuperBowl ~ LI ~ Feb. 5th @ Post 233

From the BINGO Staff ~

January began slowly but now that we have passed the holidays, we have 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 only \$275 on December 29th, \$350 on January 5th but our lucky players took home \$600 on January 12th and \$650 on January 19th. As you may recall, we are allowed by Florida Statutes to pay out a maximum of \$50 for each of the first 5 games and \$250 for each of the jackpot games. Thus, in our current configuration, we can pay out a total of \$750. Let's keep the seats filled as we are about to reach our goal.

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 everyone seem very quiet as they

ALR cont'd ~

this noble cause. Please contact me or Kathy Church if you can help.

NEW STARTING POINT: The Fun Run will be trying something different this year. We will be starting from the Veterans Memorial Wall downtown. By starting in a sacred and more central location, we hope to double the size of riders participating. The ride will end at Post 233 and the party will start.

2017 ALR SUMMIT: The first ALR Summit was held in Cocoa Beach with an announced gathering of 350 Riders. The first night NASA launched an Atlas rocket just up the beach in our honor. Overall a great gathering and a lot of classes on Legion programs, and such. The Four Pillars was really emphasized.

*****SOMETIMES THE FASTEST WAY TO GET THERE IS TO STOP FOR THE NIGHT.****

BIKE TECK: This year Cosmoconnected.com is rolling out a light/break light you can mount on your helmet. Check it out

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,

Kevin

Past Commanders Club Roy Havekost ~

https://www.facebook.com/groups/PastCommandersClub233FL/
The next meeting of the PCC will be February 5th, 2017.

For God and Country, PCC Chairman

Roy



BINGO conto ~

want to concentrate but soon the room comes alive and a party atmosphere takes over. By the time we play games six and seven, it becomes very loud and people actually cheer for one another. Lots of laughs can be 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. We have ordered additional signs so, hopefully, our area visitors will increase.

Our team consisting of Howard Sheble, Patty Williams, and our bartender, Debbie, keeps the evening moving. We could use additional volunteers. Another Verifier, and 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. See you soon.

For God and Country

Roger Akey



Kitchen report ~

I hope this note finds all in our AL Family doing well and settling in for the New Year.

I would like to start by clearing up a misconception. At the end of November I made the statement to our Commander and others at Post 233 that come the first of 2017 my plans were to start backing away from putting in so many hours at the Post. This did not mean that I was resigning my position as Kitchen Manager. I am still doing those duties, working closely with our Canteen Manager, Pam. What I am trying to do is to back off on my volunteer hours that I have been putting in helping the Legion, ALA and SAL. In 2016 I assisted in just about every meal or event that we had at 233 for all entities. I need to get back to my volunteering with the Missing in America Project.

Our kitchen at our Post continues to be hoping with our regular meals, special events and private parties. In January ALA President, Linda Williams, and I cooked a Low Country Boil for 50 people for the Palm Valley Boat Parade Awards Dinner. ALA member Kelli Osborne and her team continue to support Post 233 by holding their pre and post event dinners for the Boat Parade.

Thank You to the SAL for donating two cases of soap for our dishwasher. This soap is expensive. When working in the kitchen, please be sure to take the soap out of the dispenser after each use. This makes it last longer.

THX also to the ALR who purchased a roll of red and white plastic to be used for table clothes on the Pavilion. THANK YOU to B.J. Atkins for taking the cans to the recycling center.

Website, Roy Havekost-webmaster ~

http://www.AL233FL.org

January web stats: 2,606 viewers, 5,092 pages viewed. Top page views go to 1/e-calendar, 2/Past Cdrs, 3/eligibility, and 4/newsletters.

Facebook group online members: Legion 670, ALR 210, ALA 117, SAL 51 and PCC 9. These are the numb members in each group. Not every group member is a member of Post 233. Our Facebook groups need to be advertised more. The more people that belong to our groups may be eligible to become members in our Post. Everyone should invite their Facebook friends to join our Facebook groups.

For God and Country,



Canteen report ~

January started 2017 off to a great start here at Post 233. Along with our usual exciting Texas Hold 'Em/Taco Tuesdays, Bingo Thursdays, Friday night dinner and dancing, Saturday night Karaoke with Chrissi, Sunday breakfast, and football, we also welcomed the Palm Valley Boat Parade awards dinner and hosted two Wednesday night dinners, thanks to our awesome ALA and SAL. We will be finishing out the month with the Annual Cowboy Night 6-11 pm, on January 28.

February promises another month great food, music and friends. Highlights for the month include the Superbowl watching party on February 5, the ALA Valentine's dinner on the 11th and the monthly cigar club on the 15th.

Many of us start each new year making resolutions to do more or better in the coming year. If one of your New Year's resolutions is to volunteer more of your time, we can ALWAYS use more volunteers. Whether cooking a meal, washing dishes afterwards, taking money for an event, or helping with repairs and maintenance to our building, we are always in need of an extra set of hands.

Pamela Behrendt, Canteen Manager



American Legion Department of Florida Annual Convention Marriot Orlando World Center Orlando, FL June 29 to July 2, 2017

Kitchen report cont'd ~

Just a friendly reminder to all who use our kitchen. It is up to each entity that uses the kitchen to make sure that all dishes are washed and put up after each meal. All garbage cans are to be emptied after every meal, floor swept, dirty laundry put in proper bins. For the most part everyone is doing a GREAT job. It takes TEAMWORK to keep our kitchen clean. I for one appreciate everyone's hard work.

Spread the word around that our Pavilion is open for rentals and myself and others are willing to cook for parties.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Church, Kitchen Manager

SC-INC ~

The Support Committee at Jacksonville National Cemetery meets quarterly at Community Hospice located at 4266 Sunbeam Rd, Jacksonville, FL. Our first meeting for 2017 was held on Monday, January 8th @ 7:00pm. We held our elections of Officers for 2017-2019 with the following being voted in:

Chairman – Steven Spickelmier

Vice Chair - William Dudley

Treasurer – John Mountcastle

Assist Treasurer - Michael Rothfeld

Secretary - Kathy Church

Chaplain - Michael Halyard

Master-At-Arms – Joe McDermott

Historian - Kathy Cayton

The SCJNC is a registered 501©3 non-profit organization that supports the Jacksonville National Cemetery. The SCJNC assists the JNC Director, Mr. Alphaeus Richburg and the staff with special events and ceremonies held at the cemetery. We invite members of veteran organizations, funeral homes, etc. to join this committee.

The 526-acre national cemetery in Jacksonville, Florida will serve veterans' needs for more than 100 years. The cemetery is located north of the Jacksonville International Airport and approximately five miles from Interstate 295.

Per Mr. Richburg:

The JNC is rated #25 out of 135 National Cemeteries in the US, by the Dept. of Veteran Affairs. This is very noteworthy. As of 12/31/2016 the cemetery has interred 11,756 veterans, spouses and dependents of veterans since its first interment on January 07, 2009. Currently there is an average of 55 burials per week.

The JNC is fortunate to have the Jacksonville Ladies. The JL is made up of volunteers with their #1 Mission to be there for those who have no family or friends present. We are their "final witness"; to say a prayer and to give the respect and thanks they so deserve..... From the 1st burial on January 07, 2009 there has been a JL present at every burial.

Cont'd. >>

SC-INC cont'd ~

If you would like to become a volunteer with the JL please go to their website at http://www.jacksonvilleladies.org/.

If you are interested in joining the SCJNC please contact me at my info below. Our next regular meeting will be on Monday, April 3, 2017 at 7pm.

Please check out our Facebook page at Support Committee at Jacksonville National Cemetery.

Respectfully submitted,

Xathy Church, SCJNC - Secretary

NEFVC ~

The North East Florida Veterans Council meets monthly at the Jacksonville City Hall on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm. This year the Council is re-energizing and we are inviting ALL veteran organizations with a registered 501©3 non-profit status to join the Council. This invitation is being extended to Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, St Johns and GA counties as well. We would like to have one voting member from veteran organizations. A member can only represent one organization at a time. Others are welcome to attend our meetings as well.

The Council has been organized since 1985. On November 11, 2016 Jacksonville's Mayor Lenny Curry updated and signed Executive Order 2016-04.

2016-2017 OFFICERS:

Chairman – Hallie Williams-Bay (VFW 4761)

Vice Chair – Steven Spickelmier (AFSA)

Treasurer – Hallie Williams-Bay

Denise Mathis ((DAV #7)

Secretary – Kathy Church (MIAP)

Chaplain – Lori Garland (WAC, Chapter 56)

It only costs \$25.00/year to join the NEFVC. If your organization is interested in joining the Council please contact me and I will send you an application and a copy of the Executive Order 2016-04. Each application must be signed by the lead person (President, Commander, etc.) of your organizations. Representatives must attend all meetings (3 missed meetings will disqualify your organization from voting).

Let's all work together for the good of our veterans as there is "Strength in Unity".

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Church

NEFVC - Secretary

MIAP report ~

The Missing in America Project (MIAP) is a registered 501(c)3 Non-profit Corporation. Our intention is to locate, identify and inter the unclaimed cremains of American veterans. The Missing in America Project was launched nationwide in January, 2007

NATION WIDE PROGRESS AS OF 1/20/2017

Total Funeral Homes Visited - 2,023

Cremains Found - 14,471

Veterans Cremains Identified - 3,288

Veterans Interred - 3,036

FLORIDA PROGRESS AS OF 1/23/2017

Total Funeral Homes Visited – 119

Cremains Found – 882

Veterans Interred - 122

Spouses Interred – 50

Dependents Interred – 1

MIAP Florida continues to work this project currently actively working in north and south Florida. We hope to start working back in the Tallahassee area in the very near future with a new volunteer coming on board. We also are trying to work with a funeral home in St. Augustine that has over 100 unclaimed creamains.

CALL TO HONOR #11

South Florida National Cemetery

6501 S State Rd 7

Lake Worth, FL 33449

Saturday, April 01, 2017

11:00am

Our current plans for this service will be to inter 13 veterans and 7 spouses of other veterans. This service is open to all members of our communities. If you or your organization would like to participate in this service please contact me. There will be a motorcycle escort of the cremains to the SFNC and all are welcome to join in this escort (motorcycles, cars & trucks).

Further details for this service will be published as we finalize them.

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

All monies raised are devoted exclusively to this program. This is strictly an all-volunteer organization with no salaries, compensation or reimbursement of expenses paid to board members, officers or volunteers. Donations pay for the following:

Copies of Death Certificates

Registered letters to Next of Kin

Insurance

Administration fees, permits, etc.

Office Supplies and printing fees

Travel fees (for volunteers traveling over 100 miles

for MIAP services, etc.)

Fund Raising expenses

Donations can be made in various ways. If you would like to donate to MIAP-FL directly you may write a check to MIAP-FL and mail to the address listed below. You can also visit our website @ www.miap.us and pay via PayPal, credit cards and other methods. Click on Florida if you wish your donations to go to MIAP-FL.

I personally would like to thank all our volunteers who continue to work and put in much time for this project. Currently we have only a handful of active volunteers but we hope to grow across the state. This project will be around for a very long time. Please contact me if you would like to join our TEAM.

MIAP has many Facebook pages if you would like to see what we have been doing across the states. Our website also has videos and pictures from events and services across the USA.

Respectfully Submitted, Kathy Church, MIAP FL State Coordinator

Paid advertizing ~



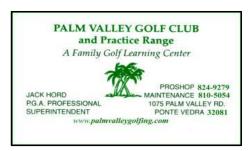














\$25.00 per year to advertise your business card on the monthly newsletter.

Make check payable to American Legion Post 233.

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

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

POST 233 LEGION MEETINGS ARE NOW ON THE 2nd MONDAY EACH MONTH

FEBRUARY 12th THE 5th DISTRICT MEETING IS AT POST 233
ALR MEETS 12:30pm ~ LEGION – AUXILIARY MEETS 2:00pm



American Legion Riders Chapter 233 Ponte Vedra Beach FL



5th Annual Fun Run to benefit the Gainesville Fisher House

501 (c)(3) non-profit



February 25, 2017



The Fisher House program is a unique private-public partnership that supports America's military in their time of need. For members of our Armed Forces, veterans and their families, the Fisher House program offers shelter and support during a medical crisis. Fisher Houses offer a comforting "home away from home" while a loved one is receiving care in an unfamiliar environment. This special support is even more important to a family during the most stressful time - the hospitalization of a wounded or injured service member involved in military operations like Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom.

www.gainesvillefisherhouse.org

Pre-registration: \$10 Rider/\$5 passenger. DAY OF: \$15 Rider/\$5 Passenger.
Registration: Veterans Memorial Wall
(1145 E Adams St, Jacksonville FL
32202)
8A-10A Coffee and Donuts.

KSU 10A

Route: American Legion Post 9 (10737 New Kings Rd #101, Jacksonville FL 32219), American Legion Post 250 (3939 CR 218 Middleburg, FL 32068), Arnold's Lounge (3912 N Ponce De Leon Blvd,

St Augustine, FL 32084) LBI 4P at AL Post 233 (560 N Wilderness Trl, Ponte Vedra Bch FL 32082)

Prizes: \$200, \$100, and \$50
Visa Gift Cards
Food: 4P-6:30P "Gourmet Taco Bar" \$6,
Chicken/Beef Tacos, Mexican Rice, Red
Beans, Black Beans & Rice, Texas Caviar, Queso Dip, Salsa, and Dessert.
Music: 5P-9P FlatBlack (facebook.com/
FlatBlacktheBand)

