



THE VALLEY LEGION NEWS

Post website: www.AL233FL.org
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/AL233FL
 District website: www.AL5thDistrictFL.org
 Email: info@al233fl.org

Palm Valley Post 233
560 N. Wilderness Trail
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
904-785-7484

Canteen Hours:
 Monday -Thursday 4:00pm - Close
 Friday 10:00pm-Close
 Saturday 11:00am - Close Sunday 9:00am - Close



Commander
Dan Wortman



President
Kathy Church



Commander
Howard Sheble



Director
Robby Bacom

Legionnaire meetings, second Wednesday each month, 7:00pm
Auxiliary meetings, second Monday each month, 6:30pm
Son's meetings, third Monday each month, 7:00pm
Rider's meetings, third Sunday each month, 12:00pm

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Commander's Corner

It's been an exciting month for the Post. I would like to thank Ted for taking care of the Post while I was on vacation and while I was sick.

Comming up:

Sat Nov 4 @ 10:30 at the Jacksonville Arena Vets4vets; meet and listen to guest speakers talk about all of the programs for Veterans. Parking and lunch are free for everyone.

Thursday Nov 9 at 09:00 hrs. a Veterans show put on by Ocean Palms Elementary School. Everyone should come out an enjoy this wonderful program.

Sunday Nov.19 at 0900 our state Commander Steve Shuga will be at our post for breakfast so please come out and greet our Commander as he wants to meet all. Then he will be off to meet our great friends at K-9's for warriors.

We are very close to our goal to be able to put in a long awaited new AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM. All money collected will be used for the system labor and any repairs to the building as a result of the installation. Please consider a donation, big or small, it all adds up! Thanks to everyone who has already donated.

Our leadership is changing! We are in need of a few positions to be filled. If you have any desire to serve please let any officer know. We will need to elect a 2nd Vice commander Wednesday, November 8. Please come and vote!

There are many activities planned for the holidays, volunteers are always needed!

For God and Country
Dan Wortmann Commander

Post Adjutant

It has been a pleasure serving as Adjutant and House Committee Chair. I look forward to working with the post in a different capacity.

For God and Country,

Ted Verber
Former Adjutant

SAL's Commander's Corner

After a very busy meal month, the SAL wants to thank the ALA, ALR and Legion volunteers who have helped us serve almost a meal every other day! Kudos!

I have assumed the Adjutant/Finance officer position du to Steve Willis's ongoing health issues. Please keep Steve in your prayers as he recovers.

Membership renal notices have been sent out for 2017-2018 dues of \$30. Please renew by November 30, 2017 to receive "early bird" status and a wonderful meal! (Date TBD).

For God and Country,
Howard Sheble
SAL Commander

WEEK AT A GLANCE

MARTINI MONDAY

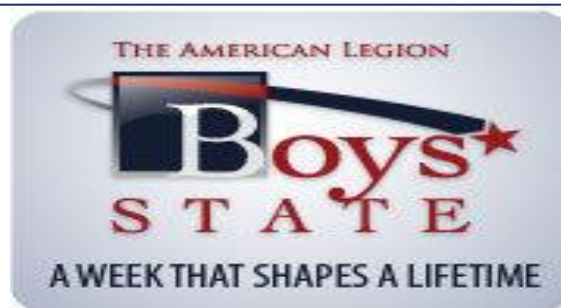
TACO/TEXAS HOLD 'EM TUESDAY

BINGO THURSDAY

DINNER AND MUSIC FRIDAY

1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH-FLEA MARKET

SUNDAY BREAKFAST AND FOOTBALL (STARTING
SEPTEMBER)



Auxiliary President's Report

LA UNIT 233 - NOVEMBER 2017 REPORT

As we head into the Holiday Season (I can't believe I am saying this already) the Auxiliary will be kicking it up to do what we do best. Below is a list of things we will be participating in.

FOOD COLLECTION FOR THANKSGIVING BASKETS – There is a huge box at the Post for donations of canned & boxed food items. We would like to collect food to make four baskets. If you prefer to donate money please write your check made out to ALA Unit 233 and write Thanksgiving Basket on the memo line. Place in an envelope, mark it TO ALA and hand to the bartender on duty or you can mail it to our PO Box (address listed below).

Thurs, 11/9 – VETERANS HONORED @ OCEAN PALMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL- ALA member Debbie Eatmon is a teacher at this school and we are invited to attend their program at 9am.

Sat, 11/11 – VETERANS DAY – we will prepare and serve a luncheon for Veterans after the service at the Ponte Vedra Valley Cemetery and after the Flag Retirement Ceremony.

Sun, 11/19 – STATE OFFICERS VISIT – The Legion State Commander and Auxiliary President with other dignitaries from the 5th District will join us for breakfast. There will be a short meeting afterwards with an MIAP presentation. This is an ALR Sunday breakfast but I am asking that Auxiliary members to join us at the Post to welcome and show our support.

Thurs, 11/23 – THANKSGIVING DAY - The Legion will host our annual buffet luncheon and as always the Auxiliary has been asked to provide the side dishes. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board at the Post or you can email me your donations. Please write your name, the dish you are donating and any cooking instructions. If you would like to donate money instead please write your check out to ALA Unit 233 and follow the instructions above for check donations. If you are available to volunteer anytime during the day I know the Legion members will be appreciative.

Sat, 11/25 – AUXILIARY WINGS & THINGS NIGHT – This will be our 4th time doing this and we are going to continue to do this to build up this night and pack the Post. Everyone has been having fun playing LEFT-CENTER-RIGHT and singing Karaoke.

Sun, 11/26 – PANCAKE BREAKFAST - The Auxiliary will continue to cook breakfast doing a Pancake Special on the 4th Sunday of the month. We need volunteers help with this breakfast. If you would like to cook the eggs and or pancakes, I will gladly step aside.

VOLUNTEER HOURS - Please remember to keep track of your volunteer hours, mileage and \$\$ spent. You can log your time & mileage from the point of leaving your house till you return when doing volunteer work.

There are many ways you can volunteer at our post, it doesn't always have to be working in the kitchen. We need to help with some of the cleaning of our Post and grounds. We will need to decorate the Post for Christmas. Santa and his helper Sylvia Bass might need some help shopping and wrapping presents this year. Advertising and marketing our events and helping with mail outs of Plate Order Forms and possibly our monthly newsletters (we are thinking about doing this again) is another way you can help out. PLEASE if you are good at a particular thing and you can donate even a small amount of your time it would be greatly appreciated. Any volunteer work you do in the community can also be logged. To those members that have been volunteering at the Post, I say THANK YOU – THANK YOU – THANK YOU

LAST NOTE - It is a privilege to be a member of the American Legion Family. We need more ALA members to come to our monthly meetings and bring new ideas for events and things. Our November Regular Monthly Meeting will be on Monday, 11/13 @ 6:30pm. We encourage our new members to attend our meetings to meet everyone.

For God and Country
Kathy Church
ALA President

MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT

Call

"It's The Right Thing To

MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT – FLORIDA "IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO"

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.

Missing in America Project was launched nationwide in January, 2007.

NATIONWIDE PROGRESS AS OF 10/19/2017

Total Funeral Homes Visited - 2,156

Cremains Found - 15,517

Veterans Cremains Identified - 3,541

Veterans Interred - 3,267

FLORIDA'S PROGRESS AS OF 10/28/2017

Total Funeral Homes Visited - 124

Cremains Found - 1,000

Veterans Interred - 168

Spouses Interred - 77

Dependents Interred - 1

Missions pending - 9

Call to Honors -13



On Saturday, October 21, 2017 MIAP-FL held its 13th CALL TO HONOR at the South Florida National Cemetery in Lake Worth, FL. That day we interred 16 veterans and 5 spouses of veterans. For this service we interred 9 Army veterans, 3 spouses, 1 MC veteran, 3 Navy veterans, 2 spouses and 2 AF veterans, 1 spouse. Included was a WWI Army veteran that went unclaimed since 1968, a female Army WWII veteran and a female AF veteran. ALA Unit 233 1st Vice, Linda Williams and myself participated in this service. Linda was the Coordinator for the 21 volunteer Pallbearers and 21 Flag/Flower Carriers. Two veterans that were interred were located at the Miami-Dade Medical Examiner's Office. We were able to locate a niece of one of these veterans and she and her husband attended the service. She was presented with a Flag after an Air Force 6 man Flag Team folded the Flag. A West Palm Beach Sheriff's Deputy in a car found another veteran while he was inventorying the contents of the car that was sold to a mechanic shop by his fiancé. MIAP volunteers are continuing to work with Craig Funeral Home in St. Augustine and we hope to have a service at the Jacksonville National Cemetery sometime at the beginning of 2018. There are many ways one can get involved with MIAP. Please go to our website @ www.miap.us for more info. You can keep up with our events on our Facebook Page at Missing In America Project – Florida (miap-florida). Many other states also have FB pages. You can also view many videos from other services on You Tube. Please feel free to contact me at my info listed below.

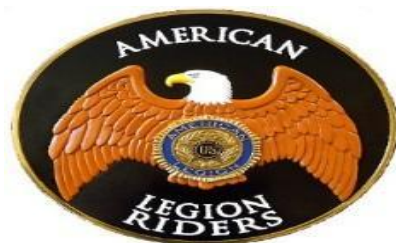


"YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN"

Kathy Church | Florida State Coordinator | 101
Bowles Street | Neptune Beach, FL 32266 |
(904) 219-3035

miapjax@yahoo.com

Words from the Riders



ALR CHAPTER 233 WANTS YOU!!!!!!

Did you know that AL Post 233 has a Riders Chapter?? Did you know that as a member of the Legion, Auxiliary or the SAL you could join our Chapter?? Did you know you DON'T have to have a motorcycle to join ALR 233??

ALR Chapter 233 members continue to host TACO TUESDAYS every Tuesday of the month. This night is growing larger and larger. To date our record is 147 Tacos. We are now offering beef Tacos and a second choice, sometimes chicken, fish or shrimp. Let us know which you like best.

On November 19th the ALR will be hosting the Sunday Breakfast with our Country Fried Steak Special. It will be our honor to serve the State Officers and Officers from the 5th District that will be joining us for breakfast while visiting Post 233.

ALR Secretary Kathy Church and Chaplain Linda Williams participated in the Missing In America Project's 13th CALL TO HONOR at the South Florida National Cemetery in Lake Worth, FL on Sat., Oct 21st.

Assistant Director, Jeff Tupper, assisted in painting the men's room and hanging two new light fixtures that the ALR purchased for over the stage and dance floor. He will complete painting the outside railings this coming week. ALR Treasurer, Jerry Boland, has been hosting Karaoke for the ALA's Saturday WING NIGHTS. He has been having fun and more and more members have been joining in. Ride Captain, BJ Atkins, continues to pick up the bread and goodies at Publix on Thursday's and ALR member Betty Bacom is ALWAYS in the kitchen assisting all entities with meals.

Riders will be participating in the Veterans Day service at the Ponte Vedra Valley Cemetery escorting participants into the cemetery.

We need ALL ALR members to attend our monthly meetings which are on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 12noon after we complete breakfast. We also need to sign more members up. Invite your friends to join our Chapter. If you would like to join our ALR Chapter please contact any of our members for info. You have to be a member of one of the entities, Legion, Auxiliary or SAL first.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Church
ALR Chapter 233 Treasurer/Secretary



In the last four weeks, we have awarded \$2150 to our players despite competition from Georgia-Florida weekend events and other fall activities. Eight different players have won the Jackpot Games this month. No one has won the Lucky Ball Pool this month so its balance stands at \$352 as of October 26th. We play the first 5 games as Lucky Ball opportunities so it will be claimed soon. Come see if it could be you.

Once again, a big Thank You goes out to Todd Kleven for substituting as caller on October 12th. Great job Todd!

We are very pleased that on the third Thursday of each month, Kathy Church will provide a meal for the benefit of the MIA Program. The food has been excellent and well received by those in attendance. Come join us and help two programs at the same time. Otherwise, we have a light meal each and every week thanks to Howard!

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 many winners each week including some new players.

Our team consisting of Howard Sheble, Patty Williams, several players who step up to help such as Anita, Brenda, Rita and Pat, as well as our bartender, Debbie, keeps the evening moving. However, 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. Thank you to all who have stepped in when we have been short handed.

Remember, everyone has a good time at Bingo 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

Law and Order Report

On Sunday, October 22nd, we held our 6th Annual Awards Ceremony and Breakfast Buffet. Normally this event is held in September around Patriots Day to show honor to our first responders. This year however, Hurricane Irma saw fit to visit us here in Florida and change those plans. First, I would like to thank Unit 233's Auxiliary members for preparing this year's buffet. I would also like to thank those Legionnaires that attended the ceremony. In the future however, we do need to show more support for all of the Legion programs that Post 233 is involved in. This year, Engineer Brian Freeland of St. Johns County Fire-Rescue and Det. Cpl. Jennifer Burres each received a Certificate of Commendation, w/ commendation bar, for their service to the community and the Firefighter of the Year and Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Awards, respectively.

This year in addition to the awards presented, the Past Commanders Club of Post 233 presented Certificates of Commendable Service to both the Sheriff's Office and the Fire-Rescue Department "In recognition and sincere appreciation of your outstanding service to our community which went above and beyond the normal course of duty during the days preceding and after Hurricane Irma on September 10, 2017". This recognition was presented to all of the sworn personnel as well as the civilian personnel that make up both of these departments.

For God and Country,
Roy Havekost
Chairman, Law & Order Program
Chairman, Past Commanders Club



Social
Media



Our Facebook group now has 703 members following our group postings. Not all of these followers are members of the Post. So when you have an opportunity to post something to our group, include encouragement to non-members to join. We are always accepting applications for new members in the Legion, Auxiliary and Sons. Remember once a member, they also can join the Riders if they so choose.

Now on to the website at www.AL233FL.org. The most recent stats show that we are nearing 1 gigabyte of uploaded files of the 300-gigabyte of server space allocated for our domain. As of this writing, the viewer stats for July, August and September show we have had over 6,764 visitors who have viewed more than 13,741 pages of information. Our viewers are primarily viewing our newsletters, Legion meeting minutes, our Memorial pages and our e-calendar page.

New to the website as of September 23rd, are the upload of the following Post minutes for the following years, 1971 to 1979, 1981 to 1983, Aug-Dec 2006 and Jan-Jun 2007. The first 7 months of 1971 are still missing at this time, but are very important to the history of our Post since this is the year we received our charter. These newly posted minutes can be accessed at <http://www.al233fl.org/minutes.htm> and scroll to the bottom of the page to select a year to view. I would note that these files were boxed with intent to be discarded (to make more room in the office) before I was elected Post Commander. I retrieved them and have safeguarded them since. The only other files I have yet to be copied are the minutes from 1981 to 1983.

If any member, reading this newsletter, who has knowledge of the existence of meeting minutes and or notes/reports of the following years, please contact me at roy@havekost.net. I believe it is necessary to preserve our Post history as best we can for future generations to come. The missing years needed are: 1971 Jan to Jul, 1980 full year, 1987 to 2005 full years.

Once I have completed this project of minutes/records compilation, hopefully before The American Legion Centennial Celebration in 2019, I intend to transfer all of the data to DVD disk and make the same available to any member for a nominal donation to Post 233.

For God and Country

Roy Havekost

Post 233 Social Media Chairman