



# ARLINGTON AMERICAN LEGION

# **LEGION NEWS** POST 283

9459 Ft. Caroline Rd. Jacksonville Florida 32225

Phone 904-641-8111

Chartered 1956



[www.facebook.com/legion283](http://www.facebook.com/legion283)

[www.floridalegion283.org](http://www.floridalegion283.org)

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April 2016

## **Commander's Report**



Welcome to April 2016, we had another great month of fellowship. The Northern Area Ball was a huge success with a lot of compliments on the food prepared by our SAL. The Northern area Commander Jeff Durden, asked me thank everyone involved "Great Job". The

St Patrick's Day corn Beef and cabbage dinner by the auxiliary was an overwhelming success, thanks to all who decorated and pulled it all together.

Look for our American Legion Post 283 Youth Baseball Wolves to be getting there season started in June. Also our Softball team's first game started on March 20<sup>th</sup>, so come out and support, the schedule for both will be on the general board.

On April 2<sup>nd</sup> the post will sponsor a walk for Veterans at 11 a. m. there will be a \$15 donation to participate in the walk, which includes a t-shirt. All proceeds will be going to the National emergency fund. Hope to see you there.

Our next Blood drive is April 10<sup>th</sup> at American Legion 283 from 8 A. M. until noon. There is a free breakfast made by our SAL for all who participate. Also on that evening we will be sponsoring The Department of Florida Legacy Run Dinner. So come out and support you Legion Family.

Don't forget the SAL Squadron 283's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual chip, toss and shoot event is on Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup>.

The 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Department of Florida American Legion Convention will be held at The Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld from June 16-19<sup>th</sup>. To make a reservation call (407) 351-5555 and make sure you ask for the legion group of rooms. For more information you can go to web site, [floridalegion.org](http://floridalegion.org). The flyer and itinerary are also posted on the bulletin board at the post.

Nominations for next year's Legionnaire Officers were accepted at the last general membership meeting and will continue April 11 and May 9<sup>th</sup> during our general membership meeting. May will be the last opportunity for nominations. Elections will be June 4<sup>th</sup> from 7am until 7pm. Nominees so far are: Commander – Jim Welch, 1st Vice – Jim Wallace, 2nd Vice – Jeff Lafferty, 3rd Vice – Marta Nelson, Finance Officer – Bill Curnutte, Sgt-at-arms – Dean Altizer, Asst Sgt-at-arms – Gerald Hiatt, Historian – open, Chaplain – John Hugus, Executive Committee – Rich Kassner, Wesley McMillan, Scott Walker, Phil Jansen and Larry Collins. Board of Directors – Terry Repok and Rusty Crowds.

As I mentioned in the November's newsletter a motion was made and passed to vote on the Post becoming smoke free. This vote will take place on April 9<sup>th</sup> from 12 -3 p. m. if you are unable to make it in to vote on the 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be early voting the week prior to the 9<sup>th</sup> on the following dates and times:

- April 1 1 P. M. - 4 P. M.
- April 2 9 A. M. - 1 P. M.
- April 4 9 A. M. - 1 P. M.
- April 5 4 P. M. - 7 P. M.
- April 6 11 A. M. - 2 P. M.
- April 7 4 P. M. - 7 P. M.
- April 8 1 P. M. - 6 P. M.

All you need to do is stop by the Post with your 2016 American Legion Legionnaire Membership card to vote. Either I or the Judge Advocate will be here for you to vote.

If you have not renewed your 2016 membership please do so and help us reach our goal of 100% by April 6<sup>th</sup>

Thank you for all your support!

For God & Country  
 Jim Welch- Post 283 Commander  
 904-710-3568  
[Jameswelch88@comcast.net](mailto:Jameswelch88@comcast.net)

## **1st Vice Report**

Greetings Comrades, I hope you had a great Easter! Can you believe it's already April? Our Membership as of April First is 93%.

Membership in the American Legion as a Legionnaire is reserved exclusively for those who have served their country in time of war. The dates listed below are mandated by the United States Congress in the charter they have granted to the American Legion. You must have been an active member in one of the five branches of service (or the Merchant Marine) for the period specified. And have an Honorable Discharge to be eligible to become a member. Membership Eligibility Dates or

- April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918
- December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946
- June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955
- February 28 to May 7, 1975
- August 24, 1982 to July, 1984
- December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990
- August 2, 1990 to cessation of hostilities

Proof of service is normally established by either a DD-214 showing your period of service, with an Honorable Discharge, or an Active Duty ID card. The dues for this year are as follows; if you are 70 years old or older and have been a continuous member of the American Legion for 5 years or longer your dues are \$29.00, for all others dues are \$40.00. You may also mail your renewal to:

American Legion Post 283  
 Attn: Adjutant  
 9549 Fort Caroline Road  
 Jacksonville, FL 32225

I would like to take this time to welcome our new members; Hillary Boarders, William French, Jerry Perdue, Christopher Turoski, Tony Sarchet, Scott Walker, David Frederick, and two new transfers, Joshua Bello and Gerald Hiatt. Welcome aboard!!

For God and Country,  
Michael Dux  
[michaeljdix@yahoo.com](mailto:michaeljdix@yahoo.com)

## **2nd Vice Report**

I would like to start by thanking everyone who pitched in and helped on the Steak night for March during my absence. I understand some folks were not as happy as normal with their steak. A good steak has to start with the right cut of meat. Our steaks have been coming from the same source for over two years, and have been pretty consistent; until this last time. I assure you that I'll do everything I can to not let that happen again. I try and get the best quality available for the money.

Well, Spring is here, with all of the fun and activities that go with it. We start with our **Steak Night** on the 1<sup>st</sup>. Then on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, we'll be doing the **Veterans Awareness Walk**. This is a great opportunity to get the word out to the local community about Veterans' needs, and who we are at the American Legion. From all of our programs, and all that we do for those in need. It's also a great opportunity for recruiting new Members. Please sign up. The signup sheet and a flyer are on the General Board.

The following weekend (8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>) is the **Annual ALR Chapter 283 Campout**. If you've never been, you should. It's a blast, and a great weekend get-a-way. You do not have to be a Rider. The sign up list is posted. Get on it! Also on the 10<sup>th</sup>, the **Legacy Run** is stopping by our Post. We'll be providing an Italian Dinner. Watch for further info forth coming concerning the times, etc.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> we're having our **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chip, Toss, and Shoot Event with Kids Carnival**. This event was awesome the first two years, and we're growing each year. Feel free to see me if you want to volunteer. If not, come out that day and have a very fun day. There's something for everyone, and the proceeds are going to the National Emergency Fund.

See y'all at the Post. April is gonna be awesome..

For God and Country!  
Jeff Lafferty  
Post 283 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander  
[2ndvice@floridalegion283.org](mailto:2ndvice@floridalegion283.org)

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Report**

April is upon us so soon. The following is what has been happening. Steak Night on the 11<sup>th</sup> of March went well and Sandlewood JROTC Cadets helped the Post with preparing the meal, serving, and then cleaning up after the meal. They did an outstanding job. There were 8 Sandlewood Cadets present to help.

Boys State Program has come a long way. We have 5 Delegates and 3 Alternates. All boys have registered for Boy's State with the Headquarters. The following are where the Boys were selected from.

The Delegates are from the following High Schools: One boy is from Episcopal High School, One

boy is from Wolfson High School, One boy is from Stanton Preparatory High School, One boy is from Terry Parker High School and One boy is from First Coast High School.

The three Alternates are from the following High Schools: One boy is from First Coast High School, and 2 Boys are from Terry Parker High School. It has been a very pleasant and rewarding experience interviewing these young men and getting to know what their future plans and goals are.

We will have an Orientation at Post 197 at 7 pm on 9 June 2016 with all the Delegates from Boys State and their parents. On 19 June 2016 Boys will be leaving Post 197 at 6:30 am to go to Boys State. There will be an awards night the night before they leave Boys State from 7-9 pm. The next morning the 25<sup>th</sup> of June the Boys will be returning home. I plan on riding up to Boys State with the Boys on 19 June and am sure looking forward to it.

Another thing that I am working on is to get only one boy or girl that is 16-18 years old and have a C average, for the Florida Highway Patrol Training Youth Cadet Academy. They must have a valid driver's license and a copy of the driver's license must accompany the application. Applicants should have an interest in pursuing a career in the Criminal Justice System. They will have classroom instruction and physical training. The dates are July 11<sup>th</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup> 2016. If you know anyone who meets the criteria please let me know. I have a copy of the application for this program.

I wish everyone a very pleasant and safe April 2016.

For God And Country  
Martha Nelson  
[sgmmartha@hotmail.com](mailto:sgmmartha@hotmail.com)  
904-790-2988

## **S.A.L. Commander's Report**



We are presently at 91.46% in membership renewals. AS you know membership is the lifeblood of any organization. Your membership dues contribute to the overall programs of the SAL and keeps our membership growing. I encourage those of you who have not made payment for the 2016 year to do so now. We are getting close to the year's end and I would like to see the Squadron meets it 100% goal.

The Chip, Toss and Shoot event is just around the corner, Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup>. We have a lot of events planned and hope to see you there. Sign up for the events starts at 11 AM and we will begin the events at 12 noon. The Auxiliary will be hosting a Children's Event at the opposite end of the property from where the SAL event will take place. Come out and have a great time.

Two of our SAL members passed away recently, John Dukes and Bobby Daub. Our condolences goes to the families for their loss. They were both long time members and they will always be remembered.

First round nominations for 2016-2017 SAL officers were held at the March meeting. Nominations are as follows: Commander, Tom Harris; First Vice Commander, Jeff Lafferty; Second Vice Commander, Richie Sours; Finance Officer, Danny Hill; Chaplin, Johnny Quinn and Sergeant at Arms, Rodney Fullwood.

By rule nominations must be held during the March, April and June meetings. Second round will be held during the April meeting which will be held on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Remember, it's a privilege to be a member of the SAL. Attend the meetings to take part in electing your officers and being informed as to the business of your Squadron.

For God and Country  
Tom Harris, Commander

### **Auxiliary President's Report**



March has come and gone already and with that starts the warmer months! Hope you had a Happy Easter and St. Patrick's Day. We had a wonderful St. Patrick's Day Dinner by Mari Gierok and her "crew". Hope you didn't miss it. The Unit also held our annual Children's

Easter Party which was lots of fun. The children had a visit by the Easter Bunny and found lots of eggs on the Easter egg hunt. Thanks to everyone who attended and help make the event such a success.

Our Unit membership is going well and as of writing this we are over 86%. We welcomed 4 new members Eileen Flanagan, Cynthia Noland, Bonita Ruffling, and Stephanie Turoski as well as a transfer Deborah Jean Miller at our March meeting. The 5<sup>th</sup> District held a member calling day at our Post to call member who hadn't renewed their dues. Thanks to all that came out to help. If you have not renewed your dues for 2016, remember you can submit your dues by mail, online or stop by the Post and drop them off with the bartender.

The election process of Unit Officers for the 2016 – 2017 year started in March with the election of the Nominating Committee; Linda Hartford, Marge Strout and Debbie Collins. Nominations will be made at the April and May meetings with the election at the May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting after nominations. If you are interested in being nominated or want information about the various positions and the responsibilities, please contact one of the members of the committee.

The end of the Unit year is just around the corner and the Officers and Committee Chairman have been busy completing their reports to submit to 5<sup>th</sup> District by April 15<sup>th</sup>. These reports contain information of all the activities/donations and volunteer hours that we did to support our veterans, active duty military and their families, children & youth and our community for the year. Thank you to everyone who submitted your volunteer hours and, of course, all of the chairman and officers for your work in putting in all together.

April 2<sup>nd</sup> will be a Commander's Walk for Veterans from 11 – 2 pm. The walk will be of about 2 miles starting at our neighborhood Walmart at Hartsfield. \$15 donation includes a tee shirt to wear on the walk with proceeds to benefit the Disaster Fund. Signup sheet is on the bulletin board. Come out and support our Post and promote the Legion Family.

Our next Unit meetings will be April 13<sup>th</sup> with Executive Committee at 6:30 and General Membership at 7 pm. 5<sup>th</sup> District meets Apr 10<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm at Post 54 in Fernandina. The Post family Blood Drive also is April 10<sup>th</sup> from 8 am – 12:15. All who donate will receive a free tee shirt from the blood bank and a yummy SAL Breakfast. Please come out and give the gift of life.

April 15<sup>th</sup> dinner is hosted by the Auxiliary and will feature Lasagna by Mari. This dinner is always a treat be sure to mark your calendar. The Unit will be participating in the SAL Chip, Toss and Shoot event April 16<sup>th</sup> by hosting a Kid's Carnival. The Carnival will be 11 am – 3 pm and include fun games with cool prizes, yummy treats and more. All proceeds will benefit the Legion's Disaster Fund.

Additional details for all events are in the Unit's weekly news emails. If you are not receiving the emails and would like to please let me know. Hope to see you at our next event or monthly meeting. If, you have questions, suggestions, or ideas you can reach me at 571-4541 or by email at [janicedixon2132@comcast.net](mailto:janicedixon2132@comcast.net).

Be ever mindful of those serving our country, the sick & wounded and their families. From the service of one comes the support of many.

Janice Dixon  
President



### **Legion Rider Director's Report**



I just want to say the best way to start out the month of March is with a "Mardi Gras Bash". Thanks to Ella, Phil and crew for a great party. Then down to Daytona for bike week. I hope everyone had fun.

This month we also said Happy 97<sup>th</sup> Birthday to The American Legion. And finished it off with the St. Patrick's Day party and the Auxiliary Children's Easter party.

Not many scheduled rides this month unless you went on one of the Merry-Go-Round rides in support of the Children and Youth programs. Some people are getting their bikes ready for the months to come.

April will start out in true rider fashion; starting with the First Annual Bike Night at Regency Adamec Harley in support of Wreaths Across America on April 1<sup>st</sup>. The next day, some of us will park our bikes for a few hours and take part in the Commander's Walk For Veterans.

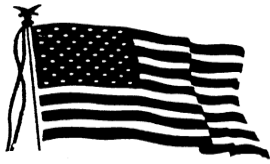
The next weekend, April 9<sup>th</sup>, there will be a benefit ride for Ryan Lebaron of Chapter 137. April 10<sup>th</sup> is the day we get to show everyone why we are called the Mighty 283 with the In-State Legacy Ride. Come and join us as we entertain riders from all over and show them why we are a part of the Mighty 5<sup>th</sup> District.

Several rides happening the next weekend along with the SAL Chip, Toss and Shoot where we will be helping out. And we finish out the month with a fun run for ALR88 in support of the Sulzbacher center.

Always remember. No matter what you're riding on or driving in; this is Florida. Motorcycles are everywhere. Please watch out.. Look Twice, then look again. Let all riders get to where they are going safely.

For God and Country  
Rusty Crowds  
Director Chapter 283

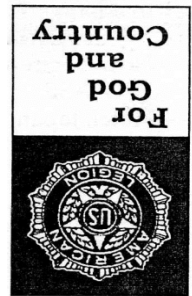
[Directoralr283@gmail.com](mailto:Directoralr283@gmail.com)



# American Legion Post 283 April 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 LEGION STEAK DINNER 6 – 7:30  MIDLIFE CRISIS	2 ALR MTG 9AM  JAMMIN' JIM KARAOKE
3	4	5 SAL PIZZA 6 – 7:30 PM  HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	6 HUMP DAY SNACKS  SAL MEETING 7PM	7 SOFTBALL BAKED ZITI  BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	8 SAL FISH FRY 6 – 7:30  DIAL TONE	9 ALR 283 ANNUAL CAMPOUT  JIMBO & DEBBIE KARAOKE
10 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11 BLOOD DRIVE 5 <sup>th</sup> DISTRICT MEETING POST 54	11 LEGION MEETINGS EXEC 6PM GENERAL 7PM	12 DISASTER PREP CHICKEN POT PIE HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	13 HUMP DAY SNACKS AUX MEETINGS EXEC – 6:30PM GENERAL – 7PM	14 CHICKEN QUESADILLA DINNER BY TAMMY BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	15 AUX LASAGN A DINNER BY MARI  LYONS	16 SAL CHIP, TOSS SHOOT 11 – 'TIL KIDS' CARNAVAL 11:00 – 3:00 JAMMIN' JIM KARAOKE
17	18	19 SAL PIZZA 6 – 7:30 PM 5 STAR PLANNING 7PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	20 BUILDING COMMITTEE MTG 7PM HUMP DAY SNACKS	21 SOFTBALL MEATBALL SUBS  BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	22 ALR CHICKEN MOZZERALLA DINNER  DOUBLE DOWN	23 BLESSING OF THE BIKES 10AM CROSS ROADS LUTHERAN CHURCH JIMBO & DEBBIE KARAOKE
24 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 - 11	25	26 SAL AWESOME SAUSAGE DOGS  HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	27 HUMP DAY SNACKS	28 AUX BAKED CHICKEN DINNER BY MARI BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	29 HARRY'S AUTHENTIC PHILLY CHEESESTEAK SANDWICHES ROCKIN' MACHINE	30   KAREN KARAOKE

LOOK FOR US ON-LINE AT [WWW.FLORIDALEGION283.ORG](http://WWW.FLORIDALEGION283.ORG) AND [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LEGION283](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LEGION283)



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