



ARLINGTON AMERICAN LEGION  
**LEGION NEWS** POST 283

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Chartered 1956



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

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July 2016

**Commander's Report**



June is gone and we are into summer. Once again the vote to go smoke free passed. The vote to go smoke free will go into effect on August 1<sup>st</sup> 2016, this includes all tobacco products as well as e-cigarettes and vapors! I would like to take this

opportunity to thank everyone for your support and help over the past year

I am looking forward to another great year as your commander and Comrade.

We held a Flag Retirement ceremony at sunset on 14th of June in observance of Flag Day. Thanks to everyone who volunteer.

Our Boys State candidates had a great time in Tallahassee learning about our state government at the State Capital.

Much appreciation goes to the ladies of the Auxiliary for their fine cooking of breakfast on Father's day.

The Post 283 American Legion Youth baseball team Season has started their schedule is posted on the bulletin board at the post. Other events in July will be an open House on the 4th and will provide hamburgers and hot dogs, it the festivities will begin at 1pm till they run out.

The Post elections were held on 4th June and the results are final. Next year's officers are:

- Commander – Jim Welch, 1st Vice – Jim Wallace, 2nd Vice –Jeff Lafferty,
- 3rd Vice –Martha Nelson, Finance Officer – Bill Curnutte,
- Sgt-at-arms – Dean Altizer
- Asst. Sgt-at-arms – Gerald Hiett
- Chaplain – John Hugus
- Historian- Don Collins
- Executive Committee – Richard Kassner, Wesley McMillan, Scott Walker, Phil Jansen, Larry Collier
- Board of Directors – Terry Repko and Rusty Crowdus.

If you see them around the post, thank them for volunteering for the 2016-2017 year. Installation will be July 16<sup>th</sup> 1pm.

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**

Welcome to July 2016. We are always looking for new members, so if you know anyone who would like to become a member feel free to get them in contact with me or any other officer and we will get them signed up. I would be happy to assist in getting the info needed to help prospective members apply for membership or other info on the programs that are available to them.

Thank you members for exceeding the 100% membership renewals for 2016, On that note, we need to begin the process for renewing your membership for the upcoming year. We will be having an early bird dinner for those who have renewed their membership prior to November 1st. So let's make it our goal to reach 100% by the deadline and see everyone at the dinner, date and time to be determined.

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

**2nd Vice Report**

I'd like to thank everyone for intrusting me to be your 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice again this year. I'll continue to do my best for you. I'm looking forward to continuing to work with the rest of the Post Officers, as we have a great group for the 2016-2017 year. I'm also looking forward to working with all of the great volunteers that step up. Without them, and the teamwork, I could not pull off everything that is required. Just so everyone knows, I also have the honor this year to be the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice for the SAL, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice for the ALR. If you need assistance in these areas, please do not hesitate to contact me. Lastly, as you may or may not know, Tom "TooTall" Harris has been elected again this year as 5<sup>th</sup> District SAL Commander. I am privileged to have been elected SAL 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander for the 5<sup>th</sup> District. So for our SAL, we will be well represented, and we take it very seriously. The SAL is a direct reflection of the Post, and we'll be showing everyone how it's done, the right way, as a Family, at Post 283.

The Installation of this year's Officers will be at 1:00 on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Please come out and meet your new Officers, and enjoy what I am sure is going to be a fabulous meal by Ken.

Our last steak night was a great success. It was the first time we sold all 90 Steaks. We didn't even have any left to feed the JROTC. We are getting the same steaks for July, but we'll order 110 this time. Come on out on the 1<sup>st</sup> and get yourself one.

Also, we have an open house on the 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:00. Come on out for a meal and good times with friends to celebrate America's Independence.

We had a recent surprise visit from the Health Department. **100%. 0 hits! Great job to Ken, and all of those who have been using / cleaning the kitchen over the last few months!**

At the July General Meeting, we will have a presentation for the Boy's State Boys and their parents. Come on out and meet these fine young men. They could very well be part of our future within the Post.

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**

First and foremost I would like to thank everyone that came out and voted during the elections. It is such an honor to be representing Post 283 again for another year.

June was a busy month. I had the Boy's State Orientation on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June at Post 197 with the five Delegates that were selected to attend. The Boy's will be leaving for Tallahassee on the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> of June. I will be meeting them the morning of the 19<sup>th</sup> at 0530 am at Post 197 to have breakfast with them and to give them a thank you letter from the Commander and also spending money. The boy's will be challenged while they are at Boy's State. They will be taking a lot of tests and running for different offices. It will be an experience that they will never forget. I am very proud of the five delegates that will be representing our Post. There will be an awards night the night before they return home.

The five Delegates from Boys State will be coming to the Legion Meeting on 11 July with their parent's to tell everyone of their experience and the positions that they held. They will receive scholarship money, pens with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice's information on it and also an excellence coin.

Also the Boy's State Delegates will have a meet and greet with the Girl's State Delegates and there parent's on 31 July from 2-4 pm, finger food will be served. This is open to everyone that want to hear about their experiences.

I have a girl that has been selected for the Florida Highway Patrol Cadet Academy. She will be attending July 11<sup>th</sup> to JULY 15<sup>TH</sup>. She is 16 years old from Terry Parker High School and is also in the JROTC. Her Mother was a State Trooper so they are both very excited about this experience. She is looking at going to college to study Criminal Justice. The week will include classroom instruction in the history of law enforcement, defensive driving, motor vehicle laws, first aid, shooting demonstrations, drug and alcohol abuse, as well as demonstrations of police skills, such as personal defense and weapons firing. Organized physical activity will be a part of the program as well as tours of the area as time permits. We wish her well and hope this will be a great experience.

Steak night on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June went well and Terry Parker JROTC volunteered to help the Post with preparing the meal, serving, and then cleaning up after the meal. They did an outstanding job. There were 7 Terry Parker Cadets present to help and one Mother.

For God And Country

Martha Nelson

[sgmmartha@hotmail.com](mailto:sgmmartha@hotmail.com)

304-790-2988

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



First I would like to start off this report by announcing the installation of officer's will be held Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM. All incoming officer's elect must attend.

I want to thank the Squadron for allowing me to attend the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual State Convention this past week held

in Orlando. I was able to attend informational and training courses that bring a lot of insight as to how the SAL operates and its role in supporting the Detachment and the American Legion as a whole. I'm pleased to announce Squadron 283 was recognized and received numerous awards as follows. First Place: Children's Miracle Network Jim Mitchell Award, Best Children & Youth Report, Special Olympics Greenly Paine Award. First Place: Project VetRelief Award and in addition the Special Olympics Diamond Award. Congratulation's Squadron 283 on a job well done. Be proud, you earned it with all you dedication in support of the SAL!

The Squadron is now in possession of the 2017 membership cards. I realize your 2016 card is good until the end of the year. However as brought up at convention the Detachment encourages all members of the Squadron's to renew your dues as quickly as possible. One reason is our dues support the operations of the Detachment as well as National. So I ask that if all possible you go ahead and pull out of your pocket the 20 bucks it takes to re-up. Jeff Lafferty is the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice, Membership Chairman and is in possession of the roster. As I have mentioned before you can get with Jeff directly or leave your dues at the bar or just mail it in. If you leave your dues at the bar please make a note if you want your card left at the bar or mailed out. If you pay the bartender cash be sure to get a receipt. If you have changed your address or phone number let us know and make a note of it. We can only go by the information so noted in the rooster.

As your incoming Commander I look forward to a bigger and better year. The Squadron has a great group of Officer's and Volunteer's. If you are not presently involved I strongly encourage you to come join us. We have tremendous camaraderie which results in self satisfaction being a part of an organization that supports our Veteran's, Children & Youth and our Community as a whole.

For God and Country  
Tom Harris, Commander



## **Auxiliary President's Report**



Happy Birthday to the United States of America! Hope everyone has a great Independence Day!!!

June was a great month. We started the month with 7 members attending the 5<sup>th</sup> District Constitution Conference for election of district officers. Congratulations to our unit

member and Past President Robbin Walker on her election to 5<sup>th</sup> District President for the 2016-2017 year. We also had four members attend the American Legion Department of Florida convention in Orlando and bring back a wealth of information for our Unit to use as we move into the next Auxiliary year.

The Unit had a wonderful Back Yard Picnic for our June dinner. We also had our Annual Father's Day Breakfast which was yummy and everyone especially the Dads had a good time. Thanks to everyone who came out to eat and help with the events. Flag Day flag retirement ceremony was very moving. If you haven't attended one yet be sure watch the bulletins for the next service as it is worth attending.

We are still edging toward our 100% membership goal at 97.20% for 2015-2016 at the time of writing this article. Remember you can still submit your dues so that you can continue to honor the veteran in your life by mail, online or stop by the Post and drop them off with the bartender. Dues for the 2016-2017 will start to be collected after American Legion Department of Florida convention that was held in June.

Our next Unit meetings are July 13<sup>th</sup> with the Executive Committee at 6:30 and General Membership at 7 pm. Hope to see you there. Mari Gierok is planning a wonderful parmesan cheese chicken dinner on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Get away from the heat of the stove and let us make your dinner. July 17<sup>th</sup> will be the next Post Family Blood drive 8 am – 12 noon and all who try or donate will get a yummy SAL breakfast. One unit of blood can save the lives of 3 people so plan to come and give the gift of life.

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**



Hello Riders and Friends,  
Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July from all the riders. Because of the Holiday weekend, the rider's next general meeting will be July 9<sup>th</sup>.

With post elections done, convention now concluded, the new Officers will be installed to their post on July 16<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. Come and support all the incoming Officers of your post. They are already at work. The riders are looking forward to a great year

at our post. Working with each other as a FAMILY is the key to our great success.

News from Convention: 11 Legion Riders attended the event for their particular family. It was successful as conventions go. The 5<sup>th</sup> District ALR won the Round Robin for 2016. The custom built trophy will be passed among the participating 5<sup>th</sup> district chapters. Chapter 283 presented donations for the Legacy Fund as well as Project Vet Relief. Project Vet Relief has been restructured and now includes 2 Legion seats on the board for oversight. It's now being endorsed fully by the Legion.

ALR Dept. of Florida is planning a Legion Rider Convention possibly to be held in January. There will be classes, and training geared toward the Riders. The first one of its kind to be held at Dept. Headquarters. More information will be forth coming.

The ALR has done away with the (ALR bylaws) and will be using an SOP as a guild line. This was decided at the 2015 convention by the Legion Department of Florida. The SOP will be the guide on how to do business under post bylaws catered to our particular chapter. The bylaws committee has been working on this for a year and we are in the final stages.

Just to recap, in June the Riders had 54 members at the June meeting. There were 4 guests, in which 2 joined after the meeting. Several members were on vacation. We also had 2 renewals and a transfer. We are approaching 170+ Members. After the meeting we rode to the Battle Museum in Green Cove Springs. We took the tour and made our annual donation. The ALR Chapter 283 Legion Riders can be followed on Facebook.

Our September poker run for the Five Star Veterans Center is planned. This is the biggest event our post undertakes. Last year we raised well over \$26,000.00 for the center. We had close to 400 bikes and served about 600 meals. The riders have set this year's goal higher than ever. We have flyers, sponsors letters available to all for use. Word of mouth and the electronic media promote this ride. "We can do it!"

On a personnel note, I'm glad to be back to serve as your Director. Congratulations to Past Director Rusty Crowds, as he has become our 5<sup>th</sup> District ALR Chairman. We are going to be planning more rides, dinners, and events that serve our post and our Veterans. Come to the meetings, the rides, and the dinners and help. Be part of a great group of people.

Rodney Fullwood Jr.  
Chapter Director Post 283

**Freedom's natal day is here.  
Fire the guns and shout for freedom,  
See the flag above unfurled!  
Hail the stars and stripes forever,  
Dearest flag in all the world.**

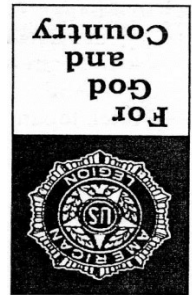
**~Florence A. Jones**



# American Legion Post 283 July 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS</b>	BOYS & GIRLS STATE MEET & GREET ON THE 31 <sup>ST</sup> FROM 2 - 4				1 LEGION STEAK NIGHT 6 - 7:30 <b>GUITAR RED</b>	2  <b>JAMMIN' JIM KARAOKE</b>
3 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 - 11	4 <b>INDEPENDENCE DAY OPEN HOUSE</b> 1:00 - 'TIL	5 SAL PIZZA 6 - 7:30 PM <b>HARRY'S TRIVIA</b> 7-9 PM	6 HUMP DAY SNACKS  SAL MEETING 7PM	7 SOFTBALL CHICKEN CASSEROLE <b>BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM</b>	8 SAL TOO TALL'S RIB DINNER 6 - 7:30 <b>SPEKTRA</b>	9  ALR MTG 9AM <b>JIMBO &amp; DEBBIE KARAOKE</b>
10	11 LEGION MEETINGS EXEC 6PM GENERAL 7PM	12 DISASTER PREP TATER TOT CASSEROLE <b>HARRY'S TRIVIA</b> 7-9 PM	13 HUMP DAY SNACKS AUX MEETINGS EXEC - 6:30PM GENERAL - 7PM	14 AUX HAM AND CHEESE SAMMIES  <b>BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM</b>	15 AUX PARMESAN CHEESE CHICKEN 6 - 7:30 <b>BLACK CREEK RISING</b>	16 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS 1:00  <b>JAMMIN' JIM KARAOKE</b>
17 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 - 11  <b>BLOOD DRIVE</b>	18	19 SAL PIZZA 6 - 7:30 PM <b>HARRY'S TRIVIA</b> 7-9 PM	20 HUMP DAY SNACKS	21 SOFTBALL BEEF STROGANOFF <b>BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM</b>	22 ALR BOSTON BUTT DINNER 6 - 7:30 <b>JAXX OR BETTER</b>	23  <b>JIMBO &amp; DEBBIE KARAOKE</b>
24	25	26 SAL TUNA & CHICKEN SALAD WRAPS  <b>HARRY'S TRIVIA</b> 7-9 PM	27 HUMP DAY SNACKS	28 AUX TAMALES BY JANE  <b>BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM</b>	29 DISASTER PREP SHEPARD'S PIE  <b>DOUBLE DOWN</b>	30  <b>KAREN KARAOKE</b>
31 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 - 11						

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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