



ARLINGTON AMERICAN LEGION **LEGION NEWS** POST 283

9459 Ft. Caroline Rd. Jacksonville Florida 32225

Phone 904-641-8111

Chartered 1956



www.facebook.com/legion283

www.floridalegion283.org

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January 2017

Commander's Report



The New Year is here, hope everyone had a great holiday season with friends and family. December was a very busy time at the Post and a lot of things were happening. Christmas basket donations for our homeless/needy Veterans was a huge success. The people who received holiday baskets were very grateful. With the donations from our members and help from the Auxiliary, we were able to provide dinner to over 20 families for the holiday. Thank you to all who donated to help these families have a wonderful Christmas!

We had a visit from the State of Florida Legion Commander, Joe Megee. He enjoyed the P J breakfast. And was very impressed with the way our Legion family comes together and what our members have achieved for both the community and our veterans

In case you missed the kids Christmas party, there were lots of presents and fun had by the kids. They had a rider escort from the far north to bring SANTA to the post. The Post's Christmas dinner was a great success, Thank you to all the volunteers who helped put such a great meal out.

We had lots of support for the Wreaths across America program. They were able to lay over 9,000 wreaths on the grave sites of Veteran's and their families at the Jacksonville National Cemetery. That was a very humbling experience to see all the support from our Post and community with over 250 Riders escorting the wreaths to their final resting place to honor our fallen heroes and their families. All I can say is "Wow", what an honor to see!

On January 1, you will need to produce your 2017 membership card to be served. As per Legion rules, we have to insure that all members are in possession of their membership cards at all times. There are signs posted at various locations in the lounge that serve as a reminder. Please be courteous to our staff if they request you to show your current card. They are responsible to follow our lounge rules to make sure we are in compliance with state required laws to only serve to current members. As per the Legion bylaws, no one can sign in a member who is delinquent in their dues. If you get a letter from National Headquarters saying your dues are delinquent and you have a 2017 card please disregard that letter.

Don't forget that the Post will be open New Year's Eve so bring a dish to share and ring in the New Year! There will be a band playing until 1am followed by the traditional New Year's Day Bloody Mary breakfast. It will be from 800 am until 1100 am.

As the Commander for the past two years I want to express my personal thanks to all our Legion family who have contributed their time, talent, knowledge, and

money to make Post 283 the best American Legion Post in Florida, I have utmost respect for each of you and what an honor it has been to work with all of you.

Hope to see all of you at the Post to start off this great New Year!

For God & Country
J R Welch- Post 283 Commander
Jameswelch88@comcast.net
904-710-3568

1st Vice Report

Happy New Year, 2017 is here and I hope all of you had a Merry Christmas.

We now have the 2017 membership cards ready for renewal and I would like to encourage everyone to renew by Jan 1 if you have not already done so. On Jan 1 the bartenders will be checking your cards, and you do not have a 2017 membership card, you will not be served. You can renew with me or Nancy Senter. You can contact me at jawall3@gmail.com or contact Nancy at mombuestar@att.net. Leave your payment with one of us or put it in the Legion Box at the bar with a copy of your 2016 card. Your new card will be left for you to pick up at the bar for 5 days, after that it will be mailed to you. You can also go online to renew by visiting www.legion.org/renew, just make sure you click on Post 283. Also, if you know of anyone who is eligible and might be interested in joining the post please invite them over to check us out!

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. The dates are as follows:

- AUG 2, 1990—CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES OPERATION DESERTSHIELD/DESERT STORM
- DEC. 20, 1989—JAN. 31, 1990 OPERATION JUST CAUSE/PANAMA
- AUG. 24, 1982—JUL. 31, 1984 LEBANON/GRENADA
- FEB. 28, 1961—MAY 7, 1975 VIETNAM WAR
- JUNE 25, 1950—JAN. 31, 1955 KOREAN WAR
- DEC. 7, 1941—DEC. 31, 1946 WORLD WAR II
- APR. 6, 1917—NOV. 11, 1918 WORLD WAR I
- U.S. MERCHANT MARINE — DEC. 7, 1941—AUG. 15, 1945

Proof of service is normally established by either a DD-214 showing your period of service, 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 member of post 283 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 welcome our new members to American Legion Post 283. Welcome to the greatest post in Florida.

New members for November are:

JAMES CONAWAY	ARMY
ANDREW TROUT	NAVY (AD)
ROGER W. HANCOCK	NAVY
CHRISTOPHER HAINES	NAVY
JAMES L. KING	NAVY
SALLY BALDWIN	NAVY
PAUL BELLWOOD	NAVY
BILL HENSON	NAVY/POST 316

For God and Country,

Jim Wallace

Jawall3@gmail.com

904-210-8153

2nd Vice Report

Happy New Year to all! What a great Holiday Season we've had at the Post. So many people coming together for so many events. And the food! So much good food.

I want to first thank all of the volunteers for all of the events and meals, but particularly the Christmas Open House meal. In Ken's absence, others have to pick up the load. Thank you all for helping me pick up the load. Hurry back Ken! I need you! LOL.

Steak Night continues to be a hit. We sold 91, plus fed the 11 NROTC youngsters this past steak night. I want to thank Barry, Val, and Jim for stepping up to help, as our Grill Master (Rich) was not able to be there. The next Steak Night is the 6th.

Don't forget our New Years events. We start with the Auxiliary's Bring-a-dish Extravaganza during our New Years Eve Party, then our traditional Bloody Mary Breakfast the next morning. This will be followed by Chicken Wings (real wings) at 1:00 by Jim. This will be the last Jag game of the year, so come out and enjoy. The Riders will also do a "Blessing of the Bikes" that morning.

As you can see, we're starting 2017 out in Legion style. We have a great Legion Family that we should all be proud of. I'm looking forward to an awesome 2017 at Post 283.

For God and Country!

Jeff Lafferty

Post 283 2nd Vice Commander

2ndvice@floridalegion283.org

3rd Vice Report

Happy New Year!! Thanks for the great Adult Christmas Party. The food was Outstanding. Thanks to all the volunteers.

I hope that everyone had a great Christmas and blessings for 2017.

First Coast High School JROTC has helped the American Legion in an outstanding manner. They are so professional. I'm so proud of them.

I'm getting names for Boy's State and are doing interviews this month. I hope we get as good as Boy's that we got last year, they represent the American Legion

in an outstanding manner. One is going to West Point and another the Military Institute. I am so proud of them.

I have selected the Teacher of the Year for 2017. She is an outstanding candidate and will represent the American Legion in an outstanding manner.

I am also working on getting the JROTC for the year. There are some great kids out there. I am so looking forward to getting the special one.

Also, working on the Oratorical Scholarship Program. The program is designed to help high school students develop a deeper knowledge and understanding of the Constitution of the United States. Scholarships are awarded at most levels of competition. At the national level, first place receives \$18,000; second, \$16,000, and third \$14,000.

Also working on the Veteran's in the Classroom is an initiative spearhead by the American Legion to organize a nationwide effort to connect veterans with schools and ultimately put them in the classroom. Students gain a greater respect and understanding of the veterans' sacrifices and commitment to service. It also allows students to focus on the true meaning of patriotism as they study real issues of America's history.

The Florida Law Cadet Program will be in July and we have a candidate for this program.

Thanks for letting me be 3rd Vice. I really love my job.

I wish everyone many blessings in 2017.

MARTHA NELSON

3RD VICE, POST 283

sgmmartha@hotmail.com

304-790-2988

FOR GOD & COUNTRY

Sal Report



Member has reached 63.05% and renewals are coming in well. If you haven't paid your dues yet then you will need to do so to be serviced at the Canteen. The Post will be checking cards. As a reminder you cannot have someone purchase for you nor be signed in. I have noted this in my past reports so if you have not renewed, no excuse. Even if you have paid, you need to produce your card. Leaving it at home isn't going to work. Thanks to all those who fried almost up to 60 turkeys and assisted in the Thanksgiving Day dinner. It was a great day and many of our Family members and guest had a great time. A thank you goes out to those SAL members who also assisted with the Children's Christmas Party. And a big thanks to Santa Clause Val! As all know we lost another SAL member this year, Mark "The Shark" Schneider. Mark loved playing shuffle board and was very good at it. Thus, The Shark. We will miss him. The Legion Riders are hosting a big function the first weekend in March, the State Ride In. SAL has been asked to once again prepare the BBQ for such an event. For this event I'm going to ask members from the other Squadrons within the District if they would like to assist. I'll also be looking for volunteers from our Squadron as well. So if you're interested please let me

know. Additional info regarding what our role is will be forthcoming. We will begin nomination of officers for the years 2017-2018 beginning in March. If you are interested in a position to represent your Squadron then now's the time to be considering. Nominations will be for Commander, 1st Vice, 2nd Vice, Finance Officer, Chaplain and Sergeant at Arms.

For God & Country
Commander, Tom Harris

Auxiliary President's Report



Happy Holidays to all of you and your families! I hope that you have a peaceful and joyous New Year! The 283 Auxiliary members have been busy this last month. We hosted our first Pajama Breakfast on Dec 10th which was a big hit! In attendance were distinguished guests from Department of Florida and 5th District Legion and Auxiliary officers. Many donated their time and talent to make this event a success, we raised \$380. Our Children's Christmas Party was also a success, held on the same day. Santa arrived in grand style on a red Harley led by Rudolph and the other reindeer. All 41 children received gifts from Santa and went home happy and well fed. Two lucky children won bicycles for guessing how many mints in the jar.

We have donated Christmas food baskets to 10 families in need. Santa and Mrs. Claus have visited Clyde Lassen Veteran's home to deliver donations as well. We are still collecting box tops for Education and clipping coupons for troops overseas. We hosted the Adult Christmas Party on Friday December 16th. We served our Post family many delicious finger foods and spread a little Christmas cheer. A big Welcome to Pam Mullay, our new Treasurer! Her email is 283auxtreasurer@gmail.com. We have welcomed many new members to our Unit as well; Tracy Ihle, Katherine Moran, Nancy O'Leary, Christine Flynn, Bree Hayhoe, Hope Zenkovich, Carol Scialli, Shonna Conoway, Sabrina Browning, Killian Mullay, Jessica Howard and transfer member Kimberly Kamertz.

The Post Family Pot-Luck New Year's Eve party will be great fun. It will be wonderful to see all who come out on New Years' Day for the Bloody Mary breakfast and the Blessing of the Bikes. In January we look forward to a few delicious meals made by the Auxiliary members. Mari will feed the Bingo crowd her Fabulous Sloppy Joes on the 12th and Chicken Fettuccine on the 26th. On Friday the 20th Jane will make her Sumptuous Spinach and Cheese Stuffed Chicken with Macaroni and Cheese. On the 24th Brenda will make her tummy warming chili for the Trivia crowd. Please come out and enjoy the food and fun while supporting our cause. On the Saturday the 28th, Post 283 will host The Auxiliary Basic School of Instruction. This is open to all members and a great way to learn about our organization and how you can get more involved! Registration starts at 8:00 am, the school starts at 9:00 and will go until about 1:00 pm. A light breakfast and lunch will be supplied. If you are not receiving our Weekly News Blast please email Jane at: janesciullo@gmail.com.

I'd like to take this time to thank you all for your support and volunteerism, always remember who you

joined for whether a spouse, parent or grandparent, it's all about our veterans.

For God and country,
Michelle Mohilchock

Legion Rider Director's Report



Happy New Year, Riders and Friends, December is known for TOYS for TOTS, Wreaths across America, Christmas Parties and the season of giving. It's flown by fast as well as the 2016 year. The 5th District Riders brought home the 2016 Round Robin Trophy as well as holds the 2016 Merry Go Round Trophy. Until Convention in June the Trophies will travel together around the 5th District for Chapter to chapter. Congratulations to the all ALR Riders. Great work.

Our very own ALR Chaplain, Susi Hiett was recognized by her employer for her volunteer work with Wreaths across America and the ALR. Susi and Gerald traveled to Arlington National Cemetery and were able to place a Wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Thanks for including the 283 riders in your adventure. What and honor, congratulations.

Post 283 will host the State Rally the First weekend in March. Riders from all over the state are invited to attend. We will be promoting this event over the next few months. Chapters around the district will be involved in the planning and execution of the event. More to come.

Turning the focus to membership. This is it, it's time. We should be at 100% already but we're not. Riders renew your post dues first. The New SOP requires you to be a member of the Post 283 family in order to be a member of the ALR283 Riders. Rider Lifetime memberships are not transferable from another post. Make 283 your home and get renewed. We are still growing, 185+ Rider members have raised and donated from May 1st to present, over \$40,000 dollars to charities, over 5000 hrs. And over 14,000 miles ridden. Thank You! to the Riders, Supporters and Volunteers for all their hard work.

Coming up for 2017, ALR Summit, State Rally, Instate Legacy Ride. Red Shirt Rider Dinners like, Chili cook-off, Marti gra and the 10th Annual Poker Run for Five Star Veterans Center. Other Charity rides for 233 Fisher House, 88 Sulzbacker Center, 9 Boots on the Ground and more.

Looking forward to riding with you in 2017, and again Blessings for the Happy New Year.

Rodney Fullwood Jr.
Chapter Director 283



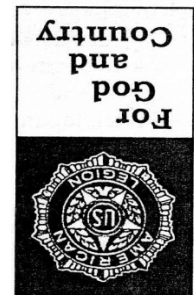
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!
THE ANNUAL MARDI
GRAS PARTY WILL BE ON
MARCH 10, 2017



American Legion Post 283 January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 BLOODY MARY BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00 BLESSING OF THE BIKES	2	3 SAL PIZZA 6 – 7:30 PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	4 HUMP DAY SNACKS SAL MEETING 7PM	5 SOFTBALL CHICKEN ALFREDO BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	6 LEGION STEAK NIGHT 6 – 7:30 LYONS	7 ALR MEETING 9AM BRISTOL KARAOKE
8 5TH DISTRICT MEETINGS POST 250 LEGION – 2:00 SAL- 12:30	9 LEGION MEETINGS EXEC 6:30 PM GENERAL 7PM	10 SAL BACON CHEESEBURGERS 6 – 7:30 PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	11 HUMP DAY SNACKS AUX MEETINGS EXEC – 6:30PM GENERAL – 7PM	12 AUX SLOPPYJOES BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	13 SAL TERIYAKI PORK CHOPS 6 – 7:30 BACKWOOD BOYS	14 JIMBO & DEBBIE KARAOKE
15 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00	16	17 SAL PIZZA 6 – 7:30 PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	18 HUMP DAY SNACKS	19 SOFTBALL CHICKEN & RICE BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	20 AUX STUFFED CHICKEN W/MAC & CHEESE DOUBLEDOWN	21 BRISTOL KARAOKE
22	23	24 AUX CHILI 6 – 7:30 PM HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM	25 HUMP DAY SNACKS	26 AUX CHICKEN FETTUCINE BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	27 ALR PORK BUTT DINNER BY STACY JAX OR BETTER	28 JIMBO & DEBBIE KARAOKE
29 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00	30	31 DISASTER PREP MEATBALL SUBS HARRY'S TRIVIA 7-9 PM		MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS	JAGUARS @ COLTS ON THE 1ST - WINGS	

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