



# ARLINGTON AMERICAN LEGION

# LEGION NEWS POST 283

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Chartered 1956



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

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

VOL. 18, NO. 1

January 2018

## 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!

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 2018 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 2018 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.

The Auxiliary breakfast on the morning of the 21<sup>st</sup> which coincides with our Post Blood Drive. Anyone who donates or attempts to donate will receive a free breakfast. Please give the gift of life.

As the Commander for the past three 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 and Country  
Jim Welch Post 283 Commander  
Cell: 904-710-3925 Jameswelch88@comcast.net

## 1st Vice Report

Happy New Year American Legion Post 283! We are looking forward to an exciting and great 2018 for our OUTSTANDING post.

Thanks to your continued support. The post is closing the gap in meeting our goals for the year. At the time this newsletter was written our percentage stood at 73.59% with cards awaiting processing at Department. We only missed our goal in December by less than 3% cutting our deficit in half from last month. Our next target is 80% - 85% assigned to us by 03 January 2018. We are well on our way and I am anticipating making it with the end of the year here. Please keep working to get new members and transfers into our post.

There are many ways to renew your membership. You can leave your payment with me or Nancy directly. Another option is to leave your payment with a copy of your 2017 card in an envelope with your name and stating renewal for 2018 in the LEGION box by the bar. We will process your new card and it will be available for pick-up at the bar for 5 days. If not retrieved in that time frame we will mail it to you. Too busy to stop by in person this is no problem. You can go online to renew by visiting [www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew) but please ensure you click on Post 283. Another effective way to renew is through the mail. You can mail your dues to:

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

Nancy or I can be contacted at [mombluestar@att.net](mailto:mombluestar@att.net) or [spageau\\_70@yahoo.com](mailto:spageau_70@yahoo.com) should you have any questions or need assistance with Legion membership.

As always new members as well as transfers are welcome so if you know anyone that meets the eligibility criteria to join invite them out to see what we are all about. I can tell you from traveling around the 5<sup>th</sup> District we are a busy post with a lot going on. We have a lot to offer in ways of programs and events.

Membership in the American Legion as a Legionnaire is reserved exclusively for those that have served in a time of war. The dates listed below are mandated by the United States Congress in the charter they have granted 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 - PRESENT GULF WAR/WAR ON TERRORISM
- DEC 20, 1989 - JAN 31, 1990 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 the 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 everyone else dues are \$40.00.

We would like to welcome our new members to American Legion Post 283. Welcome to the top post in Florida.

New members for October are:

JERRY R. TAYLOR                      NAVY

Transfers are:

SCOTT S. HARROLD                      NAVY/POST 400

For God and Country,  
Scott Pageau  
Post 283 1ST Vice  
5th District Historian & Law and Order Chairman  
Cell: 904-422-6055

## 2nd Vice Report

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Years Eve.

We had a great steak night in December serving 122 dinners. The kids from First Coast High School ROTC as well as our growing family of volunteers from the post did an excellent job. Join us on January 5th for another great Ribeye Dinner and stay for some live music and dancing.

The hot appetizer snacks for the Jaguar games have been going well. The SAL 2nd vice, Jim Mullay, and myself will be putting something together for the Playoff game(or games) when the schedule come out. Be ready to come out and enjoy some good eats while rooting on the Jaguars.

I understand the Thanksgiving dinner went very well with the post serving 140 dinners. We also fried 75 turkeys that morning. Christmas has not yet come at the writing of this letter, but i'm confident a great meal will be had by all who choose to celebrate Christmas at Post 283. Thanks to all the volunteers who took time away from their families during the holidays to ensure all of our members have a great place to assemble, enjoy a great meal, and celebrate the holidays together.

I'll see you at the post!

Richie Sours  
Post 283 2nd Vice Commander  
[2ndvice@floridalegion283.org](mailto:2ndvice@floridalegion283.org)

## 3rd Vice Report

Hope all had a wonderful Chanukah, Christmas and New Years with family and friends. Thank you to all those who donated to Toys for Tots. You helped make a child happy.

First Round of the 2017/18 HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL Competition will be held on January 17<sup>th</sup> 2018 starting at 6pm at American Legion Post 283. All High School Students (public, private or home schooled students in 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade) interested in earning scholarships from American Legion are eligible to compete. For more information about the contest/program please go to [www.legion.org/oratorical](http://www.legion.org/oratorical) or contact Lena Wood at 904 334 3715 or [lena.nullwood@gmail.com](mailto:lena.nullwood@gmail.com). We are seeking 2 more volunteers to help judge the Oratorical Contestants. If you are interested in participated as a judge please contact me.

We currently have 2 four person teams that will participate and represent American Legion 283 in the Jr Shooting Program Competition. However, we are offering classes in gun safety, shooting techniques etc. All children ages 13 till 18 are encouraged to participate. Anyone interested in signing up for classes can do so at the post or please contact Chris Garcia at 214-326-3065 or via email at [quickfuze@msn.com](mailto:quickfuze@msn.com).

Post 283 is now the proud sponsor of a Cub/Boy Scout Pack and Sea Scout Program. Cub/Boy Scout meetings will be held on Monday nights at the post. For more information and If you are interested in signing up your son(s) please contact Rusty Crowdus at [wcrowdus@gmail.com](mailto:wcrowdus@gmail.com) or via phone 904-504-3515.

We are currently seeking applicants for Boys State Program. The applicant interview process will begin at the end of January. For more information and applications for Boys State, please visit [www.floridalegion.org/program](http://www.floridalegion.org/program) and open Boys State link and/or please contact me Limited slots are available.

The blood banks are desperately needing your blood donation after the holidays. Our next Blood Drive will be held on January 21<sup>st</sup> 2018 from 7:30 until 12:00. Come donate, eat a free breakfast, receive a thank you gift from One Blood.

Finally, we will be planning another Flag Retirement Ceremony to be held Jan 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 beginning at 5:30 pm. Please come out and help retire flags. Hope to see you there

Lena Null Wood  
Post 283 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander  
Blood Drive Chairman  
ROTC/JROTC Chairman  
Children and Youth Chairman



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!**  
**THE ANNUAL MARDI**  
**GRAS PARTY WIL BE ON**  
**MARCH 10, 2018**



## SAL Report

Welcome to 2018. Hard to believe 2017 has already come and gone. Like they say, time flies when you're having fun.

December was another busy month for the SAL, as usual. In addition to all of the usual meals throughout the month, our SAL 2<sup>nd</sup>

Vice, Jim Mullay, and the Legion 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice, Richie Sours, teamed up (with their volunteers of course) to provide an exquisite Prime Rib Dinner. How awesome was that? Again, Post 283 showing how it's done.

I want to thank everyone who attended our December General Meeting. That was the largest turnout since I've been a member of this Squadron. Proof that our Squadron is growing. Let's keep it up!

I want to call out our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander, Val. As last year's 1<sup>st</sup> Vice, I was proud of our membership results. But Val is on track to blow away last years' numbers. As of this writing (December 16<sup>th</sup>) our membership is at 61.82%. As a reminder, any 2017 member who has not paid 2018 dues, will not be served at the bar, and cannot be signed in. Also, **have your card on you any time you are in the Post.** This is not only part of our Bylaws/lounge rules, it is the law. Failure to do so has the possibility of endangering the Post's Liquor License.

Spring will be here before we know it, and we all know what a busy time of year that is. Be sure to mark your calendar for the SAL's annual Chip, Toss, Shoot Event, to be held this year in conjunction with the 5<sup>th</sup> District Picnic. We will start the day out with our first annual Children's Fishing Rodeo. The date is April 21<sup>st</sup>. It's going to be a great day!

For those who remember, we had a Cadillac Tournament a while back. Everyone had an awesome time. You those of you who don't know what it is, it is an easy card game. Everyone brings a finger food. We're going to start doing it on a monthly basis, beginning January 20<sup>th</sup>. Come check it out and have a fun afternoon.

I want to thank everyone for the outpouring of support I received from so many of you after my recent surgery. Everything went well, and all of your thoughts and prayers enabled a great recovery. See y'all around the Post!

For God and Country!

Jeff Lafferty

Squadron 283 Commander

[SALcommander@floridalegion283.org](mailto:SALcommander@floridalegion283.org)

## Auxiliary President's Report



Happy New Years everyone . Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and was able to spend time with their families. So let's get this New Year started with a positive mind. The Auxiliary has been very

busy helping other units , charities and our veterans. Last year we were able to help Marathon Unit 154, Middleburg Post 250 and 5 Star Veterans Center.

We were able to help 13 families for Thanksgiving and Christmas with Holiday Baskets.

Ladies we have sent out information on the dues increase, we need to vote on the increase at our meeting January 10<sup>th</sup> Executive 6pm General Membership 7pm.

We have 2 Breakfasts this month the 7<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup> ,2 Bingo Dinners the 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 1 Girls State on the 25<sup>th</sup> and a Auxiliary Trivia Dinner on the 30<sup>th</sup> . The 19<sup>th</sup> is Robbin Walker's famous Chicken Cordon Blue, she will need desserts donated.

Let's have a wonderful year keep doing what you do making our veterans smile.

For God and Country  
Michelle Mohilchock  
Unit President

## Legion Rider Director's Report



Welcome to 2018! I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas with family and friends.

With the start of a new year, I hope to see all riders at our general meeting, Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> @ 9 am.

Please join us for the Blessing of the Bikes and New Year's Day Ride, Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Florida ALR will hold its annual Summit Jan 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>. This will be a great time for Riders to gather, share ideas and information and meet people from other districts.

Wreaths are scheduled to be picked up from JNC on January 20<sup>th</sup>. If you are available, help is always welcome.

The Rider dinner will be January 26<sup>th</sup> and the Lady Riders will be cooking! Please join us for a great meal and a fun time with friends and family.

Ride hard, ride safe, always enjoy the ride.

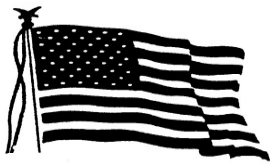
Remember, it's about the journey not the destination!

Cheryl Altman

Director Chapter 283

[Alr283director@gmail.com](mailto:Alr283director@gmail.com)

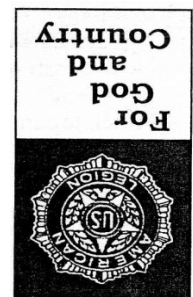




# American Legion Post 283 January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS</b>	1 <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b> SAL BLOODY MARY BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00	2 SAL PIZZA 5:30 – 7:30 PM <b>HARRY'S TRIVIA</b> 7-9 PM	3 <b>SAL MEETING</b> 7PM	4 AUX CHICKEN & DUMPLINGS <b>BINGO BEGINS</b> AT 6:30PM	5 LEGION STEAK NIGHT 6 – 7:30 <b>BAND ON THE RUN</b>	6 ALR MEETING 9AM  <b>BRISTOL KARAOKE</b>
7 AUX BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00	8 LEGION MEETINGS EXEC 6:30 PM GENERAL 7PM	9 SAL CHICKEN BREAST SANDWICHES <b>HARRY'S TRIVIA</b> 7-9 PM	10 HUMP DAY SNACKS <b>AUX MEETINGS</b> EXEC – 6:30 PM GENERAL – 7PM	11 SOFTBALL LASAGNA <b>BINGO BEGINS</b> AT 6:30PM	12 SAL MEATLOAF DINNER 6:00 – 7:30 <b>ROCKIN MACHINE</b>	13  <b>JIMBO &amp; DEBBIE KARAOKE</b>
14 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00	15	16 SAL PIZZA 5:30 – 7:30 PM <b>HARRY'S TRIVIA</b> 7-9 PM	17 HUMP DAY SNACKS <b>SURVEY SAYS 7PM</b> CHEESEBURGERS & FRIES 6 – 7:30	18 AUX SHEPARDS PIE <b>BINGO BEGINS</b> AT 6:30PM	19 AUX CHICKEN CORDON BLEU 6 – 7:30 <b>SPEKTRA</b>	20  <b>BRISTOL KARAOKE</b>
21 AUX BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00  <b>BLOOD DRIVE</b> 7:30 – 12:00	22	23 DISASTER PREP STUFFED SHELLS 6:00 – 7:30 PM <b>HARRY'S TRIVIA</b> 7-9 PM	24 HUMP DAY SNACKS	25 GIRL'S STATE SPAGHETTI  <b>BINGO BEGINS</b> AT 6:30PM	26 ALR STUFFED CABBAGE DINNER 6 – 7:30  <b>SIDEWALK 65</b>	27  <b>JIMBO &amp; DEBBIE KARAOKE</b>
28 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00	29	30 AUX ITALIAN BAKE DINNER 6 -7:30 <b>HARRY'S TRIVIA</b> 7-9 PM	31 HUMP DAY SNACKS <b>FLAG RETIREMENT</b> 5:30 PM			

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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