



Commander's Report



July is here 283! It is crazy how fast the year has gone by. This will be my last report as your Commander. My family and I would like to say THANK YOU to the entire Post Family for the dedication and support throughout the year.

The month of June was another busy month at the Post. Thanks to the team that went out on the June 1st to recover, clean and store the thousands of flags the Post placed at our local cemeteries honoring our Veterans on Memorial Day. The Post election was held on the 8th. CONGRATS to the following elected officers for the 2019-2020 year.

Commander Jim Welch, 1st Vice Commander Jeff Lafferty, 2nd Vice Commander Dan Brown, 3rd Vice Commander John Paterson, Finance Officer Bill Curnutte, Sgt-at-Arms David Brown, Asst-Sgt-at-Arms Rex King, Historian Carl Ocampo, Chaplain John Hugus, Executive Committee Dean Altizer, Larry Collier, Bruce Firster, Phil Jansen, Jim Wallace, Board of Directors Al Kling, Richie Sours. Thanks to Nancy Senter, Bill Ayers and the election committee for all their time and dedication to conduct the elections. On Flag Day the 14th of June, we held a Flag Disposal Ceremony. Thanks to all that came out to participate. The Father's Day breakfast held by the Auxiliary on the 16th was awesome. They also presented the Post with new bunting for the front of the building. We will put it up right after we pressure wash. Thank you. Convention was held 27-30 June in Orlando. I, as you should be as well, am extremely proud of the Post and all of our accomplishments.

In July the Post will be busy once again. On the 4th we will have an open house to celebrate Independence Day beginning at 1pm. Remember there will be no Bingo that evening. On July 6th at 1pm the Post will host the 5th District for the Post's Installation of new officers. The Jumbo Shrimp will be hosting The American Legion during their game on 14 July at 3pm. The next Blood Drive will be held on Sunday, July 21st so please come out and donate.

As I have said numerous times, I am proud of our Post and am impressed with what WE as a collective team accomplished over the years. I am thankful for each of our members and volunteers that came out and assisted throughout the year to meet The American Legion's mission. To all the officers of the Post, great job and I can't thank you enough for all you have done.

For God and Country,
Scott Pageau Post Commander
(904) 422-6055
spageau_70@yahoo.com

1st Vice Report

As of June 14th we were at 101.96% membership. Our 2018-2019 membership year is pretty much over. We have 832 members, which is up from 811 in 2018. Another example that our Post is still growing, and is the best Post in the district. We have quite a few new members and renewals already being processed for the 2019-2020 Legion year. We will have the 2020 cards upon our return from

convention, so I'd like to encourage everyone to renew early. That will help our Post get a jump on membership, and you will qualify for the Early Bird Dinner.

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 2019 card in an envelope with your name and stating renewal for 2020 in the LEGION box by the bar. We will process your new card and mail it to you via the address we have on file for you. If you want to pick it up from the lounge, simply write LEAVE AT BAR on the envelope. You can go online to renew by visiting 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 or retiredcjngnr76@gmail.com should you have any questions or need assistance with Legion membership.

As always, new members, as well as transfers, are welcome. 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 5th District and the Department 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 a minimum of 5 years **consecutively** your dues are \$29.00. For everyone else dues are \$40.00.

We did not have any new members for June, as we had numerous who chose to await their 2020 card.

We had one transfer for June. Please welcome:
Gary L. Minar II - Navy /Post 400

For God and Country,
Jeff Lafferty Post 283 1ST Vice Commander, Squadron
283 Commander 5th District SAL Vice Commander
ALR 283 2nd Vice Commander Cell: 904-608-3433
Retiredcjngnr76@gmail.com

2nd Vice Report

I can't express how much I appreciate all those who have volunteered on a regular basis (Jim Mullay, Ray Scialli, Geno Wagner, Linda Nogel, Brenda Findley, Alley Watts, Val Maurer, Brendon Olinto, Ken Klocko, Mike Vickers, Jeff Robison, John & Gina Curzi, Bruce Firster, Too Tall, Scott Pageau, Mark & Elizabeth Lowy) to help me fulfill my duties as 2nd Vice Commander. Without their time and effort, Post 283 would not be as great as it is. I know they will welcome incoming 2nd Vice, Dan Brown, and offer him the same support.

To my lovely wife, Lisa, thank you for your love and patience as I have been neglecting my duties at home to serve the Post as best I could. To quote Ozzy, "Mama, I'm comin' home!"

Be sure you check the monthly newsletter/calendar, Facebook (American Legion Florida 283), and on the Web at **Floridalegion283.org** to stay informed of upcoming meals and events. You don't want to miss out.

Independence Day open house will be on Thursday, July 4th at 1pm. We will be serving burgers, hot dogs, and brats with all the traditional sides. Come celebrate with your Legion Family.

Legion Steak Night is July 5th. Join us for a great night out. Dinner is served from 6:00-7:30. Your Choice of Ribeye or Mahi, baked potato, sautéed onions and mushrooms, salad, rolls, and dessert all for just a \$12 donation. Rockin' Machine will entertain us with live music starting at 7:00.

Installation of the new Post Officers will be July 6th at 1pm. BBQ Ribs, chicken and pork butt, along with baked beans, coleslaw, rolls, and dessert will be offered after the ceremony for a small donation.

Survey Say's returns on July 17th. Cheese Burgers and French Fries will be served from 6:00-7:30 for a \$5 donation. Come play this Family Feud style game and have a tasty burger on Hump Day.

Join us for Karaoke every Saturday beginning at 7:00. Come sing your favorite songs or just watch some of your friends butcher your favorite songs. The more you drink, the better we sound.

Don't forget, Live Bingo is every Thursday at 6:30. The ALA offers dinner from 5:30-7:00. Come eat, play, and win. (NO BINGO on July 4th)

I'll see you at the Post.

Richie Sours
2nd Vice Commander
Jim J. Gilleo Post 283
2ndvice@floridalegion283.org

3rd Vice Report

Congratulations to all the incoming Legion Officers for the 2019-2020 year! I would like to thank Scott Pageau, outgoing CDR for all his support during my tenure as 3rd Vice. You made my job incredibly easy and very rewarding! Fair Winds and Following Seas my friend and mentor.

Thank you to all the volunteers who came out on May 26th and June 2nd to assist in putting flags on Veterans grave sites and collecting/cleaning the flags. Additionally, I would like to thank all those who came out and assisted in this quarters Flag Retirement Ceremony on July 14th. Your assistance was greatly appreciated.

Our next blood drive is scheduled for July 21, 2019. Please come out to donate. All donors will receive a free breakfast and thank you gift cooler from ONEBLOOD. Please come out to help support.

Our Boys State Candidates left for Tallahassee on June 16th for a leadership experience of a lifetime. We look forward to hearing about their trip. ROTC is off for the summer. We look forward to their return to the post in August.

Thank you for your support during this past year. I am looking forward to continuing to grow our programs and initiatives this year under JP Paterson's leadership as 3rd Vice. I am looking forward to serving as Chairman of the Oratorical,

ROTC and Boys State programs during this year. If you're interested being a Chairman of any of the remaining Legion Programs please contact jpaterson44@msn.com

For God and Country
Lena Null Wood, Post 283 3rd Vice Commander
Lena.nullwood@gmail.com
904 334 3715

SAL Report

By the time this newsletter is published, I will be in my last few days serving as your Squadron Commander. The last two years have been a very humbling, and extremely rewarding experience. My job as Commander has not had many difficult times. That's only because of the great officers working with me, as well as the many awesome volunteers that have stepped up for all of the functions the SAL has taken on. I am extremely proud of our Squadron and what has been accomplished in these two years. This resulted in tens of thousands of dollars donated to our programs, as well as much support to our Legion Family. From the bottom of my heart, Thank You everyone for your support.

Congratulations to Val, our 1st Vice Commander! The 2018-2019 membership year is pretty much over. As of June 13th, our membership was at 101.050%. For the fourth year in a row, we have the largest membership in the District with 290 members. Another testament that our Post is still the best in the District and still growing.

Upon our return from convention, we will have the 2019-2020 membership cards available. I strongly encourage all of you to renew early. It will help the Squadron get a jump on our membership, and you will be eligible for the Early Bird Dinner.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Post Commander for being so supportive of the Squadron. Believe me, this is not the case within many Posts. Scott, you have done such a stellar job as our Commander, and at times under less than perfect conditions - this all in spite of things going on in your personal life. We will miss you terribly, but wish you all the best in your family's life. The Post 283 Family will forever hold you close to our hearts.

God Bless America, God Bless our Troops, and God bless the Post 283 Family !

For God and Country!
Jeff Lafferty
Squadron 283 Commander
SALcommander@floridalegion283.org
[904-608-3433](tel:904-608-3433)

Auxiliary President's Report



Wow Ladies! I can't believe that this year is ending and a new one will be starting. This will be my last article and our New President Jane Lafferty will be doing the August Newsletter. It has been my pleasure to serve you and our veterans this year. I have learned a lot and got to work with some wonderful ladies. Keep doing what you do for our veterans as they appreciate everything we do for them.

I will be taking over Membership for 2019-2020. Let's try to hit 100% before the deadline and remember, we will not be taking any new Members until September with the exception of New incoming Officers. We will start taking renewals for Incoming Officers July 1st before Installation. Our Installation is July 6th @ 1:00pm.

Your New Officers are as follow for 2019-2020:

President – Jane Lafferty
1st Vice – Michelle Mohilchock
Chaplain – Molly Main
Treasurer – Ella Jansen

Sgt at Arms – Yvette Moore
Historian – Megan Roberson
Member's at Large – Patti Hill, Nancy Chandler and
Brenda Findley

Welcome to the New Year!!!!

President Jane Lafferty has several chairmanships still open. If you are interested please see President Jane Lafferty.

If you would like to volunteer for a dinner in August and September there is a list on the Auxiliary Board. Let's make this a great year and volunteer. Remember we are here for our veterans not our selves.

I'm sure our New President has some new and exciting things to come to Unit 283 in 2019-2020 so let's all come and support her in meetings and volunteer for dinners. It's going to be a great year.

Our Juniors will be volunteering and doing dinners this year to raise money for their Junior Unit so please come out and support them. Their 1st dinner will be July 18th - Bingo dinner with Meatball Subs, French fries and a dessert for \$7.00. They need our support so they can attend their National Convention and Fall Conference. These dinners will help them with their expenses.

Again it has been a pleasure working with all of you, and a big "Thank You" for what you do for our Wonderful Veterans.

For God and Country
Unit President
Michelle Mohilchok

Legion Rider Director's Report



July arrives and we welcome our new Cmdr. Jim Welch, ALA President Jane Lafferty, S.A.L. Cmdr. Tom (Too Tall) Harris and returning Rider Director, ME. I think you could say that 3 out of the 4 are really returning. At the same time we want to thank Scott Pageau for his service to Post

283, and wish he and Anna good luck and success in their relocation.

On a sadder note we have lost a wonderful man, husband, father, and veteran with the passing of Mike Amig. He was instrumental in helping bring the ALR to Jacksonville, 5th District and the state of Florida. He will be missed by many. Prayers continue for his wonderful wife (Robin) and their family.

We are getting closer to our Annual fund raiser in September and want to thank all the post families for their help and support. I know that day can be inconvenient for parking etc. and we really appreciate everyone's understanding for that one day.

Our dinner for July is being hosted by the "Biker Chicks" and the menu will be chicken or ham paninis, potato salad, tossed salad, chips and desserts.
HOPE EVERYONE HAD A SAFE AND FUN 4TH OF JULY.

Ride With Pride
Phil Jansen
ALR Director Chapter 283

Post Service Officer Report

Greetings Veterans! This will be my last newsletter and I wanted to say it has been an honor serving as the Post Service Officer! I wanted to give you some great information on the MISSION ACT! This is huge for veterans using VA Health Care. If you do not have VA healthcare, you can visit va.gov to register for health care.

What is the VA MISSION Act? On June 6, 2018, President Donald J. Trump signed landmark legislation known as the VA MISSION Act of 2018. The Act affects many VA programs, including changes that make dramatic improvements to how Veterans receive health care provided outside of VA facilities. Will I be eligible for community care under the MISSION Act? You may be eligible for community care if:

- You need a service that's not available at VA (e.g. maternity care).
- You reside in a U.S. state or territory without a full-service VA medical facility.
- You met previous distance criteria or live in one of the least populated states (ND, SD, MT, AK, WY), received care prior to June 6, 2018, and receive care within two years after June 6, 2018.
- You meet average drive time or appointment wait-time requirements.
- It's in your best medical interest to be referred to a community provider.
- You need care from a VA medical service line that isn't providing care that complies with VA's quality standards.

When will these changes occur? The new program will start when VA publishes final regulations. This is expected to occur in June 2019. At that time, all existing community care programs, including the Veterans Choice Program, will end.

Proposed Access Requirements Drive Time You may be eligible if your average drive time to a specific VA medical facility exceeds:

- 30 minutes for primary care, mental health, and non-institutional extended care services (including adult home day care)
- 60 minutes for specialty care

Average drive time is based on the distance from your permanent residence to the closest VA medical facility offering the care or service you need. It is based on remapping software that accounts for a variety of factors, such as rush hour traffic.

Appointment Wait Time You may be eligible if the wait time for an appointment at a specific VA medical facility exceeds:

- 20 days for primary care, mental health care, and non-institutional extended care services
- 28 days for specialty care from the date of request with certain exceptions

You can contact the VA or visit them online at missionact.va.gov or visit them in person at your local VA Medical Center.

Melissa Black, Post Service Officer/Female Vet Advocate (FVA)



Change in Membership Renewal Process

The National American Legion organization has deemed that the most expeditious

and efficient way to handle renewals is through ACH Transactions. Effective April 30, 2019, the Department of Florida will no longer process credit card payment for Post memberships.

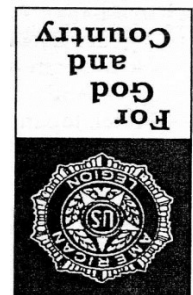
Starting with the 2020 renewals, if you wish to renew your membership using a credit card, you must access your individual Legion account by using MyLegion.org. You can register with your social network or create a new account. The Post will continue to accept personal check, money order, and cash as acceptable renewal payments. A reminder to our members who are 70 year of age or older and have been a member of the Post for a minimum of 5 consecutive years. Your 2020 renewal notice will come with the full renewal amount of \$40.00 preprinted on it. The discount you received is something that is done at the Post level, for our senior members. To receive this discount, you must make your payment at the Post; not online. If you choose to renew online, you will be charged the full renewal price.



American Legion Jim J. Gilleo Post 283 July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS	1	2 SAL PIZZA 5:30 – 7:30 PM TRIVIA 7-9 PM	3 HUMP DAY SNACKS SAL MEETING 7:00 PM	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY OPEN HOUSE 1:00 – 'TIL NO BINGO	5 LEGION RIBEYE/SWORD FISH STEAK NIGHT 6 – 7:30 ROCKIN' MACHINE	6 ALR MEETING 9AM INST CEREMONY 1:00 DINNER 3:00 BRISTOL KARAOKE 7PM
7 ALA BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00	8 LEGION MEETINGS EXEC 6:30 PM GENERAL 7PM	9 SAL BACON CHEESEBURGERS 6:00 – 7:00 PM TRIVIA 7-9 PM	10 HUMP DAY SNACKS ALA MEETINGS EXEC – 6:00 PM GENERAL – 7PM	11 ALA CHRISTMAS IN JULY TURKEY DINNER 5:30 – 7:00 BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	12 SAL TERIYAKI PORKCHIPS W/ASIAN VEGGIES 6 – 7:30 SIDEWALK 65	13 JIMBO & DEBBIE KARAOKE 7PM
14 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00 JUMBO SHRIMP HOSTS THE LEGION 3PM	15	16 SAL PIZZA 5:30 – 7:30 PM TRIVIA 7-9 PM	17 HUMP DAY SNACKS SURVEY SAYS 7PM CHEESEBURGERS 6 – 7:30	18 ALA JUNIOR'S MEATBALL SUBS 5:30 – 7:00 BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	19 ALA CHICKEN & BEEF ENCHILADAS MEXICAN CAVIAR 6 – 7:30 PM SPEKTRA	20 BRISTOL KARAOKE 7PM
21 ALA BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00 BLOOD DRIVE	22	23 SAL COWBOY MEATLOAF 6 – 7:30 PM TRIVIA 7-9 PM	24 HUMP DAY SNACKS	25 ALA CHICKEN SALAD CROISSANT 5:30 – 7:00 BINGO BEGINS AT 6:30PM	26 ALR "CHICKS" TURKEY OR HAM PANINI 6 -7:30 GUITAR RED	27 JIMBO & DEBBIE KARAOKE 7PM
28 SAL BREAKFAST 8:30 – 11:00	29	30 ALA DINNER 6:00 – 7:30 PM TRIVIA 7-9 PM				

LOOK FOR US ON-LINE AT WWW.FLORIDALEGION283.ORG AND WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LEGION283



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