



AL233FL Newsletter



Volume 13, Issue 12

December 2013



560 N. Wilberness Trail ~ Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Legionnaire meetings, first Thursday each month, 7:00pm
Auxiliary meetings, second Thursday each month, 7:00pm
Son's meetings, third Thursday each month, 6:30pm
Rider's meetings, first Sunday each month, 11:00am



Canteen hours:

MON-FRI: 1100 until ?? hrs.
SAT: 0900 until ?? hrs.
SUN: 0900 until ?? hrs.
(St.Johns County - closing hour is 2:00am)

Website: www.AL233FL.org

Email: info@al233fl.org

Post telephone: 904.285.2484

Sunday: Breakfast 9am-11:30am

Wednesday: Dinner 6:30pm-8:00pm

Friday: Dinner 6:30pm-8:00pm

Mon-Fri: Lunch 11:00am-1pm



No Smoking during meal times (lunch excluded)



NEVER FORGET ~ POW's & MIA's

In this issue

Page 2	Commanders Corner and Officers Reports	Page 3	Officers Reports cont'd.
Page 4	Officers Reports cont'd.	Page 5	ALA / SAL Report
Page 6	SAL Report cont'd / ALR Report	Page 7	Canteen Report / MIAP Report
Page 8	December Birthdays/ Meal Sponsorship / Misc.	Page 9	Paid Advertising
Page 10	K9s November Graduation photo	Page 11	Call to Honor funeral service photos

IMPORTANT MEETING NOTICE

At the House Committee meeting of November 25th, the committee voted unanimously to support a no smoking policy at Post 233. This recommendation is to be taken to the Executive Committee for furtherance to the General Membership, The Commander will place this recommendation on the agenda for discussion at the General Membership meetings of December 5, 2013 and January 2, 2014. Any change of policy motion will be voted on at the February 6, 2014 meeting.



Commander - Roy Havekost

Past Commander 2012-2013
Email: Commander@AL233FL.org

The IRS audit rules require that an American Legion Post maintain proof of eligibility of all its' members. It is required that all members provide Post 233 Adjutant with a copy of your DD-214. For active duty members who have no DD-214, provide a copy of your ID card. For those members who served before DD-214s were issued, provide a copy of your military record that shows your dates of service. All documents will be filed in a locked cabinet in the office. Should the Post be audited and not have proof of member eligibility, it will be a \$1,000 fine each day until we can show proof on every member. The copy that you provide the Post may have your social security number redacted for security reasons. This notice shall be included in all newsletters from this month forward. [Chapter 76 Exempt Organizations Examination Guideline (IRM 4.76.26) rel. January 2011]

Those members who do not have a copy of the required document(s) ie DD-214, Honorable Discharge, etc. on file at the Post by December 31, 2013 will be refused service until in compliance. As of Nov. 7th, no new 2014 membership cards are being issued without your DD-214 copy on file.

REMINDER, there will be a meeting of the 'Team' Leaders, ie Commanders (LEG & SAL), ALA President and ALR Director on Monday Dec. 2nd at 6:00pm sharp. The next Exec-Board meeting will be Tuesday Dec 3rd at 7:00pm, and the General Membership meeting and Commanders visit/dinner will be Thursday Dec.5th starting at 5:30pm.

From myself and my family, here's wishing everyone a safe, happy and healthy Hanukkah, Christmas and New Years.

For God and Country,
Roy



Adjutant - Sheri Martinez

Email: Adjutant@AL233FL.org

I don't have very much other than to say that our membership is 70.026. Thank you to everyone who renewed before Veteran's Day. Details for the early bird dinner will be forthcoming.

If you haven't sent in your DD214 copy as yet, it can be placed in the Commanders (locked) mailbox by the bar, addressed to my attention. We now have a secure file cabinet in the office where the copies are being retained. Happy Holidays to everyone.

For God & Country,
Sheri



1st Vice Commander - Mark Dorsey

Past Commander 2002-2003, 2003-2004

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. The next Past Commanders Dinner will be in late January, we have not picked a date yet, we will let everyone know in the January Newsletter and the Weekly Update.

Those members who do not have a copy of the required document(s) ie DD-214, Honorable Discharge, etc. on file at the Post by December 31, 2013 will be refused service until in compliance. As of Nov. 7th, no new 2014 membership cards are being issued without your DD-214 copy on file.

For God & Country,
Mark



2nd Vice Commander - Don Mills

Past Commander 2008-2009

A buffet dinner for the visiting State and District 5 Commanders is set in place. Members can come early and meet the Commanders, enjoy the buffet and attend the regular monthly meeting. Show your Legion support.

No, it's not a rumor, we will be discussing whether or not to change to a non-smoking Post after more than 40 years. Come voice your feelings on this issue. In anticipation of a larger than normal attendance, the meeting will be held on the pavilion, food will be served inside.

Judy and I would like to wish everyone the best this Holiday Season.

For God & Country,
Don



3rd Vice Commander - Stu Lilly

This is coming from both National as well as Department. We need to be able to prove our eligibility to belong to the American Legion if audited by the IRS. What's the problem, we are all vets who served honorably.

The IRS audit rules require that an American Legion Post maintain proof of eligibility of all its' members. It is required that all members provide Post 233 Adjutant with a copy of your DD-214. For active duty members who have no DD-214, provide a copy of your ID card. For those members who served before DD-214s were issued, provide a copy of your military record that shows your dates of service. All documents will be filed in a locked cabinet in the office. Should the Post be audited and not have proof of member eligibility, it will be a \$1,000 fine each day until we can show proof on every member. The copy that you provide the Post may have your social security number redacted for security reasons. This notice shall be included in all newsletters from this month forward. [Chapter 76 Exempt Organizations Examination Guideline (IRM 4.76.26) rel. January 2011]

Those members who do not have a copy of the required document(s) ie DD-214, Honorable Discharge, etc. on file at the Post by December 31, 2013 will be refused service until in compliance. As of Nov. 7th, no new 2014 membership cards are being issued without your DD-214 copy on file.

Happy Holidays

For God & Country,
Stu





4th Vice Commander - Charlie Walker

Thanks to the Legion, Auxiliary, SAL and Riders, the new freezer has arrived and has been put in service. It is located in the hallway with the ice machine etc. It's a 21 cf capacity upright. This purchase will definitely help us with our food storage at the Post.

I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy Holiday Season.

For God & Country,
Charlie



Chaplain - Wilbur Burnett

Hi God, it's me. We're getting older and things are getting bad here. Energy, healthcare and food costs are too high, and the future doesn't look good. I know some have taken you out of our schools, government, veteran's funerals, and even Christmas. But God, I'm asking you to come back and re-bless America . We really need you! As you know, there are more of us who want you than those who don't! Thank You God, I Love you.

Please keep our military forces in your thoughts and prayers as well as their families during this holiday season. Have a blessed Holiday everyone.

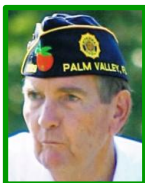
For God & Country,
Wilbur



E-Board Member/ Planning Cmte.- Dan Wortmann

The Commander asked me to finish a display cabinet, which was built and donated to the Post by his neighbor. The case was built to display the John Wayne Commemorative .45cal model 1911 handgun, that was won at the 95th Annual Legion Convention this year. I have stained and polyurethaned the piece and it will be put on display at the Post this month.

For God & Country,
Dan



Judge Advocate - Ric Smith

Email: JudgeAdvocate@AL233FL.org

As we enter the holiday season this year our thoughts and prayers go out to our troops in the deserts, mountains and swamps of the world. Our warriors of today may have fancy electronic gear and the latest firepower, however, their feelings are the same as we had back in the 50's, 60's and 70's. Thanksgiving and Christmas are much different in the rice paddies and sand storms of the world. Be safe and healthy during these holiday times.

For God and Country,
Ric



Auxiliary - President Judy Mills

I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday with family and friends, and say a prayer for the veterans who cannot be with their families and to keep them safe.

The Auxiliary served a dinner on November 6, 2013 and it was very successful and I would like to thank everyone who was involved with the preparation and serving of this dinner, thank you. Our next dinner is December 11, 2013 which will be sponsored by Carol Lee Smith and prepared by Kathy Church hope you all can be there.

Commander Roy Havekost and myself participated in the MIAP burial ceremony at the National Cemetery on November 8, 2013 it was a very humbling ceremony. There will be another burial in March 2014 if you have the opportunity to attend you will not be sorry.

The Children's Christmas Party is on December 14, 2013 from 2:00 - 4:00pm with Santa and Elfie giving presents out to all the children, if you have a child, grandchild or a friends child you would like to meet Santa there is a signup sheet at the Legion. The children age from very young to 10 years old. I would also like to thank everyone who has donated for the children's party thank you.

We collected food items for Thanksgiving now we are collecting for the Christmas baskets so if you are in the Legion please bring something and leave it in the box at the Post . We will deliver two baskets to two families who need help, if you know of anyone please let me know.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on December 5, 2013 at 7:00pm. The next regular Auxiliary meeting will be held on December 12, 2013 at 7:00pm please try to attend.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

God Bless Our Troops

Judy Mills ALA President



SAL - Commander Jeff 'Tex' Ward

Seasons Greetings Sons,

Thank you to all of you that have paid your 2014 membership dues. Our membership is a little over 60%. We have a very good record of 100% membership renewal and we want to continue that streak. I encourage all members to pay their 2014 dues no later than Dec. 31st as on 1/1/14 you will not be able to use your canteen privileges until you are current. You can send your check or give it to the bartender. (\$25.)

As I state in every newsletter, we are responsible for one Wednesday dinner a month. The October dinner was sponsored and prepared by Howard & Celeste Shebles. Their succulent crock-pot prok was delicious. Thanks to both of you (and the usual crew in the kitchen, including "rookie" Gary Kalendek). The November meal was graciously sponsored by the "cigar guys" and was aptly handled by John Paparelli and crew. Many thanks to all of you!! Please help us by volunteering at least once a year. That is not asking too much, is it? If you know when you can do it please let me know the date and I will make the arrangements. Even if you can't help out at least be there to buy a meal and support your Squadron and Post. Or, if you cannot afford the time to volunteer you can always contribute as a Gold Sponsor with a \$100. donation. This will help pay for the food and someone to cook it. The next S.A.L. dinner is Wed. Dec. 18th.

Our t-shirts and ball caps are for sale. The shirts are Navy Blue or Grey for \$25. The caps are fully embroidered Navy Blue for \$20. They both look very sharp and are selling like hotcakes! We only have 2X and 3X shirts left but we are ordering more M, L, and XL. Well worth the investment and it helps raise money for our charities. I encourage you all to purchase at least one of each and wear them as often as possible to the Post – especially for SAL events! Keep them in mind for X-mas presents.

There are many fun and exciting events and fundraisers coming in the near future including so keep your eyes on the newsletter, visit the website (www.al233fl.org) or better yet, come in to your Post and have a drink and see what is happening! The next SAL meeting is Thurs. Nov. 21st @ 6:30pm. (note new time!). Jason Bass will be doing his famous “Wet Burritos” on Feb. 8th so we will be preparing for that.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding our Squadron or Post 233 issues, or are not receiving my email updates please contact me on my phone (904-233-0976) or email (flagman49@yahoo.com) – or better yet, attend the meeting and share your thoughts with the rest of us!

REMEMBER: *It is a privilege to be a member of the Sons of the American Legion organization! As descendants we are honoring our forefathers who have served in the Armed Forces and in many cases sacrificed their lives for their country. Now is the time to give back! If the same names keep showing up in this column it is because the same people are doing the volunteering.*

Have a safe and happy Holiday Season and please be sure to keep all of our service man and women and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

God Bless Our Troops
Jeff “TEX” Ward
Commander – Squadron 233



Riders - Director Jarrod Buchman

The members of the ALR Chapter 233 would like to wish everyone a very Happy and Safe Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas.

ALR 233 is currently raffling off a HUUUUGGGGGG Ultimate Bucket of Cheer complete with a great variety of liquor (16 bottles) and everything you would need for a super New Year’s Eve Party. This bucket and side basket has a value of \$350.00. Ask the bartender on duty for details and tickets. The drawing date will be on Friday, Dec 27th, just in time for New Year’s Eve.

In November some of our riders participated in the Missing in America Project’s “Call to Honor” at the Jacksonville National Cemetery and some of us participated in the Veterans Day Service at the Palm Valley Cemetery. It is a privilege for us to honor our veterans.

We are in the planning stages for our Annual 233 Poker Run which will be on Saturday, Feb. 22nd. We have voted to make the “Dreams Come True” foundation our charity of choice. Details will be published as soon as everything is finalized.

If you know of anyone who would like to join our ALR Chapter please send them our way. ALR members have to be a member of the Legion, AUX or SAL before joining any Chapter. They can be a member of another Post but join our Chapter. You also do not have to have a motorcycle to join our Chapter. Several ALR members ride along in their cars or trucks when we go on our rides. You can contact Kathy Church, ALR Treasurer who also does membership for the ALR.

Don’t forget the Riders cook breakfast on the 3rd Sunday of the month and we do our Country Fried Steak Special, two eggs, grits, toast and fresh fruit for only a \$7.00 donation. Bring the entire family in on Dec 15th.

For God & Country
RIDE SAFE
God Bless Our Troops

Jarrold





Canteen - Diane Dorsey, Manager

Happy Holidays to everyone!

Saturday, December 7th will be the Post 233 Annual Cowboy Night. Dakota Don, Beaumont Ben and the Larado Ladies will be serving up a fabulous meal of Smoked Pork Butt, Stewed Squash, Chuckwagon Beans and Desserts. Following dinner Wanda, Big John and the Be A Star Karaoke team will host some boot stomping Karaoke. Don you best Cowboy and Cowgirl attire and get ready for a good time to kick off the Holidays!

Join your friends and Post 233 family to celebrate the Holiday season. Santa will be in the house on Saturday December 14th to present the children with stockings and gifts and on Saturday evening, December 21st the adults will celebrate.

All the drink chip hoarders out there remember that the old Post 233 drink chips will be retired December 31st. After that date the old chips will not be honored. The new chips will be on sale December 15th and will be honored beginning January 1st. Great Stocking Stuffers!

Visit our website at www.al233fl.org to view the calendar and upcoming event flyers. Facebook users can keep up with all Post happenings by joining our group page.

On behalf of the Post 233 Canteen staff, we wish each of you and safe and happy Holiday Season. Please keep our service men and women and their families in your prayers.

For God and Country,
Diane Dorsey

LAST CHANCE THIS MONTH

Bar chip retirement:



If you have any of these chips you must use them before the end of 2013. The above chips are being retired on Dec. 31, 2013. New chips with a different design and value will be put into effect on January 1, 2014.

Those members who sometimes buy chips to be used as Christmas Gifts, the new chips will go on sale on December 15th, but cannot be used until January 1, 2014.

If you do not turn in your old chips by Dec.31st, you will only have memorable souvenirs!



MIAP – Kathy Church, FL State Coordinator

The following is a reprint of the letter sent to Commander Tom Gora, 5th District, Dept. of Florida. Nov. 10, 2013.

TO: Tom Gora, AL Commander, 5th District of FL

FROM: Kathy Church

MIAP – FL State Coordinator

Dear Commander Gora,

I wish I could be at your meeting today to speak these words in person to you and your members in attendance.

I am so over whelmed and appreciative for the support that the AL members of the 5th District have extended to The Missing in America Project – FL. I am speaking of Legion, Auxiliary, SAL and ALR members.

Our first multiple service for 12 veterans and 1 spouse which was held on Friday, Nov 8, 2013 could not have been such a success if not for the dedicated AL members who helped from the beginning of the planning stages to the very end of the day on Friday.

Several members from several Posts within the 5th District were either a Pall Bearer or a Flag Carriers and each walked standing tall and with pride representing the AL in a most dignified manner. 5th District Chaplain Bill Reno said the most inspiring prayers and had me in tears at the very end of the service.

Post 137 was well represented by Commander Jowers, Jerry Lepore, Paul Runyan, and Walter Rasco as Paul Bearers. Chaplain Tony Romano opened the service with a dignified prayer. ALR members from Chapter 137 and many other Chapters rode escort from AB Coleman Mortuary to the Jacksonville National Cemetery with ALR 5th District Assistant Director, Gary Lester, taking the lead for the ALR (at the request of Jerry Giecko). Post 137 member Bob Morgan and current member Steven Spickelmier was so most instrumental in all of this from start to finish. Post 137 has been hospitable in allowing MIAP to hold our meetings at their Post.

Post 233 was represented with Commander Havekost being a Pall Bearer, Auxiliary President Judy Mills and SAL Commander Jeff Ward as Flag Carriers, and several other ALA and ALR members participated.

ALR Chapter and ALA 283 (who donated 200 bottles of water and ice) joined in. Members from Post 9 were in attendance and the list goes on and on. Please forgive for not mentioning all the Post and names of all that were in attendance as I was busy and did not get to talk to them all.

There were so many others that participated in not only this service but are active volunteers for MIAP. My heartfelt sincere gratitude goes out to each and every member that has helped MIAP grow in northern Florida.

I and the entire MIAP – FL team look forward to this continued partnership with the AL 5th District for future services. We need more volunteers and I feel positive after we honored these veterans in this service for all members of our community to see that we have spared some interest. I have already received emails in regards to this.

In closing, Commander Gora let me say THANK YOU, THANK YOU and THANK YOU for all the support.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Church
MIAP – FL State Coordinator



DECEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

1	Jack Hord	16	Mike Wright
2	Don Mills		Victoria Gesell
3	Amanda Trevino	17	Rita Connolly
4	Judy Rogers	19	Susie White
5	John Wagener	22	Maggie Furr
12	Angie Russell	26	Melita Doran
	Karen Dubin	27	Marty Mally
14	Carl Caminiti	29	Cathy Corcoran
15	Karen O'Neill	31	Patty Mally
			Mickey Williams

Your birthday can be listed here by sending your name, month and day to webmaster@al233fl.org or call Roy @ 287-6909

IMPORTANT MEETING NOTICE

At the House Committee meeting of November 25th, the committee voted unanimously to support a no smoking policy at Post 233. This recommendation is to be taken to the Executive Committee for furtherance to the General Membership, The Commander will place this recommendation on the agenda for discussion at the General Membership meetings of December 5, 2013 and January 2, 2014. Any change of policy motion will be voted on at the February 6, 2014 meeting.

~~~~~ SUPPORT OUR TROOPS ~~~~~

POST 233 "MEAL DEAL" SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Are you one of those people who would love to volunteer to help your Post but you don't trust your culinary skills or aren't able to manage the kitchen duties?

We've got a DEAL for you! There are others willing to do the work for you and better yet, you get all the credit. Become a Post 233 LEGIONNAIRE MEAL SPONSOR and all the planning, shopping, cooking, service and clean-up will be taken care of and you will be honored as that Wednesday evening's Meal Sponsor. Your dinner will be on the house and you can even request a favorite meal you would like to have prepared.

There is a Sponsorship Level for everyone and your Sponsorship is a tax deductible donation to American Legion Post 233. Your donation will be used to offset the food cost and compensate the evening's Chef for their time and effort on your behalf.

GOLD SPONSOR - 100.00 - SILVER SPONSOR - 50.00 - BRONZE SPONSOR - 25.00

SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES THAT HELP SUPPORT YOUR POST

Judy Nagel
Artist/Teacher

P. O. Box 1882
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32004

112 Knotty Pine Trail
Ponte Vedra Bch., FL 32082
United States of America

904-285-2389
904-673-4873
judnagel@comcast.net



**PALM VALLEY GOLF CLUB
and Practice Range**
A Family Golf Learning Center



JACK HORD
P.G.A. PROFESSIONAL
SUPERINTENDENT

PROSHOP 824-9279
MAINTENANCE 810-5054
1075 PALM VALLEY RD.
PONTE VEDRA 32081

www.palmvalleygolfing.com

Napoli's
Pastaria

Steve Barry
Owner / Operator
Phone: 904.273.0006
Cell: 908.415.0185
stbarry@comcast.net
www.NAPOLISPASTARIA.com

COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL



**CROWN
PEST CONTROL CO.**
"Better Because We Care"

1420 Cesery Blvd.
Jacksonville, Florida
32211

GEORGE PRIVETTE
Manager
743-1132

JACK HORD owner

PAGEAUTHORS
Web Design

St. Johns, FL 32259

MEMBER: IAWMD ~ HTMLWG ~ MSSBN

Roy HAVEKOST
904-287-6909


www.PAGEAUTHORS.COM
Established 1996

STEVEN M. BARNETT

INVESTMENT EXECUTIVE

Phone: (904) 223-9577 | Cell: (904) 254-4334
4401 Seabreeze Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32250
steven.barnett@investfinancial.com

Registered Representative of INVEST Financial Corporation, member
FINRA/SIPC. INVEST and its affiliated insurance agencies offer
securities and certain insurance products.




**peyton
stockton**
REALTOR

904-655-3554
Peyton.Stockton@gmail.com
240 Ponte Vedra Park Dr., #201
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
peytonstockton.net

COLDWELL BANKER
YANGUARD REALTY
Your Office in Independently Owned and Operated

MLB

P.S. Service you can count on!
over 25 years of experience.




COWGILL'S HOT SAUCE
"THE BEST"

Brenda Cowgill
Owner

Tel: 904-285-5954
Cell: 904-860-8613
Ponte Vedra Beach,
Florida 32082

bmcowgill44@msn.com

\$25.00 per year to advertise your business card on both the monthly newsletter and Post website.
Make check payable to American Legion Post 233.
Your check and business card can be left in the Commanders mailbox.
Business cards that missed the payment deadline will be posted immediately to the website when your payment is received.

More business card advertising available here...

\$25 renewal due for January



NOVEMBER 2013 GRADUATING CLASS



Thank you for your service and welcome home!



Planning an outdoor Party ?



Consider renting our pavilion area for your next birthday, anniversary, family gathering, business meeting or picnic. For details contact our Canteen Manager or any of our bartenders for more details. Go to AL233FL.org for pix. Call 285-2484.

POST 233 is a FREE WiFi spot.

**JACKSONVILLE NATIONAL CEMETERY
CALL TO HONOR**

**MIAP FUNERAL SERVICES
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 8th 2013**



POST OFFICERS

2013-2014

LEGIONNAIRE

Commander: Roy Havekost
Adjutant: Sheri Martinez
Finance Officer: Tom Leppard
1st Vice Cmdr.: Mark Dorsey
2nd Vice Cmdr.: Don Mills
3rd Vice Cmdr.: Stu Lilly
4th Vice Cmdr.: Charlie Walker
Chaplain: Wilbur Burnett
Sgt. at Arms: Robert Scarlett
Historian: vacant 2013-2014
Service Officer: Maury Lazenby

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dan Wortmann
Maury Lazenby
Sonny Kirkwood
Mike Eatmon
James Durnal

LEGION RIDERS

Director: Jarrod Buchman
Asst. Director: Jared LoPiano
Secretary: Virna Waldron
Treasurer: Kathy Church
Road Captain: Bill Marshall
Sergeant at Arms: Bill Marshall
Historian: Becky Blaylock
Chaplain: Jeff Ward
Asst. Chaplain: Linda Williams

AUXILIARY

President Judy Mills
1st Vice Pres.: Linda Williams
2nd Vice Pres.: Kathy Reichard Helmly
Treasurer: Allyson Bass
Secretary: Angie Kees
Chaplain: Ann Cook
Sgt. at Arms: Sylvia Bass
Historian: Debbie Eatmon
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Diane Dorsey
Dee Durnal
Joni Corlew

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander: Jeff 'Tex' Ward
1st Vice Cmdr.: Randy Cottle
2nd Vice Cmdr.: John Paparelli
Adjutant: Steve Willis
Sgt. at Arms: Mike Shaar
Chaplain: Will Hurley
Historian: John Gabbard

Palm Valley Post #233
The American Legion
560 N. Wilderness Trail
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

PLACE
U.S. POSTAGE
HERE



Mailing Address:

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED