

PALM VALLEY POST 233
THE AMERICAN LEGION OF FLORIDA, INC.

560 North Wilderness Trail
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
Telephone (904) 285-2484
www.palmvalleypost233.com



Hours:
Mon ~ Fri 1100 hrs to 2300 hrs
Sat 0900 hrs ~ at least 2100 hrs
Sun ~ 0900 to 2100 hrs

FEBRUARY 2008

Commander's Corner

Donations have now exceeded \$7000 and many thanks go out to Marvin Ard, Dan Wortmann, Georgia Barnes, Rob Kearney, John DeWitt, Ray Williams, and Bobby Duval.

The Monique Burr Foundation for Children donated to our Post in honor of Mr. Bob Duval and we are truly grateful. We must continue to ask for donations to reach our goal of \$20,000. There are fundraisers planned for the near future and you will be hearing more about those events. Ray Williams, E- Board Member suggested a Pledge Program and the form is located in the Newsletter. You may simply cut and mail to our P.O. Box 2494, Ponte Vedra Beach, Fl, 32004 with your commitment. This allows both you and your Legion to budget future funds, while contributing to an extremely important cause. I thank you in advance for your participation to this critical Fundraiser for our great and comfortable Post.

Beginning Tuesday, February 5th, a new event begins at Post #233. Final Table Tour Group will be conducting Texas Hold-Em Card Games from 7PM to 11PM. Your Canteen will be operating, food will be available and this event will be held every Tuesday Evening at 7PM. Come out and join the fun and the challenge. Also, our Team Trivia will continue an alternating Wednesday s following our 6:30 Specialty Dinners, which always taste great.

Legionnaire Dues continue to be a priority and your Adjutant- Ric Smith has been working very hard to exceed our goal. Also, our bartenders will be asking for your 2008 Membership cards prior to providing service at the Canteen. So, Be sure to carry your Membership Card. It's also a "pride thing" to belong to the American Legion, so carry it Proudly. Ric reported at our January Meeting, that we have achieved 94% of our 366 Member quote.

Your House Committee, Led by Dick Salzarulo has been very busy fine-tuning the operation of our Canteen. The House Committee Members have been providing some great in-put to better our Post. Their analysis has included pricing, utility cost and our purchasing procedures. We have initiated a \$2.00 adjustment to our Friday and Wednesday evening meals and will surely avoid unnecessary increases whenever possible by making internal changes and adjustments to our operations in the future.

I can assure that much thought went into the \$2 increase by our House Committee and Finance Officer.

All For Freedom and Remember our Troops
Jim Ross
Commander

From the Auxiliary

Our December projects were a success thanks to all of you who helped. There were 19 very excited children at our Children's Christmas Party. Johnny & Arlene Jones were the stars of the show and as always Johnny was a perfect, kind and jolly Santa.

About 76 folks attended our Christmas Dinner and no one left hungry. Thanks to all who brought food and to Mike Dubin & Rodney who carved the meats. Our Christmas baskets to the elderly were received with profound gratification. Thank you to all who made that possible.

Our plans for 2008 include a yard, plant & bake sale in April. So, start cleaning those closets! We will not sell clothing at our garage sale. However Miss Lil & Wilber will be taking any donated clothing to the Lodge mentioned below. Also, a trip to Lake City to host Bingo for our Veteran's in the Medical Center is planne Our prayers and condolences go to Mickey Bass Williams upon the death of her husband.

The Auxiliary is hosting a Super Bowl Party at the Post on February 3rd. Chili, corned bread, ham soup, baked potatoes plus a multitude of snacks will be served from 5PM thru half time.

Lillian Burnett(& Wilber) are collecting clothes for the Scottish Pete Lodge to distribute in downtown Jacksonville. So bring your items & we will get them to Miss Lil.

We continue to send our coupons to the military families based in Egypt. Dee Durnal & Kathy Church have agreed to collect and mail them.

Wednesday Night Dinners are our main source of income and I'm looking for cooks in March. New Cooks & new ideas are always welcome. Thank you Paula Brendel who prepared pot roast and noodles. She is our newest member and agreed to cook before her membership application was processed.

Our next meeting is February 14th and we will be planning our garage sale, the trip to Lake City VAMC, Poppy drive, and Girls State candidates. So, join us to share your ideas, to fellowship with old friends and to make new friends. Also, bring your coupons, time sheets and items for Miss Lil.

A special thanks to Dee Durnal and Bill Lee of Primier Printing. Dee edits and co-ordinates our newsletter and Bill prints several hundred copies each month. We eagerly anticipate our newsletter each month and appreciate Dee & Bill who make it possible.

May God Bless our Country, our Post and our Unit
Ann Cook
Auxiliary President

1st Vice

Have you recruited your new member for the Post this year? Our Post needs your help in inviting new members to come visit with us and signing them up. We also need breakfast cooks, Team Furr, Ward and Ward cordially invite you to come by the first Sunday, February 3rd, between 8:30 and 11:30 AM, to let us show you the easy way to serve breakfast.

Support your Post
Clen Ward
1st Vice

Adjutant

As of this writing, January 15th, we have received 5 renewals from our listing of 99. Thanks to John, Clayton, Edward, James B., and James P., 94 remain outstanding and unpaid. Do not lose your continuous years of service and post canteen privileges. Renew your dues today.

As the Post year moves on, keep in mind the 2008-2009 elections coming up in May. Consider your responsibilities to select good officers and make good choices. We have very talented members. Many of them are officer material. The District Vice Comdr, Gregg Lovejoy has a training program available to assist in your Legion knowledge.

Come to the next District Meeting, posted on the board, to learn more details.

For God and Country
Ric Smith
Adjutant

S.A.L.

Greeting to all. I sincerely hope your 2008 is starting off well and that you will continue to be healthy and prosperous throughout the year. The coming year will bring more exciting changes to our Post. The final kitchen renovations will be completed very soon thanks to Ron Joy and his crew. If you haven't seen the new kitchen, then why not volunteer to cook on either a Wednesday or Friday night or Sunday breakfast.

Don't forget on Wednesday nights I am at the Post to enjoy the always fantastic dinner. After Dinner, Chuck Kees and I host "Team Trivia" (the best trivia show in the area) and on alternating Wednesday, I host a "Karaoke Show". If you have not participated in these fun events yet you should make plans to be there, check your newsletter calendar for the next show.

There are still many S.A.L. members (you know who you are) that have not paid their 2008 membership dues. Please come by the Post with your check (or mail it in) A.S.A.P.. Also, bring a friend and encourage them to join our Post.

We need to have everyone's e-mail address (we promise no solicitation – only Post information/updates will be sent) so when you get a chance please take a minute to send Steve Willis a quick note to pvpost233@bellsouth.net.

Cont. page 3

Canteen Manager

Football's over, Now what do we do?

As promised last month, we have a really exciting new event on the calendar on Tuesday Nights. Have you ever fancied yourself a card shark or thought to yourself that you could beat these guys playing poker on television? Well, your time has come! On Tuesday nights beginning February 5th, the Post 233 will be hosting "Texas Hold – Em" Poker. This event will be put on by a professional dealer who will explain the game and moderate the event. There is NO experience needed. Everyone from the novice to experienced players are welcome to play. The winners will accumulate points toward a season ending Championship. We will offer food, drink specials and as always, cheerful service from your canteen staff. This promises to be a fun filled evening with a lively atmosphere and friendly competition so get on out and join the Texas Hold-Em craze. If you don't want to play, come on out anyway. The people watching entertainment value should be great! If you want to read up ahead of time, go to www.finaltabletour.com.

We'll also be introducing weekly games of Bar Bingo. This is something we are required to do in order to comply with state law with regard to our Pull Tab games. Don't ask why, it's complicated, but hey Bingo is fun and everybody knows how to play. Speaking of the Pull Tab games, did you know we have now paid out in excess of \$5000.00 in cold hard cash to winners? The Post wins as well. Approximately 30% of the proceeds on the sale of Pull Tab tickets come back to the Post, which we can then use to help fund our various charitable endeavors. It's a rare win-win situation all the way around. We have a 50cent game with a top payout of \$100.00 and a \$1.00 game with a \$255.00 top payout as well as many winning tickets in smaller amounts in both games. If you don't play, you can't win so give it a shot. The return is pretty good on a nominal investment.

The St. Valentine's Day Dinner Party will be next on the agenda on Wednesday February 13th. This will be an elegant affair featuring your choice of Lobster Tail or Filet

Mignon, roses for the ladies and Rosie and the Beachcombers for your listening and dancing pleasure. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and are on sale now, ask your bartender for your tickets. We do need a headcount in order to have enough lobster and filet on hand so get a date with your sweetie and get your tickets early.

Capt Ski will be hosting another of his famous Fish Fry's on Sunday, February 23rd. Ski and his crew always do a fabulous job on the fish and fixin's. We'll have beer specials and have live music outside on the bandstand. See Capt. Ski if you are available to help out in the kitchen.

Thanks to all of you who without complaint accepted the price increases on Wednesday and Friday night dinners. (\$7.00 and \$12.00 respectively) I think most realized that the old prices were unrealistic in today's world and we appreciate everyone's understanding. It's still the best deal in town with the added bonus of dining among friends.

Cont. page 3

Finance Officer

It is rare that the finance officer writes anything for the Post 233 Monthly Newsletter, but I am your new finance officer; therefore, I want to introduce myself. My name is Steve Hutchinson, and I assumed the duties of Finance Officer in October 2007 after some intensive and extension training by Mike Holland, our former Finance Officer. In that regard, I am extremely grateful for the patience and forgiveness that Mike gave me relative to training and showing me the myriad of duties associated with becoming a finance officer. Personally, had I been Mike Holland, I would have shot Steve and looked for someone else. Mike, thank you for all your help.

As your finance officer, I want to make a few comments about our finances for December 2007. First, detailed financial reports are available for any member's review. The Post Adjutant, Commander, Canteen Manager, House Committee chairman (Dick Salzarulo) and me, along with courtesy copies to the SAL and ALA, are available for your review. For those of you who like to get down into the dark green forest and see each individual tree, you are indeed welcome to examine our reports. That is your right. Next, our gross revenues for December came in at approximately \$16,176.00. That's not bad. After all, it was Christmas so our attitude was forget the consequences and have a Good Time. And the consequences (expenses) were around \$15,564.00. Ouch! Well, there is no such thing as a free lunch. More specifically, our payroll weighted in at \$2,848.00: our entertainment for our wild and wonderful fun hit \$740.00, cleaning the Post was \$340.00 and other expenses (food, kitchen supplies, energy, liquor/beer, soft drinks, Comcast, security, trash disposal and telephones (etc) ended up being over \$11,600.00.

Without donations made by specific individuals and organizations, our Post would have gone into a deficit position for December. Clearly, something must be done, the Post cannot assume that members will donate, donate, donate.... Well, you get the picture. So some of our prices must go up and our business operations must be closely examined to identify cost reduction opportunities. This is being done. In January's newsletter, the Canteen Manger announced that prices went up for Wednesday and Friday night dinners. We had to do it! Food prices are up this year (all of you know that from your latest visit to the grocery store) and of course we use electricity, etc. to put these meals together along with payroll expenses to operate lounge sales. To reduce payroll expenses, we have cut back Monday night operations, closing now at around 6:30PM. And other business practices are under review as well. Details regarding those reviews will come out in the future newsletter.

I need to come back to donations by members. Again, I want to give a thankful recognition for all our contributors. We try our very best to individually recognize contributors in our newsletter but sometimes we lose track of someone. A couple people got missed, and I shall take the liberty to mention their names though

Cont. next column

Cont. Finance Officer

their names may pop up in the Commander's Corner. They are Dan Wortmann who contributed \$100.00 in August for building repairs and Mr. Melvin Ard who contributed \$100.00 for building repairs in September. My thanks and appreciation to both of you.

My cat has come into my home office and told me that it is time for a drink. Mindful of my cat's wishes, I shall cut this article off and follow my cat. I enjoyed talking (writing) to you. Next month, look for my discussion regarding our pull-tab operations.

Support our combat and wounded troops who are fighting this war on terror. They shall prevail.

Hutch
Your Finance Officer

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Cont. SAL

If any of you have any questions or suggestions regarding Post issues, my phone number is 904-233-0976 and my e-mail is flagman49@yahoo.net.

Start your new year off with a crisp new flag for your flagpole at home. The Post has an inventory of new U.S. flags (3'x 5' being the most popular size) for purchase. These are best quality outdoor flags at "Legion-Like" prices. We encourage you to place your worn flags in the "mailbox" outside the front entrance and come inside and select your new flag. If you don't find the size or type you require please notify a bartender (or see me) and we will order it for you. If you have any other flagpole or flag requirements I will be happy to assist you.

For God and Country
Jeff "Tex" Ward
S.A.L. Commander

PLEDGE CARD

Dear Steve,

I offer to donate the following amount to
Post #233 on a monthly basis:

\$10 \$20 \$30 \$ Other Amount

Signed:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Mail to:

Finance Officer/ Steve Hutchenson
American Legion Post #233
P.O. Box 2494
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JUDY J. NAGEL
ARTIST / TEACHER

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Newsletter Supporters

Barbara Green
January 2008

Rick Kapeghian
January 2008

John Cheek
March 2008

Nicholas Patrizio
Gregory Patrizio
March 2008

Eddie & Donna Floyd
In memory of Mattie
Oct 2008

Louis Stack/Ruth Stack
October 2008

Ray Root & Bama" Girl
August 2009

Charlie & Linda Walker
November 2009

Buddy Linton
October 2010

Canteen Manager

Every other Wednesday features Team Trivia with Tex & Chuck and we have live music every Friday night. Get out and see what you are missing!

All of us who keep the Post running, the Officers, various Boards, myself and the canteen staff, and our tireless volunteers all continually strive to offer entertainment special events as well as a pleasant atmosphere for you to enjoy what the Post has to offer every day of the week. Without your patronage, our events are for naught.

To those we see regularly, thanks from all of us. To those we don't see, is there something we could do better or a particular concern that keeps you from enjoying our facility? E-mail me at dianebeason@comcast.net. Each and every member is important and we need your patronage but if we don't know what's keeping you away, we can't work to solve the problem.

Fro God and Country
Daine Beason
Canteen Manager

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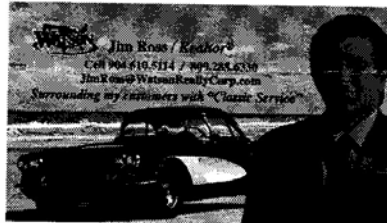
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 Past Commander

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February Birthdays

1. Sylvia Bass
- Stephanie Holland
- Tony Kulper
3. Trudy Cavanaugh
4. Catherine Leblanc
6. Cherie Lee
11. Chuck Kees
- Joe Bing
- Edith Butner
12. Johnny Jones Jr.
- Barbara Nielson
14. Lorraine Joy
17. Glen Ward
18. Cindy Martin
21. Georgia Barnes
- John DeWitt
22. Joey Holland
24. Wilford Lyons
25. Kelsey Howell
26. Mark Stewart

DAN WORTMANN
 "I treat every project as if it
 was my mother's living room."



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Mike and Karen Dubin

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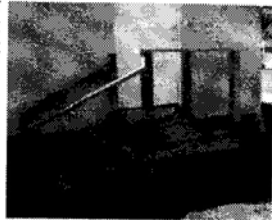
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Volunteer of the Month

This month's volunteer of the Month is Rick Kapeghian for his great workmanship in building our staircase on the rear of the kitchen. Rick didn't want his picture taken, but included is a picture of his masterpiece staircase.



Bill Lee Printing

Bill Lee

605 South Third Street (904) 703-2661
 Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250 Fax (904) 247-1131



Palm Valley American Legion



February 2008 Events



PALM VALLEY POST 233

February 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Breakfast 9:00-12:00 Cooking Bill Furr, Glen & Ben Super Bowl Party Chili & Baked Potato bar Breakfast 9:00-12:00	3 Lunch 11-1:30 SUPPORT OUR TROOPS	4 Lunch 11-1:30 Texas Hold-em Card Tournament 7-11pm	5 Lunch 11-1:30 Dinner 6:30-8:00pm Trivia Bob Schreuter Meatloaf	6 Lunch 11-1:30 E Board Mtg 6:00 Legionares meeting 7PM	7 Lunch 11-1:30 Bob & Judy Nagel Streak Night 6:30-8:30pm ENTERTAINMENT	8 Lunch 11-1:30 Reggie
Breakfast 9:00-12:00 Need breakfast cooks Mike & Karen	10 Lunch 11-1:30	11 Lunch 11-1:30 Texas Hold-em Card Tournament 7-11pm	12 Lunch 11-1:30 Dinner 6:30-8:00pm Streak on Lobster Clam Chowder, Salad Chocolate & Roses	13 Lunch 11-1:30 Aux Meeting 7 PM	14 Lunch 11-1:30 Buntley ENTERTAINMENT	15 Lunch 11-1:30 Dewayne Sanders
Breakfast 9:00-12:00 Need breakfast cooks	17 Lunch 11-1:30 WELCOME ALL LEGIONNAIRES	18 Lunch 11-1:30 Texas Hold-em Card Tournament 7-11pm	19 Lunch 11-1:30 Dinner 6:30-8:00pm Trivia Legion Sylvia Hallenbeck	20 Lunch 11-1:30 Sal Meeting 7:00pm	21 Lunch 11-1:30 Streak Night 6:30-8:30pm Tex Ward ENTERTAINMENT	22 Lunch 11-1:30 Doyle Prim
Breakfast 9:00-12:00 Need breakfast cooks Capt Ski's Fish Fry 1-4pm	24 Lunch 11-1:30	25 Lunch 11-1:30 Texas Hold-em Card Tournament 7-11pm	26 Lunch 11-1:30 Dinner 6:30-8:00pm Aux Blues Man Mike	27 Lunch 11-1:30	28 Lunch 11-1:30 Streak Night 6:30-8:30pm Concrete Pete ENTERTAINMENT	29 Lunch 11-1:30
\$5.00 Donation for Sunday's Big Breakfast \$7.00 Donation for Wednesday Dinner \$12.00 Donation for a great Streak Dinner & entertainment on Fri.						