



# AL233FL Newsletter



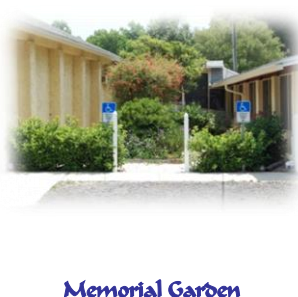
Volume 15, Issue 2

'SMOKE FREE POST'

February 2015



Our Post Home



Memorial Garden



Commander Louis 'Pappy' Martin Pavilion

560 N. Wilderness 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: 10:00am until ?? hrs.**

**SAT: 4pm until ?? hrs. Happy Hour 4-7pm**

On event Saturday's, call for opening time

**SUN: 9am until ?? hrs. Happy Hour 3-7pm**

**Website: [www.AL233FL.org](http://www.AL233FL.org)**

**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/AL233FL](http://www.facebook.com/groups/AL233FL)**

**Email: [info@al233fl.org](mailto:info@al233fl.org)**

**Post telephone: 904.285.2484**

**Monday-Friday: Lunch 11:00am-1:00pm**

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

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

**Sunday: Breakfast 9:00am-11:30am**



We are a Smoke Free Post, 24/7  
Smoking only allowed outside



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**NEVER FORGET ~ POW's & MIA's**



**2014**

**OFFICERS**

**2015**



Cdr. Roy Havekost



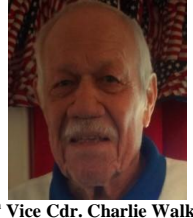
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Cdr. Dan Wortmann



2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Cdr. Don Mills



3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Cdr., Service Officer & Adjutant Sheri Martinez



4<sup>th</sup> Vice Cdr. Charlie Walker



Chaplain William 'Bill' Reno



Finance Tom Leppeard



Sgt. at Arms Robert Scarlett



Service Officer & E-Board Maury Lazenby



E-Board Jim Durnal



E-Board Mike Eatmon



E-Board Ted Veber



E-Board Mike Williams



Judge Advocate Ric Smith



Asst. Adjutant Jim Crutchfield



Historian JR Mathis  
(pic coming soon)



Auxiliary President  
Judy Mills

**AUXILIARY:**  
1<sup>st</sup> V. President Kathy Helmly  
2<sup>nd</sup> V. President Amy Blair  
Treasurer Allyson Bass  
Secretary Angie Kees  
Chaplain Celeste Sheble  
SAA Sylvia Bass  
Historian Linda Mathis  
E-Board Dee Durnal  
E-Board Debbie Eatmon  
E-Board Patty Williams



SAL Cdr.  
Jeff 'Tex' Ward



Riders Director  
Bill Marshall

**RIDERS:**  
Asst. Dir. Kevin Terranella  
Treasurer Kathy Church  
Secretary Virna Waldron  
Chaplain Linda Williams  
Road Capt. Bill Marshall  
SAA Kevin Terranella  
Historian Virna Waldron  
Historian Kathy Helmly

**SAL:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Cdr. Howard Sheble  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Cdr. Mike Shaar  
Adjutant-Finance J. Crutchfield  
Chaplain Will Hurley  
Historian John Gabbard



Canteen Mgr. Rita Connolly

**BARTENDERS:**  
Anita  
Allyson  
Beth  
Debbie  
Amy

## Commanders corner:



January was a wonderful month at the Post. From New Years Eve/Day to the Early Bird Dinner, a spectacular K9s Graduation Ceremony, a heartwarming WWII Veterans Appreciation Luncheon and culminating with a great Friday night dinner on January 30<sup>th</sup> with over 50 meals sold. Thanks goes out to every member, Legion, ALA, SAL and Riders, who helped with these events and evenings. A special thank you to Sheri Rodriguez for co-ordinating both the Early Bird and WWII Luncheon and to Sonny Kirkwood for cooking Friday nights.

Another special thank you goes out to the SAL and those volunteers who helped with the final wall renovations behind the bar and reinstallation of the TV and shelving.

February should be another wonderful month, with the start of our new 'SPIN to WIN' fundraiser on Friday nights and our Valentine's Day Dinner and the ALR 233 Poker Run.

Just a reminder that the 5<sup>th</sup> District will hold the February meeting at Post 233 on Sunday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm.

For God and Country,  
*Roy Havekost, Commander*

## VALENTINE'S DAY – RSVP REQUIRED

Please Call 904-790-2551 or 904-285-2484 or  
email [AmericanLegionPost233@yahoo.com](mailto:AmericanLegionPost233@yahoo.com)



Please Call 904-790-2551 or 904-285-2484 or  
email [AmericanLegionPost233@yahoo.com](mailto:AmericanLegionPost233@yahoo.com)



50" HDTV drawing Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> at the Mardi Gras Event  
Tickets: 1-\$1, 6-\$5, 15-\$10



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander



The Early Bird Dinner, held on January 10<sup>th</sup>, was a huge success. Mike Shaar's Prime Rib was absolutely delicious and we served over 109 meals. We tried to make this event a true benefit for renewing your memberships before November 11<sup>th</sup>. We hope that the addition of the prime entertainment of Kenny Holliday and MIKE Jagger and door prizes met or exceeded your expectations and would love to hear any comments or concerns about this event.

In order to make this event even more successful for the 2015-16 Membership Year, we have already selected November 21<sup>st</sup> as the date for the next Early Bird Dinner. When you renew for next year you will receive all the details. This way each and every eligible member will know about this event.

If you did not attend our luncheon honoring our WWII members, you missed one heck of an event. It was like history books opened up and walked into our Post. Thirteen WWII Veterans and their guests were provided food and drinks along with a certificate of appreciation and an American Flag Pin. Each veteran had a chance to speak and we heard stories of courage, valor, and sadness. Again, we are planning ahead and have already scheduled our next WWII Luncheon for October 10, 2015. If you missed this one, you won't want to me the next one!

The one thing both events had in common was **volunteers**. We asked for help and many of you raised your hand and were there to make both of these events hugely successful. Please do not think it goes unnoticed! We could not do these events without your help!! Thank you!!

For God and Country,  
*Sheri Rodriguez, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Cdr.*



Our membership goal for February 4<sup>th</sup> is 95%. We are currently at 91.469% but after I process the renewals I just picked up, I fully expect to meet this goal. What does this mean? It means that we will need 21 more renewals by March 4<sup>th</sup> to make 100% and 22 to win National's Post Excellence Award. We are so close to the finish line. If you have not already renewed, please mail it in, drop it off at the Post, or renew online at [www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew).

For God and Country,  
*Sheri Rodriguez, Adjutant*



Well after eight months of not having to file any VA claims, I am currently working with a Widow of a Korean Veteran, a Gulf War Veteran, and two Vietnam Veterans. The Commander and I continue to work on making the VA's Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents, and Survivors available on the Post's website.

For God and Country,  
*Sheri Rodriguez, Service Officer*

### **Judge Advocate:**



The 2015 February issue of our American Legion Magazine highlights the Four Chaplains on the U.S.S. Dorchester during WWII in the North Atlantic. You will note on page 26 Post 233 is recognized with Bill Reno, our Chaplain. Having participated in this annual event for many years, all Legionnaires should be reminded of our responsibilities to remember these gallant warriors. Support your Chaplain by attending this program.

For God and Country,  
**Ric Smith**

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### **Auxiliary:**



I hope to find everyone well and hope you all have recuperated from the New Year's celebrations. The Post 233 has some really great events coming up in the month of February and hope we will see everyone there. The first is on February 8th at our Post we will be hosting the 5th District meeting at 2:00pm with a dinner to follow. This meeting is very informative and if you haven't been to one you should attend, you can meet people from all different Posts throughout the district. February 12th we will hold the ALA regular meeting at 7:00pm, this month our 5th District President Annie Anderson will be visiting our meeting so I hope you all can make the meeting. The Legion will be holding a Valentine's dinner on February 14th the menu is Lasagna, salad, garlic bread and dessert, the entertainment is Patrick Rose and the nice thing about this dinner is it is FREE, yes FREE so bring your wife, girlfriend or significant other over to the Post and enjoy a nice meal and entertainment on the Legion. There is an RSVP list at the Legion so please sign up. The ALA will be holding a Mardi Gras party on February 21st so get your mask and your beads and come on out and enjoy a fine meal of Gumbo, Red Beans and Rice, Collard Greens, Shrimp, Cornbread and desserts for a donation of \$8.00. We will also have entertainment by Flat Black, the wheel of fortune and we are raffling off the 50" TV so get your tickets now and good luck. Please say a prayer for our troops still serving overseas and bring them home to their families safe.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY  
**Judy Mills**

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### **Chaplain:**



I would like to remind all members to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> District annual Four Chaplains Memorial Service to be held on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 at 2:00pm at American Legion Post 129.

For God and Country,  
**Bill Reno**

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### **SAL:**



Greetings Men,  
After 26+ years of service as squadron Adjutant/Finance officer, Steve Willis has decided to "hang up his cleats" and pass the baton to someone else. I would like to take this opportunity to publically thank him for his invaluable input and support to me during my time as Commander. We presented him with a small token of our appreciation for his service by handing him an envelope with \$100 worth of Post 233 drink chips last Wednesday after our SAL dinner. He was very thankful (to say the least!) Thanks again Steve and please feel free to keep us in line!! At this time I want to introduce our new Adjutant/Finance officer, Mr. Jim Crutchfield, to our team. Jim is a dual member transfer from Post 77 in Conyers, Georgia. He has many years of experience as an adjutant and finance officer for both the Legion and SAL and this experience will help our squadron immensely. Please take the time to introduce yourself to Jim and say hello the next time you see him.

**MEMEBERSHIP!** As you may or may not know as of 1/1/2015 you will be asked to show your 2015 membership card at the bar. If you do not have it you will not be able use any canteen privileges. You can pay your renewals (\$30.) in cash or check "American Legion - S.A.L." Please put the payment in an envelope (along with your current phone number, mailing address and email) marked "Attention: Jim Crutchfield" and give it to the bartender on duty. Or, you can send the check to Jim Crutchfield, 560 N. Wilderness Trail, Ponte Vedra, FL, 32082. Please include your phone number, current address and email.

Our Wednesday Night Dinner (last Wed. the 21<sup>st</sup>), Chef Mike Shaar, along with the usual suspects, served up seared Mahi with a tomato chutney. It was delicious (as usual!!) Thank you all for a delish meal. We do this once a month on the 3rd Wednesday. Please help us by volunteering at least once a year. That is not asking too much, is it? Even if you can't help us 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 to pay for the food and someone to cook it. You also have the privilege to decide on the menu (within reason!) The next S.A.L. dinner is Wednesday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>. Any ideas?

February is Mardi Gras month so on Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> the S.A.L. is hosting a Pancake in lieu of the usual Sunday breakfast. This is the morning after the Auxiliary Mardi Gras party. There will be a special menu and drink specials. More details to follow but plan to be there and spread the word.

There are many other events and fundraisers planned during the holiday season so keep your eyes on the newsletter, visit the website ([www.al233fl.org](http://www.al233fl.org)) or better yet, come in to your Post and

## Canteen:



We have some very wonderful and generous volunteers for our dinners, breakfasts and special events. Thank you all very much.

Our entertainment and events for February are as follows:  
Friday, Feb. 6 – Frankie Martin, Jr. hosting karaoke  
Sunday, Feb. 8 – Fifth District Meeting at 2:00 pm  
Friday, Feb. 13 – Beach Street Boogie  
Saturday, Feb. 14 – St. Valentine's Day Dinner with entertainment by Patrick Rose. Reservations are taken at the bar.  
Thursday, Feb. 19 – K-9s for Warriors' Graduation at 5:30 pm  
Friday, Feb. 20 - The Boz Man Music  
Saturday, Feb. 21 – A.L.A.'s Mardi Gras Dinner – entertainment by Flat Black  
Friday, Feb. 27 – Don Miniard  
Saturday, Feb. 28 – A.L.R. Poker Run

Please come out and enjoy these events and support your Post.

## RIDERS:



The ALR 233 continues to support AL Post 233 and its family by attending as many events as possible. We continue to cook breakfast every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month and Wednesday night dinner the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of all months that have 5 Wed.

in them.

We invite all members to participate in our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Poker Run to benefit THE DREAMS COME TRUE FOUNDATION which will be held on Saturday, Feb 28<sup>th</sup> (see our flyer). All members of our Post and your guest are welcome at this event. We will have music, food, raffles and much more.

ALR 233 will be participating in the upcoming escort for the Four Chaplain's Service on Sunday Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> which will start at AL Post 316 (Atlantic Beach) and end at AL Post 129 (Jax Beach). Members will then attend the service which is lead by AL 5<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain and Post 233 AL Chaplain, Bill Reno. Please join us for this event also.

If you are a member of the Legion, Auxiliary or SAL you are also eligible to join our Rider Chapter with either a lifetime membership for \$100.00 or a yearly membership of \$25.00. You do not have to own a motorcycle to become a member of our ALR. There are many ways you can support the Riders. Please feel free to contact myself or any ALR 233 Rider for further details.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Church  
ALR 233 Treasurer

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs 22 veterans commit suicide each day. Stop22 is a National awareness campaign to show our military members, both active and retired that they are not forgotten. K9s for Warriors, Ponte Vedra, FL, is doing their part to help post 9/11 veterans with PTSD and TBI and helping spread #STOP22 awareness. As American Legion Post 233 Commander here in Ponte Vedra, I challenge all American Legion Posts across the nation to show support for #STOP22 and #K9sSTOP22. Post 233 intends to recruit at least 22 new veterans, can you OUTDO our 22?

## SAL cont'd.,

have a drink and see what is happening! We are on Facebook so if you are a social media aficionado go to "Sons of The American Legion Squadron 233" and join the group. This is a convenient and fun way to stay informed.

Now is the time to give back! Our Post needs all of us to step up and support it in some way. That can be accomplished by volunteering to help in fundraisers and meals, making a financial donation, showing up for meals, fundraisers, events, etc. or just stopping by for a friendly drink and visit.

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 monthly meeting and share your thoughts and ideas with all of us! The next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm.

Always be mindful that it is a privilege to be a member of the Sons of the American Legion organization! As male descendants we are honoring our fathers and forefathers who have served in the Armed Forces, and in many cases gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country. If the same names keep showing up in this column it is because the same people are doing the volunteering.

Please keep all of our service men and women and their families in your thoughts and prayers during this holiday season.

For God & Country

Jeff "TEX" Ward, SAL Commander





**MIAP – FLORIDA  
JANUARY 26, 2015**

Now that the holidays have come and gone and we are into 2015 MIAP-FL is back to working full swing.

We have volunteers that have come on board in the Jupiter, Tallahassee and Bradenton areas of FL. These volunteers are in the process of getting set up and starting to make contacts with funeral homes in their areas.

Locally volunteers are reaching out to funeral homes to see if any unclaimed cremains can be located. We have been working with Hardage-Giddens Funeral Homes for the past 3 years and will be completing this part of our project with one of two more interments.

We will hold CALL TO HONOR #5 on Friday, March 27, 2015 at the Jacksonville National Cemetery @ 1:00pm. We are in the planning stages for this service. If you or your organization would like to participate in this service please contact us @ [miapjax@yahoo.com](mailto:miapjax@yahoo.com).

As with any volunteer organization we are in need of active volunteers and funding. There are many ways you can take part in MIAP. Again if you have any questions please contact us at our email address. You can also go to our website [www.miap.us](http://www.miap.us) to read what we have accomplished to date nationwide and sign up as a supporter or volunteer.

**Our Progress to Date in FL is:**

<b>Funeral Homes Visited:</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Cremains Located:</b>	<b>382</b>
<b>Veterans Interred:</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Spouses Interred:</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Dependents Interred:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Missions Pending:</b>	<b>47</b>

Our mission here in Florida is to contact every funeral home, medical examiner's offices, hospitals, etc to locate all unclaimed cremains to identify them as veterans, spouses and dependents. With these numbers and goals you can see why our need for volunteers and funding across the state is imperative.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Church  
MIAP – FL State Coordinator  
[miapjax@yahoo.com](mailto:miapjax@yahoo.com)



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY'S



- |    |   |    |                |
|----|---|----|----------------|
| 1  | Sylvia Bass<br>Stephanie Holland<br>Tony Kulper | 14 | Lorraine Joy   |
| 3  | Trudy Cavanaugh                                 | 17 | Clen Ward      |
| 4  | Catherine Leblanc                               | 18 | Cindy Martin   |
| 6  | Cherie Lee                                      | 21 | Georgia Barnes |
| 9  | Randy Corlew (In memoriam)                      | 24 | Wilford Lyons  |
| 11 | Chuck Kees<br>Joe Bing                          | 25 | Kelsey Howell  |
| 12 | Johnny Jones Jr.<br>Barbara Nielson             | 26 | Steve Barnett  |

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

## HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

### 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**



### 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.**

**Smoking is permitted outside and at the pavilion bar.**

**POST 233 is a FREE WiFi spot**

**ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS CARD ON THE POST TV FOR ONLY \$75.00/YEAR**

**Ask the bartender for details**

**The Post 233 calendar of events is online at:**


<http://www.al233fl.org/ecalendar.htm>

If you have a smart phone, you can connect to the e-calendar with your gmail account and have all the Post 233 event dates at your fingertips.

**SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES THAT HELP SUPPORT YOUR POST**

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\$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...





**Post 233's ALA Queens**  
**Would like to invite you to a**  
**Mardi Gras Masquerade Party**  
**February 21, 2015**

**A Special Evening of Cocktails,**  
**Dinner, Music & Dancing**



**Dinner 6:30 — 8:00 pm**

**All for a \$8.00 donation**

**Drawing for the 50" LED HDTV**

**Will be that night. You do not have to  
 be present to win!**



**Drawing for the  
 50" LED HDTV**

**By Popular Demand**  
**Entertainment will be**  
**FLATBLACK**

**Tickets for the TV**

**\$1.00 - 1**

**\$5.00 - 6**

**\$10.00 - 15**

**Get your Tickets at**  
**Post 233**



**HAPPY  
 HOUR**

**4:00 - 7:00 pm**



**American Legion Post 233 — 560 N. Wilderness Trail Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082**

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 233  
FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER MENUS  
Dinner served from 6:30pm – 8:00pm**

Starting in the month of February, the AL Post 233 will be trying something different with our Friday night dinners. Below is the Friday night dinner menus for the month of February.

Friday, Feb 6<sup>th</sup> – Spaghetti, meatballs & sausage, salad, garlic bread & dessert. **\$10.00**

Friday, Feb 13<sup>th</sup> – Steak or fish dinner, salad, dinner roll, baked potato & dessert.  
**\$12.00**

Friday, Feb 20<sup>th</sup> – Shrimp Scampi over a bed of linguini, salad, bread & dessert or Baked Fish, salad, garlic mashed potatoes & dessert  
**\$15.00 - Shrimp Scampi diner**  
**12.00 – Bake Fish dinner**

Friday, Feb 28<sup>th</sup> – Steak of fish dinner, salad, baked potato & dessert  
**\$12.00 – either dinner**

If you would like to help out in the kitchen on any of these Friday nights please contact our Canteen Manager, Rita Connolly @ 285-2484 or Kathy Church @ 219-3035.

Thank you,

*Kathy Church*

**Kathy Church  
ALA Unit 233**



# ALR 233 3rd Annual Charity Poker Run

To benefit:

**DREAMS COME TRUE,**  
dedicated to granting dreams for  
local children with life threatening  
illnesses.



## FEBRUARY 28, 2015



Registration: 9A @ Post 233, \$15 per bike ~  
\$10 passenger (Continental Breakfast)  
KSU: 10A

STOPS:

AL Post 250 ~ Middleburg  
AL 202 ~ Keystone Heights  
Cheyenne Saloon ~ Palatka  
Arnold's Cocktail Lounge ~St Augustine  
AL Post 233—Ponte Vedra Bch

LBI: 5P

Dinner/Music: 5P

Ca\$h Prize for Best Hand: 7P

American Legion Riders Chapter 233 \* 560 N Wilderness Trl \* Ponte Vedra Bch, FL 32082  
904-285-2484

legionriders233@gmail.com Facebook groups: ALR 233 Twitter: @ALR233FL





**COMING ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6<sup>th</sup> 2015**  
**and every Friday night thereafter**

**Post 233s**

**'SPIN TO WIN' \$\$\$\$ FUNDRAISER**

- **Tickets (\$1 each) will be sold from 8pm to 10pm with a weekly drawing at 10pm**
- **Winning ticket holder will spin the wheel to win a cash prize**
- **Prize amount (\$500) will increase each week if there is no winner**
- **Complete fundraiser rules posted at the bar**
- **Prize amounts will be listed weekly on Facebook or you can call the Post at 904-285-2484**
- **Post 233, 560 N. Wilderness Trail Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082.**

© 2015 Fundraising Committee  
Palm Valley Post 233  
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL  
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*Thank you to those who have contributed to this newsletter.*

**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**