

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

JULY 2008

Commander's Corner

This is my final newsletter and here's our Year in Review. As you drive into Post #233, the first item you notice is the sign, at our driveway entry, which was painted and lettered by Judy and Bob Nagel. Judy and I painted our postal mailbox out on Wilderness Trail. The entrance is much nicer now.

Next you'll see our new driveway covering, which eliminates all the dust, thanks to a decision by your Executive Board. Then you see the great upgrades to the exterior of our building under the direction of Ron Joy, Jim Durnal and Johnny Jones. We have new siding, roof extensions, stucco repair and a complete new paint job. Then our Pavilion enhancement thanks to Lorraine, Ron and Ben Joy.

Your's truly painted the Mailbox in front of our Post for Retired American Flags and Bill Lee donated the sign label for the box. Next is the musical equipment and PA System including new speakers, base, control head and remote microphone donated by Kurt Johnston, Cathy & Jim Leblanc, Jim Ross, Carol Lamb and Tex Ward. Chuck Kees, Diane and I rolled our sleeves up, developed quality control for our Canteen Operation (The Liquor), priced it right with the help of the House Committee and Steve Hutchinson - Finance Officer and are now ever watchful of those expensive bottles behind the Bar.

One of our latest additions is the new signboard on the wall of the Canteen with all our prices and the value of all the chips. It was prepared and developed by Chuck & Angie Kees. Plus the addition of our New Pull-Tab Machine, thanks to the House Committee and Diane Beason's determination. It's been a huge success.

The Purifans for clean air were Bill Walker's idea and he donated the first unit. Others were donated by Morris Busbia and Jim Ross. Donations for this cause were made by our Auxiliary, Glen Ward, Bob Schroeter, Eric Sommers, Wulfred Lyons, John Papparelli, Ray Wiltse, Mike Dubin and Bud Long and various donations to the FAN CAN. The smoke filters have been working very well and have helped bring in new members to our Post.

You will also notice new doors leading to the Pavilion, front door and door to back parking lot, which were provided by Ron Joy and our S.A.L. The new storm door and new rear kitchen Porch were thanks to Rick Karpaghian and once again Ron Joy. The new Men's Room Door was installed by Van Martin and delivered by Wulfred Lyon and Judy Rogers. Peg Woodbury and Deb Johnston donated a new freezer, for our kitchen, which was truly needed.

Ron Joy and our S.A.L. provided a complete new kitchen with new cabinetry, sinks, Stainless Table and a new window. A lot of planning and work went into this project and we really want to say a huge THANK YOU to Ron and his sidekicks Lorraine and Ben. This project moved this Post into the next century and improved the working conditions for our Volunteer Cooks. It's all good for 233.

A large group of Members provided very generous donations of time and money for our Building Repair Fund and they will be recognized on a display in our Post over the next few weeks. Also, look for an announcement of our Member Appreciation Party in July. Details to follow.

It's been a very rewarding and satisfying year and I truly appreciate the help from everyone. I wish Don Mills, our new Commander and his team the very best in 2008-2009. It's now time to move into next year.

All For Freedom
Jim Ross
Commander

From the Auxiliary

Congratulations to our incoming Commander, Don Mills! The Auxiliary is looking forward to working with you and your team this year.

Lillian Burnett and Kathy Church put in the extra effort to make our Poppy Drive a success. Kathy awarded a \$25.00 gift certificate to the bartender who collected the most Poppy money. Congratulations Debbie! Lillian arranged for us to distribute information and accept donations at Winn Dixie, Fresh Market and Publix. We collected \$746.00 for our veterans.

Judy Nagel & I will be attending the District Convention in July. If you are interested in a certain area of service, let us know so we can bring you some ideas.

A special thank you to Rita Connelly, who has cooked dinner 3 out of the last 4 Wednesday Nights. Thanks Chef Rita! Recently there has been a drop in Wednesday night cooks. Please consider pitching in so we can continue to enjoy the camaraderie at Post #233 while enjoying a great home cooked meal.

In July we will be starting our 2008-2009 membership campaign. Fortunately, Kathy Church will be our chairperson again, Thank You Kathy. Our dues have increases to \$20.00 this year.

Coupon Report - we mailed only \$6570.77 worth this month so please sharpen your scissors and clip those coupons.

Thanks to Valerie Galvin there is a white notebook in the kitchen where you can record your volunteer hours. Hopefully this will be a convenience and increase our reporting.

Our next meeting is July 10th, so please join us! We need your ideas to form our agenda for next year. Also, remember your pull-tabs, coupons & volunteer hours.

May God Bless our Country, our Troops and our Post

Ann Cook
Auxiliary President
285-0579

Adjutant

The Florida American Legion Department Convention is scheduled for July 17-20, 2008.

On Saturday, July 19th, there are training sessions from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. for incoming Commanders, Adjutants, and Finance Officers. Our Post will pay expenses for one (1) Commander / First Vice / Adjutant from the membership account. Full Convention activities are posted.

Installation of New Officers will be on Saturday, July 26, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. All new officers are requested to be here by 4:30 P.M. Notice is posted.

Have a Great Summer!!!

For God and Country

Ric C. Smith Sr.

Finance Officer

My cat took a look at the June 2008 Newsletter, upon seeing that there was no financial report from the Finance Officer, she did a tail spin followed by a hiss or two and, with total disgust for me, left my home office with a rather severe warning. The xbeen for donations from individuals and organizations, we would have approximately cleared only about \$400.00. Same story in May 2008. In May our bottom line was \$699.21. Another profit, but again donations carried the day and without them we would have gone into a deficit position.

We are grateful for your donations for they cover a lot of our operating expenses. Also, a lot of your donations, along with income from our Pull-Tab operations, go to organizations such as Boy's State, the Beaches Honor Guard, selected schools for the exceptional children, the Shriner's and of course, to our wounded veterans (my cat's first priority) who have given so much to our country. What I am trying to say is that we do more than just run a Post. For everyone that donates, I say thank you and I salute you!

All right. Concerning Post #233, what's the real financial problem here that is bothering my cat and me? Well, business is down. Our lounge sales are down for April and May along with Wednesday Night Dinners, our Famous Friday Night Steak Dinners, and our lunches. June's business is looking pathetic too. Where is everyone?? In the mountains of North Carolina to escape the Florida heat?? Come to us, dammit, and that's an order!! The staff and volunteer cooks are very nice people, and we do make very nice meals and drinks at prices that you can't beat anywhere else. And we have live entertainment on Friday night. Such a good deal to be had by our members and their guest.

New Financial horror on the horizon. My cat and I are looking at our lunch prices. We may have to make a slight adjustment. In closing, I say,

****Fully support and give prayers to our combat troops fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq. May God and their leaders guide them well.**

****Always remember our fallen comrades who gave the ultimate sacrifice in preserving freedom for our country.**

Hutch
Your Finance Officer

Canteen Manager

First up, There's a new Sheriff in town. Congratulations to Commander Don Mills and all the incoming Officers of Post #233. Let's hope that the entire membership rallies behind them and affords them the respect they deserve and any assistance they may need in their quest to unite our Post for the greater good. Thanks and best wishes to outgoing Commander, Jim Ross. The job is not as easy and far more time consuming than some may think. Our officers hear all about the things that don't go well and don't get nearly enough credit for the successes. We all owe a debt of gratitude to those who care enough to take on the challenge.

Secondly, our thoughts and prayers are with the families of each of our members that we have lost recently. The list is alarmingly long. Our prayers continue as well for Past Commander Jack Blessing and others as they struggle with serious health issues.

On to new business. As of this date, the last FIVE-Wednesday night dinners have been prepared and served by our bartenders! The obvious cliché here is "not just pretty faces, they can cook too!" True enough but not the point. The fact is that there have been no volunteers to cook and literally at the eleventh hour, the bartenders have stepped up to the plate and delivered some pretty good dinners. The rest of the crew has jumped in to help serve, clean up, etc. As the leader of this merry band I couldn't be prouder of the unselfish effort put forth, however the question begs "what's wrong with this picture?" This situation is not 100% the fault of our outgoing 2nd Vice, whose job it is to fill the vacancies in the schedule. The "Need Cooks" advertisement was on the board most of the time for a full month and no one stepped forward. The bartenders get it. No cooks, no dinner, no revenue through the register, equals bad news. Side note – the bartenders doing the cooking, Rita, the champ on dinner #3 at the moment, Kathy, Allyson and myself, are not the ones working behind the bar so there is no financial incentive involved. It's plain simple concern for the well being of the Post. So..... as you come in to enjoy dinner and trivia or karaoke on Wednesday evenings, give some thought as to how that nice meal got on your plate and rethink your position on volunteering. "Someone else" is getting tired! Let's give incoming Second Vice, Pete Mischler, an easier road to hoe than was afforded his predecessor.

We are still in desperate need of volunteer lunch cooks as well. Vacations, work commitments and general burn out are taking a toll on the present line-up. Is there anyone out there that could spare a few hours a week? It's really not that tough and although we don't make a bundle on it day to day, it does add up and every little bit helps.

As the long hot days of summer set in, let's all reflect on why we are here and why we belong to The American Legion. Our Post is a diamond in the rough. We are blessed with a wonderful group of people with many talents and much to give. If everyone does their part, no matter how small, we can make our Post the happening destination it should be.

For God and Country,
Diane Beason
Canteen Manager

UPCOMING EVENTS

Auxiliary Cookout

Wednesday, July 2, 2008 Donation \$5.00
Dinner at 6:30 P.M., Hamburger & Hot Dogs, Bring a
dish to share.
Austin Williams Entertainment

Commander's Concert

Thursday, July 10th, 2008
8:00 P.M. **Johnston Duo Entertainment**

WANTED

Someone to print the newsletter. Need a printer that prints
11 x 17. Dee does all the hard work putting it together.
Contact Dee or Bill Lee.
Last newsletter will be September's.

*If you're not getting a newsletter in the mail or e-mail,
contact the post.*

July Birthdays

1. Harry Frisbee
Shelly Collier
2. Donna Wagener
Margaret Peters
4. Patty O'Callahan
6. Bruce Provin
7. Aimee Umstaddt
8. Gail Coe
9. Phyllis Crotty
Eddie Floyd
12. Bob McAfee
Gill Cloer
13. Ned Mullin
16. Debbie Huffman
17. Danny Cowgill
18. Ben Meyers
Dodie Bing
19. Paula Reynolds
20. Eileen Greco
26. Norma Rolph
29. Sam Wooten
Sharon Peet



John Cheek
Owner
Phone (904) 249-7448

616 South 3rd Street
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
Fax (904) 241-4106

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



JACK HORD
P.G.A. PROFESSIONAL
LESSONS BY APPT.

285-8978
1075 PALM VALLEY RD.
PONTE VEDRA 32082

Bill Lee Printing

Bill Lee

605 South Third Street
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250 904-703-2661
inkatthebeach@aol.com

David Lockerman
904.241.2020
Cell 904.708.0838

**LEGION
DISCOUNT**

Mayfair
Since 1960
OPTICIANS

607 Third Street South
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
mayfairopticians@bellsouth.net

Newsletter Supporters

SENIORS 60+

Learn how to access cash from your home
 Tax Free: No more mortgage payments
 You cannot lose your home, heirs protected
REVERSE MORTGAGE INFORMATION
 Mike Wright @ 904-567-3641

CAROLYN HUGHES L.M.T.
 Licensed Massage Therapist

904-249-2115
 904-514-2473

Young Living Essential Oils
 Raindrop Technique
 The Chi Machine
 Chair Massage

MA0026843



COMMONWEALTH MORTGAGE L.L.C.

www.uncommonknowledge.net



Foster Harpster
 Owner

Phone 904-241-4608 • Fax 904-241-4671

fosterh@fdn.com

447 Atlantic Blvd., Suite 4
 Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

Atlantic Beach • Saint Augustine

Equal Housing Lender • A Licensed Mortgage Brokerage Business



Peyton Stockton-Ried
 Vice President
 Broker Associate

208 Ponte Vedra Park Drive, Suite
 Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32
 Cell: (904) 655-3554 ~ Fax: (904) 285-4
 Office: (904) 285-4

Peyton@StocktonRealEstate.com ~ www.StocktonRealEstate.com

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



904-280-4543
 904-537-3285

NO JOB TOO SMALL
 LICENSED PAINTING & PRESSURE WASHING
 HANDYMAN
 GENERAL CLEAN UPS

PONTE VEDRA BEACH

FL
 0808



Susan Lamolinara
Call Me for Any of Your
Real Estate Needs
Cell: (904) 534-7001

E-Mail: SLamolinara@bellsouth.net
 Please visit my website at:
www.susanlamolinara.com





Palm Valley American Legion



Post 233 July 2008 Events



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29 WELCOME ALL MEMBERS and GUESTS	30 Volunteer to cook a Breakfast Lunch or Fri. Steak Dinner	1 Lunch 11-1:30	2 Auxiliary 4th of July Party BURGERS, HOT DOGS, KARAOKE ("Austin") and More!! 6:30 pm	3 Lunch 11-1:30 E. BOARD 6am. LEGIONNAIRES 7:00pm	4 Lunch 11-1:30 NO Steak Nite HAPPY 4th OF JULY!	5 Volunteer To Cook
6 Breakfast 9:00-12:00 Chefs: Bill Furr, Glen & Ben Ward	7 Lunch 11-1:30 SUPPORT OUR TROOPS	8 Lunch 11-1:30	9 Lunch 11-1:30 Dinner 6:30-8pm Chefs: Chuck & Angie Kees	10 Lunch 11-1:30 COMMANDERS CONCERT "Johnson Duo" 8:00 p.m.	11 Lunch 11-1:30 Steak Nite 6:30-8pm Bob Schroeter ENTERTAINMENT: Reggie	12 Member's Birthday Party 6:00 P.M.
13 Breakfast 9:00-12:00 Chefs: MIKE & KAREN DUBIN	14 Lunch 11-1:30	15 Lunch 11-1:30 WELCOME ALL MEMBERS and GUESTS	16 Lunch 11-1:30 Dinner 6:30-8pm Chefs: Auxiliary	17 Lunch 11-1:30 GOD BLESS AMERICA S.A.L. 6:00pm	18 Lunch 11-1:30 Steak Nite 6:30-8pm Chuck Kees All-Stars ENTERTAINMENT: DeWayne Stewart	19 WELCOME ALL MEMBERS and GUESTS
20 Breakfast 9:00-12:00 MEMBER'S APPRECIATION PARTY!	21 Lunch 11-1:30	22 Lunch 11-1:30	23 Lunch 11-1:30 Dinner 6:30-8pm Chef: T.B.A.	24 Lunch 11-1:30 VOLUNTEER TO COOK	25 Lunch 11-1:30 Steak Nite 6:30-8pm Tex's Rangers ENTERTAINMENT: Doyle Primm	26 NEW OFFICERS INSTALLATION CEREMONY 5:00 p.m.
27 "The Beachcombers" Breakfast 9:00-12:00 Volunteer To Cook	28 Lunch 11-1:30 GOD BLESS AMERICA	29 Lunch 11-1:30	30 Lunch 11-1:30 Dinner 6:30-8pm Chefs: Miss Lil & Jason	31 Lunch 11-1:30 Steak Nite 6:30-8pm ENTERTAINMENT: KARAOKE	1 Lunch 11-1:30 Steak Nite 6:30-8pm	2 Volunteer To Cook
Sunday's Big Breakfast - \$5 Donation						
Wednesday Dinner - \$7 Donation						
Friday Steak Dinner & Entertainment - \$12 Donation						