

	2014	LEGION OFFICERS	2015				
Cdr. Roy Havekost	1 st Vice Cdr. Dan Wortmann	2 nd Vice Cdr. Don Mills	3 rd Vice Cdr. & Adjutant Sheri Martinez	4 th Vice Cdr. Charlie Walker			
Chaplain Wilbur Burnett	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	Vacant Historian	Judge Advocate Ric Smith			
	AUXILIARY ~ SONS ~ RIDERS						
William Auxiliary President Judy Mills	AUXILIARY: 1 st V.President Kathy Helmly 2 nd V.President vacant Treasurer Allyson Bass Secretary Angie Kees Chaplain Celeste Sheble SAA Sylvia Bass Historian vacant 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 Historians Virna Waldron & Kathy Helmly			
SAL: 1 st Vice Cdr. Howard Sheble 2 nd Vice Cdr. Mike Shaar Adjutant & Treas. Steve Willis SAA John Paparelli Chaplain Will Hurley							
		~ CANTEEN ~					
		Canteen Mgr. Rita Connolly	BARTENDERS: Anita Allyson Beth Debbie Mike & Lauren				
AL233FL newsletter pg. 2							

Commanders corner.

Thank you, thank you! Our Post renovations are going great, our Grand Reopening went great (lol) and our plans for more renovations are moving forward. Special thanks go out to **Beaches Flooring & Decorating Co.** for our carpet installation and to **Braud design/build inc.** for the major renovations project. Everyone who has pitched in, thank you too, especially those of you who have made sizable financial contributions for the improvements. Dieter Arnold and Steve Willis, this means you, thanks again.

Ok, we had some minor problems along the way and they will be addressed forthwith, namely our primary A/C unit and ventilation ducts, and our primary electrical shutoff box at the meter. Our Memorial Day event was a financial success for the building fund, even though our guests had to endure some adverse temperatures while our A/C and power was out. Thank you to all our members and guests that stuck it out until the emergency repairs were made. We still need to raise more money for the Building Fund in order to complete the makeover. Anyone can donate by check or online directly to our linked PayPal account at <u>http://www.al233fl.org/donation.htm</u>.

I will be looking forward to this year's convention in Orlando as I am planning on attending several new classes/courses that are offered, which will benefit our operations here at 233.

For God and Country, Roy

Post installation of officers will take place on **Sunday, July 13th at 11:00am**. Legion officers are requested to wear Legion caps and your class B Freedom Polo shirts or a class A white or blue uniform shirt. Let's LOOK SHARP and BE SHARP! Those Legionnaires being installed must have their 2015 dues paid before this date. All four entities will be installed.

Class Action Against USAA Relating To Failure To Pay Sales Tax On Covered Claims.

A class action has been filed against USAA automobile insurance companies alleging that USAA has improperly withheld sales tax from military men and women who have made auto insurance claims for their totaled vehicles. The lawsuit alleges that USAA improperly withheld up to 6% of the insured vehicle cost, which on a \$10,000 vehicle can be as high as \$600 per person. Documents filed with the federal court show that USAA withheld sales tax from as much as 75% of policy holders who made claims for totaled vehicles in a one year period. The same documents show that the withheld sales tax at issue in the lawsuit may total over \$17 million. The lawsuit is in federal court and styled Chantal Bastian v. United Services Automobile Association, USAA Casualty Insurance Company, Garrison Property and Casualty Insurance Company, and USAA General Indemnity Company, No. 3:13-cv-01454, Middle District of Florida, Jacksonville Division. The federal court denied without prejudice USAA's motion to dismiss the lawsuit and the lawsuit is proceeding. For information, you can contact attorney Tracy Markham at 904-794-7005 or tlmarkhamlaw@gmail.com.

We hope that in addition to the <u>new look</u> at the Post, you are also enjoying the <u>new look</u> of the monthly newsletter.

The 5th District website has added a new look too! More individual Post information will be available for each of the 19 Posts in the District. The site also includes information and schedules for the 2014 American Legion Baseball season playoffs.

If you haven't yet visited the website it is located at <u>www.al5thdistrictfl.org</u> where you can also view the latest bulletins posted with important Legion information. The site also has an archive of Legion Link newsletters, starting from January 2012.



Florida Legion License Plates reminder

The State Legislature has authorized the creation of the 1st *American Legion License Plate*. Each plate costs \$35.50, with a portion of the proceeds going to support the Florida American Legion Boys State, the Gilchrest Fund and other veteran support services. We need to pre-sell 1,000 plates before production of the plate will proceed and we are almost halfway there. You can purchase a voucher for the plate through our local tax collector's office or go to the Department website to pre-order at http://members.floridalegion.org/license-plate-preorder

Once you purchase your voucher, you receive a specialty license plate voucher receipt. After 1,000 vouchers have been sold, production will begin and voucher holders will be notified they can exchange their voucher for their specialty plate. Order yours today!

> **WELCOME TO POST 233** Our newest members and/or transfers:

Joshua Goughneour (Active Duty, Navy), Tabatha Goughneour (Active Duty, Navy), Steven Wilson (Navy), Jerry Bullock (Marines), Tim Dejoris (Army), Michael Barker (Navy), Matt Thomas (Navy), Carl Evans (Air Force), and Thomas Herbst (Army).

Legion meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 7:00pm

Veterans helping Veterans!

Officer's Country

Adjutant's notes: The Post membership is at 104.393% for the 2014 term. Just a reminder that when we return from the Convention we will start collecting dues for 2015. Department sets monthly goals for membership renewals and we need to try to meet those goals for 2015.

I would like to thank the members for their vote of confidence in electing me to the 3^{rd} Vice Commander office and I can assure everyone I will do my best in that position.

I will also be attending the convention in Orlando this year. I plan on enrolling in the Service Officer two day class. Being a certified Service Officer will allow for me to help Maury Lazenby our current Service Officer.

For God and Country, Sheri

Vice Commanders:

Hello to everyone I hope to find you and your families well. This is the end of a great year at our Post 233 we have accomplished a great deal with new renovations, if you have not been in to see them you should come in and enjoy the changes.

This past year we have had some good Wednesday night dinners sponsored by the Legionnaires, but we need more volunteers to step up and commit to cooking on these nights, we have had to cancel before due to no one stepping up to cook. I hope this next year we will have more volunteers and cooks in the kitchen supporting the American Legion.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY Don Mills 2nd Vice

I want to take this time to thank our members for electing me to 1st Vice Commander. I will be attending the convention in Orlando and I plan on taking some of the courses offered.

Thank you,

Dan Wortmann, 1st Vice Cdr. Elect

1st VICE COMMANDER MARK DORSEY will be in charge of the Post during my absence while I am attending the Department Convention from June 12th to June 15th.



From the Chaplain: The first four words of the American Legion Preamble are —*For God and Country*. Our country has spiritual foundations. If our spiritual foundations crumble in our nation so goes the nation. The American Legion recognizes that if our nation is to remain great and permanent, God must be an essential part of Americanism. God is the source of all fundamental interests. —The highest role a nation can play is to reflect God's righteousness in national policy and to promote God's purposes in all of life's relationships. The greatest and most significant heritage of our country has been its spiritual heritage. Apart from faith in God, American history has no meaning. In this faith, our institutions were created, our laws enacted, and our liberties secured. Our aim must be the same as that of our Country's Founders, —that religion must permeate every phase of living. The American Legion is continuing a nationwide effort to bring all Americans closer to the Creator, who so bountifully blessed this Country. For God and Country,

Wilbur

Judge Advocate: As we look forward to the 2014-2015 year, we reflect on all the good accomplished with this closing term. Renovations to the post (that new window really brings in the light), upgrading our bulletins and website, the feeling that Post 233 has finally turned the corner as a vibrant and productive entity of the American Legion. Activities have increased, our Memorial day program was a big success, this is what teamwork is all about. Keep it up folks, pull together, it works. *For God and Country*,

Ric

On the agenda for the June 5th meeting will be a short presentation on a \$3,000 accidental death or dismemberment benefit for all legionnaires at Post 233. The cost per member is \$0.00, yes it is free. Come listen to the presentation by a representative from American Income Life, and cast your vote.

If you would like to attend any of the courses offered at this years convention, June 12-15th, the agenda is posted on our website at <u>www.al233fl.org/LegionAgenda051914,pdf</u>. Contact the Commander for more details if you are interested.

facebook

By now everyone should know that all four entities at Post 233 have a Facebook page or group. You are reminded that the American Legion is an apolitical organization, that being said, members are asked **NOT** to post politically oriented information, cartoons, etc. on our pages. Please reserve these type posts to your own personal pages and not ours. *Thank you.*

> **CONGRATULATIONS** *Post 233's Teacher of the Year Award* and <u>nominee</u> to the Department of Florida's Award Auxiliary Member, *Debbie Chagnon Eatmon* A dedicated teacher for more than 30 years!

~ FATHER'S DAY is JUNE 15th



From our support teams:

Hello everyone hope to find all is well with you and your families, and hope you had a wonderful Memorial Day celebration and gave the recognition to our Veterans present and past. These Veterans fight and have fought for our freedoms that we so enjoy. Saturday May 24, 2014 we the members of the American Legion, Auxiliary, Sal and ALR held a wonderful Memorial Day celebration, if you didn't make it you missed a great time had buy all.

I would like to thank all of the new and some of the same officers to the Auxiliary, Judy Mills President, Kathy Helmly First Vice, Angie Kees Secretary, Allyson Bass Treasurer, Celeste Sheble Chaplain and Sylvia Bass Sgt. at Arms, Dee Durnal, Debbie Eatmon and Patty Williams our Executive Committee. If you notice we do not have a Second Vice nor a Historian if anyone would be interested in holding these positions please contact me we would be glad to have you.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Linda Williams out going First Vice and Ann Cook outgoing Chaplain for their years of service with the Auxiliary, you both held up your positions with great respect and I thank you both, but I look forward to seeing you in the Legion and at our meetings, you both are a great asset to both.

The Auxiliary will be up for Wednesday night dinner on June 11, 2014 so if you would like to cook, sponsor or just come in and help out your fellow members cook on this date please contact me or Kathy Helmly. I have not decided if we will hold an Executive Committee meeting on June 5, 2014 or not but I will let everyone know as soon as possible. The month of June is Convention and as myself, Kathy Helmly, Celeste Sheble and Kathy Church will be attending the Convention on the 12th -15th I will not be holding a regular meeting for this month, I will announce when the next meeting will be at a later date.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS FOR GOD AND COUNTRY Judy Mills ALA President

Special thanks to the Planning Committee and all members who donated their time to work our Memorial Day / Post Re-Opening Event on Saturday, May 24th. It was a huge success and fun was had by all.

The Friday night entertainment for this month will include a band who is new to us, but is well known throughout the community. They are known as Group Therapy and are very professional musicians. On June 13 and 27 The Boz Man will be performing for us. He is here twice this month, because he is unavailable in July. We also have karaoke hosted by Frankie Martin, Jr. on June 20th. Join us for a great dinner and great fun.

I would also like you to welcome a new bartender to our staff. Her name is Lauren Caldwell. She has worked with me a few times and thoroughly enjoyed our Post. When you meet her, please introduce yourself and I am sure she will make every effort to serve you well.

Rita, Canteen Manager



SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS 6:00-8:00pm Beer \$2 ~ Well Drinks \$2.⁵⁰ ~ Wine \$3 Saturdays, we open at 3:00pm unless there is an event that day



May 27th, 2014 **Debbie Chagnon Eatmon** receives a call today advising her to attend the State Convention on Saturday June 14th as she will be the recipient of the 2014

American Legion Department of Florida Teacher Of The Year Award



From the Legal Beagles:



Telemarketers with criminal backgrounds will no longer be able to call Floridians for charitable donations. Nonprofits and professional solicitors banned in one state will be banned in Florida as well. And consumers will be able to go online for more details about how a charity uses its donations under a bill Gov. Rick Scott is expected to sign into law.

The pending law gives Florida's Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, which oversees more than 17,000 charities and 130 professional solicitors, additional manpower and stronger financial penalties for wrongdoers.

The bill would also give Florida regulators the power to revoke a charity's state sales tax exemption for certain violations. Bigger charities also will get additional scrutiny starting in July.

For the complete article on this issue, go to the *Tampa Bay Times* at tampabay.com/news/business/new-law-will-give-regulators-more-oversight-of-charities/2181416.

For God and Country, Paul Martel, Legislative Chairman Department of Florida



The Post 233 calendar of events is online at: http://www.al233fl.org/ecalendar.htm

More from our support teams:

Greetings men. I would like to take all (especially the

support of our



this opportunity to thank you officers) for your continued Squadron and the Post. Our

officers for 2014-15 have been elected: Commander Jeff "Tex" Ward (10th year!!), 1st Vice Howard Shebles, 2nd Vice Mike Shaar, Adjutant Steve Willis, Sgt.-At-Arms John Paparelli and Chaplain Will Hurley. Congratulations gentlemen! I am looking forward to working with all of you. This is going to be the best year yet! Howard will be representing us at the State convention this month in Orlando.

Believe it or not it is getting close to renewal time for membership. Due to an increase in the State fees we have to increase our dues to \$30. Officers please make a payment a.s.a.p. as we are to be fully paid by installation on the 13th of June.

We are still responsible for one Wednesday dinner a month (usually the 3rd Wed.). Please help us by volunteering at least once a year. That is not asking too much, is it? 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 Wednesday, June 18th. Any ideas?

The S.A.L. will be spearheading the July 4th celebration (Friday 7/4) at the Post. This is going to be huge! It will be outside with the pavilion in play along with BBQ, music (bands), raffles, auctions, water sports(?), etc. Watch for details coming soon!

There are many fun and exciting events and fundraisers coming in the near future so keep your eyes on the newsletter, visit the website (www.al233fl.org) and Facebook page (facebook.com/groups/AL233FL) or better yet, come in to your Post and have a drink and see what is happening!

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! The next SAL meeting is Thurs. June 19th @ 6:30pm.

We now have our own squadron Facebook page. If you are a social media aficionado go to Sons Of The American Legion Squadron 233 and join the group. This will be a convenient and fun way to stay informed.

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.

Please continue to keep all of our service men and women and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

God Bless Our Troops Jeff "TEX" Ward Commander – Squadron 233



ALR 233 would like to thank being our Director for the past two have not yet heard Jarrod, his wife

Meghan and their two beautiful daughters Chaise and Abby will be moving to Tampa in June. We wish them the best of luck in their new endeavors. We will miss them dearly but we will be keeping in touch with them.

At our regular monthly meeting on Sunday, May 4th we held our elections. Here is the list of our 2014-2015 Officers:

Director - Bill Marshall Assistant Direct - Kevin Terranella Secretary - Virna Waldron Treasurer - Kathy Church Road Captain - Bill Marshall Chaplain - Linda Williams Sergeant-at-Arms - Kevin Terranella Historian - Virna Waldron Membership Chair - Kathy Church

Bill Marshall, Kathy Church and Kathy Helmly will be attending convention this month and will be attending the ALR meeting on Friday afternoon.

As Director, one of Bill's top priorities will be to increase the ALR's membership. Any person who is a Legion, Auxiliary or SAL member is welcome to join our Riders Chapter. Please see any Officer if you are interested in joining ALR 233. The Riders will continue to cook breakfast on the 3rd Sunday of the month, Wednesday night dinners the first Wed of every month that has five Wed in them and we will hold our meetings on the first Sunday of the month.

Ride Safely, Bill

Jarrod Buchman for



JUNE 14th FLAG DAY

Flag Day falls within National Flag Week, a time when Americans reflect on the foundations of the nation's freedom. The flag of the United States represents freedom and has been an enduring symbol

of the country's ideals since its early days. During both events, Americans also remember their loyalty to the nation, reaffirm their belief in liberty and justice, and observe the nation's unity.

Many people in the United States honor this day by displaying the American flag at homes and public buildings. Other popular ways of observing this holiday include: flag-raising ceremonies; Flag Day services; school quizzes and essay competitions about the American flag; musical salutes; street parades; and awards for special recognition.

Organizations such as The National Flag Day Foundation are actively involved in coordinating activities centered on the event and keeping the flag's traditions alive. Following Flag Day is Honor America Days, a 21-day period through to Independence Day (July 4) to honor America. During this period, people hold public gatherings and activities to celebrate and honor the nation.

On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress replaced the British symbols of the Grand Union flag with a new design featuring 13 white stars in a circle on a field of blue and 13 red and white stripes - one for each state. Although it is not certain, this flag may have been made by the Philadelphia seamstress Betsy Ross, who was an official flag maker for the Pennsylvania Navy. The number of stars increased as the new states entered the Union, but the number of stripes stopped at 15 and was later returned to 13.

In June 1886 Bernard Cigrand made his first public proposal for the annual observance of the birth of the flag when he wrote an article titled "The Fourteenth of June" in the old Chicago Argus newspaper. Cigrand's effort to ensure national observance of Flag Day finally came when President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation calling for a nationwide observance of the event on June 14, 1916. However, Flag Day did not become official until August 1949, when President Harry Truman signed the legislation and proclaimed June 14 as Flag Day. In 1966, Congress also requested that the President issue annually a proclamation designating the week in which June 14 occurs as National Flag Week.

The President is requested to issue each year a proclamation to: call on government officials in the USA to display the flag of the United States on all government buildings on Flag Day; and to urge US residents to observe Flag Day as the anniversary of the adoption on June 14, 1777, by the Continental Congress of the Stars and Stripes as the official flag of the United States.





JUNE BIRTHDAY's

3	Tony Kulper	
4	Richard Bright	
5	Cynthia Gaines	
	Alice Leary	
6	Susan Reilly	
9	Ben Ward	
13	Rosemarie Harkin	
	Jan Tipton	
14	Helen Toebert	
15	Jim Ross	
16	Linda Walker	
21	Lisa Burdett	
23	Patti Riordan	
24	Todd Warren	
	Beth Floyd	
	Kathy Church	
26	John Paparelli	

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





New Dining Tables

POST 233 "MEAL DEAL" SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM GOLD SPONSOR - \$100.00 SILVER SPONSOR - \$50.00 BRONZE SPONSOR - \$25.00

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 his/her time and effort on your behalf.





Consider renting our pavilion area for your next birthday, anniversary, wedding, family gathering, business meeting or picnic. For details/pricing contact our Canteen Manager or any of our bartenders at 285-2484. You can go to <u>AL233FL.org</u> for pix. Smoking is permitted outside and at the pavilion bar.

POST 233 has FREE WiFi

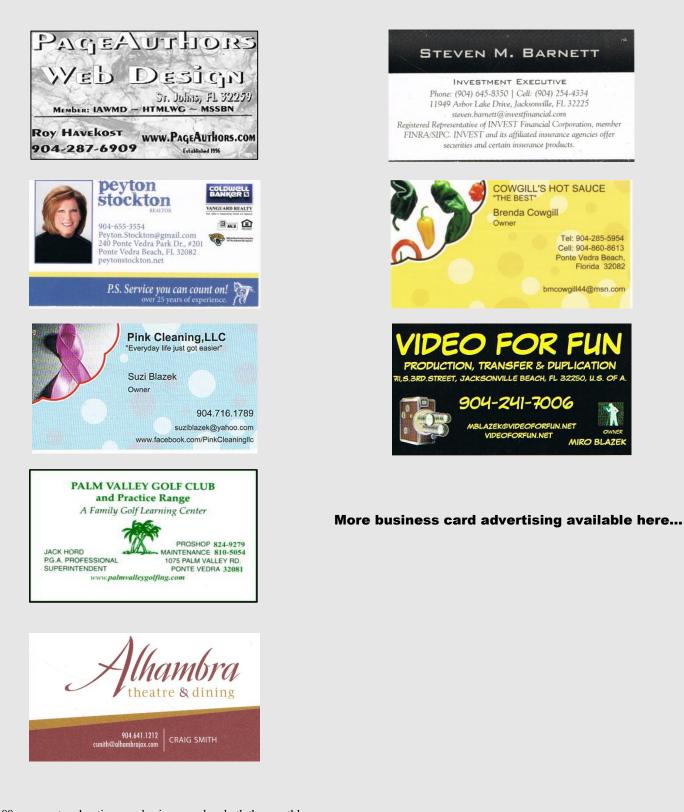


New hi top tables and window



New carpeted floor ...COME VISIT US SOON!

SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES THAT HELP SUPPORT YOUR POST



\$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.



MAY 2014 GRADUATING CLASS Thank you for your service and welcome home!



The next K9's for Warriors Graduation Ceremony will be held on Thursday, June 19, 2014 ~ 5:30pm at Palm Valley Post 233

The public is always invited and urged to attend and support these warriors and their K9 partners.



MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT – FLORIDA

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Missing in America Project is to locate, identify and inter the unclaimed cremated remains of American veterans through the joint efforts of private, state and federal organizations. To provide honor, respect and dignity to those who have served this country by securing a final resting place for these forgotten heroes.

CALL TO HONOR #3

On Friday, June 27, 2014 at 1:00pm MIAP - Florida along with Hardage Giddens Funeral Homes will be interring 16 veterans and 6 spouses of veterans at the Jacksonville National Cemetery located at 4083 Lannie Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32218.

For this service we will be interring the following:

Army: 11 veterans, 2 spouses		WWI:	2 spouses
MC:	2 veterans, 1 spouse	WWII:	12 veterans, 3 spouses
Navy:	3 spouses	Korean War:	1 veteran, 1 spouse
AF:	2 veterans	Vietnam Warz	3 veterans
MM:	1 veterans		

Included in the info above is a WII USMC veteran and his wife who died in 1991, 10 days apart from each other. The oldest date of death is from 1970. One veteran is a SFC Army, retired veteran who served in WWII, Korea and Vietnam. Another veteran is a retired Army Major who served in WWII.

You are cordially invited to attend this service in which we will honor these veterans with full military honors. This service is open to the members of all area communities.

Kathy Church MIAP – FL State Coordinator (904) 219-3035 <u>miapjax@yahoo.com</u> www.miap.us



The American Legion

Department of Florida Larry Sheets Department Judge Advocate

APPROVED

Pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Department Constitution and

ByLaws, the foregoing ByLaws dated April 3, 2014 of American Legion Post

233 have been reviewed and approved this <u>9th</u> day of May, 2014.

Larry D. Sheets Department Judge Advocate

Approval Confirmed:

arthur & Schwabe

Arthur J. Schwabe Department Commander

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



Mailing Address:

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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