

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

MAY 2008

Commander's Corner

BOBBY'S BACK!!! It was great to see our Chaplain, Bob Nagel return to the Post following his recovery from surgery. Welcome back Bob.

The Johnston Duo (Kurt & Deb) sponsored a great concert at our outdoor pavilion on March 28, 2008. The event was well attended and those, who attended were very much entertained by Our Duo and Those Guy's, from St. Augustine. On a very sad note, Debbie Johnston's dad and Peg Woodbury's husband, Dave, passed away on Tuesday, March 25th. Dave was an avid supporter of our Texas Hold-em event, each Tuesday evening and was resting in preparation of attending the event that same evening. Dave was a very pleasant guy and will be missed by all of us, who knew him. His family made a very generous donation to our Post #233 Building Fund in David Woodbury's name. We pray for the Woodbury/ Johnston Families.

Our Building Fund has now exceeded \$9000.00 with some very generous donations from Cliff & Betty Doeringer, Barbara Turley, Jim Wadley and of course the Johnston/ Woodbury Family. Following the extensive improvements to our building, kitchen, pavilion and the needed repairs to our equipment and systems during the past year, we are trying to rebuild our Building Fund for the future. At this time I want to express our gratitude to all, who have contributed during the past year and ask those, who plan to make contributions soon. We all enjoy Post # 233 and this fund will help preserve and protect our facility for use long into the future. PLEASE DONATE.

May is upon us and is our most celebrated month for Veterans. The Memorial Day Event at our Ponte Vedra/ Palm Valley Cemetery is always heart warming and an event that should be attended by all of us. From Bag Pipers, the Motorcycles, to the 21 Gun Salute and all the great talks, speeches and prayers to the Riderless Horse, it's a time to remember all our Veterans and our great Country. We have upcoming events in our Post to celebrate and to reflect. If you enjoyed the Valentine Day Extravaganza, be sure to keep an eye on the schedule for May 24, 2008. You will be glad you did.

A sad note that one of our members, Jack Kelly passed away during the past month, Jack could be seen regularly in our Post at lunchtime and was a great #233 supporter and participant. He gave a great effort to contacting members, who hadn't paid their dues and was responsible for securing those memberships and communicating with our members. Our prayers go out to Jack's wife, Mildred and the entire Kelly Family.

See Commander pg. 2

From the Auxiliary

Once again the Auxiliary has been blessed by our friends. Thank You Pete Mischler AKA (concrete Pete) for the 28 bags of marble chips. They make the entrance to our Post look fresh and clean. We can keep it looking that way because Bob Schroeder donated some anti-weed chemicals. Zap, and they're gone. Whenever we ask, Bill Lee comes to our aid. Thanks for printing the Dixieland Band tickets.

Dixieland Band? Yes! On May 17th from 6 -9 pm, there will be the reunion of the FIRST COAST DIXIELAND JAZZ PRESERVATION SOCIETY from Ward's landing. This event will be held on our patio and the \$15.00 ticket includes an etouffe'e dinner prepared by chef Jason Bass. You may bring your neighbors, friends, relatives & lawn chairs to this unique and fun event.

May is POPPY month and Miss Lil and Kathy Church will be implementing our Poppy Drive. As you know, the proceeds are for the benefit of veterans and we usually accomplish this with the purchase of bus tickets for clinic appointments and phone cards.

On April 26th a few of us are going to take a trip to Lake City to play bingo with some of the veterans in the VA hospital. We'll meet at the Post at 10:00 am. So, if you are interested in being part of our bingo team, please call me. The more the merrier!

We did some good clipping with the coupons in March. Dee mailed \$10,128.00 worth of coupons to Egypt.

A special Thank you to Barbara Turley, during her first Auxiliary meeting, she volunteered to join the Post lunch cook team. I appreciate her spontaneous willingness to "jump right in".

Our election of officers will be in June. Currently, the slate includes: president- Ann Cook, 1st Vice - Sylvia Bass, treasurer - Judy Nagel, historian - Angie Kees, Sgt-at-arms - Judy Mills, and Chaplain - Rita Connelly. We are still in NEED of a secretary and 3 members to be on our executive committee. Please call me if you are interested in joining this fun loving group.

Our Field Trip to the Shriner's burn hospital for children in May 15th. Wilber Burnett is our escort (& driver). Since the hospital is in Tampa, this will be an all day affair. Once again, Please call me if you'd like to join us.

Our next meeting is May 8th at 7pm. Please join us and bring your coupons, soda/ beer tabs and your ideas.

May God Guide and Bless our Troops, our Post and us!

Ann Cook
Auxiliary President
285-0579

Our 2009 elections are upon us. Please consider stepping up and contributing your time and help us manage this Post in the coming years. I can assure you, it does not run itself. It takes a lot of committed members to make it all work. I thank all those, who contributed their valuable time during the past year and volunteered. I plead with all our members to consider helping in this coming year. Be sure to come to the May meeting for nominations leading to our voting procedure. Our Officers Positions are open for nominations. Please think it out carefully and nominate the "GET IT DONE PEOPLE".

Our Volunteer of the month is Ron Joy for all his hard work and planning in upgrading our kitchen, which not only looks great, but is a lot easier to operate in. His events to raise funds during the past year to support his efforts rebuilding our kitchen were spectacular and it shows with the new cabinetry, new sink and tables. Don't forget, last year he spearheaded the floor replacement in our kitchen and earlier this year, Ron and Johnny Jones carried out the plans for the redoing of our entire exterior of the building and the pavilion. On behalf of all Legionnaires, Sons of the Legion and our Great Auxiliary - THANK YOU RON.

All For Freedom
Jim Ross
Commander

Adjutant

As we wind down another year at Post #233, it is time to reflect and look ahead to 2009.

Every Honorably Discharged Veteran has a personal reason for becoming a Legionnaire. Some continue serving our community, helping veterans or their families with various issues in daily life, others become officers and learn the Legion path to leadership in post, district and state by dedication to the principles of service. A few choose to become lifetime members offering all the above plus hard-earned dollars for a genuine pledge to American Legion ideals and objectives.

Whatever path you choose; the bottom line is you are a veteran, you served your country in war or peacetime and now you are a Legionnaire.

For God and Country
Ric Smith Sr.
Adjutant

S.A.L.

Nothing to report

Canteen Manager

First up, We are OPEN again on Monday nights. Now that it is light outside later and the weather is nicer, hopefully more people will be out and about and will stop in.

Tuesday Texas- Hold'em Poker nights are going well. There is an enthusiastic group playing for points and certificates that will get them into the next round of tournament play. There is always room for more players and there is no experience necessary. Come give it a try or just watch the seasoned players. Either way, it's fun.

We have two big events planned this month. On Saturday the 17th, the Auxiliary will be hosting an outdoor dinner and Dixieland Band concert, This event will also be a Ward's Landing Reunion so for all who remember the good times, good music and good friends from Ward's, this will be a great time.

On Saturday the 24th, Chuck Kees and his talented team that brought us the fabulous Valentine Dinner are at it again. Plans call for another gourmet dinner followed by dancing and entertainment by Rosie and the Beachcombers.

Fliers outlining all the details as well as tickets to both events are available at the Post. Just ask your friendly bartender.

The ranks of our weekday lunch cooks have expanded by two. Barbara Turley and Wolford Lyon are the new chefs-in - training. They join Charlie Walker, David Cook, Steve Hutchenson, Chuck Kees and Dick Salzarulo, who all volunteer their time and burger-flipping skills for your lunch time dining pleasure. Lunch at the Post is the best deal in town, so if you are in the neighborhood, stop by and check it out.

For all you closet pull- tab addicts (you know who you are!!) that have been slipping off to other Post to try your luck, rejoice! We have our own machine now. We have a six-column machine with four different pull -tab games. In the short time we have had the machine, the response has been phenomenal and the amount of money we have paid out in winnings is staggering. For the uninitiated, pull -tabs are a fund raising game of chance and are now all the rage at Legions, VFW Posts, etc. There is a guarantee payback in winning of about 70% with the remaining 30% coming back to the Post. For an investment of as little as 50 cents, you can win up to \$250.00 or any one of many smaller amounts. Much better odds than the lottery and fun to boot. Come try your luck and help the Post out at the same time.

For the first time in months, I have no bad news to report. Spring has sprung, the Canteen is operating at a modest profit and all's well in the Valley. Thanks to everyone who has helped make this goal a reality.

For Post and Country
Diane Beason
Canteen Manager

Chaplain

First of all I would like to thank you all for your concerns, calls, visits and most of all for your prayers that I would have a successful recovery from surgery that I went through. It is very gratifying that I have so many friends in Post #233. Again, Thank You very much.

On a different note, the polls all show that 86% of the citizens of this country believe in God. Considering that there are a number of agnostics this means that roughly 10% belong or would consider belonging to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). This atheist organization despises our Constitution, dislikes America, hates any reference to religion, has taken prayer out of our schools and sports events, removed "IN GOD WE TRUST" from the face of our coins and attempts to remove any reference to religion from our public buildings, etc. How an outfit this small can have so much influence over our government up to and including the Supreme Court is beyond the scope of my imagination. How can we fight this outfit? One way would be to make sure any politician running for election did not belong nor had no leanings toward the ACLU. If they did, fight them tooth and nail!

Remember OUR Motto, FOR GOD AND COUNTRY!

Bless you all !!

Bob Nagel

Chaplain

Chaplain

My cat, noting the very small print in March's Newsletter regarding the financial report, has commanded me to be brief. Mindful of my cat's wishes, brief I shall be.

February's revenues after expenses were exceptionally good. Our Valentine Party really was a factor. And March proved to be really good too! Our private outside party on March 28th certainly was a contributing factor. And if you miss that, well you have no one to blame but yourself.

Just how well did we do in February and March??? My cat and I won't publish the exact figures in the newsletters since our newsletters go everywhere. We have been warned that Al Qaeda and other activities may have a great interest in our financial position. Accordingly, for those of you who want to see exact figures, this information is available at the post from our various post officers.

A cloud or two on the horizon. Fuel costs are escalating. Seaboard, our trash disposal company, gave us a heads up that there is now a fuel surcharge cost concerning pick up of our trash. Other companies (suppliers) are hinting that they may follow suite. In short, our expenses will go up again. More to follow on that subject.

That's it for this month! Fully support and give prayers to our combat troops fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq. May God and their leaders guide them well.

Hutch

Your Financial Officer

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



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

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Bill Lee

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May Birthdays

1. Millie Bristol
2. Barbra Turley
3. Van Martin
4. Victoria Lynch
5. Peggy Chapman
11. Fred Henderson
19. Tina Reynolds
Deborah Stewart
21. Carol Lamb
24. Pat Mosley Root
26. Dee Durnal
28. Ann Cook
29. Jean Batcheler
31. Doug Cope
Brenda Brooks
deane O'Donnell

OFFICERS

Legionnaire Officers

Commander – Jim Ross
1st Vice Commander – Clen Ward
2nd Vice Commander – Bob Schroeter

Adjutant – Ric Smith
Finance Officer – Steve Hutchinson
Chaplain – Bob Nagel
Sergeant –at –Arms - Melvin Ard
Service Officer - Maury Lazenby

Executive Board

Jack Blessing	Chuck Kees
Wilbur Burnett	Dick Salzarulo
Morris Busbia	Ray Williams
John Dewitt	Ray Wiltse

Committee Chairmen:

Executive Board - Jack Blessing
House - Dick Salzarulo
Landscape - Ned Mullen
New Building - TBA

Auxiliary Officers

President – Ann Cook
1st Vice President – Judy Mills
2nd Vice President – Sylvia Bass
Treasurer – Judy Nagel
Secretary – Kathy Church
Chaplain – Cathy Corcoran
Sergeant – at- Arms – Georgia Barnes
Historian – Angie Kees

Auxiliary Executive Committee

Dee Durnal
Lillian Burnette
Arlene Jones

S. A. L.

Commander – Jeff “Tex” Ward
1st Vice Commander - Fred Henderson
2nd Commander – Van Martin
Adjutant – Steve Willis
Sergeant –at –Arms –John Paperelli
Chaplain - Gerry Murray



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