

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

12 North Wilderness Trail
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
Telephone (904) 285-2484



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

SEPTEMBER 2006

Commander's Corner

Last month I explained the need to increase revenues in our Canteen to offset rising operating cost. Some improvement has been noted but we still need more members to make use of our food and bar services.

You will recall that the second objective I wished to accomplish in 2006/2007 was to raise \$30,000 for building maintenance and capital improvements. This past year we had to use cash revenues of over \$12,000 to correct problems in our septic tank field and our canteen cooler. The cash drained would have been greater had a couple of members volunteered to use their skills and resources to make repairs to the floors in the canteen and auxiliary room.

Why do we need to raise \$30,000 now? First, because of lack of funds, we have put off redoing the front of our building for almost two years. The entrance to our Post is rapidly deteriorating from the ground to the roofline. Structural repairs have to be made as well as resurfacing and painting. The cost is estimated at \$10,000 plus.

Second, our building is old and the older it gets the more emergency repairs are needed. Canteen revenues pay for normal operating expenses. Capital (building) Improvements must be paid for out of donations from our members. Several years ago a "New Building Fund" was set up. Monies donated to this fund can ONLY be used for New construction. We cannot use it for major repairs to our existing building. Even if we could the \$3,000 in this fund is way short of what we need.

Third, we do need to get moving on planning for a new building or at least an addition to our existing one. Any monies donated to the Capital Improvement Fund that are not spent on repairs will be available for this purpose. OK, how do we raise \$30,000? We cannot assess our members, Legion, SAL, or Auxiliary like a Condo Association or Country Club does. We can't increase taxes like the State does. We can't wait for a Fairy Godmother to give us the money. We have to raise it ourselves and have to do it quickly. The sooner we have the money in hand the sooner we can address our other needs (the front of the building has already been identified).

I am asking each member or member family to donate as soon as possible to this capital improvement fund.

cont.

From the Auxiliary

Let the Good Times Roll!

There's going to be a party at Post 129, September 9th, from 1PM to 3PM to honor Olive Reynolds' on the occasion of her 80th Birthday. One of the reasons the Auxiliary is such a great organization is because of people like Olive. So lets get together and show our appreciation to her for all she has done. Please bring a covered dish.

We're running on a streak of good times this month. At Thursday's meeting everyone brought in great ideas for our arts and crafts show and the enthusiasm was contagious. We could make a bit of money on this if we get it off the ground before the holidays. We're working on it and will keep you informed.

The Luau is on!! See Lillian for specifics. Our cookbooks should be in by the beginning of November. They will make great holiday gifts. Thanks to all of you who contributed, it could not have been done without all of you.

Our 2 volunteers for the new building fund are Angie Vazquez and Georgia Barnes. Thank You!

Don't forget about our Coupons that are being sent to military families.

Remember to volunteer for Wednesday and Friday nights and Sunday breakfast and last but not least, remember to volunteer for chairman of committees. WE NEED YOU!

God Bless Our Post #233
Trudy Cavanagh
President

S.A.L.

Greeting.

As you know, our SAL meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 6PM. I encourage all SAL members to attend as we are looking for new ideas. I also encourage all SAL members to use the facility and to solicit new members.

It would be appreciated if all members would pay their 2006/2007 dues as soon as possible.

An SAL sponsored outdoor cookout is scheduled for Sunday September 17th from 1PM until 5PM. The G-Men will be providing entertainment and sports will be available on TV inside the building.

I look forward to seeing you at our Post.

God Bless Our Post and Our Troops
John Paparelli
S.A.L. Commander

1st Vice

I truly believe that Palm Valley Post #233 is a "slice of heaven" back here on Wilderness Trail. It's because of the warm welcome that I and many others received after joining this organization, that makes it so great. It's a culture that you all offer generously and I thank you one and all for your hospitality. As your new 1st Vice, I will take this responsibility very seriously to help our Post continue to grow memberships and to stand in for our Commander, as necessary.

Please bring in your 2006-2007 Dues payments and consider our Early Bird Payments, which qualify you for an Annual Early Bird Dinner – to be announced. You still have time to qualify. Your dues help support our American Legion Post #233 along with our Florida and National Organizations.

Our best source of new membership exists with you. Your recommendation to friends and relatives is our strength to bring in new members. I will also be spearheading the Flag Recognition Program with our Door Handle Flyers and they will be available at the Post. Other great sources for attracting new membership are our 3 dining venues (Wed, Fri, and Sunday mornings). I offer my support to Mike & Joyce and our House Committee to help preserve this great attraction to our Post. Volunteers are truly appreciated.

All for Freedom
Jim Ross
1st Vice

2nd Vice

BE A PART OF THE FRIDAY NIGHT CHALLENGE!!!

Teams are being formed to cook on Friday nights. This will eliminate the necessity of having to schedule cooks at the last minute and folks will know well in advance when they are in the "HOT SEAT" (so to speak). So far, we have 11 teams who have volunteered to cook throughout the year. If we can get several more teams, each team will only cook once a quarter – or less. Call me with your team member's names so we can get you on the schedule.

The Auxiliary cooks every other Wednesday and their schedule is filled through October. Thanks Ann Cook! Bill Furr has volunteered to cook every other Sunday morning – thanks Bill. Call me if you can fill in these gaps. Remember, without volunteers the meals will cease.

We now have a notebook in the kitchen for you to write your recipes and the number they serve. This will assist others and may be added to future legion cookbooks.

Thanks to all of you who help us and make this Post the best that we can be!!

For God and Country. Bless our Troops.
Mike Wright
2nd Vice

BBQ'd Ribs + Fixins

Sept 17th

Live Band

G--MEN

13:00 - 17:00 hrs.

Canteen Manager

Geez, sorry this is so long, but here goes. Installation of officers was held in July. Thank you to our past officers and board members. Your service is greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance to our new officers for stepping up. I will gladly help you in any way to reach your goals.

My introduction to the Post was not of separate entities. While each unit – The Legionnaires, SAL, and the Auxiliary do separate activities to raise money to contribute to the Legion, the goal is to support the Legion AS A WHOLE. I don't sell cookies for one unit, wash table clothes for one unit, or volunteer to cook for a particular unit. We are one unit working together; please give it your all. By the way, volunteers would certainly be welcome; an hour here or there could make a huge difference if several of you helped out. Volunteers are the backbone of our Post.

As you know we do not have busboys or a wait staff. If you are not sitting at the bar, please return your glasses to the bar when you leave or want a fresh drink. We have a great staff of bartenders who work hard to keep you happy, give them a hand.

While the kitchen is in use, visitors really aren't welcome. Please give our volunteer cooks a little respect and don't disrupt, interrupt, or get in their way. In other words, if you aren't cooking and you go in the kitchen get ready to wash dishes.

Patty O'Callahan's party was a wonderful event with great music and food. If you missed it you missed a great time.

"SEPTEMBER – WOW – 3 EVENTS PLUS FOOTBALL SEASON"

On Saturday, September 9th, there will be a Birthday Party for ALL members who have a birthday in September. Pizza and birthday cake will be served starting at 5:00 PM with Happy Hour drink prices, bring snacks, have a party with your friends and you don't have to clean your house!

On Sunday, September 17th, SAL is having another one of their fabulous cook outs. Come into the Legion and check out "The Big Board" for more details.

On Saturday, September 23rd, Drag out your grass skirts, polish your coconuts bras and prepare to limbo. The pig will be roasting and the Auxiliary will be hosting a Luau!

The cooks sometimes donate Wednesday cook nights, and sometimes the cost is paid for by the Legion. We endorse all volunteers and understand everyone can't donate a dinner for 50 people. We appreciate the volunteers and will pay for the supplies for those of you who are willing to cook, no explanation necessary for turning in food cost receipts. The Canteen provides 3 drink chips of your choice for up to 4 volunteers for cook nights. Cook, have fun and have a drink on the house.

Special events, parties, etc have a protocol. A form of who is sponsoring/ responsible for the event must be filled out and turned in to the Canteen, to be presented to the House Committee at their meetings to be approved. The House Committee meets the 4th Thursday of the month.

Information for the newsletter must be turned in to the Canteen by the 15th of the month, which means to get information IN the newsletter; all events must be approved the month before. Two months lead-time is needed. Be

cont.

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112 Knotty Pine Trail
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Phone: 904-285-2389
Cell: 904-673-4873

E-mail: judnagel@comcast.net

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If each Legionnaire contributes \$100 we would exceed our goal. Some might contribute more, some can only contribute less. But please everybody contribute something. I am appealing to the SAL and Auxiliary members also. We all need the building to be safe and sound.

I will ask the House Committee permission to post a chart, similar to what the United Way uses, in a prominent spot in the Canteen so everyone can see our progress in reaching the goals of 100% participation and \$30,000 plus.

Make your donations to Post #233 Capital Improvement Fund while this request is fresh in your mind.

It as you read this you get the impression that I am pleading, I am.

God Bless You,
Our Post, and Our Country
Jack Blessing

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Prepared! Coming in October a Halloween "Spook Night" is planned for the 28th.

Thank you Dick And Taya Salzarulo for the donation of the new candleholders.

For God and Country
Joyce Wright
Canteen Manager

Sept 23rd
LUAU

See Board for Details

September Birthdays

3. Jodi Mons
4. Jeff "Tex" Ward
6. Ed Kees
7. Bill Furr
10. Taya Salzarulo
13. JJ Johnson
Olive Reynolds
18. Bill Lee
19. Midge Bendell
20. Pam Johnson
22. Bob Hartman
23. Shari Duval

23 Don Rainey

OFFICERS

Legionnaire Officers

Commander – Jack Blessing
1st Vice Commander – Jim Ross
2nd Vice Commander – Mike Wright
Adjutant – Patti O'Callahan
Finance Officer – Mike Holland
Chaplin – Clen Ward
Sergeant –at –Arms –Don Rainey

Auxiliary Officers

President – Trudy Cavanaugh
1st Vice President – Ann Cook
2nd Vice President – Juddy Mills
Treasurer – Barbara Milazo
Secretary – Cathy Corcoran
Chaplin – Arlene Jones
Sergeant – at- Arms – Georgia Barnes

Executive Board

John Wagener Chuck Kees
Bill Furr Steve Hutchinson
Steve Stevers Wilber Burnette

Committee Chairmen:

Executive Board - Dick Salzarulo
House - Bill Lee
Landscape - Ned Mullen
New Building - Johnny Jones

Auxiliary Executive Committee

Sylvia Bass
Lillian Burnette
Maggie Furr

S. A. L.

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

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