

# American Legion Post 129

: Post129@comcast.net

April 2010

## Upcoming Events

- **April 1**  
6:30 Past Commanders  
7:00 E Board  
7:00 Auxiliary  
7:30 General Meeting
- **April 8**  
7:00 40&8 & Cabane meeting
- **April 10**  
Post Clean up Day
- **April 11**  
Softball Post 316 @129  
2:00 5th Dist Meeting at Post 54
- **April 17**  
No Dough Dinner at Post 233
- **April 18th**  
Softball Post 129 @283

## Inside this issue:

Legion Lore	2
SAL News	
Officers 2009-2010	
Auxiliary News	3
For the Good of the Legion	
Service Officer comments	
Canteen Update	4
Ask Ethel	
Cabane 215 News	
40&8	5
Chef's Corner	
Legion Riders	
Editor's Corner	
New Members	6
Ladies Birthday Lunch	
Business Booster List	7
Booster Roster	8
Calendar is an insert	

## Commander's Corner by Jerry Brandt

Elections for the New Post Officers will be held in May, if you wish to run for an office, please contact one of the following personnel to let them know you wish to run for an office: Earl Parker, Frank Bolin, Jim Haislip, and Norman Sullivan. If you have any questions on the duties of the office, please see me or any of the officers of the Post for assistance.

Spring Cleanup, it is that time of year when we get together to clean up the Post, inside and Out. I am looking at Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> for this year. There will be a sign up list, on the Bulletin Board, please sign up.

Attention: Cooking teams. As everyone knows, we have an Opening of the Beaches Bar-B-Q every year. This year we are doing something different. The last few Bar-B-Q's, Cooking team of Too Tall and Marty has been taking on the 129's team led by Danny. Welllll, we want to make it more interesting, Put a team together and let's have a Bar-B-Q challenge. Judges will be selected to judge one and all challengers, prizes will be determined.

Rule #1. Please contact 2nd Vice Ericka Groleau or myself if you want to be in the contest.

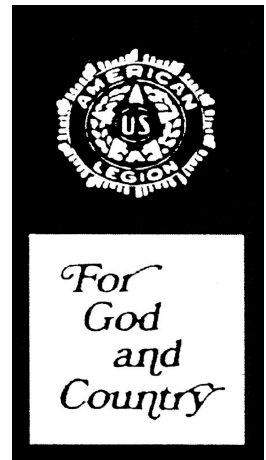
Rule #2. 1 Week prior we will let you know how many people you will need to cook for. (We will take the number of teams and divide by 400 meals (average for the last 4 years)

Rule #3, you can cook whatever you want, If you need the Legion to pay for it, we will need a shopping list 2 weeks in advance. If you pay for it, give the Legion the receipts for the Post to refund your money. The Legion will provide the Beans, Cole Slaw, etc, the cookers will cook the meat.

If you need a Grill, please contact us in advance so we can assist.

Sometimes, people behind the scenes help so much, this month; I would like to thank Ralph Varnedoe. Ralph designed, assembled, and installed the new panel on the shuffleboard. He used his own money and spends many, many hours to all members of Post 129 to play the shuffleboard as designed. All you shuffleboard users and those who appreciate those who help give Ralph a pat on the back and say thanks.

Memorial Day Services will be held on Memorial Day at the Warren-Smith Cemetery at 10:00 AM on Memorial



day. American Legion Post 129 will hold the services this year, please plan to attend this special service for our departed comrades.

We are attempting to save money on the newsletter, you may not realize this, but we spend approximately \$300 a month to print the newsletter, not to mention mailing them, a total of \$380 a month. What I am asking now is if you want the Newsletter to be Mailed to you, please sign up on the list on the bulletin board or call Sterling at 294-4234. If you are out of town and still want the newsletter, you can email up at [www.legionpost129.org](http://www.legionpost129.org).

# LEGION LORE

by Jack Hardebeck

S.A.L.....Richard Kasevich

“Never in a million years do you think you’ll come home and keep fighting.” That’s a statement about Veterans Administration disservice from a wounded, frustrated, Iraq war vet. His story is one of several similarly outrageous VA tales published in the February 2010 Reader’s Digest. The piece is aptly titled, “Vets Deserve Better.” I couldn’t agree more.

The subhead of the article says, “Lost paperwork, hostile bureaucrats, and endless delays. The system is failing our soldiers.” There’s no room here to repeat all the governmental snafus and thoughtlessness described in the magazine. You can read that online at readersdigest.com. Do believe that today’s VA isn’t the one we had after-

World War II, when I left the Navy. My wife worked at the Newark, NJ, office, and, waiting there for her daily to pick her up at closing time, I saw the organization in action. Guys with artificial limbs cheerfully took good care of veterans who came in. I wasn’t wounded, but, under the G. I. Bill, they helped me get a college education and buy a home, without a hitch.

I hope that the current staffers soon get their act together and truly “support the troops.”



Membership continues to be slow. We are approximately 75% of our goal. In March, a mailing reminder was sent to S.A.L. members that haven’t renewed for 2009-2010 to help achieve our goal. The beaches are opening, if you know anyone that is eligible to be a member of Legion, Auxiliary or S.A.L. please bring them by the post. If you cannot come by the post a printable application for each organization is available on the Post’s website. <http://legionpost129.org/membership.htm>.



## Vintage Players .....(Dinner Theatre)

A great time was had by all that attended the Post 129 Dinner Theatre on Saturday February 27<sup>th</sup> and saw the Vintage Players. These individuals are actors with varying degrees of theatre experience. They are all volunteers. In order to become a member of this group you must be 50 years or older. Acting experience is not required. You learn the acting skills from a professional drama

teacher. Some members last acted in high school or college. Some others have acted for years. Their Artistic Director is a professional acting instructor and no member is required to appear on stage until that member is ready to do so.

There were 8 skits that were performed by the Players. Examples of a few: Lucy’s Dilemma, A Place in

the Choir, Cremation of Sam McGee, If the phone rings at dinnertime, Southern Charm & Challenge of Bureaucracy.

We will be bringing this group back so watch the newsletter or our website for dates and times. You will be glad you did.

They were directed by Esta Waddell.

## Officers for 2009—2010

Commander.....Jerry Brandt  
 1st Vice.....Norm Sullivan  
 2nd Vice.....Ericka Groleau  
 3rd Vice.....Kelly Rice  
 4th Vice.....Joyce Ingle  
 SAA.....Danny Rodriguez  
 Adjutant.....Candace Kelly  
 Finance.....Bob Schlatter  
 Chaplin.....Robert Schmitt  
 Service Officer.....Joe Cornell

<i>E-Board Members</i>	<i>House Committee</i>
Joe Newberry	William Wilson
Jim Smith	Frank Redmond
Phil Milazo	Russell Rhodes
Richard Hansberg	Marie Esler (Aux)
Lee Ingraham	Tom Dawson (SAL)
	Joyce Ingle
	Danny Henderson

Auxiliary President,  
Candace Mabry

Commander S.A.L.,  
Richard Kasevich

Chef De Gard 40 & 8,  
Jerry Brandt

La Presidente, Cabane 215,  
Vicki Gordon-Haft

## Auxiliary News by Candace Mabry



March flew by as usual. We had 2 special visitors in our meeting. The first was an Auxiliary member for so many years that completed basic training for the Marines, Private Becky Floyd, congratulations!! Our other special guest was Quentin West, Joe Newberry's grandson, and he told us about how he was selected to represent youth in a program called People to People. He will be spending 20 days in Australia with youth from all over the world.

Thanks to Sandi and crew for dinner and Marie and company for the Sheppard's pie dinner and cake walk sponsored by Genell and called

by our best cheerleader John Burroughs.

Our membership is over 93%, yeah Brandi and everyone that has renewed. We have a few more months to get to 100% I know we can do it!

Thanks to everyone that turned in their hours to Mary Ellen so she can do her magic on these reports. Speaking of reports, committee chairs most are needed to be submitted by May 1<sup>st</sup> to our District. If you have any questions, please call or email me and we'll work through it!

We are planning to have a float in the opening of the beaches parade,

so come out and cheer with us on Sunday April 25<sup>th</sup>.

A final thought for the month. I found a magnet on our refrigerator that I had gotten when I first joined the Auxiliary. It is very simple. It has our logo and two phrases. "God Bless America" and "Service Not Self". More ladies have gotten involved this year which is wonderful, but we all need to stay focused on why we joined the Auxiliary: To *serve* our troops and Veterans, to *serve* our Community and to *serve* our Children and youth. If we focus on them and not ourselves our Unit will be stronger for it.

## For The Good of the Legion by Jerry Brandt

The Commander will be available for all members from 1600 to 1800 Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1800 to 2000. Legion meetings are held every first Thursday of the month at 7:30pm, please attend.

There is a job fair held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 9 am to 12:30 pm. For location and questions please call 997-3100 ext 2309.

American Legion Post 129 is distributing the Blue Star Banners to families of active duty service members. We have distributed over 900 banners to families who have a loved one in the Armed Forces of all military departments including the National Guard and Reserves. For additional information or to request a banner please contact Vicky Gordon Haft at 744-7936, or

Jerry Brandt at 992-6893 or any officer at the Post. If you of someone who is in the Service please give us the name and address of their family so we can mail them a banner.



## Service Officer Comments by Joe Cornell

"NO FEE" PASSPORTS: "No Fee" Passports are available to immediate family members (spouse, children, parents, brothers and sisters) for the expressed purpose of visiting their loved one's grave or memorialization site at the American military cemeteries on foreign soil. For additional information, write to the American Battle Monuments Commission,

Courthouse Plaza II, Suite 500, 2300 Clarendon Blvd. Arlington, VA 22201, or telephone 703-696-6897, or visit the Web site at <http://www.abmc.gov/home.php>.

For more information about VA benefits, go to the VA's website at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) or call toll free 1-800-827-1000



## Canteen Update

by Brandi Roberts

Hello from your Canteen Staff,

We are continuing to bring new and exciting events to the post! If you have any ideas or would like to get involved please let us know. We can always use your help!

Join us on Sundays for NASCAR! Beer specials during the race and food is provided by the SAL and the Auxiliary! We have been working on new promotions for Saturday nights as well. Our Wii bowling tournament continues to be a huge success. Meet new members and have a ton of fun! The maximum for tournaments is 32, so get here early. Registration starts

at 6 PM, tournament begins at 7 PM. Our Family Feud nights have also been a ton of fun. Put a team together for of 4 or 5 people and come join us and you'll see what we are talking about. Mary Ellen is also putting together another Fun & Games night and has some great ideas; you won't want to miss it! Check the Calendar for dates for all of the events.

We are also considering putting together a Wii bowling league that would meet and compete weekly. If you are interested please sign up on the bulletin board.

And as always we would like to thank all the members that help out

around the canteen there are too many of you to name but we hope that you know how thankful we are for your help. This canteen could not run without you!

Come check out the new and improved Canteen and tell us what you think!

If you know anyone who would like to rent space to hold an event, please have them contact Brandi at 904-249-2266

Let us know your needs, expectations, and hopes. We hope to serve you soon!

## Ask Ethel

**Dear Ethel:** As we know, the American Legion membership is getting older. As they age, the hearing of many is probably deteriorating. I have trouble hearing presentations in the Post auditorium, such as the recent "dinner theatre" show. The performers had no microphones. Moreover, the mike on the lectern from which the director spoke didn't seem very effective. I bet other older people had a similar problem. The

"equipment employed for functions in the bar area (e.g., steak bingo, karaoke) usually works fine. Why not use that?...Ear Weary

**Dear Ear Weary:** I hear you and so will the officers. Maybe it or something else would be feasible. I bow to their technical knowledge.

**Dear Ethel:** Will the Easter Bunny pay us a visit this year?...Egghead

**Dear Egghead:** Haven't heard of one. If we announced it, we might have male visitors hopping in, thinking we're a bunny club.

Send your questions to this e-mail address: [triplejj@comcast.net](mailto:triplejj@comcast.net).



## Cabane 215 News

by Vicki Gordon-Haft

Hello Dames, Merci to Dames Louise and Kelly for helping with the social at Post 233. Our next social will be at Post 129 on April 10th. Wear your Cabane shirt and come join the fun. By the time you are reading this newsletter our Easter basket raffle will be history. We are hoping for great success in this project. Remember the Yard sale May 21st and 22nd. Help will be need on setting up, pric-

ing and working the sale This will be our last fund raiser for the year. There are 10 Dames who have not paid their dues this year. Please check your card to make sure you are current. If you are one of the 10 Dames and you do not intend to renew please let Dame Kelly Bush or myself know so we can adjust the membership roll. We sincerely hope that all 10 will send dues and this

is just an oversight.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the next Rendezvous on April 8th at 7:00 P.M.



**40 & 8 News.....by Jerry Brandt**

Voitures, so far this year we have visited all 4 of the American Legion Posts within the Voiture. I would like to thank each Post for the warm welcome. Our next Post to visit is American Legion Post 129. We will be serving a Pork Loin Dinner there on the 10<sup>th</sup> of April. Please come out and support your Voiture. Also our Correspondant, Butch Shadwell, is looking for volunteers to assist in an after school reading program. If you have time, please contact Butch at the number listed below. Also Voiture 215 has it's own phone service, if you call 904-383-4013, you will receive a voice message of all the events taking place within our Voiture and you will be able to leave a message for any of the officers. Check it out.

**Growing Older.....submitted by Lee Ingraham**

Going out is good, Coming home is better.

When people say you look "Great"  
They add "For Your Age"

Your husband is counting on you to remember things you don't remember.

You used to say, "I hope my kids GET married..Now, "I hope they stay married"

You read 100 pages in a book before you realize you read it before.

Everybody whispers.



You miss the days when everything worked with an "on" and "off" switch.

Now that your husband is retired you'd give anything if he'd find a job.

You forget names...but it's OK because other people forget they even know you.

You realize your never going to be really good at anything, especially golf.

**Legion Riders News**

by Tom Hunter

We are actively looking for sponsors for our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Poker Run to be held May 8, 2010. Last year with your help, we donated over \$13,000.00 to the Wounded Warrior Project. This year our goal is \$20,000.00. There are several tiers of sponsorships available. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or know of a business that would like to participate, please see any ALR

member or Inez Higginbotham. We are also taking pre-registrations for the event. Anyone who pre-registers will be guaranteed a T-Shirt. The run will start at Adamec HD on Baymeadows and end at Post 316. Cost is \$15.00 per rider/driver and \$10 per passenger. Please see Annie Anderson if you would like to pre-register. Our Poker Run meetings for the month will be April 6<sup>th</sup>

and 20<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00pm at Post 316. If you would like to volunteer to help out, Annie Anderson has a duty roster list. No volunteer will be turned away.

Membership renewals for 2010 are due. Please see Annie Anderson to renew your membership.

Our next monthly meeting will be held Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at Post 129 at 10:00am.

**Editor's Corner....Sterling L. Phaklides**

Members.....WOW, did you know you can receive your newsletter (3) three different ways?

1. You can receive it in the mail
2. You can pick a copy up at the Legion Post
3. You can go to our website ([www.legionpost129.org](http://www.legionpost129.org)) and read or print a copy.

The most cost effective way for the Legion is #3, this saves us both printing costs and postage. If you wish to continue to receive your printed copy in the mail you must call me at 294-4234 and let me know. **Effective with the May 2010 issue we will continue to mail the printed copy only to those individuals that contact me.** If you have already called me ....Thanks, you will

continue to receive your newsletter in the mail. If you do not contact me we will assume that you will pick up a printed copy at the Post or will go to our website to read it. The newsletter will be on the website 3-5 days prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month. This will be a good savings for our post. E-mail me at [slp1960@comcast.net](mailto:slp1960@comcast.net).

## 1st Vice Comments.....by Norman Sullivan

Welcome to all our new members. Look over all the programs that benefit our community, State & Nation and contact me if you would like to get involved and help. The 2010 member ship is going very well but let's still be vigilant. Bring in a friend and sign them up. Help us make this a better post.

---

## Welcome New Members to Post 129

**January 2010:** Rebecca Floyd, USMC, Gulf; John Groleau, USAF, Vietnam, active duty; Tobias Moss, USMC, Gulf; Kevin Spollen, USN, Gulf; Don Bostic, USAF, Vietnam; Gordon Touchton, USA, WWII;

**February 2010:** Alan S. Cherin, USA Vietnam; Kirk C. Colvin, USN Gulf, active duty; Daniel A Cordero, USN, Gulf, active duty; Graham R. Harrison III, USN, Gulf, active duty; Robert C. Jensen, USN, Vietnam; Adam A. Martin, USAF, Gulf; Kyle J. Mattingly, USN, Gulf, active duty; Adam M. Minsker, USN, Gulf, active duty; Robert P. Nicklin, USN, Vietnam; Michael Sciotto, USA, Panama; Matthew W. Shepard, USN, Gulf, active duty; William Ashley, USN, Vietnam; Dennis J. Blattau, USA, Vietnam; Lynnwood Cook, USA, Vietnam; John Farrell, USMC, Vietnam; Robert Feindt, USN, Vietnam; John A. Heath, USA, Vietnam; Douglas Mathies, USN, Grenada; Ron Sneed, USA, Vietnam;

**March 2010:** Karen Harrell, Sam Kalafdian, Walter Jones and Robert Nicklin. (note...did not have their branch of service at time of printing. Will add next month).

*Join me in welcoming these new members to American Legion Post 129*

---

**The Ladies Monthly Birthday Luncheon** will be on Monday, May 3rd at Parson's Seafood on 9th Ave S. Join me in celebrating Caroline Whelpley (May 1), Paulette "Raz" Hilliker (May 2) and Raye Bonin (May 26) birthday's. Mark your calendar and come join us. Meet at the club at noon on the 3rd. See you there.

Nancy Aston 242-0544

---

## DART League

Members can now check out Dart League information at Post 129's website.  
[www.legionpost129.org](http://www.legionpost129.org).

---

## REMINDER:

In order to continue to have your newsletter sent to you by mail you must contact me (Sterling) at 294-4234. Starting with the May 2010 issue only individuals that have made the request to have their issue mailed to them will receive it. It will be available at the post and on our web site.

# **BUSINESS BOOSTER LIST**

YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE

YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE

YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE

YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE

YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE

YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE

Donation of \$100 for 6 months or \$175 for 12 months. Your business card will be placed on this page. Get your business name out in front of all Legion members. Contact either Sterling (slp1960@comcast.net) or Post Commander Jerry Brandt if interested. Spots reserved above are for members of Post 129 only.

---

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

Auxiliary Blood Drive at Post 129 on Saturday, April 10th from 11:00am until 3:00pm. Please sign up on the bulletin board or call Diane Powers at 716-2423. Thank you for your support.

# The American Legion

1151 S. Fourth St.  
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

**POST  
129**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Jacksonville, FL  
Permit No. 3394

## Address Service Requested

If you would like to become a newsletter booster, please contact the Post Adjutant. The dates below are booster expiration dates. Levels of booster sponsorship; Platinum \$100, Gold \$50, Silver \$25, Bronze \$10.

### **BOOSTER LIST**

#### **Platinum Level, \$100 per year**

Bob Schlatter (11/10)  
Barbara & Phil Milazo (1/11)

#### **Gold Level, \$50 per year**

In memory of Cindy Burroughs (3/10)  
Bruce & Wilma Corbitt (3/11)

#### **Silver Level, \$25 per year**

Al & Ginny Terrell (8/10)  
In memory of Brad & Gerry Terrell (8/10)  
Sonny & Suzanne Sternberg (10/10)  
Sara & Lee Gauvin (10/10)  
Jack & Ethel (11/10)  
Thomas & Antoniette Townsend (2/11)  
John & Sandy Seroyer 4/10  
Helen & JJ (8/10)  
In memory of USS Stark (5/10)  
Sterling & Linda Phaklides (5/10)  
In memory of Dean Ramon Esler (6/10)  
P-Nut & Liz Wilson (8/10)  
Tom & Faye Selig (7/10)  
Bill & Fanny Bivens (8/10)  
Bill & Mabel Videll (12/10)  
Gary & Marie Esler (12/10)  
Nick Patrizio (4/12)

#### **Bronze Level, \$10 per year**

Beth & Mike Wear (8/10)  
Bill Garrett (4/10)  
Caroline Whelpley (5/10)  
Clyde & Nancy Aston (12/10)  
Ed Zazzarino (10/10)  
Earl Parker (6/10)  
Frank Brown (7/10)  
George & Elizabeth Rivers (5/10)  
George Layton (3/11)  
In memory of George Zagic (6/10)  
In memory of Edwina Maccangno (4/11)  
In memory of Jack W. Cox (2/11)  
In memory of Sean Seroyer (3/10)  
In memory of Skip Hilliker (5/10)  
In memory of Dottie Smith (7/10)  
In memory of Warren White (5/10)  
Charlie & Betty Parker (7/10)

Jim Smith (7/10)  
Jim & Fran Reed (4/10)  
Joe & Pat Cornell (2/10)  
John & Patty Kapeghian (3/11)  
J.D. Kapeghian (3/11)  
Scott & Christy Kapeghian (3/11)  
Noah Kapeghian (3/11)  
Larry Garner (1/12)  
Louise Braren (6/12)  
Maddy Chitko (2/11)  
Pearse & Sally Doherty (2/11)  
Percy & Beverly Shadwell (11/10)  
Reggie & Cynthia Dubay (4/10)  
Ric & Mary Ann Smith (7/10)  
Richard & Jo Ann Scoggins (4/11)  
Richard & Katy (5/10)  
Robert Gomez (1/16)  
Robert Schmitt (5/10)  
Roy & Martha Hauge (4/10)  
Roy L. & Martha Lewis (4/11)  
Russell & Mary Lou Jones (9/10)  
Shorty Heiman (11/10)  
Steve & Misty (11/10)  
Towney Kennard (11/10)