

American Legion Post 129

: Post129@comcast.net

January 2010

Upcoming Events

- **January 3**
District Mtng at Post 194
- **January 6**
7:00 House committee & Planning Board
- **January 7**
6:30 Past Commanders
7:00 E Board
7:00 Auxiliary
7:30 General Meeting
- **January 9**
7:00 Wii Bowling Tournament
- **January 14**
7:00 40&8 & Cabane meeting
- **January 23**
5:00 Canteen Fun Nlght
- **February 7**
2:00 4 Chaplains Memorial Service

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Commander's Corner by Jerry Brandt

There will be a vote on February 4th, at the General Meeting. A motion was made and a 2nd was obtained at the December 3rd meeting to change American Legion Post 129 to a Non-Smoking Post. You must be present to vote on this decision on February 4th.

As a reminder, as of January 1st, if you do not have a valid membership card you will not be able to enjoy the privilege of using the lounge, please renew your membership as soon as possible to prevent any embarrassing moments. Also, if the bartenders are doing their job, they should be asking to see your membership card at least once, more often if they forget, please show your membership card when they ask you for it.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everybody involved during the last 2 months in the kitchen. With Thanksgiving Day, welcoming dinner for Department Commander, 5th District Meeting, No-Dough Dinner on the 20th for the USO by the Fancy Pants cooking team and on Christmas Day. We had a lot of people bringing in their Special Dishes for our members as well as work in the kitchen, to all, Thank You! Without our members stepping forward, we would not be

a Post that everyone is proud of.

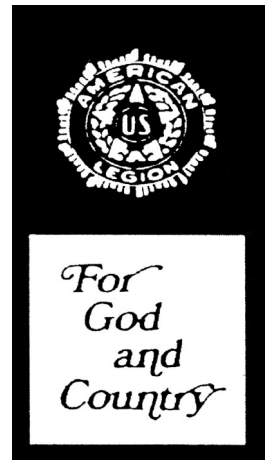
Speaking of Cooking team, as everyone knows, we have an Opening of the Beaches Bar-B-Q every year. This year we are doing something different, the last few Bar-B-Q's, Cooking team of Too Tall and Marty has been taking on the 129's team lead by Danny. Well, we want to make it more interesting. Put a team 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 myself or 2nd Vice Ericka Groleau 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.

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



Members, have you ever thought of moving up within the Legion? Become an officer? But you are not sure of how to do this? The Leadership team would like to help you with this opportunity. Did you know that several of our officers are recognized as chairmen and committee members within the Department of Florida? In fact out of approximately 40 chairmen and board members within the state, we, at our Post have 6 members who are either chairmen or members. (with over 300 Posts within Florida) Please see myself or any of the officers of the Post.

We are attempting to do things this winter,

Continued on page 5

LEGION LORE by Jack Hardebeck

There's a passage in the Bible that reads, in part: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares...." I believe it means, in a modern context, that nations, in a peaceful world, will spend money on humanitarian purposes rather than weapons of war. Because, unfortunately, the world isn't yet peaceful, the United States has felt compelled to do the opposite by using some of the steel wreckage from the 9-11 attack in New York to help make a warship: the USS New York.

It's an amphibious transport dock ship, and the bow contains 7.5 tons of steel salvaged from the ruins of the World Trade Center.

The vessel was commissioned into the U.S. fleet on November 7, 2009, and it was well covered by the media. The symbolism of it is enormous and, as you might expect, the American Legion was right in the forefront of recognizing it.

NYC Post 1870 meets on board the USS Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum in New York Harbor. On November 4, the members hosted dinner there for the 20 fleet Marines attached to the USS New York. One of them, Marine Capt. Michael Lorino, nailed the significance of the vessel's commissioning well when he said, "The ship represents America's

determination in the face of adversity." Right on!



SAL News by Richard Kasevich

SAL membership as of 12/3/09 stands at 51.58% which is below the goal of 60%, next goal is 65% as of 1/14/10, we need a push to attain and exceed this goal, both the Legion and the Auxiliary have passed us. Do we want this to continue? Have pride in being a SAL member and renew if you haven't done so. Reminder: you will need a current membership card on 1/1/10 to

partake in the canteen.

Officer update: Charles Grieco is the new 2nd Vice and Don Lewis is our new 3rd Vice, please welcome these officers and assist them in anyway possible. Our next meeting will be 1/27/10 at 6:00 PM, please attend as we start the new year.

Our website legionpost129.org

is being accessed more frequently now, from 7/15/09 to 12/11/09 we have had 963 visits. If you haven't accessed it yet, it contains the current calendar and newsletter in a printable version. It also has links to Post 129 Twitter and Facebook accounts. These sites are updated with current events and if you join you will be notified of upcoming events.

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

E-Board Members	House Committee
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

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a safe and joyous New Year. Once again, December did not slow down for our unit. During our December meeting, we voted to donate monies to assist both our community and support Wanda Brandt and the 5th District. Thanks to our bingo patrons, we were able to give \$500 to the Second Harvest Food Bank and \$1,500 dollars to Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministries (B.E.A.M).

The Department President attended our dinner at the Post on December 5th and the district meeting on the 6th. Thanks to each Auxiliary member that attended the dinner and or meeting. On December 17th once

again our Unit, Dennis playing the tunes, supported the district by bearing the elements for nearly 3 hours to wave and cheer for the wounded warriors which rode the final leg of the Road 2 Recovery bicycle event. The Unit also gave Wanda a check for \$1,000 to support this event.

Special shout out to Marie Esler and everyone that helped on the 19th for the Children's Christmas party. There were smiles on the both the children and volunteers. Thanks for Santa and Mrs. Claus (Keith and Joyce Ingle) who took time from their busy schedule at the North Pole to entertain the kids.

Our membership is over 76% and we have met our December goal! Thanks to everyone that has renewed. Remember, January 1st your 2010 cards will be required to be served at the canteen. If we can reach 100% by January 31st, we will be able to send another delegate to girl's state.

The canteen is planning a fun and games night on the 23rd and Family Feud night on the 30th. Let's come out and support them. Mark your calendar for the next Auxiliary event, February 13th, a silent auction and Valentine's Day dinner.

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.



Wii Tournament.....Saturday January 9th at 7:00pm, come join us!!!!

Wii Sports (Wii スポーツ, *Wii Supōtsu*?) is a [sports game](#) developed and produced by [Nintendo](#). It was first released in [North America](#) along with the Wii on November 19, 2006. The game is a collection of five [sports](#) simulations, designed to demonstrate the motion-sensing capabilities of the [Wii Remote](#) to new players. The five

[bowling](#), [golf](#), and [boxing](#). Players use the Wii Remote to mimic actions performed in real life sports, such as swinging a [tennis racket](#).^[4] The rules for each game are simplified to make them more accessible to new players. *Wii Sports* has been well received by critics and received awards from the gaming press and entertainment

community. It is the [best-selling video game](#) of all time, having out-sold the previous best-seller, *Super Mario Bros.*, in 2009.^[6] As of October 2009, 50.54 million copies sold worldwide. The game has become a popular means for social gatherings and competitions among players of varying ages.

Bar Notes

by Scott Hardy

The New Year brings News of Old; Old School Prices that is! Two months after LOWERING the Canteen's Beer Prices we are pleased to announce LOWER MIXED DRINK PRICES. All well drinks and most call liquors have been reduced. Some PREMIUM LIQUORS have been lowered SIGNIFICANTLY! Please come visit us soon and see how much further your dollars flows now, at Post 129.

DON'T MISS JANUARY'S EVENTS – CHECK THE CALENDAR FOR ALL CANTEEN ACTIVITIES. New Dart League forms Tuesday, January 5, 2010, you must be there by 6 PM. Texas Hold'em continues on Thurs-

days at 7 PM. Fridays Entertainment starts at 7 PM. Saturdays offer a new and exciting activity each week like: a Wii Bowling Tournament, Family Feud, Scavenger Hunts, and More! Bingo every Wednesday & Friday afternoons at 2 PM.

PLUS.....THURSDAY JANUARY 7, 2010, WE WILL BE SHOWING THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP.....SUNDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2010 THE SUPERBOWL GAME & CHILI-COOK-OFF CONTEST.....LAST BUT NOT LEAST starting SUNDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2010, NASCAR will be shown ALL SEASON with VOLUME up.

Earl's Hot Dogs have been moved to Mondays and Ericka's Kitchen has new operating days/hours. See Ericka's column for more details.

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

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

Ask Ethel

Dear Ethel: I would like you to evaluate my New Year's resolution. I resolve that I'll cough on any member who blows tobacco smoke in my face. What do you think of that? No-Smoke Bloke

Dear Bloke: It's oke to not want to choke from smoke, but don't cough. Move off.

Dear Ethel: I think our North Florida Post 129 should be very Southern, in fact, I might could state (Dixie double talk) that our male members should dress more, well, Southern. According to the Redneck Manual, a real "good ole boy" should wear jeans "...of the dirt-slid, worn-out-at-the-knees kind (with circular imprint of a snuff can on the rear pocket...)". These should be accompanied by a

T-shirt saying something in rebel lingo, but always with a Harley Davidson image. Okay?—
—Southern Kernel

Dear Kernel: Shouldn't he at least have bib overalls for special occasions?



Cabane 215 News

by Vicki Gordon-Haft

Hello Dames, I hope each of you had a wonderful Christmas and New Years. We had a great Christmas party at Miller's Ale House. The Voyagers joined us this year for a joint celebration. Everyone seemed to have a good time so I think we should consider making this a tradition.

Our thoughts and prayers are

needed for Dame Mary Cawvey whose husband passed away in December.

Just a reminder, if you haven't paid your 2010 dues they need to be paid ASAP. Please remit to Dame Kelly Bush. So far this year we have inducted 4 new Dames. We are so happy to have them join us. If you have not been to a

Rendezvous in awhile why not come this month and meet them. The Rendezvous will be at 7pm January 14th. Hot topic for the month will be news from Mid Winter.



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

Voyageurs, so far this year we have visited American Legion Post 316 and Post 54, 233 and 129. I would like to thank each Post for the warm welcome. Our next visit will be with Post 316 on January 23rd, we be serving a meal there, please come to help. In February our visit will be at Post 54.

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.

Yours In Service

Commander, continued from page 1

we are attempting to get a wii team together, and challenge other Posts to a tournament. Also, if you notice, there are sand pits on the North side of the building, this is for horse shoe contests. I know Post 88 is looking forward to the challenge. Also several of our members attended a meeting at the base about the possibility of having a bowling tournament on base. More to come on the bowling information. One last thing, 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. The newsletter is available at our website. If you can do without the paper copy, please email us and we can remove you from the mailing.

GI Insurance

Airman Jones was assigned to the induction center, where he advised new recruits about their government benefits, especially their GI insurance. It wasn't long before Captain Smith noticed that Airman Jones had almost a 100% record for insurance sales, which had never happened before. Rather than ask about this, the Captain stood in the back of the room and listened to Jones's pitch. Jones explained the basics of the GI Insurance to the new recruits, and then said: "If you have GI insurance and go into battle and are killed, the government has to pay \$200,000 to your beneficiaries. If you don't, have GI insurance, and you go into battle and get killed, the government only has to pay a max of \$6,000". "Now", he concluded, "which bunch do you think they are going to send to battle first?"

Legion Riders News

by Tom Hunter

As we get ready to say goodbye to 2009 and welcome in 2010, I would like to thank each member for the support they have shown over the past year. Together we have accomplished some amazing feats. The year in review includes...Past Director Mike Amig announced that he has taken the position as the Florida State Director of ALR. WOW, what can I say, our 6th Annual

Poker Run was a HUGE success. We had over 250 bikes registered and donated over \$12,000.00 to the Wounded Warrior Project. Our riders made the trek to Louisville, Kentucky and met up with over 200 other riders for the Legacy ride where we proudly donated \$1,000.00 to the Legacy Scholarship fund. We want to give a special

congratulation to our own ALR member, Clarence Hill who is the current National Commander for the American Legion.

As we look forward to the New Year, I am confident that we will continue to support the American Legion and Veterans of all branches and to eclipse our previous year in accomplishments. Next meeting will be January 9th, 2010 at Post 316 at 10:00am. Hope to see you there !!!

Service Officer Notes

by Joe Cornell

The Department of Veterans has decided to establish a service-connection for Vietnam veterans with three specific illnesses based on the latest evidence with the herbicides referred to Agent Orange. The illnesses affected by the recent decision are B cell leukemia's, such as hairy cell leukemia; Parkinson's disease; and ischemic heart disease.

In practical terms, veterans who served in Vietnam during the war and who have a "presumed" illness don't have to prove an association between their illnesses and their military service. This "presumption" simplifies and speeds up the application process for benefits. For further information contact Joe Cornell, Service Officer at Post Home 904-249-2266.

Four Chaplains

The 5th District will again be holding the Four Chaplains Memorial Service at Ocean Beaches Post 129 Sunday, February 7th at 2pm.

For more information please contact Chaplain Bill Reno, American Legion 5th District of Florida.

Sterling's Comments.....What would you like to see in the Newsletter?

Due to limited space we were only able to publish portions of the Legion Riders actual January article. If anyone would like a full copy of their article, let me know and I will get a copy to you. Tom Hunter gave a review of the 2009 year on a month by month basis. Lot of accomplishments by that unit.

If you don't know what the game Wii is all about check the article on page 3. Join us on January 9 at 7:00pm for a Wii bowling tournament. It is a game for all ages. You will be glad you did. Have fun, meet friends and learn what this game is all about.

Thank you for your support, Sterling L. Phaklides.....slp1960@comcast.net



Legion Projects...by Jerry Brandt



We are currently working on the Lady's vanity (delay due to contract). Another project is improving the smoke blowers in the lounge area. We would be happy for your assistance, please see Russell Rhodes or myself as a point on contact on the projects. If you wish to contribute with your tax-free donation to these projects please make your check out to the American Legion Post 129 building fund. This building is over 20 years old and needs some loving care to keep it up. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Welcome New Members to Post 129

September 2009: Joseph A. Matthieu, USA, Korea; Peter A. Zavitz, active duty;

October 2009: David E. Garns, USCG, retired; Henry W. Heisey, USN; Dallas C. Nelson, USN, Grenada; Gary R. Sevick, USA, Vietnam; Michael N. Tsamas, USA, Korea..

December 2009: David Couch, USN, active duty; Leo R. DeGoursey, USN, Lebanon; James E. Powell, USAF, Vietnam; Jesse Robertson, USN, Vietnam; Katherine L. Seno, USN, Gulf, active duty; Stephen Sibert, USN, Lebanon, active duty; John Stabanage, USN, Gulf, active duty; Mike Vigil, USN, Gulf, active duty; David Andrews, USN, Vietnam.

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

The Ladies Monthly Birthday Luncheon will be on Monday February 1st. BIRTHDAY girls are: Fay Allen 2/7, Dianne Barker 2/11, and Jennifer Holton 2/20. We had a great turnout in December. Mark your calendar and come join us.

Nancy Aston 242-0544

BUSINESS BOOSTER LIST

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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.

We Need Your HELP!!!!

If you have a Family Feud game would you lend it to Mary Ellen Bolin. We need your help.

Mary Ellen Bolin

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129

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The
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Legion

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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

Voiture 215 & Cabane 215 (10/09)
Bob Schlatter (11/09)
Barbara & Phil Milazo (1/11)

Gold Level, \$50 per year

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

Silver Level, \$25 per year

In memory of Ben Lee (10/09)
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)

Bronze Level, \$10 per year

Beth & Mike Wear (8/10)
Bill Garrett (4/10)
Caroline Whelpley (5/10)
Clyde & Nancy Aston (12/10)
Carol A. Crowe (1/10)
Ed Zazzarino (10/10)
Earl Parker (6/10)
Fay & Chuck (10/09)
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 (12/09)
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 Davis Jr (12/09)
Jim Smith (7/10)
Jim & Fran Reed (4/10)
Joe & Pat Cornell (2/10)
John & Patty Kapeghian (3/13)
Larry Garner (1/12)
Louise Braren (6/12)
Maddy Chitko (2/10)
Mary Jo Davis (12/09)
Nick Patrizio (4/10)
Pearse & Sally Doherty (2/10)
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 (11/09)
Towney Kennard (11/10)

