

Charles E. Murray
American Legion Post 186



Newsletter

March & April 2012

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COMMANDER

Frank Babicz

americanleg186@bellsouth.net

352-596-1015

It is hard to believe we are heading into spring already! The days are getting longer and with the added daylight, you should have more time to enjoy your post. Please browse through the contents of this newsletter and take a look at what we have to offer. In March alone, we have a yard sale, the annual St. Patrick's Day bash, and close the month with a Riders dinner. In April, we have an Easter dinner and a Rider's poker run. These events are in addition to the "regular" events like lounge games, steak shoot, fish fry Friday, KARAOKE, other entertaining groups, and, of course, our world famous wings on Sunday! I would also venture to say we have the best burgers in town for less than \$4 during lunch from 11:30 to 2:30 p.m. daily. By taking advantage of all these activities, in addition to having a good time, you will also be supporting your Post. For the latest in what is going on at the Post, please check the bulletin boards.

Our election year ends on May, so it is time to consider volunteering by running for a Post office. If you have ever felt that YOU could make a difference, now is the time to step up to the plate. I have a copy of our Constitution and Bylaws if you wish to see the responsibilities and requirements. The board has decided that nominations will be taken at the March 1st and April 5th general membership meetings. The election will take place on Wednesday, May 2 and the results reported to the members on May 3.

For God and Country,
Frank Babicz

FIRST VICE COMMANDER

Troy Cox

troycox@tampabay.rr.com

352-596-1567

We are getting close to 90% according to the Department of Florida and I will take their numbers because they have access to the members that pay on line. It's a different ball game this year when a member can pay on line, use a credit card, use a check, or come to the Legion and pay cash. Out of the \$35 you pay \$21 goes to the Department and National and we get the remaining \$14. If we make our 100% we will have taken in \$18,536 for the year. Currently we have 40 new members and 58 transfers from other posts. After February getting new members seems to get harder and getting people to pay their dues for some reason is difficult. If you're a shut in or just don't have the money due to illness I need to know about it. I can present individual cases to the Executive Board and maybe get you some help.

For God and Country,
Troy Cox

SECOND VICE COMMANDER

Bruce Carl

bruce1955@yahoo.com

352-666-5496

The brown grass is turning green, and the snow bird's are getting ready to head North. That can only mean one thing -- spring is in the air! There are still plenty of things going on here at the post. Come on down and enjoy all the wonderful entertainment from the Karaoke and our variety of bands. Join in the fun by singing or dancing the

night away. Things have picked up over the past 2 months and we would love to have you come down and enjoy the camaraderie with all your friends. Check the calendar for the upcoming dinners, events, and bands. Also, don't forget to check the bulletin board at the post for any upcoming changes that may occur after you have received the newsletter. As always, if you have any suggestions, concerns, comments, feel free to let me know.

For God and Country,
Bruce Carl



POST CHAPLAIN
Charles Haig
haigie@aol.com
352-597-1210
Cell 352-610-2051

Time sure does fly, we have lost as of this writing eight members, which will be listed at the close of this letter. I recently presented Kentucky Colonel commissions to three members of Post 186. Listed are the following Chaplain Corps members; James Hulce, Charles Teaters, and Bruce Carl. The Post Commander was on hand for the presentation. Not listed was Conrad Vachon who is also a member of the chaplains corps and a Kentucky Colonel. The Four Chaplains memorial service was held on February, 05, 2012 at St. Theresa's R. C. Church Spring Hill. there were over 250 people attending. The choir of St. Theresa's did an excellent job I applaud them all. There were various speakers; Commander Frank Babicz, Retired Colonel Nick Morana, and Ret U.S Air Force General Monroe T. Smith. The four clergy were Pastor James McAteer, Rabbi Lenny Sarko, Pastor John Hay, Rev. Shanda Mahurin. Many thanks to all the participating Organizations and to Bob Hamburgur who played Taps. John Rakuciewicz, Sgt at Arms, a job well done.

And the Grand Finale, releasing of four white Doves which were supplied by the Downing Funeral Home. If you weren't there to see these white doves you missed a treat. Towards the end of the ceremony I was taken by surprise when the Commander interrupted the service to present me with a beautiful cross and chain from Post 186 members and Color Guard. I was overwhelmed. Thank you all for your kindness. Fr. James McAteer blessed it for me. This Four Chaplains service is my last one. I will be helping Nick Morana who will now chair the service. I know he will do a fine job. Thank you.

Deaths

Samuel W. Earle
Wilfred " Hop" Artman
John Corcoran Jr.
Jerald Greenlee
Richard A Webster
Bernard Gustafson
Lawrence O'Toole
Robert J Kelly

Sick Call

Ernie Fischer
D. Trotter

For God and Country,
Charles Haig

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

MANAS MILLER
15020 MIDDLE FAIRWAY DR.
BROOKSVILLE, FL 34609
352-797-9523
usmcbigm1@tampabay.rr.com

Manny is at the Post every Thursday at 10 a.m.
Appointments for other times may be made by calling him.

Veterans Group Life Insurance program (VGLI)

Some Veterans covered under the Veterans Group Life Insurance program (VGLI) now have the opportunity to increase their coverage to the current maximum coverage under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) program. "Currently, 70 percent of the Veterans covered under VGLI are under age 60, have less than \$400,000 of coverage, and will greatly benefit from this law change," said Allison A. Hickey, Department of Veterans Affairs under secretary for benefits. Under the Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010, enacted on Oct. 13, 2010, Veterans can increase their coverage by \$25,000 at each five-year anniversary date of their policy to the current legislated maximum SGLI coverage, presently, \$400,000. To date, approximately 21 percent of eligible Veterans have taken advantage of this opportunity, resulting in nearly \$113 million of new coverage being issued. The VGLI program allows newly discharged Veterans to convert their SGLI coverage they had while in the service to a civilian program. Before enactment of this law, Veterans could not have more VGLI than the amount of SGLI they had at the time of separation from service. Eligible Veterans are notified of the opportunity a week before the start of the 120-day period prior to their anniversary date, and twice more before the actual anniversary date.

Gulf War, Agent Orange and Ionizing Radiation

Registry Programs. Veterans who served in the Gulf War (Aug 2, 1990 to date not yet established) or who claim exposure to Agent Orange during the Vietnam War (between 1962 and 1975) or atomic radiation, or veterans treated with Nasopharyngeal (NP) radium during military service, are provided with free, comprehensive medical examinations, including laboratory and other diagnostic tests deemed necessary by an examining physician to determine health status. Eligible veterans do not have to be enrolled in VA health care to participate in registry examinations. Results of the examinations, which include review of the veteran's military service and exposure history, are entered into special, computerized databases, called registries. These databases assist VA in analyzing the types of health conditions being reported by veterans. Registry participants are advised of the results of their examinations in personal consultations and by letters. Veterans wishing to participate should contact the nearest VA health-care facility for an examination. The VA operates a toll-free hotline at 800-749-8387 to inform Gulf War veterans about VA programs, their benefits and the latest information on Gulf War era benefits.

For God and Country,
Manas Miller



COLOR GUARD COMMANDER
Jimmy Schultz
jschultz6@tampabay.rr.com
352- 686-0454

Fellow Legionnaires, your Color Guard represented our Post at the Brooksville Raid Reenactment on the 21st and 22nd January 2012 at the Sand Hill Scout Reservation. We presented the Union and Confederate flags to each Army in the most proficient and professional manner possible. After the ceremony, the Generals of both Armies thanked me and complimented the performance of our Color Guard. They asked Commander Babicz and myself to

take pictures with them and they assured us that this tradition will continue in the future.

Once again I want to thank Phil Philips for making this ceremony possible and all the assistance he gave me throughout it. I also want to thank Annie Pellegrini for filming the ceremony.

I also want to thank Past Color Guard Commander Lou Hernandez, Ray Guzman, John Rakuzewicz, Jim Bartholomew, Steve Small, Charles Haig, James Hulce, Bob Hamburgur, Bob McBride, Conrad Vachon and our Mike Force Commander Chuck Teaters for their outstanding performance and loyal dedication. We all wish Bob Kozlowski a speedy recovery.

We will have our traditional Saint Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner on Saturday, 17 March 2012 at 6:00pm. We will also be serving Corned Beef Sandwiches with Chips and a pickle from 11:am until 2:pm. Dinner will be served at 6:pm. Check the bulletin Board for our flyer for exact times, menus and prices.

Our Basket of Cheer will be raffled shortly after dinner. It will consist of 20 top shelf liquors and wines as well as other goodies. Tickets for the Dinner and Basket of Cheer will be available at the Canteen by the time you get this newsletter.

After the Dinner, "The Belairs" will be playing for your entertainment starting at 7:pm.

For God and Country,
Jimmy Schultz



ALR
Director
Steve Tyler
potwarp@hotmail.com

Well it's a little late but since this is my first time in 2012, I shall begin by wishing you all a very Happy New Year. I want to thank all the Legion members who contributed to our Christmas baskets. We distributed 25 to deserving families and we could not do this without your continuing support.

In the last newsletter I told you about "Wreaths Across America". On December 10th I had the extreme honor of representing the Riders of Chapter 186 at this event. It was a truly awesome experience to take part in the wreath laying and witness all the various ceremonies, especially the setting of the POW table. Seven years ago the local ceremony at Bushnell started with 60 people and 8 wreaths. This year there were approximately 3000 people and we laid 5500 wreaths on the graves of veterans. If you would like to see pictures of the event, please go to the Post

186 website and click on the ALR link. I would like to give great credit to Wal-Mart and the many employees who volunteered their time and labor to help with this event. Next year's event is scheduled for Saturday, December 8th. I had the personal pleasure of cooking the New Year's Eve dinner for those of you who attended. I am told it came out very well. Thanks to all my helpers in the kitchen, especially my wife, Cheryl. As it turns out, I guess it was enough of a hit that I was requested to cook the Valentines dinner for the Auxiliary, which will have transpired by the time you read this.

January was very busy and successful for us. We had an awesome Lasagna Dinner on January 21st. The food was delicious and the entertainment was awesome. I want to once again thank all of you who attended and made it such a great night. I have to give special thanks to our incredible Italian chef, whose humility (and right hook) precludes me from mentioning her by name. Her lasagna was so good I thought I was dining at Carrabas. Congratulations to Butch (also known as Peggy, inside joke) for winning the basket of cheer.

We have several upcoming events. Our meatloaf dinner is scheduled for Saturday, March 31st. Due to the fact that the ALR Chapter at 155 in Crystal River is having a poker run that day, our poker run has been rescheduled to April 14th. The Donny Holmes Annual Steak Roast is scheduled for May.

The weather has been fantastic lately. We have had lots of wonderful rides and look forward to many more while this great time of year is with us. As always I extend an invitation to you all to join us for the two-wheeled experience. Also, don't forget that the "carport" and picnic tables in the Hog Pen are for use by ALL of the members of Post 186.

For God and Country,
Steve Tyler



SAL
Commander
Keith Hines

The SAL hopes that everyone who attended the Super Bowl Party had a great time. It was our way of giving back to the Post members for their support at our functions. Previously, we have donated to the parking lot resealing and the large screen TV above the bar. If you qualify, please consider joining the SAL and attending our next meeting !

From the SAL Adjutant, Dan Cox:
I am the adjutant for the SAL Squadron 186 and a dual member honoring my father who was a Marine during WWII. I'm writing you today asking you to step up and respect your Father/Grandfather that served in the military, by being a dual member for only \$7, a member of the Son's of the American Legion Squadron 186. Now is the time for you to contact the membership chairman and honor that special person. Call 352-597-9995 or come in to the Post, Mon-Thru 2:30-3-30 pm Fri 1:00-2:00.

For God and Country,
Keith Hines

Canteen News
Canteen Manager
Anna Pellegrini
(352)597-9995
canteen186@bellsouth.net

Well Spring has sprung and it sure is great to see our "Snow birds" back! We will try to plan another hard Rock Trip for March, watch for the signs and please sign up early so we can assure that the bus goes to the Casino! The staff of Post 186 would like to wish all of our members a Happy Easter!

For God and Country,
Anna Pellegrini



AUXILIARY PRESIDENT
Claudia Fischer
352-686-9247
ceejay523f@yahoo.com

We had our 1st afternoon General Meeting in February. If any member would like to have the general meetings changed to afternoon, please let any of our Officers know. If we have a lot of response, we will vote at one of our meetings to change the time of our meetings.

Our "DESERT" Table at the Post's Friday night Fish Fry is going good. Judy Hulce and our ladies make some delicious desserts and sell them every Friday night. So come out and support your Auxiliary and get a plate of

some yummys for just a dollar. Also, if you have a yummie that you would like to make and have us sell, contact Judy Hulce, we can use all the help we can get.

Our Community Service program is continuously working to help feed and clothe numerous homeless communities in Hernando County. We need your help to help us collect food, clothing and toiletries. For more info contact Fran Finley at 686-1820. March 10th is our Spring Yard Sale, we will have a lot of great stuff for sale. It will be from 8:00am until 1:00pm. March 8th is our General Meeting at 7:00 pm, we will be having our Initiation Ceremony of new members, so please join us.

Finally, we want to send out a big Thank You to CiCi's Pizza for providing the pizza that we served to the many children at their Christmas party, it was greatly appreciated. This thank you missed the deadline for our January –February newsletter. Sorry.

Save the Dates:
March 3-District Meeting – Post 389-10:00 a.m.
March 8- Aux. General Meeting-7:00 p.m.
Initiation Ceremony to precede general meeting.
March 10- Auxiliary Yard Sale – 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

For God and Country,
Claudia Fischer

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
Margaret Hernandez
Membership Chairman
352-688-0818

Fellow members, for those of you who have yet to renew your membership for 2012, I will be at the Post every Tuesday from 2 to 5 p.m. or you can mail it to the Post.

On the March meeting (March 8th), we will have initiating Ceremony for new members and any old members who were never initiated.

If you wish to attend, please contact me by March 6th at (352) 688-0818.

Thank you.

For God and Country,
Margaret Hernandez

VA & R Chairman
Joanne Holobinka
JHolobinka@aim.com
352-686-0364

In February, 12 Auxiliary sisters attended the Four Chaplains Ceremony at St. Theresa Catholic Church. Fran Finley and Wanda Walters represented the Auxiliary by carrying flags and did a fine job. We gave out about a dozen mugs to WW II veterans who attended as they socialized following the ceremony. They all expressed gratitude for the recognition.

Visits to infirm veterans are continuing. If you know a homebound veteran who would appreciate a visit please let me know.

We still have openings available if you would like to visit veterans and see the joy in their faces when they receive their coffee mugs. For more information, call me, email me or you can normally catch me at Bingo.

For God and Country,
Joanne Holobinka

AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN
Cheryle LeBaron
352-200-9597

Dear Father, help us to be thankful for each day and for the blessings it brings. Help us to see beauty in the glory of the light of day and feel the peace in the serenity of the dark of night. We give thanks to You for giving us the ability to experience emotions.. both good and bad. Bless and protect those who serve our Nation. Give us grace, Father, that we be ever thankful for your gifts. Amen

Deceased:
Norma Durling
Nanette Keller

For God and Country,
Cheryle LeBaron

BOOSTER CLUB

As of January, 31, 2012, the following are proud members of the American Legion Post 186 Booster Club. You, too, can be a member. Just \$10.00 per year and your name will be published on our Bulletin Board and in our Post Newsletter. This donation will help the ever-rising cost of printing and mailing. Your generosity is appreciated.

July 2030

Carlton & Beth Ann Terrell

July 2024

Lloyd Gross

July 2021

Jimmy Schultz
Post 186 Color Guard

September 2020

Bob Burch

July 2019

Donna Greenwald
Steve Small
Janet Bowman

July 2016

James Meere
Betty Corbin

July 2015

Don & Joan Jernstrom
Peter Paul Garbacki
Frank & Sharon Sevick

July 2014

Al Henderson
Ernie & Patricia Tor
Raymond & Carole Frattini
Robert Hartman
Jerry Galoonis
Anna Pellegrini
George & Mary Kennedy
Don & Jackie Harvey
Val M. Parker
Claus & Elizabeth Sachse
Mosa Brown

Jan 2014

Robert J Eudeikis

July 2013

Hugh & Helen Reynolds
Richard Shore
Warren & Mary Cross

July 2012

Troy & Joyce Cox
Frank M Kuraitys
William Swann
John Krause
Conrad Vachon
Richard & Eunice Nerber
Doris Webster

July 2011

George S. Boileau
Rocky Rocks
Philip & Diane Cecere
William E. Mackubin
Ken Osendorf
Severio La Cava
Mick Little
Joe & Marge Ruggiero
John & Nanette Keller
Byrness E. Haworth

In Memory of Past Members

Olisse Pellegrini
Dorothy Henderson
PFC Cody Grater
Bern Cottington
Joe Sabol
Linda Harper
Donnie Holmes
Betty Jefferies
Paul Webster

BOOSTER SUPPORT FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

NAME _____ CONTRIBUTION \$ _____

Congratulations To:

December's Member of the month: Dave Bianco

January's Member of the month: Eric Hunter

December's Volunteer of the month: Dan Henkel

January's Volunteer of the month: Carole Babicz

March 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
ST PAT'S	LUNCH	CORNED BEEF	SANDWICHES	1 Legion Meeting 7 PM	2 Fish Fry 5-7PM Nikki Moore Band 7 PM	3 Karaoke Mr. Lynn 7-11 PM
4 Wings 12-4 PM	5 Pool 8 PM	6 Lounge Games 6 PM Kitchen Open 4-6 PM	7 Karaoke Shoe 7 PM Darts 8 PM CG Mtg 5 PM	8 Auxiliary Meeting 7 PM	9 Fish Fry 5-7 PM Bill E 7 PM	10 Yard Sale 8-1 Karaoke Shoe 7-11 PM
11 Wings 12-4 PM	12 Pool 8 PM	13 Lounge Games 6 PM Kitchen Open 4-6 PM	14 Karaoke Shoe 7 PM Darts 8 PM	15 SAL Meeting 7 PM	16 Fish Fry 5-7PM Karaoke Shoe 7-11PM	17 WAC 10 AM St. Patricks Dinner 6 PM Belairs 7 PM
18 Abate 10 AM Wings 12-4 PM	19 Pool 8 PM	20 Lounge Games 6 PM Kitchen Open 4-6 PM	21 Karaoke Shoe 7 PM Darts 8 PM CG Mtg 5 PM	22 AL Riders Meeting 7 PM	23 Fish Fry 5-7 PM Two of Us 7 PM	24 Karaoke Mr. Lynn 7-11 PM
25 Wings 12-4 PM	26 Pool 8 PM	27 Lounge Games 6 PM Kitchen Open 4-6 PM	28 Karaoke Shoe 7 PM Darts 8 PM	29	30 Fish Fry 5-7 PM Karaoke Mr. Lynn 7-11 PM	31 ALR Meatloaf Dinner 6 PM Bendy's 7 PM

April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Wings 12-4 PM	2 Pool 8 PM	3 Lounge Games 6 PM Kitchen Open 4-6 PM	4 Karaoke Shoe 7-11 PM CG Mtg 5 PM Darts 8 PM	5 Legion Meeting 7 PM	6 Good Friday Fish Fry 5-7 PM Karaoke Shoe 7-11 PM	7 Legion Easter Dinner 6 PM Belairs 7 PM
8 Easter Wings 12-4 PM	9 Pool 8 PM	10 Lounge Games 6 PM Kitchen Open 4-6 PM	11 Karaoke Shoe 7-11 PM Darts 8 PM	12 Auxiliary Meeting 7 PM	13 Fish Fry 5-7PM Barry & Nancy 7 PM	14 ALR Poker Run Karaoke Mr. Lynn 7-11 PM
15 Abate 10 AM Wings 12-4 PM	16 Pool 8 PM	17 Lounge Games 6 PM Kitchen Open 4-6 PM	18 Karaoke Shoe 7-11 PM Darts 8 PM CG Mtg 5 PM	19 SAL Meeting 7 PM	20 Fish Fry 5-7 PM Karaoke Shoe 7-11 PM	21 WAC 10 AM SAL Roast Pork Dinner 6 PM The Twist 7 PM
22 Wings 12-4 PM	23 Pool 8 PM	24 Lounge Games 6 PM Kitchen Open 4-6 PM	25 Karaoke Shoe 7-11 PM Darts 8 PM	26 ALR Meeting 7 PM	27 Fish Fry 5-7 PM Marty & The Nice Guys 7 PM	28 Karaoke Mr. Lynn 7-11 PM
29 Wings 12-4 PM	30 Pool 8 PM	STEAK SHOOT	EVERY SATURDAY	1 PM	REDUCED PRICES ALL DAY	SUNDAY

Auxiliary Dinners on March 14 & April 18 at 6 PM *** SAL Dinner April 21 at 6 PM *** Post Easter Dinner Apr7 6PM

American Legion Post 186
12091 Cortez Blvd
Brooksville, FL 34613

Non Profit
Organization
US Postage
Paid
PERMIT NO. 6118
TAMPA, FL

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321



COMING EVENTS
March & April 2012



MARCH

10th- Saturday Yard Sale 8-1PM

17th - Saturday Corned Beef sandwiches 11:30 to 2:30 PM

17th - Saturday St. Pat's Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner 6 PM \$8.00 The Belairs 7 PM

31st- Saturday ALR's Meatloaf Dinner 6 PM \$6.00 The Bendy's & PM

APRIL

7th- Saturday Legion's Easter Ham Dinner \$7.00 6 PM The Belairs 7 PM

14th- Saturday ALR Poker Run

21st- Saturday SAL Pork Roast \$8.00 The Twist 7 PM