

# Charles E. Murray

## American Legion Post 186



# NEWSLETTER



No. 2020

July - August 2020

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Office Phone 352-597-9524

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Website <http://www.flpost186.org>

**COMMANDER**  
**Eric "SOX" Hunter**  
[americanleg186@bellsouth.net](mailto:americanleg186@bellsouth.net)  
[flpost186@hotmail.com](mailto:flpost186@hotmail.com)

Keep in mind that our officers work for all of our Legion Family.

To avoid social problems when requesting service, and so we follow legion directives, please carry and be proud to show your current membership card!!!!

Thank you for your patience during these trying times!

For God and Country,  
Eric "Sox" Hunter, Commander

Our Veteran's Service Officer is available to assist you, by appointment. Please call the post to set a date and time. He can also be reached by e-mail at [VSOpost186@gmail.com](mailto:VSOpost186@gmail.com)

**SECOND VICE COMMANDER**  
**Gary Newell**

Things are loosening up. The Post has reopened; but with restrictions, as the Commander has stated. As I sit here looking into my crystal ball, for the last time, I do not see live entertainment in the immediate future. We have people in the wings wanting to join us again. I am sure that once we can be at 100% occupancy we will initiate our karaoke and live bands.



I am confident that Eileen Andrews will pick up where I left off.

Until then, stop in and enjoy your favorite refreshment and see your friends.

For God and Country.  
Gary Newell

Fellow Members:

Like all other businesses, the COVID-19 virus has wreaked havoc on your legion and its schedule going into the summer season! We hope that our snowbirds have made it back up north safely! Those of us still in Florida are trying to adjust to the new "normal"! Following our governor's executive order, we are currently operating at 50% capacity indoors and 100% in the outside pavilion. We will enforce social distancing and have removed some bar stools and chairs! We do NOT know how long this phase will last, but we have PLENTY of room for you. In the canteen, prices will not change and we will continue our special offerings on certain days. In the kitchen, until further notice, our hours will be 11:30 am to 3 pm, every day for lunch. Our evening offerings, including our Friday fish fry have been put on hold until we reestablish our entertainment and game schedule.

We will continue to notify you via email and social media should we change schedules and add events! Looking into my crystal ball, I see us ramping up early in July, unless the state locks us down again. I am pleased to announce that the Queen of Hearts will resume on Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup>! The pot was frozen in March so it continues up. We will have the kitchen open that night.

We did hold elections, on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. I will be your Commander for another year. There were a couple of changes to the e-board. A full list of the officers for 2020 – 2021 can be found below.

Installation will be Sunday July 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.



Steve Tyler  
ALR DIRECTOR  
potwarp@hotmail.com

**H**ello to all of the Post 186 family!

It certainly has been a trying time the last few months. Due to COVID-19 restrictions your Riders haven't been doing much. We have done a few individual rides, and are glad we are now able to do group rides once again.

One thing that was accomplished was our in-state "virtual" Unity Ride. Originally there was to have been an in-state ride to raise money for Project Vet Relief/Suicide Prevention Initiative. There was a northern route, starting in the panhandle, and a southern route starting in the Keys. I was signed up to ride the northern route.

Both rides were 5 days and approximately 900 miles, eventually culminating in a state rally at Harley Davidson of Kissimmee/Orlando. Unfortunately, this was cancelled due to the pandemic. What was done instead was a "virtual ride". Members could register as individuals or teams, and do fundraising on-line. The top district in fundraising would win the "District Trophy". Points were awarded on dollars raised and also on pictures posted with #Irideforthe 22. How this was done was that you had to ride at least 22 miles (to signify the 22 veterans lost each day to suicide), take a picture of yourself with your Riders vest on, and post to social media with the aforementioned hashtag.

I am proud to announce, as District 15 Riders Chairman, that as a group the Florida Riders raised over \$60,000 against a \$50,000 goal. Our district came in first in the state! Post 152, in our District, raised over \$10,000. Your 186 Riders raised almost \$800.00.

The trophy will be awarded to the District Riders at Fall Conference in November. Each chapter in the district will get the opportunity to display the trophy in their home posts. That's it for this edition. Thanks as always for your support, and please watch for motorcycles as you travel the roads of our beautiful Adventure Coast!

For God and Country,  
Steve Tyler  
Riders Director



Photo by Steve Tyler at Florida National Cemetery.

## District News – Bruce Carl

I would like to thank everyone who worked on our Post membership this year. This includes our members, bar staff, Post Officers, and anyone else who helped with getting our members renewed, transferred from other Posts, or brought in new members. We have one week left on our current membership year, and our membership has increased by over 116% this year. The 15th District finished in first place in the Department with almost 106% over our expected goal. As your District Commander I have won the National race to the Top Competition in Category 4, which earned me an all expense paid trip to the National Convention in Phoenix, AZ. Thank you for all your hard work. You will be able to start renewing for 2020-2021 on July 1st, so get those renewals in early, as we will have the new cards.

Again, thank you for all your hard work, and I hope we do as well this coming year!

**Bruce Carl**  
15th District Commander

**COMMANDER**  
**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**Juan Villarreal**



**Our Monthly meetings are scheduled for July 16th and August 20th. The time is 3:00 p.m.**

We are again pleased to be hosting the Father's Day breakfast.

The Son's are also proud to be the sponsors of the new service window that was recently installed.

For God and Country,  
Juan Villarreal

**Our next E-Board Meeting will be  
June 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.**

**Followed by a meeting of the Riders at 7:00 p.m.**

**Please watch the Web Site  
FLPOST186.ORG or the Post board for  
additions or changes to activities**



**Lynda Anderson**  
**Auxiliary President**  
**716-474-7425**  
 lynda6260@aol.com

I am proud to serve as your newly elected Auxiliary President for the 2020 - 2021 year. This will be a year of change and adaptation due to the concessions that must be made attributable to COVID-19, and the uncertainty of what will happen over the next few months. We are hoping to assume some form of normalcy and, to that end, I'm looking forward to our August 13, 2020 meeting. I will seek, and expect, support from all of our members. My goal is to increase activity in our Auxiliary programs which will require committee cooperation and a greater focus on the Auxiliary's programs' plan of action guidelines. There is so much information provided by national, department and district, and I encourage all members to take advantage of the resources available to them.

We do not meet in June or July, but I plan to hold an organization meeting in late July, at which time we will finalize chairs for our remaining programs. To date, the following members have agreed to continue serving as chair for the following programs: Claudia Fischer – Auxiliary Emergency Fund and Constitution and By-Laws; Patti Motzer – Children & Youth; Eileen Wilson – Girls State and Membership; and Lois Maiolo – National Security. I would normally hold an informational meeting in late June or early July to discuss the various programs and provide plans of action to our members to assist them in deciding where their interests might lie. This year I will provide information and action plans electronically to cut down on group contact. Further information will be coming out shortly.

We would normally be starting our school supply collection in early July. However, since, as of this time, we don't have a confirmed date on when school will be starting, that project is on hold. Children & Youth Chair Patti Motzer will provide detail on that project when further information is known. In August we will start our regular meetings for the 2020 – 2021 Auxiliary year. Please mark your calendar for Thursday, August 13, at 3:00 pm and plan to attend. Our Executive Committee will meet at 2:00 pm, prior to the general meeting. Please check our Auxiliary boards at the Post for updates or changes to events

2020 – 2021 Auxiliary Officers  
**President Lynda Anderson**  
**1st Vice President Eileen Wilson**  
**2nd Vice President Pat Howard**  
**Secretary/Treasurer Claudia Fischer**  
**Chaplain Christine Howard**  
**Sgt.-at Arms Lorraine Feirman**  
**Members at Large - Executive Committee**  
**Fran Finley**  
**Patti Motzer**  
**Maxine Rundell**  
**Annette Snyder**

For God and Country,  
 Lynda Anderson

**Incoming Officers for 2020 – 2021**

Commander: Eric Hunter – [huntereric45@gmail.com](mailto:huntereric45@gmail.com)  
 1st Vice: Thomas Wilson - [tswilson@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:tswilson@tampabay.rr.com) -  
 Membership  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice: Eileen Andrews – [eileembuck@gmail.com](mailto:eileembuck@gmail.com) -  
 Entertainment  
 Finance Director: Frank Babicz – [fcab@Aol.com](mailto:fcab@Aol.com)  
 Historian/Public Relations: John C. Motzer Sr –  
[jmotzer1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:jmotzer1@tampabay.rr.com)  
 Sgt at Arms / Past Commander: Steve Tyler –  
[tylersf@hotmail.com](mailto:tylersf@hotmail.com) – Riders Commander  
 Judge Advocate -Jack Perz – [jrperz8040@gmail.com](mailto:jrperz8040@gmail.com)

E-board

Russ Anderson: [lstntme@bellsouth.net](mailto:lstntme@bellsouth.net)  
 Bruce Carl – [bruce1955@yahoo.com](mailto:bruce1955@yahoo.com) - District 15  
 Commander  
 Rich Juneau – [VSOpost186@gmail.com](mailto:VSOpost186@gmail.com) – Post Service  
 Officer  
 Tom King – [twking10@gmail.com](mailto:twking10@gmail.com)  
 Gary Newell – [gary\\_newell@aol.com](mailto:gary_newell@aol.com)  
 Terry O'Brien – [luckyirish49@yahoo.com](mailto:luckyirish49@yahoo.com)  
 Jim Sales – [tbrdjim@gmail.com](mailto:tbrdjim@gmail.com)

Adjutant: John C. Motzer



We are happy to announce that our QUEEN of HEARTS lounge game will begin on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Starting at 4:00 P.M. Ticket sales close at 6:00 P.M. Tickets may be purchased beforehand at the Canteen. All previous rules will apply. If you feel more comfortable wearing a mask, feel free.

The kitchen will be open for food.

**As of July 1, 2020, 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. The Memorial Section of the Booster Club is supported by the generosity of our members. Thank you.**

2060

Carlton & Beth Ann Terrell

2044

Frank & Sharon Sevick

2032

Anna Pellegrini

2030

Lloyd Sellers

2029

Joseph & Donna Greenwald  
SONS Squadron 186

2028

Joseph Federico

2027

George Coon

2025

Glen and Beatrice Ohanesian  
WACS Softball Team Post 186  
Robert Conte  
Robert England  
Ann and Nicholas Morano

2024

Lloyd Gross  
Vincent Gigliotti  
American Legion Riders  
Marion & Frank Hauck  
Don and Joan Jernstrom  
Gary & Joy Newell  
Larry Dabb by Forest Glen Social Club

2023

Frank J. Smith  
Jim & Eleanor Krakowiak  
John Kellar  
James Lackey

2022

Gloria Murray  
Steve Small  
R. Larry Taddei  
Joe & Marge Ruggiero  
John Backer

2021

Jimmy Schultz  
Post 186 Honor Guard  
Ruth Oppert  
Diana Austed  
Don St. Pierre  
Larrie Douglas  
Dr. Edward Perreault

2020

Bob Burch  
Bob & Linda Conte  
Raymond Frattini  
Doris Webster  
William Hartill  
Paul Andrews  
Barbara G. Smith  
ANONYMOUS (3)  
Mary Cracciolo  
Anita Lanigan  
Nelson Zuppa

In Memory of Past Members

Olisse Pellegrini  
Dorothy Henderson  
PFC Cody Grater  
Bern Cottingham  
Joe Sabol  
Linda Harper  
Donnie Holmes  
Betty Jefferies  
Paul Webster  
Nanette Keller  
Marie Meglic  
Charlie Fox  
George "Fitz" Hudock  
Russell L. LaBaron Jr.  
Leon Girard  
Luis Hernandez  
Frank J. Smith  
Philip Cecere  
Denny Stewart  
William Mackubian  
John Higgins  
Richard Irish  
Ed Kolbasiuk  
Paul Howard  
Fran Swartz  
Bob Alywin  
Jack Lyons  
William Holobinka

**PLEASE MAKE A CONTRIBUTION:      \$ \_\_\_\_\_      NAME: \_\_\_\_\_**

## WHILE WE WERE APART

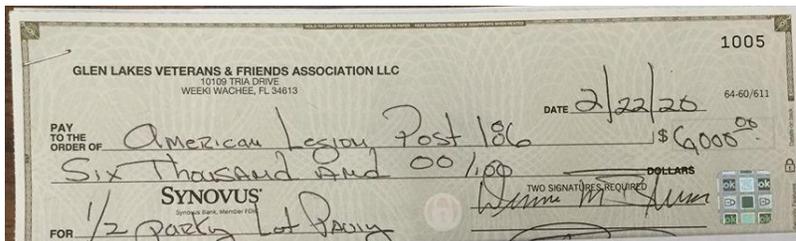
The first project that moved forward was in the Men's Room (Photos upon request). Two fixtures were under-performing and were replaced. The Post aims to please. So, could you aim, too...Please!



The Post moved forward with some projects and continued to serve.

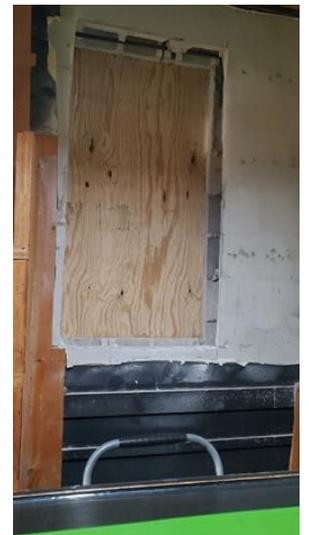


Soon after the closure, the board voted to take the opportunity to pave our parking lot. This was financed partly through a \$6000 grant from Glen Lakes Veterans and Friends. This grant was due in part to the work of our Public Relations Chairman.



Jack Perz was our inspector and watchdog on the project.

A new service window has been installed. There was a need due to the increased use of the Pavilion. This project was funded partly by our Son's Squadron 186.



Our Auxiliary was not caught napping while the Post was closed. They undertook a few great projects to help the community. At the start of the pandemic, the Auxiliary had some ongoing projects. One was presenting scholarships to two worthy students, pictured below.



*Desiree Anello – Springstead High Senior*



*William Ertl – Hernando High Senior*



A call was sent out for masks for the staff at All Children’s Hospital. A group of ladies answered that call. Patti Motzer shopped for the necessary materials and Carolyn Anderson, Lois Maiolo and Annette Snyder to sewing the masks.

Another call was received regarding homeless High School Seniors in need. The ladies, in short order gathered supplies, with assistance from Mary McColgan, and filled 20 backpacks.

On May 29<sup>th</sup> a group of Legion Family members travelled to CrownePoint, assisted living facility to honor the veterans living there. The parade went from a few to over 100 vehicles, Police cars and Firetrucks.



*Bill Block - Marine Vet and 186, member.*



Shown are some of our members. Lynda Anderson, Jean Ware, Patti Motzer, Joanne Holobinka, Carol and Dan Henkle.

