



**Charles E. Murray**  
**American Legion Post 186**

# Newsletter

No 2016

January and February 2017

Canteen Phone 352-597-9995  
Office Phone 352-597-9524

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**COMMANDER**  
**ERIC "SOX" HUNTER**  
[americanleg186@bellsouth.net](mailto:americanleg186@bellsouth.net)

**FIRST VICE COMMANDER**  
**BARBARA SMITH**  
[americanleg186@bellsouth.net](mailto:americanleg186@bellsouth.net)  
[esmith1404@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:esmith1404@tampabay.rr.com)

By the time you receive this newsletter, 2016 will be history! We sincerely hope you had a safe and wonderful holiday season. Now we need to focus ahead into 2017. On our calendar, you will see a wide variety of things to do at the post in January and February. We need YOU to participate, as many of you did in the Early Bird dinner last month. However, we can not always provide events free of charge. My policy has always been to make enough money to pay our bills and have enough funds for charitable causes in our community and beyond! Thus we have contributed to veteran's causes, to children in need, for the needy through food baskets and the Jericho Mission. Even though the holidays are over let us not forget those in need !

On a lighter note, the canteen has started to sell 10 lb. of ice for \$1 a bag. Simply ask the bartender. Since the store next door closed, we are providing a community service to our members. Speaking of ice and parties, Sunday February 5th is "SUPER SUNDAY." We haven't finalized plans yet, but we are thinking something informal is in order. We have been approached by some of our members from Highpoint who already want to attend. SO everyone is invited. Watch the bulletin board for details and if you have any ideas bring them to my attention. And, believe it or not, SOUND will be included with the telecast of the game !

Seriously, thank you for your support in 2016. See all of you at the Canteen !

For God and Country,  
Eric "Sox" Hunter

Happy New Year! Hope you had a wonderful holiday season. I know many shared it with family and friends. Here at the legion we consider you as part of our extended family. Membership is the lifeline that keeps the American Legion up and running and supporting the Four Pillars.

Just a reminder there are some rules that we have to follow from The American Legion National Headquarters, Indianapolis, Indiana:

1. That members who do not have their 2017 membership card on 1 January 2017 falls into Delinquent status. – Unable to participate in any Legion activities to include the canteen.
2. If membership is paid after 1 January but prior to 1 February 2017 – Results in automatic reinstatement.
3. If 2017 membership is paid after 1 February 2017 and before 30 June 2017: The member must be voted back in.
4. 30 June 2017 unpaid membership falls into forfeiture status and you must reapply to the American Legion as a "New member".

We value you as one of the family and hope that you remain in the American Legion Family. I would like to congratulate all those that have paid their dues so far. As I write this article we are at 80%. The problem is the other 20% is going to be the hardest to get. In 2015-2016 we had 135 members who did not pay their dues. They were sent

post cards with options of continuing their years in the legion or starting at year one again. I heard back from only two of those members one chose to pay 2016 and 2017 dues to keep the years running and one chose to start at year one again. That meant we had 133 members whose choice was not to continue membership in the legion. Sure we lost a few of those probably due to death that hasn't been reported, but losing 133 members is an awful lot. This year 2016-2017 we have recruited several new members, but they haven't returned after their first visit. We need to ask ourselves why, what we can do to bring them back and get them involved in their legion. Here are some of the things that I have heard from the older members about younger ones joining:

-“Why do we want younger members in here? They will just cause fights.”

-“Why do we want new members? Don't we have enough already?”

It's true we are losing our World War II comrades in addition to some of our Korean and Vietnam veterans, who are going to what we call the 'post everlasting,' and we are regretful of that.

Now, the younger veterans need to pick up the gauntlet and continue the tradition. In many posts many leadership roles were now being embraced by veterans of the Vietnam and Persian Gulf wars, who are reviving the organization with their energy and with technical skills. They also will bring more revenue, which helps complete some of our projects, helps keep costs down in the canteen and bring additional members into the Auxiliary and Sons of American Legion as most of our Persian Gulf veterans have younger families. These young individuals will keep the post alive in years to come.

When we were born, we were all assigned an expiration date. We just don't know when. We are not going to be here forever and must get new and younger members in and train them the right way to take our places.

Out of our membership of 1,071 at least 2/3 of them are residents of Hernando County. The other 1/3 are snow birds. We have over 12,000 eligible veterans in Hernando County according the National's DMS. Why are these veterans not joining the American Legion?

We need to take a look at ourselves – New members are needed In order for the legion to survive as a whole, “we must recruit and retain members.” Have you asked your military/veteran neighbor to join?

For God and Country,  
Barb Smith

## SECOND VICE COMMANDER

**BRUCE CARL**

[brucel1955@yahoo.com](mailto:brucel1955@yahoo.com)

352-942-7948

I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season with friends and family!!! The next couple of months are sure to bring us some very chilly weather, before Spring officially arrives. Not to worry though, as you can come down to the Post and enjoy your favorite libation to warm up!! To all our snowbirds, welcome back!!!!

I have scheduled plenty of excellent entertainment, and we have a couple of dinners scheduled for each of the next two months. Come on down and help support your Post. Remember, the money we take in goes towards paying our bills, and also funds all the different programs that we support.

**ATTENTION GOLFERS!!!** There is another golf outing planned for March 26th to support Children & Youth. The format will be the same as last year. I am looking forward to another fun tournament this year, and hopefully more golfers. Please see the attached form in this newsletter for the full information. There will also be forms available at the Post on the bulletin board.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Post having a great time, as I normally do. Please check out the full calendar for a complete list of dinners and bands that will be coming in Jan. and Feb.

For God and Country,  
Bruce Carl

## POST CHAPLAIN

**Charles Haig**

[haigie911@gmail.com](mailto:haigie911@gmail.com)

352-597-1210 Cell 352-340-7074

A healthy and Blessed New Year to everyone. I would like to remind Members that I am an Extra-Ordinary Minister in the Catholic Church and am available to give Holy Communion to anyone who cannot get to Church. I am also available for Memorial & Funeral Services. Please note that Mark Downing of Downing Funeral Homes is a member of Post 186 and will always help you with any questions you may have regarding Funerals and Cremations

I have a variety of Medical Equipment items that have been donated to me - so if anyone is in need of anything please contact me and I will try my best to help you get what you require. Many thanks to the kind people who donated these items.

Deaths:- Charles Burnett - Andrew Coyne - Robert Tillander - Jahn Wagner - Bruce Gethen - Sam Scaturro  
Thought for the day:-

Don't look back - you are not going that way.!

For God and Country,  
Charles Haig



ALR  
DIRECTOR  
STEVE TYLER

Well friends and fellow members, here I sit on the first really chilly morning of our Florida winter (December 10<sup>th</sup>). We even had our first fire of the season last night!

Your Riders have been fairly busy. In November, we had our first Poker Run in at least 7 or 8 years. Bud Conaway, Tex McKinney, and Barbara and Christian Smith did the majority of the legwork in setting this up. We didn't have a huge turnout but we were still able to raise \$807 (which the Riders rounded up to \$1000.00) for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

I want to thank all of the Riders, volunteers, the vendors at the Christmas craft sale, and all the prize donors who contributed to our success. We will be planning another for next year and hope to be even more successful. To show you how big hearted bikers are, the gal who won the 50/50 donated half of it back and the rider ("Maniac" from ALR Chapter 155 in Crystal River) who won the \$100 grand prize donated it all back!

Buy the time you read this we will have completed our Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner basket giveaways. My heartfelt thanks to all the Bingo players who brought food, and all those who contributed food or money toward these two programs, and of course my Riders for putting them together and handling the distribution.

Also by the time this is published we will have once again participated in the annual Wreaths Across America wreath laying ceremony at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell. Thanks to the combined donation from the Riders and Post 186 we were able to purchase 117 wreaths. Again, thanks to everyone who donated and/or participated. If you'd like to learn more please visit [wreathscrossamerica.org](http://wreathscrossamerica.org).

Next month we have our famous Riders Lasagna Dinner on January 28<sup>th</sup>. The entertainment will be provided by TM Special. Tickets will be \$9 and we ask that you purchase by Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> so we know how many to buy for. As you know, Anna Pellegrini makes awesome lasagna and the portions won't leave you hungry! Well that's it for now. The Riders and myself wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year!

For God and Country,  
Steve Tyler



COMMANDER  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN  
LEGION  
JIM NESS

I am still seeking more SAL members to attend our meetings and get involved in our projects ! We meet the third Thursday of the month at 7 PM and we are normally done in a half hour. Why not start the new year off right by attending a meeting. We also need your help on Bingo night which is the fourth Tuesday of every month. I hope to see you at the Post. Just ask for Jim with the deep radio voice.

For God and Country,  
Jim Ness

CANTEEN MANAGER  
RAY ROSEN  
352-597-9995

Let me start by hoping everyone had a safe and happy Holiday season ! As all of our members are aware, this has been a changing year for the Canteen with the price increases and a few menu changes. But let me say that the changes made were necessary for the Canteen to better serve you – our members. My staff and I work very hard trying to ensure that our members are happy with the cuisine and the service they receive. We hope that we are accomplishing our task well. If not, please let us know and we will do what we can to improve. There is one change left to make that I feel is necessary. At this point in time, the canteen has no kind of system in place to monitor drink tickets. This is an important item at the post and there should be a system to know how many tickets are given to volunteers and how many are being sold to members. In order for us to set up a system, we will need to use ALL existing tickets and start anew ! With that in mind, effective March 1 2017, all old drink tickets will expire and all new drink tickets will have a 30 day expiration date from the date of issue! I apologize for any inconvenience, but it is important for us to know how many drink tickets we have in circulation.

For God and Country,  
Ray Rosen



AUXILIARY PRESIDENT  
Claudia Fischer  
352-686-9247

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>◀ May 2016</span> <span><b>JANUARY 2017</b></span> <span>July 2016 ▶</span> </div>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> WINGS 12-4	<b>2</b> QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30 -7 PM POOL 8 PM	<b>3</b> LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM  KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	<b>4</b> MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>5</b> PIZZA AND HOTDOGS  LEGION MEETING 7 PM	<b>6</b> FISH FRY 5-7 PM  DISCO KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>7</b> STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM  REBOUND 7-11 PM
<b>8</b> WINGS 12-4  BREAKFAST 9-11	<b>9</b> QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30 -7 PM POOL 8 PM	<b>10</b> LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM  KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	<b>11</b> MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>12</b> PIZZA AND HOTDOGS  AUXILIARY MEETING 7 PM	<b>13</b> FISH FRY 5-7 PM  KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>14</b> STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM  TRUE PASSION 7- 11 PM
<b>15</b> WINGS 12-4	<b>16</b> QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30-7 PM POOL 8 PM	<b>17</b> LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM  KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	<b>18</b> MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM  KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>19</b> PIZZA AND HOTDOGS  SAL MEETING 7 PM	<b>20</b> FISH FRY 5-7 PM  KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>21</b> STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM  KC & VOCAL CHORDS 7-11 PM
<b>22</b> WINGS 12-4  BREAKFAST 9-11	<b>23</b> QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30-7 PM POOL 8 PM	<b>24</b> LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM  KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	<b>25</b> MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM  KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>26</b> PIZZA AND HOT DOGS E-BOARD MEETING 530 PM ALR MEETING 730 PM	<b>27</b> FISH FRY 5-7 PM  KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>28</b> STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM ALR LASAGNE DINNER 6 PM TM SPECIAL 7-11 PM
<b>29</b> WINGS 12-4	<b>30</b> QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30-7 PM POOL 8 PM	<b>31</b> LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM  KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	<b>IMPORTANT DATES</b> 28 <sup>TH</sup> - ALR LASAGNE DINNER 600 PM <u>Donation-\$9.00 pp</u>			

<b>FEBRUARY 2017</b>								
◀ May 2016	July 2016 ▶	<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
					<b>1</b> MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>2</b> PIZZA AND HOTDOGS  LEGION MEETING 7 PM	<b>3</b> FISH FRY 5-7 PM  CROSS DRESS KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>4</b> STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM  BILL LINDSEY(ELVIS) 7-10 PM
<b>5</b> WINGS 12-4  BREAKFAST 9-11  SUPER BOWL	<b>6</b> QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30-7 PM POOL 8 PM	<b>7</b> LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM  KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	<b>8</b> MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>9</b> PIZZA AND HOTDOGS  AUXILIARY MEETING 7 PM	<b>10</b> FISH FRY 5-7 PM  KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>11</b> STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM VALENTINE'S DINNER DANCE 600 PM MS DYNAMITE 7-11 PM		
<b>12</b> WINGS 12-4	<b>13</b> QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30-7 PM POOL 8 PM	<b>14</b> LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM  KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	<b>15</b> MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM  KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>16</b> PIZZA AND HOTDOGS  SAL MEETING 7 PM	<b>17</b> FISH FRY 5-7 PM  KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>18</b> STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM  MARTI CARROLL 7-11 PM		
<b>19</b> WINGS 12-4  BREAKFAST 9-11	<b>20</b> QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30-7 PM POOL 8 PM	<b>21</b> LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM  KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	<b>22</b> MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM  KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>23</b> PIZZA AND HOT DOGS E-BOARD MEETING 530 PM ALR MEETING 730 PM	<b>24</b> FISH FRY 5-7 PM  KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	<b>25</b> STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM PAST COMMANDERS DINNER 530 PM THE TWIST 7-11 PM		
<b>26</b> WINGS 12-4	<b>27</b> QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30-7 PM POOL 8 PM	<b>28</b> LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM  KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	<b>IMPORTANT DATES</b> 11 <sup>TH</sup> - VALENTINES SPAGHETTI DINNER/ DANCE 6PM <u>Donation -7.00 pp</u> 25 <sup>TH</sup> - PAST COMMANDER'S, PRESIDENTS, DIRECTORS RST PORK DINNER 530 PM <u>Donation- \$8.00 pp</u>					

JANUARY 2017

[ceejav523f@yahoo.com](mailto:ceejav523f@yahoo.com)

For God and Country,  
Claudia Fischer

Happy New Year !!! The Auxiliary sends wishes to everyone for a very prosperous and great 2017.

First, we would like to thank everyone who helped distribute Poppies on Veterans Day and the week before. We raised a generous amount of funds to help our Veterans. Also, the Christmas Giveaway was a great success, thank you to all the members who helped make some children very happy.

The Girl State dinner that was scheduled for January 14<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled. We will be having another fund raiser for Girl State at a later date.

In February, we will be having our annual Valentines dinner and dance. We hope to see you there.

Please see the following schedule for dates and times for our events. We hope to see everyone come out to support the Auxiliary.

Please Mark Your Calendars:

Jan.12<sup>th</sup> – General Meeting at Post – 7:00 pm

Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> = General Meeting – 7:00 pm-

Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> – Aux. Valentines Dinner – 6:00 pm

Again check our Auxiliary board at the Post for updates or changes to events.

AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN

Betty Lou Bennett

352-835-1156

Sick List

Doreen Label  
Dane Austed  
Gail Cleaves  
Peggy Barco  
Barb Drager  
KarenPerry

Deaths

None - Thank you GOD !

Whatever soothes your spirit  
Comforts your soul and  
Brings you peace  
That is what is wished for you and yours  
Post Christmas and into the New Year!

For God and Country,  
Betty Lou Bennett

### NEWSLETTER OPTIONS

Barbara Smith, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander

It was brought to my attention that there was some misunderstanding on receiving the newsletter. Out of 1,071 members we only received 30 responses mailed back from our last survey. That means 1,041 members did not respond. We are trying to save postage and printing on the newsletter and have those funds diverted to our Special Project fund – at this time it is a new cooler/freezer for the canteen. We are not stopping the newsletter. We are giving you options on how you can receive your newsletter.

Please select one option and mail this form back to us or drop it off at the legion.

1.  MAIL MY NEWSLETTER TO ME
2.  PICK UP MY COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER AT THE LEGION.
3.  RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BY INTERNET. You can download it from the internet at: [www.flpost186.org](http://www.flpost186.org), this will bring you to our website. Select “Post News” and then “the month” of the newsletter.
4.  DO NOT SEND ME A COPY – I live out of state and do not come to the Legion often.

In respecting your privacy – we will not use e-mail for the newsletter. That way your e-mail address is not given out and you are not receiving SPAM.

Please fill out the questionnaire above and drop it off or send it back to the:

Charles E. Murray  
American Legion Post 186  
ATTN: Membership Chair  
12091 Cortez Blvd  
Brooksville, FL 34613

**Delinquent members** - Postcards were mailed to 133 members who had not paid their 2016 dues. As of the March-April issue you will not receive the newsletter as National Headquarters no longer considers you a member. You must then rejoin the American Legion to participate as a member.

Individuals who have not paid their 2017 dues by 1 March will not receive the March-April newsletter.

## **BOOSTER CLUB**

As of December 20, 2016, 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.

### 2058

Carlton & Beth Ann Terrell

### 2029

Joseph & Donna Greenwald

### 2027

Frank & Sharon Sevick  
Anna Pellegrini  
George Coon

### 2024

Lloyd Gross  
Vincent Gigliotti  
American Legion Riders  
Marion & Frank Hauck  
Don and Joan Jernstrom  
Lloyd Sellers

### 2023

Frank J. Smith

### 2022

Ed Kolbasiuk  
Gloria Murray  
Steve Small  
R. Larry Taddei

### 2021

Jimmy Schultz  
Post 186 Color Guard  
Ruth Oppert

### 2020

Bob Burch  
Bob & Linda Conte  
Glen and Beatrice Ohanesian

### 2019

Janet Bowman  
Fellip & Beverly Zielinski  
Anonymous  
John Keller  
Joe & Mildred Garza  
Terry & Sharon Russ

### 2018

Burt and Cheryl Onder  
Val Parker  
Joe & Marge Ruggiero  
Doris Webster  
Jack Krause  
Donna Aho  
Larrie Douglas  
Betty Corbin

### 2017

Hugh & Helen Reynolds  
Raymond Frattini  
Barbara J. De Guiseppe  
Keith Burgess  
Mike Cockill

### 2016

James Meere  
Frank Reilly

Robert J Eudeikis  
Ken Oxendorf  
Phil & Beverly Zielinski  
George & Mary Kennedy  
Claus & Elizabeth Sachse  
Warren E & Mary L Cross

### In Memory of Past Members

Olisse Pellegrini  
Dorothy Henderson  
PFC Cody Grater  
Bern Cottington  
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

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

American Legion Post 186  
12091 Cortez Blvd  
Brooksville, FL 34613

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

OR CURRENT RESIDENT



**COMING EVENTS**  
**January and February 2017**  
**Karaoke with Shoe every Wed 7 PM**  
**Fish Fry every Friday 5-7 PM**  
**Steak Shoot every Saturday 1 PM**  
**Karaoke every Wednesday & Friday**  
**and Band every Saturday**



**January**

6th - Disco Karaoke/Shoe 7-10PM  
7th - Rebound 7-11PM  
8th - Breakfast 9-11AM  
21st - KC & The Vocal Chords 7-11PM  
22nd - Breakfast 9-11AM  
28th - Lasagna Dinner 6PM Donation \$9.00pp, music by TM Special 7-11PM

**February**

3rd - Cross Dress Karaoke/Shoe 7-10PM  
4th - Bill Lindsey(aka Elvis) 7-10PM  
5th - Breakfast 9-11AM  
11th - Valentine's Spaghetti Dinner 6PM donation \$7.00pp, music by Ms Dynamite  
18th - Marti Carroll 7-11PM  
19th - Breakfast 9-11AM  
25th - Past Commander, President, Director Roast Pork Dinner 530 PM donation \$8.00pp music by  
The Twist 7-11PM