

Charles E. Murray

American Legion Post 186



NEWSLETTER



No. 2019

May - June 2019

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COMMANDER

Steve Tyler
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Greetings Comrades!

This will be my last full-blown newsletter article to you. There are several reasons. First, I am not seeking the position of Post Commander again as I made a promise to my wife of 40 years that I would only serve one term. Also, I am a candidate for 15th District Vice Commander. I am pursuing this position to assist our current District Commander and Post 186 member Bruce Carl in administering the 17 posts in the District, and to continue to improve and grow as a member of the American Legion. Additionally, your new Commander-Elect may choose to do the next article. If not, I will do a brief one for him or her as I bow out.

I have tried to do my best for you and our Legion family during my tenure as Commander. I know I don't please all of you all of the time, but that goes with the territory, and is virtually impossible to do so anyway, with such a large organization. I count several successes during my time, and of course a few stumbles. During it all, I have always striven to uphold the Four Pillars in everything I do, in the most professional manner possible.

I thank my Legion family for all your support. I want to single out the Auxiliary and the Sons for the many good things they do in support of our post, veterans, and the community. I want to thank the Honor Guard, who, in spite of their physical challenges, continue to represent our Post throughout the area in the finest fashion.

I especially want to thank all of the volunteers, who include your Officers and E-board, for all the time, effort, and passion they commit to this Post. There is a small core of extremely

dedicated individuals who work both behind the scenes and out in the open to make things work at our Post. You see some of them at Queen of Hearts, Bingo, Steak Shoot, Show Me the Money, et al.

I want to thank all of our waitresses and community service volunteers for their hard work. The kitchen and bar staff at this Post are fantastic, and deserve all the praise I can give them. As a Legion Rider, I travel to many more Legion Posts and other veterans' organizations than most of you, and I have seen the best and the worst. We are lucky to have the staff that we have.

Now, as you know, I always seek to be positive. However, I must call your attention to one specific occasion, which has given me concern for the future of our Legion family. On March 16th of this year, we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the American Legion. I cannot tell you the number of hours and sleepless nights I spent seeking to properly commemorate this momentous occasion. The dozens of letters I wrote and mailed to dignitaries and other organizations to invite them in celebrating our first 100 years, the arrangements for entertainment, refreshments, etc. Getting articles published in the paper and on social media, and on and on. And yet with all this effort we had barely 100 people attend, if that. Folks, to be quite frank, I was disappointed and embarrassed that with 1500 members of our combined family, we had such paltry attendance. Even several of our VIPs, such as Sheriff Al Nienhuis and County Commissioner Jeff Holcomb, himself a veteran, commented on the poor attendance. Seriously folks?

Legion family, I must implore you to commit yourselves to supporting the Legion in all its activities and causes. Sure, we appreciate the money you spend in the canteen, and at our various lounge games. But we need much more than that. We need commitment, engagement, and involvement. That small

core of volunteers I mentioned earlier can't do everything by themselves. I ask you to take a look deep within yourselves and ask "what more can I do?". "Is there a way I can contribute more?". Go visit a veterans' home. Volunteer for the Honor Guard. Contribute to a food pantry. Bend down and pick up that napkin on the floor. Thank your volunteers and staff enthusiastically and repeatedly. **SUPPORT YOUR LEGION FAMILY!**

Okay, that's enough. John will be mad at me by now for such a long article. I do, despite the previous paragraph, appreciate and thank you for all you do. I ask that you extend the same courtesy and support you have shown me to my successor and his staff of officers.

I will still be around, and I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at our beloved Post.

For God and Country
Steve Tyler – Post 186 Commander

FIRST VICE COMMANDER
Bruce Carl
americanleg186@bellsouth.net
brucel1955@yahoo.com

This will be the last newsletter article for the year 2018-2019. A big thank you to everyone who has renewed their memberships. The new cards for 2019-2020 will be available in July, after the Department Convention. As of the writing of this article, Post 186 membership is standing at 98.65%. We only need 14 more members to reach 100% by the end of May, and I expect to reach that by the end of April. We have added 44 new members and 84 transfers. Unfortunately, we have lost 35 members to Post Everlasting.

POST EVERLASTING Services will be held at the Post on May 5th at 1 p.m. Please join us in remembering our lost Legion Family members. Thank you all for your continued support of the Post.

For God and Country
Bruce Carl

2ND VICE COMMANDER
ED SNYDER
anita-m3@hotmail.com

Hello All!

Hope you take time out to join in upcoming events and enjoy our entertainment scheduled on Saturdays.

Please refer to your Calendars (which are enclosed in your Newsletter) for Events and Entertainment schedule.

Memorial Day Service will be 10:00 at Aripeka Cemetery, 11:30 at the Post followed by Lunch. **Please bring a covered dish to share.**

For God and Country,
Edward A. Snyder



ALR DIRECTOR
americanleg186@bellsouth.net

Okay folks, I'm striving to keep this one short.

By the time you read this, the Riders will have ridden many more hundreds of miles representing the post. We will have attended the Meet and Greet at Post 138 (on beautiful Tampa Bay!) to kick off the in-state Unity Ride, and also the American Legion Riders State Rally at Seminole Post 111, a gathering of Legion Riders from all over the state of Florida. We always seek to show the Post 186 name wherever we go.

I want to thank those of you who attended our Chicken Marsala Dinner on April 6th. I hope you enjoyed the savory meal from Miss Annie's recipe, even though she wasn't around to help cook it (off traveling in Arizona).

Our next dinner is the Annual Donnie Holmes Memorial Steak Dinner. We have traditionally held this on the Saturday before Memorial Day. However, in recent years we have seen declining attendance. As a result, this year we will have our steak dinner with all the trimmings (corn on the cob, baked potato, etc.) on May 11th, so there will be no conflict with the holiday weekend. Tickets are \$10 and there will be two seatings, at 5 p.m. and 6 p.m., because we cook the steaks to order.

Folks, all the dinners and other fund raisers we do are to support the Four Pillars. The Riders and I thank you for your continued support. This year, at Department of Florida Convention in Orlando, I hope to present a check to the Legacy Scholarship Fund for at least \$2000.00, if not more. We couldn't do this without you.

I will once again be your Riders Director for 2019-2020. I look forward to working with the incoming officers and all our Legion Family in the coming year.

For God and Country
Steve Tyler
Riders Director



April 11, 2019 ~ Crystal River, Florida

House Committee Report
Tom Wilson, Chair

The house committee will meet on the Third (3rd) Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

COMMANDER
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
Jim Ness



Monthly Meetings May 16th and June 20th, come join us. The Sons will be honoring Fathers on June 16th. Please come in for breakfast 9 a.m. until Noon. \$5 for guests.

For God and Country,
Jim Ness

POST CHAPLAIN
Rick Woods
harley03@tampabay.rr.com



Recent Passings: Barbara Buffington Smith, Rex Hinkle, Wm. Daily, Chas. Teater, Wayne Thompson, Daniel Thompson, Henry Warner, Terrell Russ



Lynda J. Anderson
Auxiliary President
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As our Auxiliary year comes to an end, I reflect on what we have accomplished over the past year. Your Auxiliary had another outstanding year, raising funds and providing goods to our Veterans and their families, providing assistance to those in need in our County, and participating in our Auxiliary programs. In addition, we provided assistance to victims of Hurricane Michael and the Florida Coast Guard families affected by the government shutdown.

May is our closing month, with our election of officers for the 2019 – 2020 year taking place at 3:00 pm at our May 9, 2019 meeting. Please plan to attend. One of our most significant changes this year was moving our general meeting from 7:00 pm to 3:00 pm, still on the second Thursday of the month. Our executive committee will meet at 2:00 pm, preceding the general meeting. This change has been approved by the Auxiliary Department of Florida.

District 15 Constitutional Conference will be held on May 18, 2019, at Post 111. We hope to have a good turnout for this meeting. Sign in is at 9:00 am with the meeting starting at 10:00 am. All members are invited to attend.

Our Children & Youth School Supply fundraiser has started with a Basket of Cheer to be raffled at the Memorial Day picnic. We also plan to hold a silent auction, with the proceeds benefitting our veterans, at the Post Memorial Day picnic, which will follow the Aripeka Cemetery and Post 186 Memorial Services. We hope to see you all there.

There will be **no Auxiliary meeting in the months of June or July** as per our Auxiliary Standing Rules. We will be attending Department Convention in June and coming back with new ideas and information for the upcoming new Auxiliary year.

Upcoming Events:

May 9 - 2:00 pm, Executive Comm. Meeting; 3:00 pm, General meeting.
May 18 Constitutional Conference, Post 111; sign in 9:00 am; meeting 10:00 am
May 27 Memorial Day Ceremonies, Post Memorial Day Picnic, 12:00 2:00, **Bring a dish to share.** Auxiliary Chinese Auction, drawing at 1:30 pm; benefits veterans C&Y Basket of Cheer Raffle drawing, 1:30 pm
May 29 Unit 186 Social Luncheon, 12:00 noon, Press Box
June 26 Unit 186 Social Luncheon, 12:00 noon, Press Box
June 27-30 Department of Florida Convention, Orlando

Check our Auxiliary Boards at the Post for updates or changes to events.

In closing, I must express my gratitude for all the support I received from our officers and members, the Post and Commander Steve Tyler. Performing as your Auxiliary President was a fantastic opportunity to serve, learn, and contribute what I could to our veteran community. I will be forever grateful for the trust placed in me.

For God and Country,
Lynda Anderson



March 16, 2019
Charles E. Murray
American Legion Post 186



The Four Chaplains Service March 3, 2019



Navy JROTC – Central High School



Fran Finley receiving Legion of Honor certificate from Annette Snyder and John Motzer

A check for \$1050 was forwarded to the Four Chaplains Foundation in Philadelphia, Pa. thanks to community donations.



Richard Hunt
Richard "BUD" Allen
Dale Fair

Hernando County Purple Heart Highway Dedication – March 20, 2019



Barbara J. Smith
August 19, 1952 ~ February 25, 2019

As of May 1, 2019, 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

2037

Frank & Sharon Sevick

2030

Lloyd Sellers

2029

Joseph & Donna Greenwald
SONS Squadron 186

2028

Joseph Federico

2027

Anna Pellegrini
George Coon

2025

Glen and Beatrice Ohanesian
WACS Softball Team Post 186
Robert Conte

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

2022

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

2021

Jimmy Schultz
Post 186 Color Guard
Ruth Oppert
Diana Austed
Don St. Pierre

2020

Bob Burch
Bob & Linda Conte
James Lackey
Raymond Frattini
Doris Webster
William Hartill
Paul Andrews
Barbara G. Smith
ANONYMOUS (2)
Mary Cracciolo

2019

Donna Greenwald
Janet Bowman
Fellip & Beverly Zielinski
Anonymous
John Keller
Joe & Mildred Garza
Robert Eudeikis
David Salomski
Jim & Eleanor Krakowiak
John Carvendar
Frank & Carole Babicz
James Millsapps
Ronald Rehurek

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
Ed Kolbasiuk
Paul Howard
Fran Swartz
Bob Alywin

PLEASE MAKE A CONTRIBUTION: \$ _____ NAME: _____