

Charles E. Murray
American Legion Post 186



Newsletter

March & April 2014

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COMMANDER
Eric "Sox" Hunter
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352 -650-1547 (C)

I have enjoyed my term as your commander this year and thank everyone for their cooperation and support.

For God and Country,
Eric "Sox" Hunter

Here we go heading into spring already ! How quick a year goes by ! The elections are coming up on April 30, so if you are thinking of running for a post position, come to a membership meeting and get yourself nominated. Nominations will be taken at the March 6th and April 3rd meetings. The results will be announced at the May 1st meeting!

The post has made a lot of changes for the good of the legion this past year. We are still looking for more new members. So if you have a friend or neighbor who is eligible to join, please bring them to the post to look around and they might join ! Steve has a great entertainment lineup for March and April. We will have the Twist, Rebound, , a new group named Hot Blooded, and old favorites like the Belairs. Please check the enclosed calendars for days and dates.

Don't forget St. Patrick's day. We will be celebrating a day early – on Sunday March 16th. The color guard once again are your hosts, and will provide a dinner featuring corned beef and cabbage !

Most of you will notice that we have installed clips on the machines so you can proudly display your membership card ! **THIS IS MANDATORY** – as voted by the executive board. It will eliminate any future problems.

FIRST VICE COMMANDER
DON MALIN
Donnmcb1@gmail.com
352-556-3808 or 847-539-9245 (C)

Our post is at 1099 membership renewals or 86.3% of our 1275 membership of 100% goal. Third round of dues notices will be coming out shortly. Take a minute to make sure you have not already sent in dues and received 2014 membership card. If you received a notice and have a 2014 card discard the notice, if your dues are due please make an effort to get them in. The post has no control on the renewal notices as they are sent by the American Legion National and your dues are processed by the State of Florida American Legion, there is a lag on processing and that is the problem, not your post.

Anyone not receiving Post newsletter or Legion magazine please let me know. If you have moved, also, let us know so you don't miss any of the post functions
Carry a membership application/recruit a new member.
Nominations for next year's new slate of officers will be coming up soon. Remember to vote. There are many dedicated officers of your post trying to make it the best post around.

For God and Country,
Don Malin

**SECOND VICE COMMANDER
STEVE TYLER
potwarp@hotmail.com**

Well as I sit here on the 6th of February it's a cool drizzly day. Please, can I have my Florida weather back? Our snowbirds are back and things have been hopping at the post. We have had some great times what with Super Bowl Sunday, various dinners, good bands and a certain Monday night game which, I understand, has become the talk of the town.

Coming up in March and April we have quite a few fun events. Please check your calendars, the marquee out front, and for those of you who are computer savvy, the occasional e-mail. Once again I do these calendars far in advance and things can and do change, so stay alert for updates. Coming attractions include the Color Guard St. Patty's Day dinner, Easter Dinner and of course our usual and very popular "lounge games".

I have been asked to bring in new entertainment, and I am trying to comply. In March and April I am doing something a little bit different. We have a new act "Hot Blooded" featuring T.J. and Robin. They bill themselves as "Doo-wop to Disco" and promise to be very good. In somewhat of a twist, we will be having a "sneak preview" on Saturday, March 22nd. There is no dinner that night but I hope you will come down to the post, enjoy a libation, and check them out. They will return two weeks later on April 5th in support of the SAL pig roast. This band is a potential candidate for New Year's Eve 2014 so please, come and listen and give me your honest feedback.

The one event coming up, the importance of which I cannot stress too much is our annual election of post officers. This will take place on Wednesday, April 30th from 1PM to 7 PM. If you care about your post and how it is run, please come and exercise your right to choose your leaders for the next year.

That's it for this installment, see you at the post!

For God and Country,
Steve Tyler

**Service Officer
Debra Gould-Avery (Debi)
skivvystacker@yahoo.com
352-346-3035**

I would like to apologize for missing meetings and long delays in getting back to some people but the last 5 months of 2013 were not the most pleasant for me. After a long illness, my Mother passed away in November and it took me a little while to get back into the swing of things.

DID YOU KNOW?

I am at the Post on Wednesday mornings from 10 am until Noon. That the Department of Veterans Affairs is pairing with Delta Dental and MetLife to provide affordable dental insurance. Check out va.gov for more information.

If you have miss placed your discharge papers/DD214 you can obtain one quickly using the internet. Go to www.vetrecs.archives.gov and follow the instructions. You will want to have the veteran's social security number, month and year the veteran left the service, and their date and place of birth handy to complete the form.

For God and Country,
Debi Gould-Avery



**ALR
Director
Steve Tyler
potwarp@hotmail.com**

Greetings once again from my comfy swivel chair in front of my computer! It's newsletter time again, so let's see what I can come up with to interest you. The Riders are busy as always with various fun-filled activities. We have been taking lots of nice rides, doing poker runs and rallies, and just generally travelling about the countryside, weather permitting.

I want to personally thank everyone who attended the Lasagna dinner. Annie did a superb job as always, and thanks to Mark Wagnitz for your assistance in the preparation of this amazing feast. I hope you all enjoyed it. I know it's early, but start whetting your appetites and licking your lips for our annual Donnie Holmes Memorial "Steak Roast" on May 24th. I will be manning the grill once again for your epicurean enjoyment. Also that night we will be doing the drawing for our (next paragraph, dear readers)

"Rifle Raffle"- this is in full effect right now. We have purchased a Smith and Wesson M&P 15 Sport. This is a civilian version of the weapon our troops carry in defense of our nation every day. We are including a case and 100 rounds of ammo, the retail value being over \$900. Tickets are a mere \$10 and available at the post. We are only selling 500 tickets, so your chances of winning are increased. All profits will be evenly split between the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund and the Wounded Warrior Project. Also, we are collecting clothing for the homeless. Please bring any serviceable used clothing to the post. See Annie or myself.

I have been asked by some of my members to address what has become a "sore spot" for them. Several Riders have been approached by post members with questions like "Just what do you guys do around here anyway?" and it is bothering them. Well let me cover just a few things: with the help of individual members, Bingo players, Legion, SAL, and Auxiliary, we feed 50 needy families at Thanksgiving and Christmas. We donate 15-20 wreaths and then ride to Bushnell to lay them on Veteran's graves as part of "Wreaths Across America". We donate two \$500 scholarships to JROTC at Central and Springstead High Schools. We are always the largest contingent of Legion members who attend NJROTC ceremonies at Central in the Spring and Fall. We donate thousands of dollars to the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund. We travel thousands of miles and donate money as part of Poker Runs and rallies for numerous local charities. We are the largest group attending the Four Chaplains Ceremony. Just this past Sunday the 9th of February the post was the final stop for the Buccaneer Bikers poker run. This was not an ALR event, but the Riders stepped up as hosts, cooked and served the dinner, and contributed to bringing in a very sizeable profit for the post. Oh, and we donated \$1500 towards the men's room renovation. That's just part of what we do. I hope that answers the question.

Well that's about it from the command center for this time around. As always, please be aware of motorcycles as you travel the roads of the beautiful Florida Nature Coast.

For God and Country
Steve Tyler

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

Now that spring has arrived and Football is behind us and Nascar Racing just started, don't forget that we have all our new TV'S to watch your favorite driver and also enjoy some of our delicious Sunday menu that includes Wings, Burgers, Hot dogs, Nachos and other items. The Kitchen is open on Sunday between 12- 4PM!

At this time we would like to welcome "Carrie" to our staff as one of our new cooks and also we would like to thank all of our staff for the great job they do at our Post!!!

After a request from many of our members that had so much fun on our last one, I will be planning another Mystery Ride Bus Trip- Please watch the Upcoming Board and emails for the date, I am looking at the end of March for this event! Also please watch your emails for all our

upcoming events in the newsletter and unannounced ones also!

For God and Country,
Anna Pellegrini



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

Fellow Legionnaires, on Sunday, 16 February 2014, the Four Chaplains Memorial Ceremony took place at St. Frances Cabrini Church on Mariner Blvd, in Spring Hill. Chaplain Charlie Haig has organized and directed this Ceremony for many years and this was a special one, as it was the last one he will be doing. Charlie you have represented our Post and Color Guard with sincerity and dignity for many years and for that we thank you and know you'll continue to do so for many years to come.

This year we will be having our pre St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Dinner on Sunday, 16 March 2014 at 02:00pm so it doesn't interfere with raffle drawing held every Monday night at 06:30pm. The dinner will be \$8.00 and Dale of the famous Shoe will be Disc Jockey. We will be selling Corned Beef sandwiches for \$4.00 with a pickle and chips from 04:00 pm to 07:00 pm on Monday night during raffle drawing. Color Guard members will be selling tickets and they would also be behind the scenes assisting in the kitchen.

We will not have a basket of cheer this year. Instead we will be selling raffle tickets for gas cards. Book of tickets will be 6 tickets for \$5.00. There will 1 drawing with 5 winners. The prizes will be 2 - \$100.00, 1 for \$50.00 and 2- \$25.00 winners. Please check the Bulletin Board and flyers for more information or any changes.

For God and Country,
Jimmy Schultz

POST CHAPLAIN

Charles Haig

haigie@aol.com

352-597-1210

Cell 352-610-2051

Since the last Newsletter, I have been kept very busy attending numerous funerals and visiting Nursing Homes including visits to our own Gloria Murray who is in Crown Pointe Nursing Home - we must never forget that she is in there and would welcome visitors.

I shall forever be grateful to Judy Hulce for her role in helping me in the early years with the catering and hospitality with the Four Chaplains Memorial Service - she was always so willing to help.

I am now preparing for the Post Everlasting Ceremony which will take place in May - date yet to be determined.

The saddest thing I had to do was in December when I received a call from a homeless Vietnam Disabled Veteran who was so hungry he had to call for someone to help him with a food donation - The Commander rose to the occasion and provided me with food to deliver to him. He has since moved on to another location

Deaths

Robert Kinman

Angelo Oliva

James Christy

Howard Wood

Carl Zandler

Thomas Mazur

Richard DeAngelo

I leave you with this. Remember if you don't have the King you are not playing with a full deck.

For God and Country
Chaplain Charles Haig.



SAL COMMANDER

Gordon "Butch" Elder

americanleg186@bellsouth.net

We need the members of the Sons of American Legion to attend monthly meetings ! We meet every third Thursday of the month and discuss issues that affect you and your club. We recently made a \$2000.00 donation for the renovation of the men's room at the post. As the year closes, we will be making important decisions on donations

to various organizations. Also, it will soon be time to elect new officers. That means it's time to step up and volunteer. The SAL is planning a pork roast dinner for Saturday April 5 ! - Please watch the bulletin board for more details as the date approaches. I hope to see all of you at the post soon !

For God and Country,
Butch Elder



**AUXILIARY
PRESIDENT**

Elizabeth Corbin

352-797-0099

ebscorbin@yahoo.com

I want to thank everyone for keeping things rolling along as good as they have. We are having all of our hours and donations listed for our year end reports for the 28th of March. will have lunch and then get to work. I know everyone has built up volunteer hours so please join us to help with paperwork

For God and Country,
Betty Corbin

AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN

Bettylou Bennett

352-835-1156

Dear Lord:

Please take care of our sick and departed. Bless our troops both in the United States and overseas !

Sick List

Marcella Gleek

Judy Solomon

Arlene Malin

Gloria Murray

Anne Bolger

Deceased

Judy Hulce

For God and Country,
Betty Lou Bennett

Editor Note: Condolences to the family of Betty Lou Bennett on the recent death of her grandson, Robert ! Our prayers are with you !

BOOSTER CLUB

As of February 11, 2014, 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.

2044
Carlton & Beth Ann Terrell

2024
Lloyd Gross
Vincent Gigliotti
American Legion Riders

2022
Ed Kolbasiuk
Gloria Murray
Steve Small and Anna Pellegrini

2021
Jimmy Schultz
Post 186 Color Guard
Ruth Oppert

2020
Bob Burch

2019
Donna Greenwald
Janet Bowman

2018
Glen and Beatrice Ohanesian

2017
George M. Coon

2016
James Meere
Betty Corbin
Frank Reilly

2015
Don & Joan Jernstrom
Peter Paul Garbacki
Frank & Sharon Sevick
Donald & Jacqueline Harvey

Hugh & Helen Reynolds
Conrad Vachon
Doris Webster
Jack Krouse
Bud Conaway
Donna Aho

2014
Al Henderson
Ernie & Patricia Tor
Raymond & Carole Frattini
Robert Hartman
Jerry Galoonis
George & Mary Kennedy
Don & Jackie Harvey

Val M. Parker
Claus & Elizabeth Sachse
Mosa Brown
Robert J Eudeikis
Joe & Marge Ruggiero
John & Claudia Fischer
Bob & Ruth Reese
Ken Oxendorf
Michael & Anita Cockill
Robert Scholz
Frank Kaczowski
Dennis Hernandez

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.

BOOSTER SUPPORT FOR OUR NEWSLETTER NAME _____ CONTRIBUTION \$ _____

COME ON OUT FOR EXCELLENT DINNERS AND GOOD ENTERTAINMENT
COLOR GUARD CORNED BEEF DINNER AND LUNCH SUN MAR 16TH
AUXILIARY DINNER SAT APR 8TH
SAL PORK DINNER APR 5TH
EASTER DINNER SAT APR 19TH 6 PM