



# Charles E. Murray

## American Legion Post 186

# Newsletter

September & October 2012

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### COMMANDER

Bruce Carl

[americanleg186@bellsouth.net](mailto:americanleg186@bellsouth.net)  
352-666-5496

The hazy, lazy, dog days of summer will soon be coming to end. That can only mean our snow birds will be starting to migrate south again. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer. Everything will be vamping up again here at the Post as we enter the fall season. You will notice the dinners are back, as well as our full entertainment schedule. We have had a wonderful time here at the Post over the past few months, and have welcomed several new members and their guests into our family. There have also been some interesting parties that have taken place, but we are always looking for an excuse to have more!

We have some interesting things planned for the next 2 months, so make sure you check out the calendar at the back of the newsletter for the dates and times. If you have not been coming down to the Post, please try us out again. You will see a noticeable change in the atmosphere, as we are bringing the fun back. We need you, the members, to come out and join in the fun and camaraderie to keep it going though. We are an American Legion family, and it is starting to show more and more. What a great way to get more accomplished as a Post! On a more personal note, I try to greet everyone when I am there, so if I miss you, make sure you stop me and let me know.

As always, we are always looking for volunteers to help out with various projects and events. Without you, we would not be able to do all the things we are. On the subject of volunteering, we are looking for volunteers for the Oyster

Fest in Feb. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Bob Talbot at 352-464-4698. Thank you in advance to everyone who has already volunteered or will be. The golf Tournament that was scheduled has been cancelled. Sorry for the inconvenience. October promises to be a very special month, as we kick off the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend with an Oktoberfest, and end it with our Halloween party. But we also have plenty going on during the rest of the month for you, including a mortgage burning party on Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>.

Yes, we will be paying off the mortgage on the building, and we want to have a celebration! So, we are inviting all our members to come out and have great time as we celebrate this event. We will be inviting special guests to join in the fun with us. To make it more enjoyable for our members, we will be starting at 2 PM, and offering food, as well as drink specials throughout the day. Members will be asked to please present your ID cards at the door. Guests are welcome, but they must be signed in. In addition, one of our more popular groups, "The Belairs", will be entertaining you from 3 -7. Also you can expect either a 50/50 or "share the wealth" drawing. The ceremony itself will take place around 5 PM, but as you can see, the rest of the festivities will continue afterwards. A special thank you goes out to all the Past Commanders from our Post, as they are the committee responsible for planning this wonderful event. Without all their years of hard work and dedication to our Post, we would not be able to have this celebration. Thank you also to all the officers of all the organizations, members, and all the volunteers who have helped us reach this goal.

My weekly newsletter is very informative, and will keep you up to date on any changes that might occur after the regular newsletter has been sent out. I also can inform you if help is needed for anything around the Post. If you are not receiving my weekly E-mail and would like to, please

send a short E-mail to the Post mailbox, and I will get you added to the list. You can also just give me your E-mail address when you see me at the Post.

In closing, I would like to remind you that I am always open to any questions, criticism, concerns, or suggestions you may have. Please feel free to call or E-mail me. You can also catch me here at the Post on weekdays in the early evening, and usually on a Friday and Saturday night. . If you have any complaints regarding the canteen or kitchen area, please refer them to our canteen manager, Annie Pellegrini. Any other complaints concerning the Post can be directed to me. I can be contacted a variety of different ways, and there is no need to bombard my officers with things they probably won't have the answer to.

For God and Country,  
Bruce Carl

**FIRST VICE COMMANDER**

Eric ( Sox ) Hunter

[huntersusan@bellsouth.net](mailto:huntersusan@bellsouth.net)

352-666-0691 or 352 -650-1547 Cell

This is my second newsletter as first Vice Commander, time really flies. Response has been great and we are at 60% membership which is beyond our September goal. New membership is always encouraged and welcomed. Troy, Dan or myself will be here to accommodate renewals, new and transfer memberships. In the event that you receive a renewal from National and you have already paid for your 2013 membership, PLEASE DISREGARD IT! Please contact us if you are having a hardship paying the membership dues since we can bring this up to the E-Board. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the membership committee. The hours to reach me are 2 to 4 p.m. on Monday thru Friday. If Troy, Dan or I are not available, please leave your membership with the bartender.

For God and Country,  
Eric ( Sox ) Hunter

**SECOND VICE COMMANDER**

Rex A. Hinkle

[rhinkle6@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:rhinkle6@tampabay.rr.com)

352-688-1002

It's that time of year when the snowbirds are going to come back. We welcome them. It has been a long, hot, and rainy summer and it is time for the rains to stop. I hope when the snowbirds return, they shut the gate so it does not get too cold. You all know how us southern folks are? I If it's too cold we complain, if it is to hot we complain. Oh well, it's all good. We have a lot of good events coming up for the rest of the year. We have of course Karaoke every

week along with good bands and hope people will stay after the dinner has completed . We will continue to have great entertainment during the rest of the summer and fall. We will also bring back bands that are well known during the fall and winter months. I would like to thank all of you for your support. I have had a lot of people contact me about wanting bands to come and entertain us. It has been overwhelming. We are booked for the rest of the year; however, I hope to have bands that people enjoy during the rest of the following year. I would like to thank all of you for your support and hope to continue to serve all of you. We are going to have a great year with all the upcoming events. Thank all of you for your support.

For God and Country,  
Rex A. Hinkle

**POST CHAPLAIN**

Charles Haig

[haigie@aol.com](mailto:haigie@aol.com)

352-597-1210

Cell 352-610-2051

Time Flies I have very little to share with you. There are many sad happenings, in the past month or so. I am not going to dwell on any of them, My prayers go out to all involved, I believe every thing happens for a reason, I accept what ever the Lord sends my way, God Bless you all.

If you read this letter right you will see what I am talking about. On another note many thanks to the person who gave me the 15 NEW boxes of puzzles, they will be given to veterans in rehabs & nursing home thru out the county. You are a blessing as a member and most of all a good person, (You are Blessed.) Commander (Bruce Carl ) keep up the good work I am proud to work as your Chaplain. I have no reports on deaths. I wish Frank Babicz a speedy recovery.

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](mailto: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.

We are sending this article to you again as we have had a great deal of interest, and we want to insure that all are aware of this benefit.

**VA ACKNOWLEDGES HEARING LOSS DUE TO ACCOUSTIC TRAUMA.** The US Dept Of Veterans Affairs has acknowledged that service connection for hearing loss is not predicated on the service member having a significant hearing loss upon separating from the military. The VA now concedes that hearing loss, which develops long after service, may have been caused by acoustic nerve trauma experienced while performing specific duties in service. The VA requires the following information in order to consider a claim for acoustic trauma:

- 1) Documented significant hearing loss from audiologist.
- 2) Statement from veteran concerning their job in the military and how it produced acoustic trauma.
- 3) Statement from Ear, Nose, and Throat Doctor which supports claim that present hearing loss is more likely than not the result of acoustic trauma experienced in service.

If you feel that you qualify for this benefit, or have questions concerning this or any other VA benefit, please contact me at the above phone number.

For God and Country,  
Manas Miller

**Canteen News**  
**Canteen Manager**  
**Anna Pellegrini**  
**(352)597-9995**  
[canteen186@bellsouth.net](mailto:canteen186@bellsouth.net)

It is hard to believe that fall is already here and it won't be long before our snowbirds return back for the winter! A lot new is happening in the Canteen and Kitchen - As voted in the July by the executive Board . We now have a Assistant Canteen Manager again- Please help us welcome Kathy Heathcoat as the new Assistant Canteen Manger. We will plan a Hard Rock Trip for September, Please check at the Canteen for the date of trip! Starting in September we will have Reuben's on the Second Monday of every month - also we will be doing a few new specials weekly.

For God and Country,  
Anna Pellegrini



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

Your Color Guard has the following ceremonies scheduled:

5 Sep 2012 (Wednesday) 8:30 A.M., Opening Day Ceremony for the W.H.A.C.S Senior Softball League at Veterans Memorial Park on Spring Hill Drive.

11 Sep. 2012 (Tuesday) 11:30 A.M., Our Post will remember the tragic loss our country suffered on 9-11. Try to attend this ceremony and show that these innocent Americans have not been forgotten and pray that our troops that are in harm's way avenging their deaths come home safely.

11 Sep. 2012 (Tuesday) 1:30 P.M., Your Color Guard will present the Colors at the Atria building in Evergreen Woods in memory of 9-11.

Your Color Guard hopes all of you are in good health or as well as possible. John Rakuzewicz is improving every day and is eager to get back to our unit. I spoke with Past Commander and Color Guard member Frank Babicz and he is starting to get around after knee replacement surgery and lung complications. We wish you men a speedy recovery and good luck to James Hulce with his upcoming surgery which he delayed so he could take care of his wife Judy who just had hip surgery.

For God and Country,  
Jimmy Schultz



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



**AUXILIARY PRESIDENT**  
**Claudia Fischer**  
**352-686-9247**  
[ceejay523f@yahoo.com](mailto:ceejay523f@yahoo.com)

Well my fellow members of Post 186, we are definitely mired in the dog days of summer. The “feels like” temp is currently 105 degrees according to Accuweather. I am, therefore, sipping an ice cold Jai Alai IPA made by Cigar City Brewing (in Tampa) as I write this tome.

Since my last article it has been a very quiet two months. The two biggest highlights have been the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, which, sadly I missed at the post as I had to work, and Florida Department Convention in Orlando in June. Myself, Steve Smalls, Anne Pellegrini, and Rex and Mary Hinkle attended the convention on behalf of the Riders and the Legion on June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. The highlight for us was the ALR meetings. Due to the phenomenal growth of the Riders in the state, we went from an hour and a half in a small room to three hours in a much larger room to accommodate this year’s attendees. We had the honor of being addressed by both the outgoing and incoming Dept. Commanders. We are proud that our new Dept. of Florida Commander, Al “Gunner” Dudley, and our new Area Commander, James Zipler, are both Legion Riders. We had a very spirited meeting, and the accomplishments of the Riders are many.

The ALR now has over 1000 chapters and over 100,000 members. As a group we have ridden millions of miles, supported scores of charitable causes, and raised millions of dollars. I know that we still arouse suspicion in some quarters, but we are first and foremost Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and SAL, all part of the larger American Legion family.

Unfortunately the deadly combo of heat and torrential rains has limited our rides this summer. We have taken small group rides to such places as Bushnell, “River Ratz” in Nobleton, and up to Charlie’s Fish House in Crystal River. If you haven’t been, it is a great seafood restaurant right on the water. We recommended it highly.

Upcoming events include our Rider’s Basket of Cheer which kicks off Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>, and then our Poker Run and Chicken Marsala Dinner on October 20<sup>th</sup>. We also ask that you keep in mind that we will once again be doing our Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets. I for one am especially looking forward to October 14<sup>th</sup>. That is the day the post burns the mortgage. I hope you all will attend this very momentous event.

For God and Country,  
 Steve Tyler

As we get by the hot days of summer, the Auxiliary is getting ready to get “On Board” the Thunderbolt train. This year all Auxiliary Units in the 15<sup>th</sup> District will be known as the “Thunderbolt” train and we hope it takes us to a very successful year.

In September there will be the POW-MIA ceremony and dinner on September 15 and the Girls and Boys State ceremony and dinner on September 26<sup>th</sup>. We will, also, be drawing the winning ticket for the Children & Youth Basket of Cheer on September 26<sup>th</sup>, so buy your tickets now to help support our Children & Youth program.

In October the Auxiliary will be having their annual Halloween Party on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Come dressed up in your favorite costume and win a prize, it is a lot of fun.

So hop on board our Thunderbolt train this year, we are going to have loads of fun and with your help we can have successful programs. We hope you will join us.

Save the Dates:  
 September 8<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> District Meeting @ Post 152  
 September 13<sup>th</sup>-General Mtg.-7:00 pm  
 September 15<sup>th</sup>-POW-MIA ceremony-5:00 pm  
 Dinner at 6:00 pm  
 September 26<sup>th</sup>-Girls & Boys State ceremony-5 pm  
 Dinner at 6:00 pm  
 October 31<sup>st</sup>-Halloween Party-6:00 pm

For God and Country,  
 Claudia Fischer

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

Dear fellow members, I have the 2013 Membership Cards. The dues this year are \$30.00. I will be at the Post every Tuesday from 1:00 to 5:0pm. You can also mail it to the Post or leave it at the Canteen.

For God and Country,  
 Margaret Hernandez

**AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN  
BETTY LOU BENNETT  
352-835-1156**

**AUXILIARY COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIRMAN  
FRAN FINLEY  
352-686-1820**

Please contact if you know of any Auxiliary Member that is ill or has passed away.

**Sick Call:**

Phyllis Ogilvie  
Kathy Banis  
Judy Hulce  
Margaret Hernandez  
Joyce Cox Spring Hill Rehab  
Cheryle LeBaron  
Darlene Jagiello  
Teri Bianco  
Joanne Robbs

**Deceased:**

Carol Sutton

Dear Lord, Let us resolve to live each day to the fullest, and to give thanks for all your blessings. Amen

For God and Country,  
Betty Lou Bennett

**COMMUNITY SERVICE NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!!**

If you can sew, we need your help to make aprons, scarves, Patriotic collars and Holiday items. We have yards and yards of donated material. This work can be done in your home.

We would like to display these items for "Donations" on Sunday, Veterans Day, November 11, 2012 at our Post picnic.

PLEASE, if you can help please contact:

Fran Finley 686-1820                      Wanda Walters  
686-0793

For God and Country

Fran Finley

**BOOSTER CLUB**

As of August 10, 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 2035**

Carlton & Beth Ann Terrell

**July 2024**

Lloyd Gross

**Feb. 2022**

Ed Kolbasiuk

Gloria Murray

**July 2021**

Jimmy Schultz

Post 186 Color Guard

Ruth Oppert

**September 2020**

Bob Burch

**July 2019**

Donna Greenwald

Steve Small

Janet Bowman

**Feb 2017**

George M. Coon

**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

Robert J Eudeikis

Joseph & Margorie Ruggiero

John & Claudia Fischer

Bob & Ruth Reese

Ken Oxendorf

Michael & Anita Cockill

**July 2013**

Hugh & Helen Reynolds

Richard Shore

Warren & Mary Cross

Luis A. Ortiz

Anna R Bulger

**July 2013**

Jeane Vernon

B. Douglas McClish

**July 2012**

Troy & Joyce Cox

Frank M Kuraitys

William Swann

John Krause

Conrad Vachon

Richard & Eunice Nerber

Doris Webster

**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

**BOOSTER SUPPORT FOR OUR NEWSLETTER**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CONTRIBUTION \$ \_\_\_\_\_