

February 2022

The American Legion Family of Post 166 Doing Things All Year Long

Commander's Corner

Greetings to all

I thought this month I would write a little bit about who we are as an American Legion Post. Did you ever wonder how many Legionnaire members we have, or what branch of the service was the most represented? Well, here are a few facts about our membership.

As of this writing, we have 234 paid Legionnaire members, which is 77.98 % of the goal of 277. As you can see, we have a way to go to meet that goal. There are 118 people with 2021 membership cards who have not paid for the 2022 year. All of us need to reach out to these people and find out why they haven't renewed and what we can do to help them renew.

Some interesting statistics: We have 112 Army Veterans, 44 Air Force Veterans, 4 Coast Guard Veterans, 21 Marine Corps Veterans, 47 Navy veterans and 6 with unknow branches of the service.

Our members served during the following era's

- 3 from WWII
- 17 from the Korean conflict
- 161 from the Vietnam Era
- 18 from Lebanon and Granada
- 5 from the Invasion of Panama
- 9 from the Persian Gulf
- 12 from the Global War on Terrorism
- 9 from other times

We also have 5 members with over 50 years of continuous service Now, that is impressive.

We are a diverse group, but all have one thing in common We stood up when our country needed us!

And I am thankful for every one of you, along with our American Legion family members. We can and will do great things together!

I also would like to give a big shoutout to Judy Salo, our Auxiliary President for organizing the Adopt-A-Highway Program and to our Legion Riders who participated in the first phase. The American Legion Family is responsible for a two-mile section of Grover Cleveland Blvd. The Adapt a Highway sign with "American Legion Post 166" looks great! The Auxiliary is the next Family member to clean the highway. The Legionnaires and SAL will get that opportunity in phases. Please see your family group leader for information and to volunteer for this community service project.

We have a big event coming up on February 20th when we will have the Four Chaplains Remembrance Ceremony. The service begins at 10:30AM with a brunch followed by the Service. There will be several honored guests, including the Auxiliary Department President. I hope all of you will plan to attend this service and learn about the Chaplains selflessness during WWII. Please RVSP at the Post due to limited seating,

The Building Fund is growing!

Last month there was an error in the amount published. The balance as of 12/31/21 was \$23,197.44

In January we added \$ 1,641.20 for a total fund balance of \$25,960.74. This came from several sources: generous Queen of Heart and 50/50 winners; from Events like First Friday's Clam Chowder and Pie day; donations from our members and proceeds from bar games, like the quarter drop and Friday night's "Bonz" games are also being funneled to the Building Fund. Let's keep the balance going up!

For God and Country

Bob Ballew, Commander Post 166

ALA Unit 166 Presidents Message

Good morning, afternoon, or evening. We have exciting things to talk about these days. No, not the virus. Hopefully, that will go away soon. The events happening at and around the Post have been both fun and profitable for our American Legion Family. Our new Commander Bob Ballew has jumped in with both feet and things are running smooth.

We would like to say a huge THANK YOU to the Crystal River FOE auxiliary for their generous support of our Girls State activity. We appreciate their help and always look forward to working with our friends in other organizations. The things we do to encourage the next generation will be an asset for many years to come.

Our next meeting will be February 14. Yes, its Valentine's Day! Our Vice President, Dee Costillo, will be running the meeting since I will be on vacation.

The Auxiliary appreciates the kindness displayed when offering to help and contribute to the continued success of our unit.

Also, a HUGE event will happen on Feb. 20 as we welcome the Florida Auxiliary President, Wanda Brandt, to our Post for a get acquainted brunch followed by the Four Chaplains Remembrance Service. Please RSVP for this event, as there is limited seating .

Thank you all for everything you do for our veterans,, our community, and our Post

Judy Salo
President, ALA Unit 166

Squadron Report

I want to thank everyone who came out for The SAL's Hamburger Bash. I understand, we had one of the largest turnouts yet at the Post, thanks to all of you. Ed Nemeth and Bill Cloke did a great job on the grill. If you could not make it, you missed a great night with good food and a fantastic show by Chris Patti.

Our membership is growing. We have 42 members as of today. We are working towards a goal of 78. As you can see, we have our work cut out for us, but I know we can do it

I want to remind everyone of our meetings the third Saturday each month (except from Memorial Day to Labor day when we have no meetings). Meetings start at 10:00AM and usually last about 45 minutes. It is important that you come to these meeting and let us know what direction you want our Squadron to take.

Our next meeting is February 19th. Please try to attend. WE NEED YOU!

For God & Country
Greg Doody, Commander Squadron 166

Looking Over The Ferring

I am proud to be the new Director of Chapter 166 of the American Legion Riders. When Bob Ballew took on the job of Commander of Post 166, it necessitated a change in leadership for the Riders.

Now that all of our members have returned, we will be adding more rides this winter. After our last meeting, we took a fun ride out to Hernando Beach, made a few stops, and had lunch at Bayport hotel. All American Legion Family members and their guests are welcome to join us on our rides, even if you do not belong to Chapter 166. Just let me know you are interested in riding with us and I will call before our meeting to let you know where we are going and what time.

This Saturday we are riding on a Poker Run sponsored by Post 237. We are the first stop and if you are interested in riding, be at our Post at 11:15 to join in. Cost is \$15.00

ALR was the first of our American Legion Family to participate in the Adapt-A-Highway initiative. There were eight Riders and our leader, Judy Salo, Auxiliary President Unit 166. It took just a few hours and gave us all a feeling of accomplishment and pride in what we did.

We are starting to plan our next big event – our fourth annual Derby Day Ride, where all vehicles will be welcome. So, make sure you have May 8th on your calendar. More to come on that as we get closer.

Ride Free

Tom Brown
Director American Legion Riders Chapter 166

Service Officer Report

Suicide among Veterans is alarming, to say the least!. Recently, John Stewart, wrote a 2-part article that appeared in the Citrus County Chronicle that offered a lot of insight into causes and help that is available.

Article 1:

https://www.chronicleonline.com/lifestyle/veterans/losing-our-brethren-military-suicides-a-tragedy-that-must-be-addressed/article_913b85f4-7a09-5849-aa61-90eef04499b2.html

Article 2:

https://www.chronicleonline.com/lifestyle/veterans/veterans-voice-looking-at-military-suicide-rate/article_e1fb5a87-76b0-504f-ba8d-91fa4c75e3a4.html



Wallet size cards are available at the Post with ways to recognize the Signs of Suicide Risk on the back of the laminated cards.

Pick up a few on your next visit to the Post.
Someone you know may need it.

Other important information for Veterans:

VA Lecanto Clinic

2804 W. Marc Knighton Ct., Suite A
Lecanto, FL 34461
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Services include phlebotomy, psychiatry, psychology, social work, nutrition, smoking cessation, nursing, wound care, diabetic and hypertension education..

VA Call Center for Benefits	800/827-1000
VA Pension Management	877/294-6380
National Personnel Records	314/801-0800

District 4 Meeting for Legion Family

The meeting will be held January 30th at Post 155
6585 W Gulf to Lake Hwy,
Crystal River, FL 34429

- Registration begins at noon, meeting is at 1PM
- Light lunch available with donation
- RSVP Via Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/events/920278618923997>

Welcome New Members

Ned Fairbanks, Legionnaire

Pete Fiorentno, Legionnaire

Parnick Firestone, Legionnaire

Ken Johnson, SAL

Diane Jennell, ALA

Kim Shea, ALA

Troy Walker, Legionnaire

From The Canteen

Quarter Game

Drop a quarter in the glass inside the jar, win one drink of equal value, excluding specialty drinks. One win per day.

Bonz Game

You have three rolls of the dice to get five of a kind. If you are successful, you win two free drinks of equal value, excluding specialty drinks.

R.E.D. Shirt Friday

Wear a red shirt on Friday to show support for all those deployed. When you do and you purchase a drink between noon and 7PM, you will receive a chip for the same drink, excluding specialty drinks. One free drink per day.

Rum Buckets

They have been discontinued and have been replaced with a new Post 166 specialty drink The new drink will be similar and will sell for \$6.75.

We like to thank all of you for your patronage!



February 2022

Tuesday February 1 – Wing Night with Bill Alexander
4:00PM

Friday February 4 – First Friday
2:00PM to 5:30PM Donate to the Building Fund for a
cup of Clam Chowder

Sunday February 13 – Super Bowl
4:00PM Pregame Party
Enjoy food from the Each Team
Raffles, Squares

~~Something Sweet for the Sweet~~
Monday February 14 – Valentine's Day

Tuesday February 15 – Wisconsin Day
5:00PM Enjoy Wisconsin Style Food and Trivia

**Sunday February 20 – Four Chaplains Remembrance
Service**
10:30AM Brunch followed by Four Chaplain Service
Limited seating - Please RSVP at the Post or Facebook

**Saturday February 26–The Last Chance Band 3:00PM
to 6:00PM**

Remember Everyone Deployed

Every Friday

Wear a Red shirt, purchase your first drink between noon
and 7PM

Receive a chip for the same drink, excludes specility drinks

Queen of Hearts

6:15PM Tickets sales close

6:30PM Drawing for Queen of Hearts (members only)

50/50 Raffle

50/50 Drawing follows the Queen of Hearts

**All American Legion Family members and their
guest are welcome at the Post. Guests must be
accompanied by and signed in by a member**

General Membership Officers

Commander	Bob Ballew
1 st Vice Commander	Mark Long
2 nd Vice Commander	Open
Adjutant	Becky Badders
Sergeant At Arms	Jane Mandis
Finance Officer	Open
Chaplain	Bill Rowe
Historian	Tom Piazza
Judge Advocate	Bob McDowell
Service Officers & Member at Large	Buzz Chainey
Executive Board Member	Dwight DeJean
Executive Board Member	G .Majchrowicz

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 166

President	Judy Salo
Vice President	Dee Costello
Secretary	Sheri McDaniel
Treasurer	Debbie Ballew
Sgt. At Arms	Barb Tripp
Chaplain	Vicky Eley
Executive Board Members	Dorene Bettis
Janice Mc McGough, Julie Rowe and Erskileena Owens	

Sons of the American Legion Squadron 166

Commander	Greg Doody
1 st Vice Commander	Curtis Woods
Treasurer	Gary Salo
Sgt-At-Arms	Ed Nemeth
Chaplain	Tony Doody

American Legion Riders

Riders Director	Tom Brown
Assistant Director	Greg Doody
Secretary	Debbie Ballew
Treasurer	Gary Salo
Sgt. At Arms	Ed Nemeth
Chaplain	Buzz Chainey
Historian	Tammy
Road Captain	Chainey J.
	Leuthauser

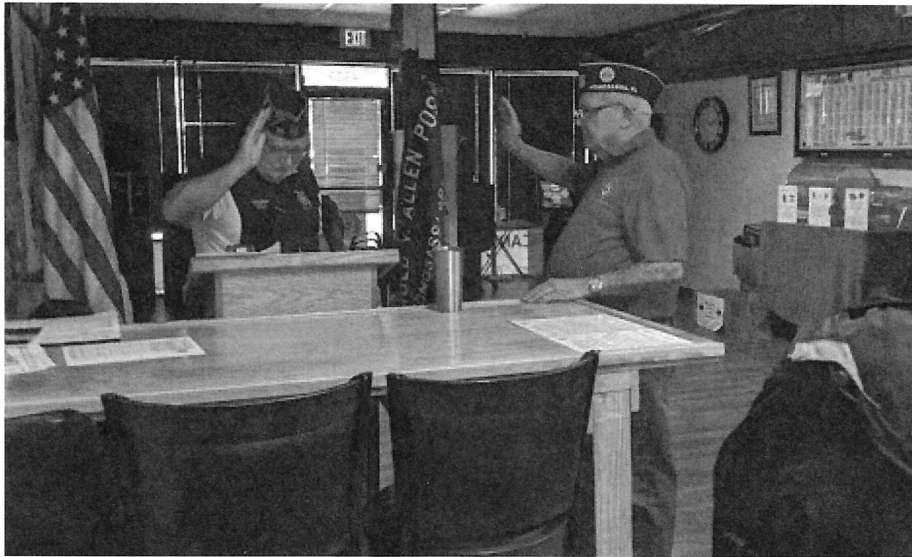
For the Latest Information

Check our Facebook Page and Website

Facebook: American Legion Post 166 Homosassa, Florida

Website: americanlegionpost166.com

POST PHOTO ALBUM



Commander Ballew is installed by Past Department Commander Larry White



Dee Costello, VP Unit 166, presents a check from the Auxiliary to help with medical bills for Atlas Powalsish.



Judy Salo, President Unit 166, presents a check from the Auxiliary Unit 166 to K9 Partners for Patriots.



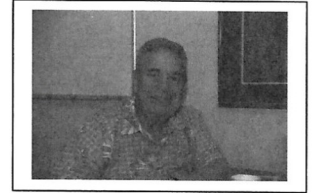
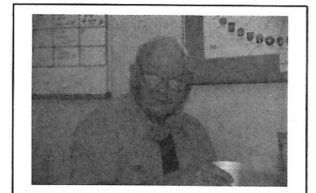
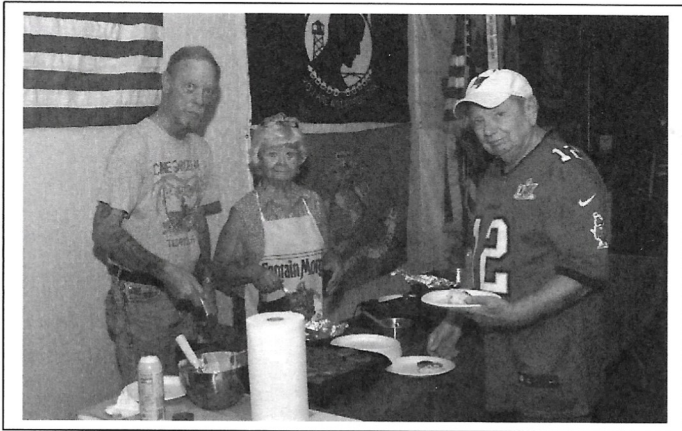
Judy Salo, President Unit 166, and Vicky Eley, Girls State Chairman, accept a donation from the Crystal River FOE Auxiliary

Pie Day

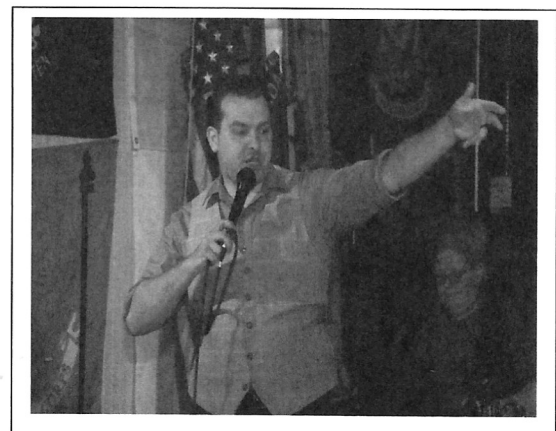


POST EVENTS ALBUM

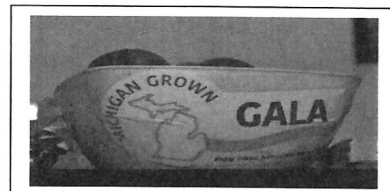
Breakfast with the Commander



SAL's Hamburger Bash with Chris Patti



National Michigan Day



American Legion Post 166 – Homosassa FL

Americanism Month

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		10AM Post Eboard Mtg <i>Freedom Day</i> 5:00PM Wing Night with Bill Alexander	<i>Ground Hog Day</i>		First Friday 2-5PM Clam Chowder 6:30PM Queen of Hearts Drawing 50/50 Raffle	10AM ALR
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Bloody Mary Sunday					6:30PM Queen of Hearts Drawing 50/50 Raffle	10AM General Membership Mtg
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Bloody Mary Sunday 4PM Super Bowl Party *	10:30AM ALA Mtg Valentine Day	Nat'l Wisconsin Day*			6:30PM Queen of Hearts Drawing 50/50 Raffle	10AM SAL Mtg <i>Coast Guard Reserve Birthday</i>
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Bloody Mary Sunday 10:30AM Four	<i>President's Day</i>	Karaoke with Buzz 6:00PM to 8:30PM			6:30PM Queen of Hearts Drawing 50/50 Raffle	3PM The Last Chance Band
27	28	March 1				
Bloody Mary Sunday		Fat Tuesday Party				

<u>February 13</u> Super Bowl Party 4PM: Featuring food from both team's home state Raffles & Squares	<u>February 14</u> Valentine Day Sweets for the Sweet!	<u>February 15</u> Wisconsin Day 5PM: Enjoy Wisconsin style food Wisconsin Trivia Contest	<u>February 20</u> Four Chaplain's Service & Brunch 10:30 Brunch followed by Remembrance Ceremony Limited Seating- RSVP at the Post	<u>March Dates</u> 03/01 Fat Tuesday Party 003/14 St Patrick's Day Party 3/15 Blood Mobile 03/30 Post 166's 30th Anniversary Member Appreciation
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AMERICAN LEGION

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Opinions expressed herein are
the opinions of the individual
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**PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE**

To:



The American Legion Family