

April 2022      The American Legion Family of Post 166 Doing Things All Year Long

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## Salute to Commander Robert Scott



Commander Robert Scott is an Army Veteran and also served in the National Guard.

Bob has been a member of the American Legion for eighteen years and has held positions at several Posts as well as District, where he volunteered as Chaplain.

And twice he has stepped up to help this Post when it needed it most.

The first time was back in the 2012, when membership had shrunk drastically and the Post came close to coming to an end. The District reached out to Bob and asked him to take on the task of Commander. He accepted the challenge and began to attempt to grow the membership. It was a slow process, made more difficult without a Post home. He and his wife, Sandy, spent many evenings at restaurants waiting for members to come for a meeting. It was slow going but eventually people, American Legion members wishing to transfer to a local Post, and folks who wanted to be a part of the American Legion, started showing up and membership slowly grew. After one year, Bob turned the Post over to a new Commander.

The next commanders picked up where Bob left off, membership continued to grow and the Auxiliary, SAL and American Legion Riders were formed.

The second time Bob got the call and stepped up to help again was in 2021, when we lost Commander Rick Starkey to COVID.

Our Post needed his experience and leadership to get the members through this terrible time and Bob accepted the challenge. He spent 1½ years as Commander, growing and uniting the membership, before health issues caused him first to take a leave of absence and later to resign as Commander.

Bob recently transferred to post 58 in Dunnellon where his wife Sandy is the ALA Chaplain.

We, the members of Post 166, will always be indebted to him for his leadership when the Post needed it most.

We wish Commander Scott success with his future endeavors and pray for his health to improve. We will miss him, but he will be just a phone call away.

## Thank you Commander Robert Scott!

## Commander's Corner

Membership reports are out and Post 166 is leading the District at 104.38%. Congratulations Legionnaires!!

Recently we had a meet and greet visit from Department Commander Jerry Brandt, along with Department 3rd Vice Commander Chris Hamrick, Northern Area Commander Troy Horsley, and 4th District Commander Jack Bennett. Commander Brandt met with members and updated us on the current initiatives of the American Legion and answered our questions. It was very informative meeting and an honor to have these folks at our Post.



Currently all of the American Legion Families are in the process of nominating officers for the 2022–2023 year. Some positions require more time than others but every position is equally important. It is these volunteers who steer our Post in our service to Veterans and the community. I urge you to attend meetings and get involved with our Post by volunteering to help make our Post the best it can be.

Below are the dates and times of the Legion Family Meetings.

### General Membership

Second Saturday of the month at 10AM

### Auxiliary

Second Monday of the Month at 10:30AM

### SAL

Third Saturday of the Month at 10AM

No meetings from Memorial Day to Labor Day

### Legion Riders

First Saturday of the Month at 10:30AM

Fun Run after the meeting for anyone who wants to ride

## District Meeting

District 4 will hold its annual Constitutional Convention and Elections Meeting on May 1st at Post 284, located at 5515 SE 109th St, Belleview, FL 34420

All Legion Family members are invited. This meeting is a great opportunity to learn more about the Legion Family and to be part of the decision-making process..

Registration starts at 12:00PM, which includes a light lunch. The meeting will begin at 1:00PM

## Help for Ukraine

The American Legion, Department of Florida, has established connections with *"boots on the ground"* efforts that are providing necessary supplies to deployed troops of veterans and active-duty personnel who are on the scene. These units are aware of the direct needs of Ukraine refugees and are personally distributing supplies in the affected areas; items like food, clothing, medical support or supplies, and shelters are being provided.

All funds generated from our efforts will go to support Ukrainian civilians who desperately need our help. If you would like to donate to The American Legion, Department of Florida Ukraine Relief Efforts, please make your donation using the online form:

(<https://www.floridalegion.org/news-events/stand-with-ukraine/donate/>)

Or

Send in a check donation to the mailing address below. Checks should be made payable to The American Legion, Department of Florida and include "Ukraine Relief" in the memo line.

The American Legion, Department of Florida  
Attn: Ukraine Efforts  
1912A Lee Road  
Orlando, FL 32810

For God and Country

Bob Ballew,  
Commander Post 166

## ALA Unit 166 President's Message

Hi everyone,

We've had a great month at Post 166 and are looking forward to April to be just as good, or better!

The event committee has been providing some fantastic entertainment and some equally fantastic menus.

The Auxiliary meeting this month had the following end-of-year reports that I am proud to pass on to our members and friends.

Volunteer Hours: 62,811

Donations to Daystar Life Center

Clothing: 948 pieces

Linens: 9

Accessories: 94

Shoes: 34

Personal Care items: 272

Thank you to all our members and guests who brought in these items to help those in need in our community.

A huge THANK YOU to Doreen for compiling all the volunteer hours and to Janice for organizing all the material donations!

The next phase of the Adapt-A-Highway initiative will take place on April 13<sup>th</sup>. The Auxiliary will take our turn cleaning our Post's 2-mile stretch of Grover Cleveland. Anyone who would like to join us is welcome. We will meet at the Post at noon. Bring a grabber, a bottle of water, and wear sunscreen. Vests, gloves, and garbage bags will be provided.

And lest we forget... the needs of our veterans and our community are large and it is our duty as Auxiliary members to do whatever we can to help.

Keep up the good work and we will see you at our next meeting on April 11, 2022.

For God and Country

Judy Salo

ALA Unit 166 President

## National Veterans Creative Arts Festival

Since 2000, the American Legion National Auxiliary has co-presented the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival, with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Carrying out the Auxiliary's mission of Service Not Self, members, units, and departments support the local competitions, the Festival, and make generous monetary donations to help carry out this event.

Creative arts is a way to help veterans recover from, and cope with, physical and emotional disabilities. Each year, veterans enrolled at VA health care facilities showcase their talents in local creative arts competitions.

This annual competition recognizes the progress and recovery made through that therapy and raises the visibility of the creative achievements of our Nation's Veterans.

The visual arts division includes 51 categories, ranging from oil paintings to leatherwork, to paint-by-number kits. In the performing arts division, there are 100 categories related to all aspects of music, dance, drama, and creative writing.

Through a national judging process, first, second, and third place entries in each category are determined. Only selected first place winners are featured at the Festival.

This year, The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Florida, has been asked to assist in hosting the National Creative Arts .

District 4 Auxiliary is responsible for a hospitality suite that will provide food and drinks and a quiet place for the veterans and their caregivers during the event. All units in District 4 made donations for the Hospitality room. Unit 166 donated coffee creamers and sugar packets for the hospitality room.

This year the event will be located in St. Petersburg, Florida from April 18, 2022 to April 25, 2022.

**For more information:**

<https://www.blogs.va.gov/nvspse/national-veterans-creative-arts-festival/>

## Looking over the Faring

Well folks, we are getting closer to the big Day - The Fourth Annual Derby Ride. This ride is open to all trikes, bikes, trucks, street rods, and cars. The ride will feature a dice game with a twist. No one will know the value of their rolls until we return to Post 166, where the winners will be announced for high and low rolls.

Registration will open at at 9:30AM with a continental breakfast and the ride leaves our Post at 10:30AM. We will be stopping at the following locations:

### **Crystal River Eagles 4272**

5340 W Grover Cleveland Blvd, Homosassa

### **IRRU Social Club**

922 US Hwy 41 S, Inverness

### **American Legion Post 77**

4375 S Little Al Point, Inverness

### **American Legion Post 237**

6726 N Lecanto Hwy, Beverly Hills

### **American Legion Post 155**

6585 W Gulf to Lake Hwy, Crystal River

The last stop is our Post and a meal will be waiting. Prizes will be handed out for the wining rolls of the dice and raffle drawing will take place following the meal.

Then it's more Derby Day Fun with the Best Derby Hat Contest. Everyone is encouraged to participate in this fun event, and I understand a challenge has been laid down to last year's winner. Look for more Derby Day Fun before the Derby race starts!

Also, the Florida American Legion Riders from all over the state will join forces for the In-State Unity Ride from April 24th – 30th. This motorcycle ride will raise awareness and collect donations for PROJECT: VetRelief's Suicide Prevention Initiative.

We are honored that they will be making a stop our Post on Monday, April 25th. We expect them around 2:00PM. If you can, please come to the Post and show your support for a great cause.

Ride Free

Tom Brown, Director, ALR Chapter 166

## **General Membership Officers**

Commander	Bob Ballew
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	Mark Long
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	Open
Adjutant	Jane Mundis
Sergeant-At-Arms	Jane Mundis
Finance Officer	Open
Chaplain	Bill Rowe
Historian	Tom Piazza
Judge Advocate	Bob McDowell
Service Officer/Executive Board Member	Buzz Chainey
Executive Board Member	Dwight De Jean
Executive Board Member	G. Majchrowicz
Past Commander/Executive Board Member	Marie Conti

## **American Legion Auxiliary Unit 166**

President	Judy Salo
Vice President	Dee Costello
Secretary	Open
Treasurer	Debbie Ballew
Sergeant-At-Arms	Barb Tripp
Chaplain	Vicky Eley
Executive Board Member	Dorene Bettis
Executive Board Member	Janice McGough
Executive Board Member	Julie Rowe
Executive Board Member	E. Owens

## **Sons of the American Legion Squadron 166**

Commander	Greg Doody
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	Curtis Woods
Treasurer	Gary Salo
Sergeant-At-Arms	Ed Nemeth
Chaplain	Tony Doody

## **American Legion Riders**

Director	Tom Brown
Assistant Director	Greg Doody
Secretary	Debbie Ballew
Treasurer	Gary Salo
Sergeant-At-Arms	Ed Nemeth
Chaplain	Buzz Chainey
Historian	Tammy Chainey
Road Captain	Open

## **Welcome New Members**

Michael Calbi, Legionnaire  
 Charles Haffenden, Legionnaire  
 Carolyn Hobbs, ALA  
 David Rumph, SAL  
 Tangie Stivers, ALA



# EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar

**APRIL 2022**

## Friday April 1

### First Friday - Building Fundraising Event

2PM Clam Chowder

Donate To The Building Fund

For A Bowl Of Clam Chowder

## Saturday April 2

10:30AM Legion Riders Meeting

Fun Ride Following Meeting

## Tuesday April 5

10AM General Membership Executive Board Meeting

## Saturday April 9

10AM General Membership Meeting

## Monday April 11

10:30AM Auxiliary Meeting

## Wednesday April 13

12PM Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup

Meet At Post 166

## Saturday April 16

10AM SAL Meeting

## Sunday April 17

10:30AM Easter Breakfast

## Saturday April 23

4:00PM to 7:00PM Singer Chris Patti

## Sunday, April 24

4PM Massachusetts Day

## Tuesday, April 26

Last Tuesday of the Month Karaoke

6PM to 8:30PM With Buzz Chainey

## 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 specialty drinks

### Queen of Hearts

6:30PM Queen of Hearts drawing  
(American Legion Family Members only)

### 50/50 Raffle

50/50 Drawing follows the Queen of Hearts  
(American Legion Family and Guests)

## Help us Grow the Building Fund Support Your Post's Events!



Purchase an Easter Egg

Just \$1.00

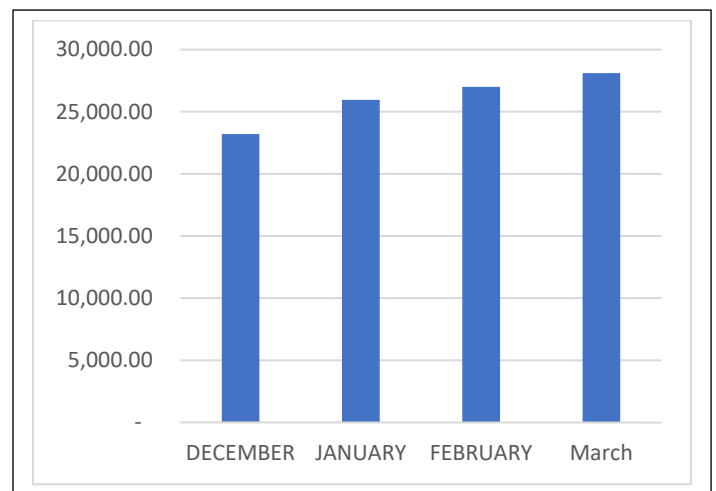
Decorate & Sign It

All Proceeds will go

Directly To

The Building Fund

## The Building Fund Is Growing



## Thank You

To Everyone Who Participated In  
March Activities For The Building Fund

- Attended Post Events
- Purchased a Shamrock
- Bought a Raffle Ticket
- Enjoyed a Bowl of Clam Chowder
- Donated Directly to the Fund

**For the Latest Information**  
**Check our Facebook Page and Website**

Facebook: [American Legion Post 166 Homosassa, Florida](#)

Website: [americanlegionpost166.com](http://americanlegionpost166.com)

POST166 PHOTO ALBUM







*Celebrating 30 years of Post 166*

*with*

♥ **MEMBER** ♥  
APPRECIATION  
♥ **DAY** ♥



**March 30<sup>th</sup>**

**10AM** Flag Retirement Ceremony

Featuring Lecanto HS JROTC

With Breakfast Following

**4:45PM** Group Member Picture

**5:00PM** Member Appreciation Dinner

Music By Bill Alexander

**Please sign up for meal functions**



Ready to ride?  
Bikes, Trikes, Street Rods  
Trucks And Automobiles  
All Welcome!



Dice Roll with a twist  
at Every Stop!  
Prizes for High/Low  
Scores after Ride

**May 7, 2022**

**American Legion Post 166**

**Registration at 9:30AM**

**Continental Breakfast Provided**

**KSU at 10:30AM**

**Ride Starts and Ends at American Legion Post 166**

4250 S Suncoast Blvd, Homosassa

**Crystal River Eagles 4272**

5340 W Grover Cleveland Blvd, Homosassa

**IRRU Social Club**

922 US Hwy 41 S, Inverness

**American Legion Post 77**

4375 S Little Al Point, Inverness

**American Legion Post 237**

6726 N Lecanto Hwy, Beverly Hills

**American Legion Post 155**

6585 W Gulf to Lake Hwy, Crystal River

**Meal, Prizes and Best Derby Hat Contest Following Ride**

**\$15.00 Per Person**

**Ride Sponsored By American Legion Riders Chapter 166**

**Benefits Post 166 Veterans' Charities**

**For More information Call Tom (727) 492-5219**



# AMERICAN LEGION POST 166, HOMOSASSA FL - APRIL

## CHILDREN & YOUTH MONTH & MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
( )					1 APRIL FOOL'S DAY FIRST FRIDAY WITH CLAM CHOWDER 6:30PM QUEEN	2 10:30AM ALR
3 BLOODY MARY SUNDAY	4	5 10AM POST EBOARD PURPLE UP! FOR MILITARY KIDS	6	7 NATIONAL BEER DAY	8 6:30PM QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 50/50 RAFFLE	9 10AM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG
10 BLOODY MARY SUNDAY PALM SUNDAY	11 10:30AM ALA MTG	12	13 12PM ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEANUP MEET AT POST 166	14	15 6:30PM QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 50/50 RAFFLE GOOD FRIDAY	16 10AM SAL MTG
17 10:30AM Easter Breakfast	18 TAX DAY	19	20	21	22 6:30PM QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 50/50 RAFFLE EARTH DAY	23 4PM to 7PM Chris Patti
24 BLOODY MARY SUNDAY 4PM Massachusetts Day	25	26 SUPER PINK MOON 6PM to 8:30PM Karaoke with Buzz Chainey	27	28	29 6:30PM QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING 50/50 RAFFLE	30 FALL OF SIAGON MILITARY BRATS DAY
PURPLE UP!FOR MILITARY KIDS Wear purple to show support and thank military children for their strength and sacrifices			NATIONAL VETERANS CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL St. Petersburg, Florida from April 18, 2022 to April 25, 2022 See Newsletter for more information			