

June 2022

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

As the 2021-2022 fiscal year comes to a close, and each of the American Legion families submit their year-end reports, it is a good time to reflect on all we have accomplished.

Our Membership is growing by leaps and bounds.

- General membership: 300 members, including 48 new members and 67 transfers.
- The Auxiliary: 142 members, including 25 new members, 15 transfers and 4 rejoins .
- The SAL: 61 members, including 20 new members, and 7 transfers.
- The Riders: 26 members, the largest their membership has been since inception in 2017.

When it comes to honoring, serving, and helping Veterans, we have lots to be proud of.

- The Post Service Office Buzz Chainey was able to help eleven veterans and the Post assisted two veterans with temporary housing, thanks to all of you who donated to the Post's Veterans Relief Fund.
- The Legion Riders raised enough funds, due to their hard work for the Hogs and Hams Charity Ride, to ensure many veterans had a nice Christmas meal plus additional meals, with their donations of 2 turkeys, 16 hams and a large cash donation to the Veterans Coalition Food Pantry. The Auxiliary hosted a food drive at the Post's monthly breakfast in May for non-perishable food items and presented those to the Veteran Coalition Food Pantry Chairman Richard Floyd along with a donation check.
- The Riders were part of the escort for the Traveling Vietnam Wall, something that means quite a bit to the Vietnam veterans in our community.
- The Riders provided a cemetery escort of our own Jack Stewart to Bushnell National Cemetery and partnered with Post 237 to place wreaths on graves at Christmas time.

- When the FWC asked for an escort for a veteran whose last wish was to go fishing one last time, the Riders volunteered. The FWC made the fishing trip possible and the Riders were there to salute the veteran and see him off on his fishing trip. Unfortunately, he passed just 9 days later but his final had been granted.
- The Auxiliary, after hearing a presentation about K9 Partners for Patriots, which matches dogs with veterans and then trains the two at the same time, made a donation to help their cause.
- The Riders made two donations to the VetRelief Suicide Prevention Initiative and two of the Riders participated in part of the Unity Ride, which supports this initiative.
- On Veterans day, the Auxiliary and the SAL partnered to honor Veterans. The Auxiliary provided breakfast, "We Care" packages and Thank You cards personalized by one of their members. These cards are so well received, bringing tears to a few eyes of appreciation for the thank you that was never received. Later in the day, the Sal provide dinner for our veterans.
- The celebration of the Military branches' birthdays was a big hit with the veterans reminiscing and sharing their memories.
- We celebrated Memorial Day with a service at the Magnolia Cemetery, where we honored our Post's name sake, Arnold Vern Allen and Rueben Haire, Sr, the second commander of this Post, and later in the day a Remembrance Service was held at the Post. Other services include the 911 Remembrance and the Four Chaplains ceremony, which was a true family effort. Members from all four families participated in the program.

Children and Youth are our future.

- The Post helped on a national basis by making a donation to the American Legion's Children and Youth Fund to help with their program.

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Children and Youth continued

- The Post sponsored two boys for Boys State with help from the SAL and the Riders. The Crystal River Eagles Club Auxiliary helped the Auxiliary sponsored one of two girls they are sending to Girls State. These youths were chosen from the JROTC program at Lecanto High School.
- The JOTC Honor Guard has participated with several Post programs, including two Flag Retirement Ceremonies where we retired over 4,000 flags.

We have been very involved with Community Service this year.

- Our Post held five blood drives for a total of 186 lives saved, with sixty-two people donating.
- The Auxiliary worked with Operation Homefront and received school supplies and Christmas toys. The school supplies were distributed to various day care centers to the children whose families are at the poverty level and at Christmas, the toys from Operation Homefront were donated to Citrus County Foster Parents Assoc.(CCFPA), a non-profit that assists grandparents and neighbors who are raising children that otherwise would be in orphanages. Some of these toys were given out at Christmas and others will be used throughout the year for birthdays. The Post also made a donation to the CCFPA.
- For several years, the Legion family has assisted totaled 706 pounds of food, 898 pieces of clothing, 31 pairs of shoes and various other donations such as medical supplies and linens. The Auxiliary purchased and donated 32 hams for the organization to distribute for Thanksgiving meals.
- The Auxiliary presented toys and a cash donation to help with the medical costs for a family whose youngest child is going through radiation treatments. They have now "adopted" this family and are in the process of setting up raffles and other activities to raise money to help.
- The Riders and the Auxiliary both made donates to 50 legs, whose mission is to provide amputees with the necessary care and prosthetics that they could not otherwise afford..
- Thanks to the Auxiliary, we started a new initiative this year, Adopt-A-Highway program. Each Legion family is taking a turn on a quarterly basis to clean a 2 mile stretch of Grover Cleveland Blvd.

And we had Fun this year.

- We held many fun events at the Post: a band every month, monthly breakfasts and dinners, Karaoke on the last Tuesday of the month, and First Friday Clam Chowder during the season.
- We celebrated every holiday and more, from Cinco de Mayo to Fat Tuesday and things like Pie Day and Cookie Day.

The Building Fund is Growing.

- Beginning in 2022, the profits from the Post events go directly to the building fund as well as 50% of the Auxiliary's Mystery bags, the Friday night's Bonz game, the quarter drop game, the monthly raffle baskets, and new this year, a monthly opportunity to purchase a paper shamrock, easter egg, etc. are helping move the needle.
- With help from our members, our snowbird members, and guests, we raised over \$6,000 for the Fund in the first 4 months of the year. Baby steps, but they will lead to bigger steps.

Thank you to everyone who has been a part of this great year. I look forward to all we can accomplish as a family in the next 12 months. It takes all of us to be the best we can be!

Bob Ballew

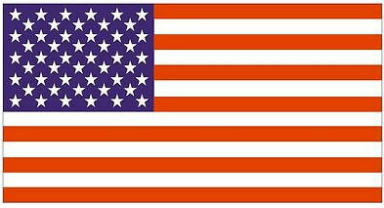
Commander Post 166

Veterans Updates

Free Dental Care

Aspen Dental Care new program "A Day Of Service" provides free dental care to veterans and their families at various locations throughout Florida. Appointments are necessary. The closest participating office for us is located 3900 S Suncoast Blvd. To make an appointment, call the "A Day Of Service " phone number at 844-277-3646.





As we celebrate Flag Day on June 14, ask yourself

Did You Know?

- The red part of the Flag stands for valor and courage; the white for purity and innocence and the blue for vigilance, perseverance, and justice.
- The Flag should be flown from sunrise to sunset. It may be flown 24/7 if it is properly illuminated.
- No Flag should fly higher than the American Flag.
- The field of blue should be to the viewer's left when displayed vertically.
- When displaying the Flag on same staff, the American Flag is displayed at peak, above any other Flag; for grouped flags, the American Flag goes to its own right; on a speaker's platform, the Flag must be above and behind the speaker; if the Flag is mounted on a staff, it is on the speaker's right; and if the flag is over a street, the stars face north or east depending on the direction of the street.
- The Flag should be flown at half-mast from sunrise until sunset on Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15th) and Patriots Day (September 11th) and at half-mast from sunrise until noon on Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (December 7th) and Veterans Day (November 11th).
- During the Pledge of Alliance and the National Anthem, persons present in uniform should render the military salute. Members of the armed forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute. All other persons should face the Flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, or if applicable, remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart.
- The Flag should not be displayed upside down except as a sign of distress or extreme danger.
- The Flag should never touch the floor or ground.
- Never use the Flag for decoration.
- Do not carry the Flag flat or carry things in it.
- Do not use the Flag for clothing.
- When your Flag becomes turn and tattered, bring it to your American Legion for proper disposal.

Welcome
to our
New Members

Kathryn Schneider, ALA

Gregory Thieshing, Legionnaires

Steven Wimmer, Legionnaire



Nothing says summer, like Flip Flops

Personalize one for just \$1.00

Help grow the Building Fund



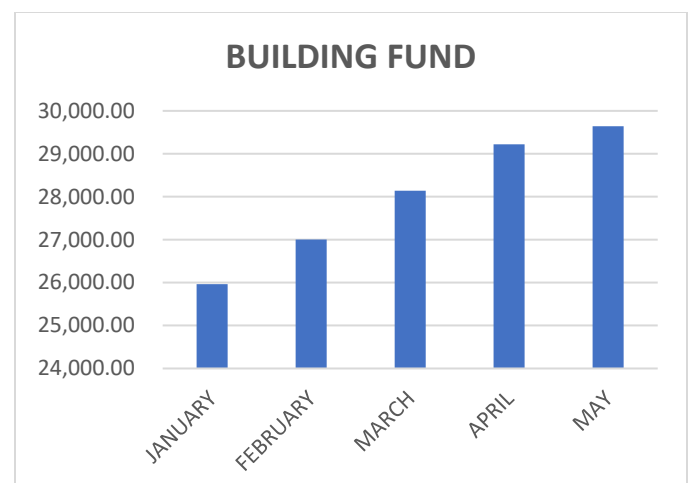
This month's Building Fund Basket is a Father's Day Basket. The drawing held on Father's Day.



Basket

A magnum of Gin
Tonic water
2 Glasses
Whiskey Spice Cake
Honey Roasted Peanuts,
Cheese-Its
Fireball Nips

Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00





General Membership Officers

Commander	Bob Ballew
1 st Vice Commander	Mark Long
2 nd Vice Commander	Dwight DeJean
Adjutant	Jane Mundis
Sergeant-At-Arms	Jane Mundis
Finance Officer	Open
Chaplain	Bill Rowe
Historian	Tom Piazza
Service Officer/Executive Board Member	Bob McDowell
Past Commander/Executive Board Member	Marie Conti
Executive Board Member	Tom Brown
Executive Board Member	Bud Costello
Executive Board Member	David Kaczanowski
Executive Board Member	John Myers

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 166

President	Debbie Ballew
Vice President	Judy Salo
Secretary	Julie Rowe
Treasurer	Dee Costello
Chaplain	Vicky Eley
Historian	Barbara Dubose
Sergeant-At-Arms	Janice McGough
Executive Board Member	Dorene Bettis
Executive Board Member	Barb Tripp
Executive Board Member	Marion Healy

Sons of The American Legion Squadron 166

Commander	Curtis Woods
1 st Vice Commander	Greg Doody
Treasurer	Bill Rowe
Chaplain	Bill Cloke
Sergeant-At-Arms	Ed Nemeth

American Legion Riders

Director	Ed Nemeth
Assistant Director	Bob Ballew
Secretary	Debbie Ballew
Treasurer	Brigitte Hancock
Sergeant-At-Arms	Tom Brown
Chaplain	Brigitte Hancock
Historian	Barba Debose
Road Captain	Jerry Van Tassel



June

Saturday June 4

10:30AM: ALR Meeting, followed by a Fun Ride

Tuesday June 7

10:00AM: Post Executive Board Meeting

Saturday June 11

10:00AM: General Membership Meeting

Monday June 13

10:30AM: ALA Meeting

Tuesday June 14

3:00 to 6:00PM: US Army's 247th Birthday

Saturday, June 18

4:00 to 7:30PM: Music by Kevin Dunn

Saturday June 25

Installation of 2022-23 Officers -

Fireplace Room-Sugarmill Woods CC

9:30AM: Breakfast Buffet

10:15AM: Installation Ceremony

At the Post

4:00PM: Meet the New 2022-2023 Officers

4:00 to 6PM: Music with Keven Dunn

Tuesday, June 28

6:00 to 8:30PM: Karaoke

Every Friday

Red Shirt Friday

Wear a Red shirt

Purchase your first drink between noon & 7PM

Receive a chip for the same drink*

**Excludes specialty drinks*

Queen of Hearts

All Day: Queen of Hearts Tickets available

6:30PM: Drawing for Queen of Hearts

Open to American Legion Family Members

50/50 Raffle

4:45PM: Tickets Sales Open

Drawing follows Queen of Hearts drawing

Open to all Members and Guests

YOU ARE INVITED

Installation of Officers

Please join the American Legion Family

For Installation of the 2022-2023 Officers

Sugarmill Woods Country Club

The Fireplace Room at the Clubhouse

1 Douglas Street

Homosassa FL

9:30 AM: Breakfast Buffett featuring

Omelet and Scrambled Egg Station

Bacon, Sausage

Home fries, Grits

Sausage Gravy & biscuits

Assorted Fruits, and Breads

10:15: Installation of 2022-2023 Officers

American Legion Post 166

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 166

Sons of The American Legion Squadron 166

American Legion Riders Chapter 166

*\$15.00 for guests**

Please RSVP to americanpost166@gmail.com or at Post 166

**All Incoming Officers fees will be covered by Post 166*

Calling All Army Veterans



#

Please Join Us As We Celebrate

The 247th Birthday Of

The United States Army

Tuesday, June 14th

American Legion Post 166

From 3:00PM to 5:00PM

Share your Army stories

Enjoy Appetizers

And A Special Army Birthday Cake

Please RSVP to americanpost166@gmail.com

or at Post 166 (352-765-3949)

For the Latest Information

Check our Facebook Page and Website

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

Website: americanlegionpost166.com

Auxiliary Unit 166 – May Photo Album



May 2, the ALA hosted the Monthly Breakfast with a food drive and special guests, Dept of Florida Auxiliary President Wanda Brandt, and Veterans Coalition Food Pantry Chairman Richard (Dick) Floyd.



Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup Crew
with help from the Legion Family



Patriotic Wreath Raffle
Benefits the Family of Atlas Powalsish
Who is making trips to Orlando to receive
Cancer treatments
Tickets available at the Post



American Legion Riders Chapter 166

Derby Day was a success with money raised for Veterans' Charities



Donations for Veterans Charities

Crystal River Eagles



Crystal River Eagle Riders



IRRU Social Club



American Legion Post #77



American Legion Post #237



Derby Day Hat Contest
New Champion: Marion Healy



And Her Court

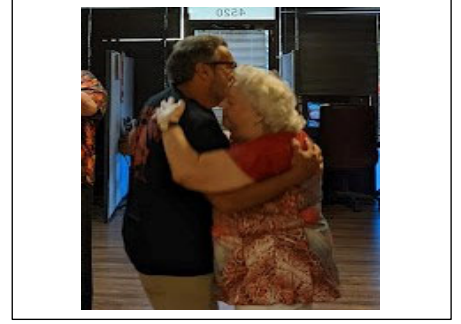


Events at the Post – May Photo Album

Cinco de Mayo



Joel and Lynn Entertainment





Our Post Depends On Your Support!

Please attend the meetings, make your voice heard & help us achieve our goals.

- **General Membership Meetings**
2nd Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM
- **Auxiliary Unit 166 Meetings**
2nd Monday of the month at 10:30AM
- **SAL Squadron Meetings**
3rd Saturday of the month at 10:00AM
No meetings from Memorial Day to Labor Day
- **Riders Chapter 166 Meetings**
1st Saturday of the month at 10:30AM
Followed by a Fun Ride

There are many Volunteer Opportunities to choose from

- **Volunteer Bartenders**
Earn Tips And Support Your Post!
4 1/2-hour shifts
Day Shift, Night Shift or Fill-in Position
No experience necessary

For more information, contact Michelle at 352/765-3949

- **Post Finance Officer**
Basic math skill
A few hours every few days

For more information, contact Commander Ballew at 727/432-7220

- **Event Team Volunteers**

Help with food prep
Set up help
Decorating
Ideas for great events

For more information, contact Deb Ballew at 727/432-7230

- **Handy Man/Woman**

Minor repairs
Misc. tasks at the Post

For more information contact Commander Ballew at 727/432-7220

Don't see anything here but would like to help us in other ways. Contact the Post at americanpost166@gmail.com or call 352-765-3949 or to volunteer your time and expertise!

JUST VOLUNTEER
There Is A Place For Everyone
WE NEED YOU!



American Legion Post 166, Homosassa FL

June 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
					6:30PM Queen of Hearts Drawing	10:30AM ALR
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Bloody Mary Sunday		10AM Post Eboard Mtg			6:30PM Queen of Hearts Drawing	10AM General Membership Mtg
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Bloody Mary Sunday	10:30AM ALA Mtg	Full Moon' Flag Day 3PM-5PM Army's 247th Birthday Celebration			6:30PM Queen of Hearts Drawing 50/50 Raffle	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Father's Day Bloody Mary Sunday		First Day of Summer			6:30PM Queen of Hearts Drawing 50/50 Raffle	9:30AM Installation of 2022-2023 Officers 4PM Meet the New Officers & Music by Keven Dunn
26	27	28	29	30		
Bloody Mary Sunday		6PM – 8:30PM Karaoke with Buzz Chainey				

Installation of 2022-2023 Officers – June 25th

The Fireplace Room at the Clubhouse, Sugarmill Country Club
 1 Douglas Street, Homosassa FL
 9:30AM: Breakfast
 10:15AM: Installation Ceremony

Army's 247th Birthday Celebration – June 14

3PM-5PM: Share Stories, Enjoy Comradeship
 Appetizers
 Special Army Birthday Cake
 Door Prize