

April 2025

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

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Congratulations to two of our members, Torrey Dean and Jane Mundis. Both were presented with a Patriotic Quilt of Honor by the Creative Quilters on March 1st. Only five quilts were presented to Veterans. It is a real honor to have Torrey and Jane as members of our Post.



Our Building Fund just got a boost! Randy Parrish, Squadron Commander, Buzz Chainey, Vice Commander and Mark Wagnitz, Treasurer of the Sons of the American Legion attended last month's General Membership meeting. They presented a \$5,000 check to the Post for the Building Fund. A huge thank you to the SAL for their donation! The following day, we received a \$500 donation from a group of northern members' Social Club. I want to thank them as well! I know it gets frustrating sometimes due to our small space, but rest assured we are looking everyday for a new Post home but we need more funds. Please help us grow the Building Fund by supporting the Post's fundraisers.

Nomination of Officers has begun! I hope each and everyone of you is thinking about how you can contribute, whether you are a Legionnaire, Auxiliary or SAL, there is a place for everyone and you are needed. If your not interested in an Officer position, how about being a committee member? It's a great place to start learning about our organization. You can also volunteer at the Post with our fundraisers: cook a meal or a part of a meal. Although we do not have a kitchen, we have a gas grill, a flat stone grill, an electric roaster, crockpots and airfryers. You can also help with serving and clean up. As the saying goes, "No one can do everything, but everyone can do something".

For God and Country

Bob Ballew, Post 166 Commander

Contact information: (727)432-7220; rballew931@gmail.com

AUXILIARY UNIT 166

AEF Fundraiser – Norwegian Dawn Cruise



Unit 166 invites you to join us on a 7-day cruise on the Norwegian Dawn!

Port of calls include Belize, Honduras, Coast Maya and Cozumel.

Travel dates are February 8-15, 2026, departing out of Tampa.

A deposit of \$250.00 is due by May 8, 2025, and final payment by October 8, 2025.

Cabin pricing is based on two passengers. All these prices include port charges and taxes but not gratuities (\$140.00 per person) and insurance (\$75.00 for inside and Ocean Cabins). Balcony rates will be quoted upon booking.

- Inside Cabins are \$1567.72 and include 2 perks: beverage package and internet.
- Oceanview Windows are \$1886.82 and include 2 perks: beverage package and internet.
- Balcony cabins rates are the prevailing rate on the day you book, and include 4 perks: beverage package, internet, specialty dining and shore excursion credit.

Contact Shandelle Johnson of Travelin Dreams Travel at 813/408-1247 to make your deposit or ask questions.

Our Auxiliary will receive \$100.00 per cruise booked which will be donated to the AEF (Auxiliary Emergency Fund). The primary goal of this program is to provide emergency assistance to a member for temporary assistance for food and shelter related to weather-related emergencies and natural disasters. Living where we do, we can all relate to how important this program is. Enjoy yourself on a cruise and help replenish the Fund.

Service not self

Debbie Ballew, President ALAFL 166

Contact information: 727/432-7230; ALAFLunit166@gmail.com

SQUADRON 166

Race Night

Thank you to everyone who came in to support our fundraiser! Deb Ballew was the very first winner to play our game. This month the Race Night is April 9th starting at 5PM. Hope to see you there!



Supporting Our Post

Several SAL Officers attended the March Legionnaire's monthly meeting and presented the Post with two donations: \$5,000 for the Building Fund; and two banners for the Post's quarterly Flag Retirement Ceremonies.



Sheriffs Youth Ranch Summer Camp Fundraiser

On Derby Day, May 3rd, the SAL will be hosting a fundraiser to send kids to summer Camp at the Sheriffs' Youth Ranch. I hope you will join us for an exciting day starting at 2PM with our own version of Derby Day Horse Racing. Then at 4:30PM we will be serving up a pasta and meatball dinner for just \$10.00. Hang around after dinner and watch the Kentucky Derby. Post time is 6:57PM. There will also be a 50/50 Raffle. Your help in sending these kids to camp is appreciated

For God and Country

Randy Parrish

Contact Information: (614)570-8561; rparrish51@yahoo.com

ALR CHAPTER 166

During the month of March, we participated in several rides and donated to the cause!



Crystal River Eagle Riders
50 legs




ALR Chapter 155
Take Stock in Children

Our Chairty Ride is coming up in a few weeks. Everyone is invited to join us!

American Legion Riders Chapter 166

POKER RUN



**Saturday
April 26, 2025**
9AM Registration
10AM KSU
Food provided before and after the ride

Ride Starts and Ends at American Legion Post 166
4250 S Suncoast Blvd, Homosassa

Stops Include:

- Crystal River Eagles 4272**
5340 W Grover Cleveland Blvd, Homosassa
- American Legion Post 99**
208 E Fort Dade Ave, Brooksville
- IR-RU Social Club**
922 US Hwy 41 S, Inverness
- VFW # 4337**
906 FL-44, Inverness
- American Legion Post 77**
4375 S Little Al Point, Inverness

**\$15.00
Registration
Per
Participant**

50/50 Raffle at Every Stop
Prizes for Best and Lowest Hand

For more information: **Contact Dwight 352/587-7773**

Event to Benefit American Legion charities and local charities

For the Cause, not the applause

Dwight Dejean, Director

Contact Information: (352)587-7773; ddejean1957@yahoo.com

THANK YOU YOPPERS

Every year it starts in October and by March it is complete – The Yooper Invasion, and we love it!

They do so much for our Post. When they are in the building their enthusiasm is catching.

Each year, they sponsor two fundraisers.

The first is Michigan Day. They invite the Michigan Trolls to join them as they put on a feast!

This year the Yoopers brought patsies, hot dogs with coney sauce, Mackinac Island fudge as well as other goodies. The trolls brought Venison jambalaya, Cheery cobbler made with Travis City cherries and various desserts. In addition, they held several raffles and donated the proceeds to the Cold Weather Shelter, where the homeless and folks with inadequate or no heating can go when the temperature drops below 40 degrees.



The second fundraising event they host is an annual camper crawl at the Sun Resort Homosassa River RV Park, where most of them spend the winter. It is a great time. Jane Mundis was there this year, representing our Post with our famous Bones Game. This was the best year yet! The raised \$1,368.00 which will go to help veterans. In addition, the Inglis Amvets donated \$500.00 to the Bridge 4 Veterans Shelter.



To the Yoopers – thank you for all you do for Post 166!

Safe travels! We cannot wait to see you next year.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Victor Bosteels, Legionnaire
 James Cate, Legionnaire
 Barbara LeCompt, ALA
 William Davis, Legionnaire
 Rolland Garber, Legionnaire
 Jan Hadley, Legionnaire
 David Hawkins, Legionnaire
 Arie Hill, Legionnaire
 Daniel Jankowski, Legionnaire

Lee Lechleidner, Legionnaire
 John Lee, Legionnaire
 Richard Marek, Legionnaire
 William Morgan, Legionnaire
 Mark Richards, Legionnaire
 Deneen Ritter, Legionnaire
 Joseph Seminole, Legionnaire
 William Tatun, Legionnaire
 Raymond Taylor, Legionnaire

2024- 2025 OFFICERS & MEETING TIMES

Legionnaires Membership Meetings: 2nd Saturday of the month at 10:00AM

Commander: Bob Ballew
 1st Vice Commander: Dwight DeJean
 2nd Vice Commander & Adjutant: L. Haynes
 Sgt-at-Arms: Jane Mundis
 Finance Officer: Darrell Walters
 Chaplain: Bill Rowe
 Historian: Tom Piazza
 Judge Advocate: Frank DiGennaro

Executive Committee r: Marie Conti
 Executive Committee: Tom Brown
 Executive Committee: Bud Costello
 Executive Committee: David Kaczanowski
 Executive Committee: John Surprise
 Executive Committee: Kevin Myhill
 Service Officer: Paul Herrick

Auxiliary Unit 166 Membership Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month at 10:00AM, lunch follows

President: Debbie Ballew
 Vice President: Cindy Haines
 Secretary / Treasurer: Dee Costello
 Chaplain: Lola Strickland
 Historian: Julie Rowe

Sergeant-At-Arms: Sheri Walters
 Executive Committee: Ida Maslinski
 Executive Committee: Judy Salo
 Executive Committee: Vicky Eley
 Executive Committee: Jan Habich

SAL Squadron 166 Membership Meetings: 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:00AM

Squadron Commander: Randy Parrish
 Vice Commander: Ernest (Buzz) Chainey

Treasurer: Mark Wagnitz
 Chaplain: Bill Cloke

ALR Chapter 166 Membership Meeting : 1st Saturday of the month at 10:30AM. fun ride follows

Director: Dwight Dejean
 Assistant Director: Bob Ballew
 Secretary / Treasurer: Debbie Ballew

Sergeant-At-Arms: Tom Brown
 Road Captain: Pam Murrin

MONTHLY EVENTS

We need your support for our monthly Events. It takes a lot of volunteer hours to make our Events happen and they can only be successful if you participate.

Every Tuesday: Queen of Hearts

6:15PM: Queen of Heart ticket sales close

6:30PM: Queen of Hearts Drawing

\$1.00 per Ticket

Winning Ticket Holder receives 70% of the posted amount

if present; if not present, winning ticket holder receives 50% of above amount

Members only; must present current membership card

50/50 Raffle: Following the Queen of Hearts

5PM Ticket sales open

7 tickets for \$5.00, no limit

3 Drawings Held

1 – 50% of Ticket Sales

2 – 10 Pull Tabs

3 – 5 Pull Tabs

Must be present to win, open to members & guest

The Bonz Game: Following the 50/50 Raffle

\$1.00 to play; 3 chances to roll 5 of a kind.

The winner receives a chip redeemable for 2 beers, wine or well drinks or one chip for top shelf drink.

Excludes specialty drinks.

Open to members and guests

Red Shirt Friday: Purchase your 1st drink; receive a chip for the same drink, excluding specialty drinks

First and Third Monday of the Month: 5PM to 8PM: Karaoke with Buzzsaw Entertainment **New Date Added**

First Friday Clam Chowder: 2:30PM – 6PM October through April. \$5.00 donation to the Building Fund for a bowl

Monthly Sunday Dinners: September through June

APRIL EVENTS

April 4: First Friday Clam Chowder (2PM – 6PM)

April 7 Karaoke with Buzzsaw Entertainment (5PM – 8PM)

April 9: SAL Race Night (5PM)

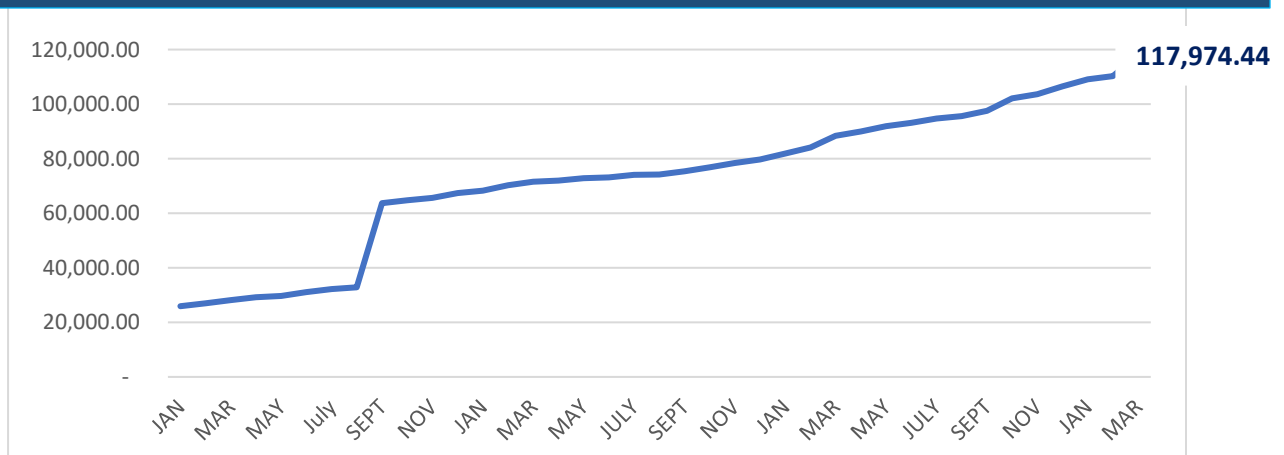
April 16: Last Chance Band (4PM – 6PM)

April 21 Karaoke with Buzzsaw Entertainment (5PM – 8PM)

April 26: ALR Chapter 166 Charity Poker Ride (KSU 10AM)

Follow us: Facebook: [American Legion Post 166 Homosassa, Florida](#); Website: [Americanlegionpost166.com](#)

BUILDING FUND AS OF 03/24/25



An increase of \$7,675.44 - Thank you, members, for your continued support!

POST PHOTO ALBUM

Star Fire – March 16, 2025



POST FAMILY FUNDRAISERS

ALA Unit 166

Patriot Quilt Raffle

Tickets \$5.00 Each

**Proceeds Will Be Used To
Benefit Veterans And
Our Community**

Sponsored By Auxiliary Unit 166

**Quilt Courtesy Of
Sherry Betts**

*Limited number of tickets
Drawing will be held when they are sold
See the Bartender for Tickets
Please Include Name & Number On Ticket*

Thank you for your support!

ALA Unit 166 Cruise



Feb. 8-15, 2026

Sailes from Port of Tampa

Port of Calls: Belize, Honduras, Coast Maya, and Cozumel

Pricing: Based on two passengers & includes port charges and taxes but not gratuities (\$140.00 per person)

Optional Insurance: \$75.00 for inside & Ocean Cabins. Balcony rates will be quoted upon booking

Cabins

- **Inside:** \$1567.72; with beverage package & internet
- **Oceanview Window:** \$1886.82; with beverage package & internet
- **Balcony:** Rates are the prevailing rate on the day you book; includes beverage package, internet, specialty dining and shore excursion credit.

Deposit: \$250.00 due May 8, 2025; final payment Oct. 8, 2025

Contact Shandelle Johnson (813/408-1247) for deposit & questions

Proceeds to benefit Auxiliary Emergency Fund

SAL Squadron 166



Sponsored by The SAL Squadron 166

DERBY DAY FUNDRAISER

May 3, 2025

2:00PM SAL Horse Races

**4:30PM Pasta & Meatball Dinner
(\$10.00)**

6:57PM Kentucky Derby

Benefits Sheriff's Youth Ranch Summer Camp

SAL RACE NIGHT



April 9th

**Betting Window opens at 4PM
Bet as much or as little as you please**

Six Heat Races













**Winners of each heat will
Compete in the Final Race**

Proceeds to benefit American Legion Charities

APRIL CALENDAR

April 2025 – Children & Youth

American Legion Post 166 – 4520 S Suncoast Blvd, Homosassa - americanpost166@gmail.com (352)765-3949

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		10AM Executive Committee Mtg 			2PM – 6PM Clam Chowder Red Shirt Friday 7:30 Bonz Game	 10:30AM ALR Mtg Fun Ride Follows
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	 5PM – 8PM		10:00AM ALA Mtg 5PM SAL Race Night 		Red Shirt Friday 7:30PM Bonz Game	 10:00AMAL Mtg
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Purple Up Day		4PM Last Chance Band		Red Shirt Friday 7:30PM Bonz Game	 10:00AM SAL Mtg
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	 5PM – 8PM				Red Shirt Friday 7:30PM Bonz Game	 Charity Ride American Legion Family Day
27	28	29	30			
DCC Mtg– Post 24, Belleview Noon Registration 1PM Mtg starts		