



February 2026

The American Legion Family of Post 166 Doing Things All Year

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER



This Sunday, February 1st, we will hold our Remembrance Service for the Four Chaplains. These four individuals, Chaplains of different faiths, all exhibited an enduring example of their faith, courage and selflessness during a tragedy at Sea. The American Legion recognizes their sacrifice every year in Posts all over the country.

This year we are offering a free breakfast at 10:30AM, followed by the Service at 11AM. At the conclusion of the service, the Canteen will open for those who were in attendance.

I look forward to seeing everyone on Sunday morning.

Property Update

Unfortunately, we do not have good news. Doing our due diligence on the property, we hired a company to serve as our agent to help with the inspection of the property before we went forward. We had been told there were two small wetlands on the property but those would not have interfered with our plans. However, things changed when SWFTMD's did an inspection. Their report revealed that most of the property was wetlands and the cost to obtain permits to fill the lots is astronomical.

Our Search Committee is back on the job, looking for another piece of property. And like before, there just isn't much out there that meets our criteria. If you think you know of a place, please connect our Search Committee at americanpost166.com. Remember we need at least 2 acres, no schools, day care or churches within 1,000 feet from property line to property line. The property should also be near our current location for the convenience of our members.

On a happier note, we have some great entertainment this month: Star Fire Band on 02/12 (please only one guest per member so all of our members have an opportunity to see them) and on Valentines Day, Kevin Dunn and his new partner Jack Grolla, will be here.

Hope to see everyone at the Post!

Bob Ballew, Post 166 Commander

Contact: 727/432-7220 rballew931@gmail.com

AUXILIARY UNIT 166

Happy February!

We continue to work our mission of supporting Veterans.



At our recent meeting, Gregg Laskoski, a volunteer with K9 Partners for Patriots, spoke to us about the mission of this non-profit program which provides free Service Dogs and 24 weeks of Service Dog training for qualifying veterans who are struggling with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury or Military Sexual Trauma.

We donated to help them with their work. But all of us can help.

Currently there is a bill in Congress – H.R.2605 (House of Representatives) and S.1441 (Senate) – the Service Dogs Assisting Veterans (SAVES) Act.

These bills propose a five-year pilot program for the VA to award grants to nonprofit organizations to provide trained service dogs to eligible veterans, cover the cost of training, and provide life-long veterinary insurance.

It's easy to contact your congressional representatives. Use the link below, fill in your name and address, the letter is already written.

<https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/Campaigns/127463/Respond>

Thank you for your support.

Post Monthly Basket

February is the Auxiliary's month to provide a raffle basket to help support our Programs. Our theme for this basket is "Welcome Spring," and I think with the weather we have had so far this year, we are all ready to welcome spring. Tickets are \$5.00 for one or 3 for \$10.00. The winning ticket will be drawn on February 24th, following the Queen of Hearts.

Service not Self

Debbie Ballew, President ALAFL 166

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

ALR CHAPTER 166



2026 Poker Run

On March 28, 2026, the Riders will sponsor a Poker Run with all proceeds going to our Veteran and Community Charities.

This ride is open to all - whether you ride a motorcycle or drive a car or truck, all are welcome! Registration is \$15.00 per person which includes raffle tickets, and a meal following the ride.

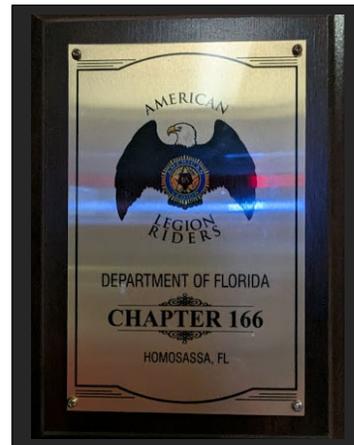
Best Poker hand will earn you \$100.00 and second-best is \$50.

Registration starts at 9AM and the ride starts at 10AM.

I hope you can join us; it will be a fun day.

Plaque Update

Our plaque is home! We were finally able to retrieve our Plaque from the Clermont Post, #55. It is safe on our wall, but who knows how long before someone will come for it.



Looking good on our wall!

ALR 166 January Basket

Congratulations to Donna Powers, the winner of our basket raffle. I would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets. All proceeds will be used to support our Veteran and Community Programs.

For the cause, not the applause

Dwight Dejean, ALR Chapter 166 Director

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

CANTEEN

Sunday Funday continues to be a FUNDAY at the Post! And this month we will be featuring jello and pudding shots.



DID YOU KNOW?

BE THE ONE

BE THE ONE

TO ASK VETERANS
IN YOUR LIFE
HOW THEY ARE DOING

TO LISTEN WHEN
A VETERAN
NEEDS TO TALK

TO REACH OUT
WHEN A VETERAN
IS STRUGGLING

AMERICAN LEGION

You hear **“BE THE ONE”** all the time in American Legion family. Do you know why? It is because the primary mission of the American Legion is to prevent suicides of Veterans and service members.

Anywhere between 18 and 22 Veterans commit suicide **every day**, a hard number to swallow. The **BE THE ONE** initiative is an effort to save the lives of veterans and service members who are at risk of suicide by talking openly about the challenges affecting them every day and letting Veterans know it is **OK to not be OK**.

The American Legion has partnered with Columbia University, and they have developed a training class for folks who want to learn more about interacting and responding with veterans who may be in crisis.

Whether you're a veteran or a friend or family-member of a veteran, you can help!

BE THE ONE to act, to call, to serve, to save!

Veterans Crisis Line
DIAL 988 then PRESS 1

Dp hulfdq#Dhj lrq#Srvw#199 *v#
Vhuylfh#R iilfhu#
Sdx#c#K huulfn # +683 ,#3705 : 64 #

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

William Dennington, Legionnaire
 Laura Eaton, Auxiliary
 Jack Grolla, Legionnaire
 Ralph Hudson, Legionnaire
 Alexander Jacobus, Legionnaire

Donna Kocher, Auxiliary
 Anne Marcussen, Auxiliary
 Deborah Richards, Auxiliary
 Larry Roby, Legionnaire
 Chuck Swank, SAL

FEBRUARY 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.

Your Post needs you!

February 1: 5PM - 8PM First Monday Karaoke – **NEW DAY**

February 6: 2PM - 6PM First Friday Clam Chowder – donate to the Building Fund for a bowl of Chowder

February 18: 5PM SAL Race Night

February 12: 3PM - 6PM Music by Starfire (**one guest per member**)

February 14: 4PM - 7PM Valentine s Day with music By Keven Dunn and Jack Grolla

MONTHLY EVENTS

First Friday of the Month: 2PM to 5PM **Clam Chowder**. Fundraiser for the Building Fund.

First Monday of the Month: 5PM to 8PM **Karaoke** with Buzzsaw Entertainment **NEW DAY**

Third Wednesday of the Month: 5PM SAL **Race Night**

Every Tuesday of the Month **Queen of Hearts**: 6:15PM ticket sales close; 6:30PM Drawing,

50/50 Raffle follows and then it's **The Bonz Game**:

Raffle Board: Ongoing fundraiser for the Building Fund. Tickets are \$5.00 each and limited to 100 per game. Board consists of one \$100.00 bill plus \$100.00's in raffle tickets. Winner is drawn as soon as all tickets are sold. Winner receives \$100.00 bill and all scratch-off tickets

Monthly Raffle Basket: Fund Raiser for American Legion Family's Charities. Each month a different Family sponsors the Basket

Every Friday is Shirt Friday - Rember Everyone Deployed: Purchase your 1st drink; receive a chip for the same drink, excluding specialty drinks.

2025- 2026 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: Tom Brown

Sgt-at-Arms: Jane Mundis

Finance Officer: Darrell Walters

Chaplain: Bill Rowe

Historian: Tom Piazza

Judge Advocate: Frank DiGennaro

Past Commander: Marie Conti

Executive Committee Member: Ernie Chainey

Executive Committee Member: Bud Costello

Executive Committee Member: John Surprise

Executive Committee Member: Kevin Myhill

Adjutant: Dwight Dejean



Auxiliary Unit 166

Membership meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month at 10:00AM

President: Debbie Ballew

Secretary / Treasurer: Dee Costello

Sergeant-At-Arms: Kandy Pelton

Executive Committee: Julie Rowe

Executive Committee: Barb Tripp



SAL Squadron 166

Membership meetings: 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:00AM

Squadron Commander: Randy Parrish

Vice Commander: Ernie Chainey

Treasurer: Mark Wagnitz

Chaplain: Bill Cloke



ALR Chapter 166

Membership meeting : 1st Saturday of the month at 10:30AM

Director: Dwight Dejean

Assistant Director: Bob Ballew

Secretary / Treasurer: Debbie Ballew

Sergeant-At-Arms: Mark Wagnitz

Road Captain: Tom Brown

Chaplain: Paul Herrick

Historian: Marcy Hammond

POST FAMILY FUNDRAISERS

SAL RACE NIGHT



Every Third Wednesday
Of the Month

Betting Window opens at 5PM
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

MYSTERY BAGS



**Filled with Candy
A Surprise In One
Of Every 10 Bags
Surprises include
Pull Tab, Bar Chip, Cash**



**Sponsored by the
American Legion Auxiliary
Unit 166**

On-Going Lottery Board Raffle



Tickets: \$5.00
Drawing: When all tickets are sold
Prize: \$100 bill + \$100.00 in Scratch off tickets
A Fundraiser for the Building Fund

POST 166 WEEKLY / MONTHLY EVENTS

NEW DAY



KARAOKE NIGHT

FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

AMERICAN LEGION POST 166
4520 S SUNCOAST BLVD, HOMOSASSA SPRINGS

ALL ARE WELCOME!

HOSTED BY
BUZZSAW ENTERTAINMENT

AMERICAN LEGION POST 166



QUEEN OF HEARTS

Drawing Every Tuesday Night

6:30 PM

*Tickets: \$1.00 each
Tickets Available All Week*

FIRST FRIDAY



**Jane's Famous
Clam Chowder**

**Donate To
The Building Fund**

**Receive A Cup of Clam
Chowder & Crackers**

FEBRUARY EVENTS



FOUR CHAPLAINS DAY

The Four Chaplains remind us all of our ability to rise above our self-interest.

**Please Join Us
February 1st, at 11AM
As We Remember the Sacrifices of
The Four Chaplains**

Free Breakfast served at 10:30AM



SUPER BOWL
TAILGATE PARTY

SUNDAY, FEB 8TH
**American Legion
Post 166**

Kick Off: 6:30PM

Food Available with a donation to
The Building Fund



Star Fire
**John
&
Susie**
*Country & Rock
(old & new)
with melding harmonies
on 7 instruments
then add
a laugh or two*

**Legion 166
Thurs. Feb. 12th 3-5pm**

*American Legion Members Only,
Only One Guest Per Member, Please*



**American Legion
Post 166**
4PM- 7PM

JOIN US

**Valentine's
Day**
PARTY

**Music by
Kevin Dunn & Jack Grolla**

POST PHOTO ALBUM

Bruce Cole



Post 166 Dancers



And I'd gladly stand up Next to you and defend her still today, 'Cause there ain't no doubt I love this land,
God bless the USA



MONTHLY CALENDAR

American Legion Post 166

4520 S Suncoast Blvd, Homosassa
americanpost166@gmail.com (352)765-3949

February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:30AM Pancake Breakfast 11AM Four Chaplains Service	2 BE THE ONE DAY Ground Hog Day KARAOKE NIGHT 5PM – 7PM New Night	3 	4	5	6 2PM – 5PM 1 st Friday Clam Chowder RED-SHIRT FRIDAY	 10:30AM ALR Mtg
8 10AM Dept. Mtg– Post 284 Super Bowl Tailgate Party 6:30PM Kick off	9	10 10AM Executive Committee Mtg 	 10:00AM ALA Mtg Lunch follows	12 3PM- 5PM Star Fire <i>One Guest per Member</i>	RED-SHIRT FRIDAY	 10:00AM AL Mtg 4PM – 7PM Valentine’s Day with Kevin Dunn Jack Grolla
15 Dept. Visit	16 President’s Day	17 Fat Tuesday 	18 Ash Wed. 5PM SAL Race Night 	19	RED-SHIRT FRIDAY	 10:00AM SAL Mtg
22	23	24 	25	26	RED-SHIRT FRIDAY	28

Monthly Basket: Auxiliary Unit 166 "Welcome Spring" Basket supporting ALA Charities