

January 2025

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

COMMANDER'S CORNER



Welcome 2025! It's going to be a great year for American Legion Post 166!

And to start the year off right, I am proud to announce we will have a special guest on January 12, 2025. The American Legion National Commander, James LaCoursiere, Jr, will visit our Post. We are expecting him between 11AM and 11:30AM. All American Legion family members are invited to the Post to greet him.. I hope you will plan to attend!

The National Commander is a USAF Veteran, who served during the Grenada/Lebanon conflict and is a member of American Legion Post 91 in Moosup, Conn. His focus this year is:

- **Be the One** suicide prevention mission. This initiative has grown and there is a free suicide prevention training class offered through the Legion's partnership with Columbia University for the American Legion Family members and their families. Sign up for a virtual training session at legion.org/betheone/training.
- Promote charitable giving to the Veterans and Children Foundations
- Enhance quality of life for all veterans and military families by supporting legislation that benefits them.

Membership is key to accomplishing these goals. Strength is in the numbers and it takes all of us working as a team. I am proud of our American Legion Family for the great job in growing our

Membership as of 12/20/24:

American Legion: 79.82% of 332 members goal

Auxiliary: 92.94% of 170 members goal

SAL: 53.66% of 82 members goal

If you have not renewed yet, please do so. Don't let your benefits expire!

For God and Country

Bob Ballew, Post 166 Commander

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

AUXILIARY UNIT 166

Welcome to a new year!

ALA Unit 166 celebrated the end of 2024 with our annual Christmas luncheon at Margarita Grill on December 9th. We had a nice crowd, 2 tables full of American Legion Auxiliary!



In addition, I want to thank everyone who bought tickets for our Girls State Basket. With your help we were able to donate \$450.00 to Department to help with the cost of the Girls State Program. Congratulations to Marilee. I'm sure she will enjoy the basket!

Service not self

Debbie Ballew, President ALAFL 166

Contact information: ALAFLunit1166@gmail.com 727/432-7230

SQUADRON 166

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a good holiday.

We have had some more SAL members at our meetings. I would love to see more.

Please pay your dues! After January 1st, you will not be served at the Canteen until you renew.

I would like to see good attendance on Sunday January 12 when the national American Legion Commander will be at the Post

We hope to have information on our new SAL shirts soon.

For God and Country

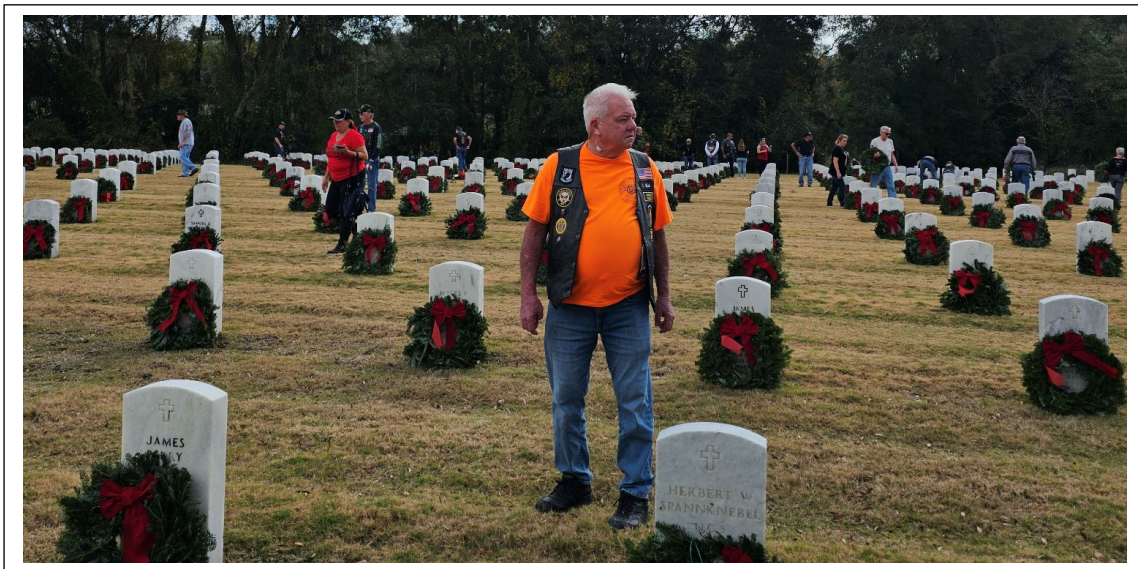
Randy Parrish, Squadron 166 Commander

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

ALR CHAPTER 166

This month we participated in two rides, IR-RU's Johnny Stanko's ride for an underprivileged Children's Party and Wreaths for Fallen Heroes.

The ride to Bushnell National Cemetery and placing wreaths on a Veterans' grave is an experience everyone should experience. If you have not participated in the ride or visited the National Cemetery the last 2 weeks of December, you should make it a must do for next year. You do not need a bike for the ride, cars are welcome. The experience is humbling! As you approach the Veteran's headstone, you say the Veterans name aloud (so they are not forgotten) and place the wreath. There were 1300 wreaths placed that morning. Please mark your calendars for next year, the Event will be December 14, 2025. I hope to see you there!



For the Cause, not the applause

Dwight Dejean, Director

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Lawrence Abraham, SAL

Sandra Bearden, ALA

Charles Bradway, Legionnaire

Constance Brauh, ALA

Robert Bonino, SAL

Shirley Chapman, ALA

Diane Davidson, ALA

Francis Einsmann, Legionnaire

Claude Harwood, Legionnaire

John Matherly, Legionnaire

Winfield O'Shea, Legionnaire

Mary Smoroh, ALA

Christopher Stevens, Legionnaire

Jason, Williams SAL

MONTHLY EVENTS

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 if drawn

50/50 Raffle: Following the Queen of Hearts

5PM Tickets 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 & guests

The Bonz Game: Following the 50/50 Raffle \$1.00 to play; 3 chances to roll 5 of a kind.

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, excludes specialty drinks

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

First Friday Clam Chowder: 2:30PM – 6PM October through April

Monthly Sunday Dinners: September through June

Follow us: Facebook: [American Legion Post 166 Homosassa, Florida](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionPost166HomosassaFlorida); Website: Americanlegionpost166.com

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 Member: Marie. Conti

Executive Committee Member: Tom Brown

Executive Committee Member: Bud Costello

Executive Committee Member: David Kaczanowski

Executive Committee Member: John Surprise

Executive Committee Member: Kevin Myhill

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

Chaplain: Bill Sonnycalf

JANUARY EVENTS

BUZZSAW ENTERTAINMENT
Featuring *KJ Buzz Chainey*



First Monday of the Month
5PM to 8PM



Donate \$5.00 To
The Building Fund For
A Cup of Clam Chowder



Tickets - \$5.00

Drawing after all 100 tickets sold
Benefits the Building Fund



The Last Chance Band



Plus
Celebrating Elvis's
90th Birthday
Wednesday - January 8
3PM

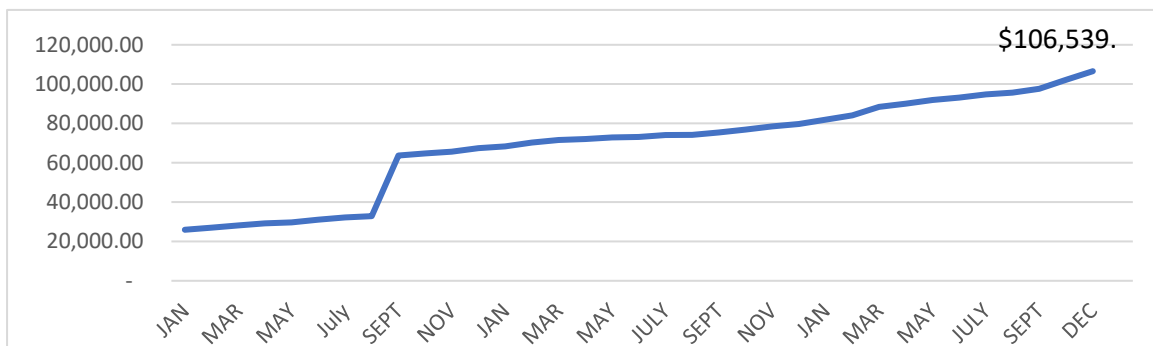


\$12
Donation

Ham Dinner

January 26 4PM
Dinner includes ham, macaroni & cheese,
vegie, salad, roll & dessert

BUILDING FUND AS OF 12/30/24



Thank you members for your continued support!

POST PHOTO ALBUM

Our Patriotic Christmas Tree



Sunday Monthly Dinner – 12/15/24










Ugly Sweater Christmas party – 12/23/24



January 2025 - American Legion Post 166

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

			1	2	3	4
			HAPPY New Year		Red Shirt Friday 2PM – 6PM Clam Chowder	10:30 ALR Mtg Fun Ride Follows  District Meeting Post 230
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	KARAOKE NIGHT with 5PM – 8PM Karaoke	10AM Executive Committee Mtg 	10AM ALA Meeting Lunch follows if interested 3PM Elvis 90 th Birthday Celebration		Red Shirt Friday	10:00AM AL Mtg 
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
11AM National Commander James LaCoursiere, Jr, Visit					Red Shirt Friday	10:00AM SAL Mtg 
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	MLK Day				Red Shirt Friday	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Sunday Monthly Dinner					Red Shirt Friday	

Red Shirt Friday: Wear a red shirt on Friday, purchase your first drink; receive a chip for the same, excludes specialty drinks

Queen of Hearts: Tickets available every day. **6:30PM** – Queen of Hearts Drawing, 50/50 raffle & the Bonz Game follows