

June 2024

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

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## Commander's Corner

Our American Legion Families have held their elections for 2024 – 2025 Election of Officers and Executive Committee members. Once the Officers and Executive Committee members are installed on June 22, their new duties will begin.

The Installation will take place on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at Sugarmill Woods Country Club with a breakfast buffet starting at 9:30AM followed by the Installation Ceremony. Guests are welcome to attend. The cost is \$22.00 per guest for the buffet. Please RSVP at the Post or at [americanpost166@gmail.com](mailto:americanpost166@gmail.com).

I want to thank our current officers for all their hard work. And to our new volunteers, thank you for stepping up and assuming the positions and ensuring that our American Legion will continue to grow and improve. Just like a family, it takes all of us working together to make our Post the best it can be. Based on the increase in our American Legion Family memberships this year, we are definitely on the right track.

Forty-seven new Legionnaires, including transfers, joined our Post, sixteen new members and transfers joined the SAL, and forty five new members joined the Auxiliary!

Our Building Fund is growing as well. Our volunteers have done a lot of hard work this year, with dinners, and special activities. The hard work has paid off and we are fast approaching the \$100,000 mark. Phyllis Surprise has helped move the needle with her Queen of Heart's night Slice of Pie sales, Holiday Pie sales and desserts for our dinners. Numerous others have committed to donate food, cook and serve meals: Lincoln and Cindy Haynes, David Kaczanowski and Lola Stickland, Nancy and Randy Parish, Mark and Connie Massicot, Sherri Walters, Kevin and Carol Myhill, Judy Kellogg, Jan Habich, Cheryl Suits, Julie Rowe, Craig Haliez, and my wife Debbie; and many others who have donated to the Building Fund.

I look forward to what we will accomplish together during 2024 -2025 membership year.

For God and Country

Bob Ballew, Commander

American Legion Post 166, Homosassa FL

# Congratulations

## 2024-2025 Officers and Executive Committee Members

### Legionnaires Post 166

Post Commander: Bob Ballew

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander: Dwight Dejean

2nd Vice Commander: Lincoln Haynes

Sgt-At-Arms: Jane Mundis

Present Chaplain: Bill Rowe

Past Post Commander and Executive Board Member: Marie Conti

Executive Committee Members: Tom Brown, Bud Costello, David Kaczanowski

Kevin Myhill, John Surprise

Historian: Tom Piazza

Finance Officer: Darrell Walters

Judge Advocate: Frank Digennaro

Adjutant: Lincoln Haynes

### Auxiliary Unit 166

President: Debbie Ballew

Vice President: Cindy Haynes

Chaplain: Lola Strickland

Executive Committee Members: Judy Salo, Jan Habich, Ida Malinski

Treasurer: Dee Costello

Sgt-at-Arms: Sherri Walters

Historian: Julie Rowe

### Sons of the American Legion Squadron 166

Squadron Commander: Randy Parish

Vice Commander: Buzz Chainey

Sgt-at-Arms: Tony Doody

Chaplain: Bill Cloke

### American Legion Riders Chapter 166

Director: Dwight Dejean

Asst. Director: Bob Ballew

Secretary/Treasurer: Deb Ballew

Historian: Teresa Lewis

Sargeant-at-Arms: Tom Brown

Road Captain: Pam Murrin

*Positions Effective with June 22, 2024 Installation*

## Auxiliary Unit 166

Our June meeting has been moved to Tuesday, June 11 at 11AM and for those interested, we will have lunch at Marguerita Gill .

Below is how we supported the ALA programs this past year.

**Auxiliary Emergency Fund:** We held several fund raisers at the Post to fund resources that are used to assist Auxiliary members in good standing who have suffered a loss due to a natural disaster or unforeseen circumstances.

**Americanism:** We assisted the Post with three Flag Retirement Ceremonies and helped burn the tattered flags.

**Children and Youth:** We donated toys to two underprivileged Childrens' Christmas Parties and made a donation to the American Legion Child Welfare Fund

**Community Service:** We coordinated and participated in quarterly the Adopt-A-Highway Event; collected food and clothing donations at the Post, which were taken to the homeless; and delivered meals to residents who were impacted by the hurricane and the tornado that struck last year

**Education:** We collected and donated school supplies to Homosassa Elementary School

**National Security:** We began mailing troop boxes to an Army Unit stationed in Jordan. However, due to the recent activity in the area, we have not been able to mail lately

**Poppy:** Our 2023 Poppy distribution was very successful. All funds collected from this go directly to Veterans and their families.

**VA & R:** With the Veterans Homeless Shelter now in Homosassa, we have become involved in delivering meals and supplies. We also donated seventy-seven lap robes, crocheted by member Jane Webb, to James A Haley Veterans Hospital in Tampa.

*Service not Self*

Debbie Ballew

President ALA Unit 166

## ALR Chapter 166

We held our annual Derby Day Chairty Ride for Veterans Causes on May 4<sup>th</sup>, which was very successful. We raised a record amount of money, thanks to donations from the Crystal River Eagles and their Eagle Riders, IRRU, the American Legion Posts 77 and 150, 50/50 raffle winners who donated the winnings back as well as the Poker hand winners.

I would also like to acknowledge our local businesses who donated Gift Certificates for the prize raffle: The Shed, Luigi's Family Restaurant, Marguerita Grill, Lollygaggers, Grumpy Gators, and the Dog House 2.

*For the cause, not the applause!*

Dwight Dejean, Director ALR Chapter166

## The Sons of the American Legion

Congratulations to the New SAL Squadron Commander Randy Paris and the other Officers. I wish them a successful year.

As a reminder, the SAL does not meet during the summer months. The next meeting is 09/21.

Have a great summer and stay safe.

Greg Doody, Squadron Commander

**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



# 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 and 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

drinks Excludes specialty Drinks

*Open to Members and Guests*

### Every Friday is Red Shirt Friday

### Wear Red to Support the Deployed

**Noon to 7PM:** Purchase your first drink &

receive a chip for the same drink, excludes

specialty drinks

### First Monday of the Month

5PM to 8PM: Karaoke with Buzzsaw Entertainment

### Monday, June 3

5PM to 8PM Karaoke with Buzzsaw Entertainment

### Tuesday, June 4

6:30PM Queen of Hearts, 50/50 raffle, The Bonz Game

### Friday, June 7 – Red Shirt Friday Activities

4PM 95th Birthday Celebration for Art Matusiak

### Tuesday, June 11

6:30PM Queen of Hearts, 50/50 raffle, The Bonz Game

### Wednesday, June 12 – BC Band

4PM to 7PM

### Friday, June 14 – Red Shirt Friday Activities

9AM Flag Retirement Ceremony

### Sunday, June 16

4PM Grill Night – Father’s Day Steak Dinner

Ticket Event

### Tuesday, June 18

6:30PM Queen of Hearts, 50/50 raffle, The Bonz Game

### Friday, June 21 – Red Shirt Friday Activities

### Saturday, June 22

9:30AM Installation of Officers at Sugarmill

Country Club (includes breakfast buffet)

\$22.00 RSVP at Post

### Tuesday, June 25

6:30PM Queen of Hearts, 50/50 raffle, The Bonz Game

### Friday, June 28 – Red Shirt Friday Activities

### Check our Social Media Accounts

**Facebook:** American Legion Post 166 Homosassa, Florida

**Website:** americanlegionpost166.com

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Craig Petersen, Legionnaire

### **BUILDING FUND EVENTS**

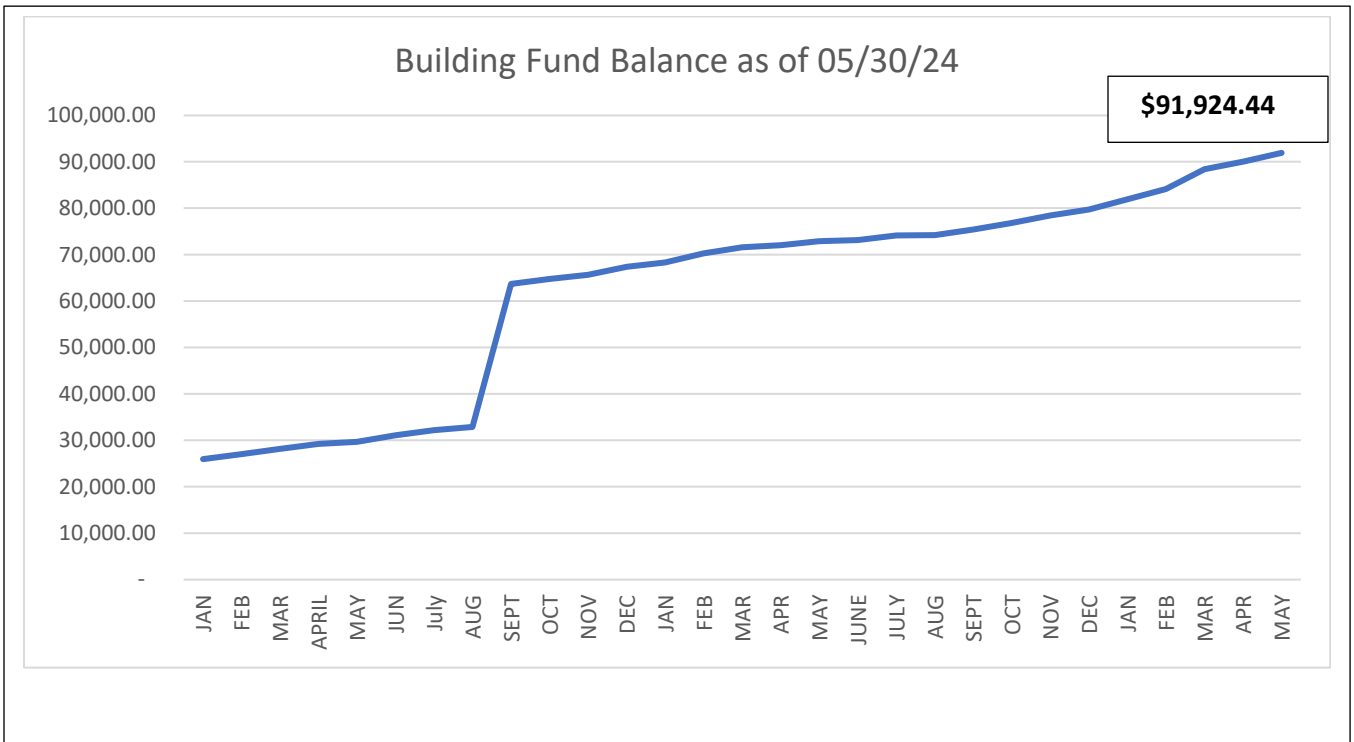


**FATHER'S DAY  
STEAK DINNER**

*Steak, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Roll & Dessert*

**JUNE 16 – 4PM**

**Tickets: Available at the Canteen  
Suggested \$15.00 donation to  
The Building Fund**



**An increase over April of \$1,924.00!**

# June 2024 – PTSD Awareness Month

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
						10:30AM ALR Mtg
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	5PM – 8PM Karaoke With Buzzsaw Entertainment	10AM Executive Committee Mtg 6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle Bonz Game		<i>D Day</i>	Red Shirt Friday 4PM 95 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration for Art Matusiak 7PM Bonz	10AM AL Mtg
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<i>Flag Week</i>		11AM ALA Mtg New Date and Time this meeting only 6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle	4PM – 7PM The BC Band		Red Shirt Friday 9AM Flag Retirement 7PM Bonz Game <i>Flag Day</i> <i>Army's BD</i>	Dept.
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
4PM Steak Dinner Ticket event - \$15.00 Donation to Building Fund		6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle Bonz Game		<i>1<sup>st</sup> day of Summer</i>	Red Shirt Friday 7PM Bonz Game	9:30AM Installation of Officers at Sugarmill Country Club RSVP at Post
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle Bonz Game <i>Start of Korean War</i>		<i>PTSD Awareness Day</i>	Red Shirt Friday 7PM Bonz Game	
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
		6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle/Bonz		4PM 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Picnic at the Post		