

June 2026

The American Legion Family of Post 166 Doing Things All Year

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER



The United States Army turns 251 on June 14th. They were formed during the Revolutionary War. Our Post has more Army Veterans than any other branch of service. They range from 100 to 22 years of age. We have 2 WWII Veterans, 5 from the Korean War; 91 are Vietnam Vets, 9 from Global War on Terrorism, 13 participated in the Lebanon Grenada Conflict, 1 from the Panama Invasion, 7 Persian Gulf War Veterans, and 19 Army Veterans enlisted when there was no ongoing war or conflict. I invite all our Army Veterans to stop in on June 14th for birthday cake and to celebrate their anniversary. Thank you for your service!

D-Day is June 6th. It is the largest seaborne invasion in history. Very few (estimate is 20-25) Veterans are left who participated in the invasion. Approximately 2,501 American troops were killed during the D-Day invasion and airborne operations in Normandy. Please take a moment on June 6th to remember the sacrifice made that day and every day by our military.

Congratulations to the new 2026-2027 American Legion Family Officers. Installation will take place on June 27th at Sugarmill Country Club. Following installation, the Officers will assume their new positions. I want to thank all of them for volunteering to help. But please remember, they need your support! It takes all of us working together to make our Post successful in fulfilling our goals.

Please join us for Father's Day dinner on June 21st. Tickets are available at the Post. Help us to continue to grow the Building Fund. Also, The Last Chance Band will be at the Post on June 25 starting at 4PM. Hope to see you.

For God and Country!

Bob Ballew, Post 166 Commander

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

AUXILIARY UNIT 166

Happy Summer - It may not be the official date, but Summer has arrived!

Unit 166 2027 Fundraising Cruise on the Norwegian Gem

I would like to invite everyone, and your friends and family, to join us on our 2nd annual fundraising cruise, departing from the Port of Tampa on February 1, 2027 and returning on February 5, 2027.

\$100.00 will hold your reservation. The balance is due October 4, 2026.

Please fill free to contact our Agent Alex at (954) 514-4466. Use group number A3082404. He will be happy to find the right package for you.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 166 Cruise
February 1-5, 2027
The Norwegian Gem



<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Information</u>
Monday 4PM Depart Port of Tampa	Cabin Rates for 2 \$1002.10 – Basic Rate \$1298.10 – Includes Open Bar & 1 Specialty Dinning Night for 2
Tuesday Day At Sea	
Wednesday 7AM – 5PM Great Stirrup Cay, Bahamas	Balcony Rates for 2 \$1420.00 – Basic Rate \$1716.10 – Includes Open Bar & 1 Specialty Dinning Night for 2
Thursday Day At Sea	
Friday 7AM Arrive Post of Tampa	Travel Insurance & other Packages Available

Book Now and Lock in your Rate!
For more information and to book your cruise
Contact Alex (954) 514-4466
Use group number A3082404

Service not Self

Debbie Ballew, President ALAFL 166

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

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

We held elections at our May meeting, and I am glad to tell you we have the same great team!

The races are going well and would love to have more people come out and enjoy a fun evening. In June we will be racing flags, and July will be Uncle Sam figures. Races are the 3rd Wednesday of every month. . Join us, you will have good time.



For God and Country

Randy Parrish, Squadron 166 Commander

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

ALR CHAPTER 166

Wreaths for Fallen Heroes

Every year we participate with IRRU Riders to provide wreaths for Veterans Graves at Christmas, primarily at Florida National Cemetery (Bushnell) but also at local cemeteries.

On May 23rd we attended the annual fundraiser at Crystal Harley Davidson. Both the Post and our Riders Chapter donated \$500.00. The wreaths will be purchased and bows added by volunteers in early December and then on December 20th, we will ride with many local organizations to Florida National Cemetery (Bushell) and place a wreath and say the Veterans' name as we lay the wreath.



Plaque Update

It is gone! Captured once again by Chapter 55 (Clermont). This will be our 4th time retrieving our plaque from them.

For the Cause, not the Applause

Dwight Dejean, ALR Chapter 166 Director,

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

WELCOME NEW POST 166 FAMILY MEMBERS

Lillian Ahrendt, ALA
Jamie Anderson, TAL
Paula Bamford, ALA
David Barton, TAL
Chris Bova, TAL
Joseph Cummings, SAL

James Lawler, TAL
William Lawson, TAL
Ed Nemeth, SAL
Joseph Traina, TAL
Michelle Traina, TAL
Ralph Viegelmann, TAL

JUNE EVENTS

June 1: 5PM - 8PM First Monday Karaoke
June 7: 1PM Art Matusiak's 97th Birthday Celebration
June 14: US Army's 251st Birthday – Cake for Army Veterans
June 17: 5PM - 8PM SAL Race Night
June 21: 4PM Father's Day Dinner
June 25: 4:00PM: Last Chance Band

MONTHLY EVENTS

First Monday of the Month: 5PM to 8PM **Karaoke** with Buzzsaw Entertainment
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 the Queen of Hearts and then it's **The Bonz Game**
Every Friday is **Shirt Friday - Rember Everyone Deployed**: Purchase your 1st drink; receive a chip for the same drink, excluding specialty drinks.
On-going: **Lottery Board Raffle** for the Building Fund.

CANTEEN



DID YOU KNOW?

FLAG DAY - June 14



- Flag Day is celebrated on June 14th every year.
- No Flag should fly higher than the American Flag.
- 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.
- The field of blue should be to the viewer's left when displayed vertically.
- When displaying the Flag on the 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.
 - If the flag is over a street, the stars face north or east depending on the direction of the street.
- Procedure dates are established by federal law and are observed nationwide.
 - Memorial Day (last Monday of May): from sunrise until noon, then raised to full height.
 - Patriot Day (September 11): from sunrise to sunset.
 - National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day (July 27): from sunrise to sunset.
 - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (December 7): from sunrise to sunset.
- 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 torn and tattered, bring it to your American Legion for proper disposal. Our Post has quarterly Flag Retirement Ceremonies.

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

Adjutant: Mark Cram



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 FUNDRAISERS

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

AMERICAN LEGION POST 166



**QUEEN
OF
HEARTS**

Drawing Every Tuesday Night

6:30 PM

Tickets: \$1.00 each

Tickets Available All Week

JUNE EVENTS

THE MAN - THE MYTH THE LEGEND



Please Join Post 166 In Celebration Of
Art Matusiak
On His 97th Birthday - June 7th @ 1PM

Country Ribs



FATHERS DAY DINNER

June 21, 2026 * 4PM * \$15.00

Includes Country Ribs, Cole Slaw, Potato, Vegie & Dessert

Building Fund Raiser



Thursday, June 25 - 4PM

POST PHOTO ALBUM

Mother's Day Breakfast



POST PHOTO ALBUM

Poppies



Help from the Legionnaires



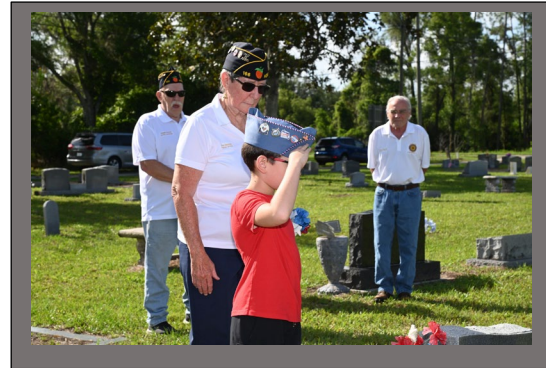
Not Pictured Connie Brault

Recognition for Donations by the Post and the Riders

Crest School Recipient



Memorial Day Ceremony



Memorial Day Dinner



Post 166 Family Picture



JUNE CALENDAR

American Legion Post 166 4520 S Suncoast Blvd, Homosassa americanpost166@gmail.com (352)765-3949 June 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 BE THE ONE DAY  KARAOKE NIGHT 5PM – 8PM	2 10AM Executive Committee Mtg 	3	4	5  RED SHIRT FRIDAY	6 D-Day 
7 1PM Art Matusiak Birthday 	8	9 	10  10:00AM ALA Mtg Lunch follows	11	12  RED SHIRT FRIDAY	13  10:00AM AL Mtg 10:45AM Flag Retirement
Department Convention – Lake Bueno Vista						
14 Flag Day Army Birthday 	15	16 	17 5PM SAL Race Night 	18	19 Juneteenth  RED SHIRT FRIDAY	20  10:00AM SAL Mtg
21 Father's Day 4PM Father's Day Dinner	22	23 	24	25 4PM  Last Change Band	26  RED SHIRT FRIDAY	27 9AM Installation of 2026-2027 Officers @ Sugarmill
28	29	30 	Monthly Basket sponsored by the SAL			

American Legion Post 166

4520 S Suncoast Blvd, Homosassa FL 34447

Phone: (352) 765-3949

Email: americanpost166@mail.com

Facebook: American Legion Post 166; **Website:** americanlegionpost166.com