

May 2023

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

Commander's Corner



Memorial Day is coming fast! And this year, I have a renewed appreciation of the sacrifices that were made for our freedom! As most of you know, Debbie and I just returned from an RV Rally in Washington DC. We toured many places but the ones that stand out are:

- Arlington National Cemetery
- The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
- The changing of the guard and their dedication
- The WWII memorial, where we witnessed an Honor Flight of the greatest generation
- The Korean Memorial, a United Nations effort
- The Vietnam Wall, my generation

It's hard to view those memorials and hear the stories and not get choked up. I want to thank my Post Officers and members for their support while we were gone.

And I would like to invite **all of you** to join us this year for our memorial service that will be held at Magnolia Cemetery as we pay tribute to Marine Corps Warrant Officer 4th Class Arnold Vern Allen, the namesake of our Post. Meet the Riders at 9AM for the ride to the cemetery at 3131 W Gulf to Lake Highway or meet us there. Later in the day, starting at 4PM, join us for a Memorial Day Picnic at the Post. All donations will go directly to the Building Fund.

Also mark your calendars for Saturday May 27th. Riders from Post 237 are holding a fundraiser for Wreaths for Fallen Heroes at Crystal Harley Davidson. The hours are from noon to 5PM. On the menu is Big Mikes slow cooked pulled pork, potato salad, corn, and dessert for just \$15.00 and Hat Trick will be the entertainment. This is a great cause! We participate with them every year by placing wreaths on the graves of our Veterans and families at Bushnell National Cemetery at Christmas time.

Congratulations to our Legion Family. Everyone has met their membership goals! This is the 2nd year in a row and says a lot about our members. Thank you!

For God and Country

Bob Ballew

Commander Post 166

Auxiliary Unit 166 Update

It's Poppy time!

Our Poppies are handmade by veterans as part of their therapeutic rehabilitation and are distributed across the country by the American Legion Auxiliaries on Poppy Day, Memorial Day, and Veterans day, in exchange for donations that go directly to assist a veteran and a veterans' family.

This year Poppy Day is Friday May 26th. Look for us then and on Memorial Day at both the Homosassa Publix and Winn Dixie, Kane's Ace Hardware, Walden Woods, Howard's Flea Market, and the Post.

Donate and wear your Poppy proudly. Help us help our Veterans in need!



In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

- Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae

Service not Self

Debbie Ballew
President ALA Unit 166

The Sons of the American Legion

Our last meeting of the season will be May 20th. We will return to our regular monthly meeting schedule on September 16th.

Please join us at the May 20th meeting at 10AM as we vote for our 2022-2023 officers. Your vote is important!

Stay safe this summer and I look forward to seeing everyone in September.

For God and Country

Greg Doody, 1st Vice Squadron Commander

Looking over the Fairing

Our 5th Annual Derby Day Charity ride is this Saturday, May 6th. This ride is open to bikes, trikes, street-rods, trucks, and automobiles. Just \$15.00 per participant and includes a light breakfast and a meal following the ride. Registration starts at 9:30AM and the ride begins at 10:30AM.

Stops include Crystal River Eagles, Marine Corps League Detachment, VFW #10209 (Spring Hill), VFW #9236 (Hernando Beach) and Sand Trap Bar & Grill.

Later in the evening, the Post is having a Derby Day Party which includes a Derby Day Hat Contest following the race. Bring your hat and stay for the competition.

Ride Safe

Buzz (Mutt) Chainey
ALR Chapter 166 Director

Veterans Information



Local Service Officers:

Jim Dryer (315) 240-1442 /Wanda Thomas (352) 257-0541



Saturday May 6

Derby Day

9:30AM Charity Ride Registration

Ride open to everyone

10:30AM KSU/ Start your engines

4 stops. 50/50 at each one

Basket Raffle

Continental Breakfast and Meal following Ride

5PM: Derby Party at Post

Featuring Best Derby Hat Contest

Monday May 22 - *Date Change*

Karaoke

5PM to 8PM: Featuring DJ Buzz Chainey

Friday May 26

National Poppy Day – Poppys available

Saturday May 27

12PM to 5PM: Wreaths for Fallen Heroes

Fundraiser at Crystal Harley Davidson

Monday, May 29

9AM: Ride to Magnolia Cemetery from Post

9:30AM: Memorial Ceremony

4PM: Post Picnic benefiting the Building Fund

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

6:30PM: Queen of Hearts drawing (American Legion Family Members only)

50/50 Drawing follows the Queen of Hearts (American Legion Family and Guests)

The Bonz Game follows the 50/50 raffle
Three rolls of the dice to get all the same number
Win 2 beer, wine, or well drink chips; or 1 call or top shelf chip

For the Latest Information

Check our Social Media Accounts:

Facebook: [American Legion Post 166 Homosassa, Florida](#)

Website: americanlegionpost166.com

Monthly Meetings and Officers

American Legion Post 166

Executive Board Meeting: 1st Tuesday at 10AM

General Membership Meeting: 2nd Saturday at 10AM

Post Commander	Bob Ballew
1 st Vice Commander	Mark Long
2 nd Vice Commander	Dwight DeJean
Adjutant	Jane Mundis
Sergeant-At-Arms	Jane Mundis
Finance Officer	Open
Chaplain	Bill Rowe
Historian	Tom Piazza
Judge Advocate / E Board	Bob McDowell
Past Commander / E Board	Marie Conti Executive
Board Member	Tom Brown Executive
Board Member	Bud Costello
Executive Board Member	David Kaczanowski
Executive Board Member	John Myers

American Legion Auxiliary

Monthly Meeting: 2nd Monday at 10:30AM

President	Debbie Ballew
Vice President	Judy Salo
Secretary	Julie Rowe
Treasurer	Dee Costello
Chaplain	Vicky Eley
Historian	Barbara Dubose
Sergeant-At-Arms	Open
Executive Committee	Dorene Bettis
Executive Committee	Barb Tripp
Executive Committee	Marion Healy

The Sons of the American Legion

Monthly Meeting: 3rd Saturday at 10AM

Commander	Curtis Woods
1st Vice Commander	Greg Doody
Treasurer	Bill Rowe
Chaplain	Bill Cloke
Sergeant-At-Arms	Open

American Legion Riders

Monthly Meeting: 1st Saturday of the Month at 10:30AM

Fun Ride follows

Director	Buzz Chainey
Assistant Director	Bob Ballew
Secretary/Treasurer	Debbie Ballew
Sergeant-At-Arms	Tom Brown
Chaplain	Bill Sonnycalf
Historian	Barbara Debose
Road Captain	Jerry Van Tassel

Welcome to our New Members

Richard Hawkins, Legionnaire
 Margaret Given, , Legionnaire
 Steven Givens, Legionnaire
 Malling Mango, Legionnaire
 Michael Morse, SAL

Mary Parrish, ALA
 Lori Rodgers, ALA
 Robert (Jeff) Rose, SAL
 Joyce C Thibodeau, Legionnaire
 Richard Wilkinson, Jr., Legionnaire



May God wrap his hands around those we have lost this year

Francis Bruce, ALA
 Rebecca Markussen, ALA

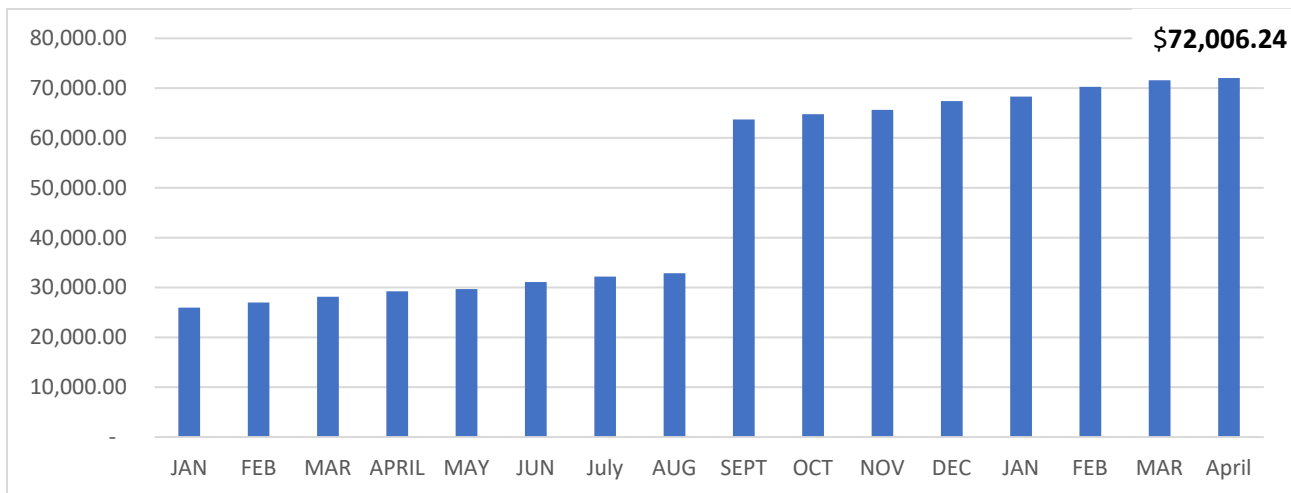
James Rohrback, Legionnaire
 Robert Scott (not our former Commander), Legionnaire

Monthly Fundraisers for the Building Fund

Help Grow the
Building Fund
Just \$1.00 to decorate
A Flower &
"Plant it on our wall"

Summer Basket	
<p>Pinot Grigio Wine with 2 glasses Serving Platter & paper plates Table Cover , napkins & cutlery 2 Plastic Drink Bottles Sunscreen & After Sun Wipes Dish Towel Pretzels, Chips & Peanuts</p>	

Building Fund as of April 30, 2023



American Legion Post, 166 Homosassa – May 2023

National Military Awareness Month

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo Red Shirt Friday 6:30 Queen of Hearts/50-50 Raffle	6 Derby Dy Charity Ride 9:30 registration 10:30: KSU 5PM: Derby Fay Party featuring Best Hat Contest 9AM DCC District 4 MTG: Bellevue Post
7 V-E Day	8 10:30AM ALA Mtg	9	10	11	12 Red Shirt Friday 6:30 Queen of Hearts/50-50 Raffle	13 <u>10AM General Membership Mtg</u> <u>Children of Fallen Patriots Day</u>
14 Mother's Day	15 Peace Officers Memorial Day' Flags at Half Staff	16	17	18	19 Red Shirt Friday 6:30 Queen of Hearts/50-50 Raffle	20 10AM SAL Mtg Armed Forces Day First day of Summer
21	22 5PM – 8PM Karaoke with KJ Buzz Chainey National Maritime Day	23	24	25	26 Red Shirt Friday 6:30 Queen of Hearts/50-50 Raffle Poppy Day	27
28	29 Memorial Day 9AM :Depart for Magnolia Cemetery Service 4PM: Post Picnic Flags at Half Staff	30				

Upcoming Dates

June 14: 9AM Flag Disposal Ceremony

June 24:10AM Installation of Officers with Breakfast Buffett (free to Officers; \$22.00 per guest)