



October 2023

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



Commander's Corner

Yes! It is nice to finally get some cooler weather. This summer has been extremely hot. The new A/C was installed 3 weeks ago and is working great. Thank you once again for your patience during the struggles with the 24 yr old A/C Unit.

With the Hurricane over, clean up and reconstruction have started in the affected areas, which includes areas of Homosassa. I wanted to make sure our members are aware of the help available through the American Legion and the Auxiliary. Both the Dept Commander and the ALA President have named the Disaster Funds as their special projects.

We have applications available at the Post for Legionnaires, Sons, and the Auxiliary. Additional information is available at <https://www.floridalegion.org/resources/hurricane-relief/resources/> for the Legionnaires and Sons, and for the Auxiliary at: <https://www.legion-aux.org/aef-application> and <https://www.legion-aux.org/aef-application>.

If you were not affected, I urge you to consider donating to one of the Funds.

Make checks payable to:

The American Legion, Department of FL or the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of FL
Note "Disaster Relief" in the memo
Mail to: The American Legion Department of Florida or The American Legion Auxiliary
Disaster Relief
1912 A Lee Rd-
Orlando, FL 32810

We are here for you. If you need help, reach out to us!

For God and Country

Bob Ballew

Commander Post 166

Auxiliary Unit 166 Update

On Sept 23rd, we were honored to have Dept. of Florida American Legion Auxiliary President Dee Bell and District 4 President Janet Woods visit our Post for breakfast and to assist us with a service project for the VA & R Program – Lap Robes for Veterans.

We were given seventy-seven lap robes by ALA member Janet Webb. Each lap robe was tied with ribbon and a thank you card added' and then boxed up to be delivered to James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital, Malcom Randall Department Of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and C.W. Bill Young Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.



We also presented President Dee with a check for her Special Project- The ALA Department of Florida Disaster Fund to assist ALA members after Hurricane



Our next meeting will be October 9 at 10AM (**new time**). We invite all ALA members to join us at the meeting as we make plans for Veterans Day and Poppy distribution. And please join us after the meeting for lunch. (Dutch). Each month a different member will select a different budget friendly restaurant where we can get to know each other better. Hope to see you!

Service not Self

For God and Country

Debbie Ballew, ALA Unit 166 President

Sons of the American Legion

Last month I was prepared to lead the SAL meeting however that did not happen. There were only two members present, and without a quorum there can be no meeting,

I am very disappointed that out of seventy-seven members, only two found it important enough to attend. I realize some of the SAL members are snowbirds and a few work and a few were on vacation, but where was everyone else?

Meetings are held only 9 months of the year (no meetings from Memorial Day to Labor Day), on the third Saturday of the month, and generally last about 20 minutes. Surely, you can find time for that. If participation does not improve, your Charter could be in jeopardy. Should the Department of Florida pull the Charter, you will no longer be a member of our Post family.

The Sons of The American Legion always strive to support our nation's veterans and youth, but you cannot do that if you do not participate.

If the meeting date and times don't work for you, let someone know. They can be changed if the majority agrees.

I am asking once again for your attendance and participation at the October 21st meeting starting at 10AM. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

For God and Country

Bob Ballew, Commander Post 166

AL Riders

Our Chapter's 5th annual Hams n Hogs Charity will take place on November 4th. The ride is open to everyone - Trikes, Bikes, Roadsters, Street Rods, Trucks and Automobiles

The registration fee is a smoked or canned ham, or \$15.00 per participant. This includes a continental breakfast prior to the Ride and a dinner following the Ride.

There will be games, 50/50 raffles at each stop, as well as merchandise raffles at the Post. All proceeds will go to the Citrus County Veterans Coalition Food Pantry for Holiday meals for Veterans and their families.

The stops are:

Eagles Aerie #4272

Sleepy Hollow Fish Camp

IRRU Social Club

American Legion #77

American Legion #155:

Registration begins at 9:30Am and Kick stands up at 10:30AM. I hope you will be able to join us. It is always a good time and for a good cause!

We will also be participating with Eagles on Saturday, October 28th, on their annual Sami's Ride, which benefits their annual Christmas party for the underprivileged children of Citrus County.

Ride Safe

Buzz Chainey, ALR 166 Director

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
1st Vice Commander	Dwight DeJean
2nd Vice Commander	Ernest (Buzz) Chainey
Adjutant	Lincoln Haynes
Finance Officer	Darrell Walters
Sergeant-At-Arms	Jane Mundis
Chaplain	Bill Rowe
Historian	Tom Piazza
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 10:00AM new time

President	Debbie Ballew
Vice President	Judy Salo
Secretary	Julie Rowe
Treasurer	Dee Costello
Chaplain	Vicky Eley
Historian	Cindy Haynes
Sergeant-At-Arms	Sherry Walters
Executive Committee	Marion Healy
Executive Committee	Jan Habich
Executive Committee	Lola Strickland

The Sons of the American Legion

Monthly Meeting: 3rd Saturday at 10AM (Sept-June)

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

American Legion Riders

Monthly Meeting: 1st Saturday of the Month at 10:30AM
 Fun Ride follows meeting

Director	Buzz Chainey
Assistant Director	Bob Ballew
Secretary/Treasurer	Debbie Ballew
Sergeant-At-Arms	Tom Brown
Chaplain	Bill Sonnycalf
Historian	Tammy Chainey



Reducing the rate of veterans who die by suicide is the focus of The American Legion’s highest priority, **Be the One.**

Since the launch of “Dial 988 then press 1” as the shortened Veterans Crisis Line number in July 2022, the crisis line has fielded more than 1.1 million contacts. This includes over 953,000 calls, an increase of 12.1% from the same timeframe from the previous year, with an average speed to answer of 9.48 seconds. There was also a year-over-year increase in text messages (58.1%) and online chats received (10%).





- Steve Bridgewater, Legionnaire
- Roxanne Edinge, ALA
- Joe Fornino, Legionnaire
- Joann St. Germain, ALA
- Michael St. Germain, Legionnaire
- James Herndon, SAL
- Alexander Jolie, Legionnaire
- John Kisslan, Legionnaire
- Ida Maslinski, ALA
- Joseph Michelli, Legionnaire
- Kristine Saego, Legionnaire
- David Steitz, Legionnaire
- Steven Sweazea, Legionnaire
- Ember Lynn Williams, ALA



- October 5:** 5PM Early Bird Dinner
- October 6:** First Friday Clam Chowder
2PM to 6PM Bldg. Fundraiser
\$5.00 Suggested Donation
- October 10:** Adopt -a Highway
9AM- Meet at Elks Parking Lot
Bring a grabber, water &, sunscreen
- October 13:** US Navy birthday
4:30PM: Snack for Navy Veterans
- October 18:** Last Chance Band
4PM to 7PM
- October 22:** Monthly Sunday Dinner
4PM: Maryland Crab Cake Dinner
Includes 2 sides
\$10.00 Suggested Donation
Building Fundraiser
- October 31:** Halloween Costume Party
5PM to 8PM

**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
- 5:30PM:** Pie Slices
\$5.00 Suggested donation for the Bldg. Fund
- 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 to win 2 beer/wine/well drink chips; or 1 call/top shelf chip.

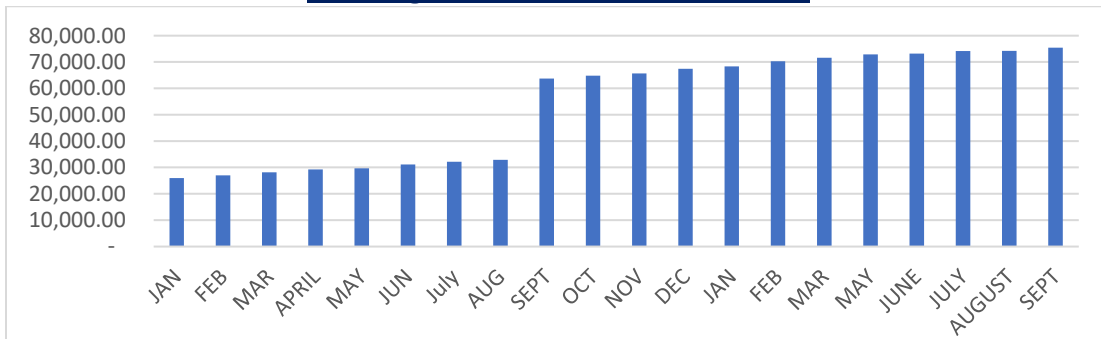
**For the Latest Information
Check our Social Media Accounts:**

Facebook: [American Legion Post 166 Homosassa, Florida](#)
Website: americanlegionpost166.com

Building Fund Activities

 <p>FIRST FRIDAY CLAM CHOWDER 2PM to 6PM Suggested donation: \$5.00</p>	 <p>\$1.00 per pumpkin Pumpkin Decorating Contest Proceeds Benefit The Building Fund Print your name & phone # on back to win Best Pumpkin Prize</p>	 <p>POST 166 MONTHLY SUNDAY DINNER Crab Cake, potatoes, coleslaw, roll & dessert OCTOBER 22- 4PM Tickets: \$10.00 - available at the Canteen All proceeds benefit the Building Fund</p>	 <p>Pie Slices \$5.00</p>
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Building Fund Balance - \$75,387.90



Thank you to everyone who has donated! This month the Building Fund grew by \$1,193.07!

Post Photo Album

Oldies with Joel & Lynn 09/09/23



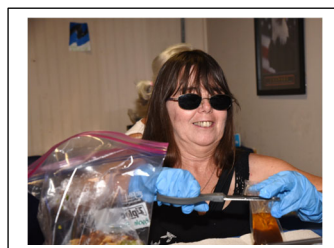
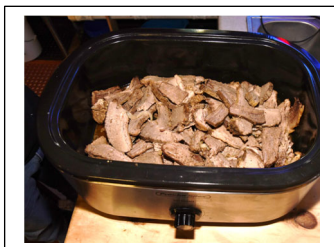
09/11 Remembrance



Flag retirement – 09/16/23



Monthly Sunday Dinner



October 2023

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		10AM E-Board Mtg		5PM Early Bird Dinner	Red Shirt Friday 2 – 6 PM 1st Friday Clam Chowder 6:30 Queen of Hearts/50-50 Raffle Slice of Pie Sales	10:30AM ALR Mtg
8	9	10	11		13	14
	10:00 ALA Mtg New Time Columbus Day	9AM -Adopt-a-Highway Meet at the Elks Parking lot			Red Shirt Friday 6:30 Queen of Hearts/50-50 Raffle Slice of Pie Sales	10AM AL Mtg
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
			4 – 7PM Last Chance Band		Red Shirt Friday 6:30 Queen of Hearts/50-50 Raffle Slice of Pie Sales	10AM SAL Mtg 10AM District 4t Meeting – Post 16 Gainesville 9AM Registration
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
4PM Monthly Sunday Dinner Crab Cake, 2 sides, roll & dessert Ticket Event		United Nations Day			Red Shirt Friday 6:30 Queen of Hearts/50-50 Raffle Slice of Pie Sales	Make a Difference Day
29	30	31				
10:30AM ALR Mtg		5PM Halloween Party				