

THE PHOENIX

THE VOCIE OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 166, INC 4520 S. Suncoast Blvd., Homosassa, FL Post Phone 352-765-3949

> ROBERT "BOB" BALLEW - COMMANDER P.O. Box 767 - Homosassa Springs, FL 34447-0767

> 2018.2019,2020 1st Place Winner Of FALPA Paper Contest



January 2022

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

Commander's Corner

Hello all!

First off and foremost, I want to thank the Legionnaires for approving me as Commander of this Post. I received some experience that last couple of months with Commander Bob Scott out on medical leave, but I am still learning all that this responsibility means. Please know I will do my best to do the job! I know I have Past Commander Robert Scott to assist me if needed, as well as, former Northern area Commander and Past Commander of this Post, Mari Conti, and many more from District and Department who have showed their help.

We, at this Post, owe a lot to our Former Commander Robert Scott. It was a very dark and turbulent time when we lost Commander Rick Starkey on Christmas day last year. Rick was just starting to get his team together when he lost the fight. Although Former Commander Robert Scott had just stepped down from positions he held at this post, so he and his wife, Sandy could do some traveling, he did not hesitate to step up and get our Post on track and he did! Under his watch, the Post grew in numbers and accomplished much. - several membership drives, flag disposal ceremonies, blood drives, celebration of lives, and many charitable activities. I want to say, "Thank you Past Commander Robert Scott!" We wish you well with your health issues and we will be here for you if you need us.

It is a beginning of a new year. Time to reflect on what was and to set our goals for the future. Much was accomplished under Commander Robert Scott.

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NOTES FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER

As most of you know by now, I had to resign as Commander, due to health reasons. Your new Commander, Bob Ballew has done an outstanding job, while I was in the hospital, and taking treatments. I hope that you give him the support that you gave me. I know that Marie Conti is happy that she is no longer the Immediate Past Commander and is now just a Past Commander.

Someone asked me the other day just what does the Immediate Past Commander do. The Immediate Past Commander advises the Commander, and he is also the good will ambassador.

Now on to other things. The Doctors have given me good reports that the cancer is becoming smaller. Another Doctor checked my left leg that was giving me a lot of pain. They gave me a leg brace, and the first thing I did was to walk out fall flat on my face into a hedge. I felt like a dummy, I could not stand up, then looking down I was standing on the sole of my right shoe. It took one man and two nurses to pull me out of that dang hedge. I felt like a durn fool. I must say that after I learn to walk wearing with that brace, it helped with the pain.

I want to thank the membership for all the prayers that you prayed for me.

Well, it's time for me to close it out, so have a good day today and better day tomorrow.

For God and Country
Bob Scott

Commander's Corner continued

One of my top goals is growing the Building Fund. Currently we have a three-year lease, thus giving us three years to concentrate on the goal. To help get us to this goal, more of our Event's proceeds will go to this cause. The Auxiliary has already stepped up and made a change to their Mystery Bags. Starting January 1st, 50% of the proceeds will now be donated to the Building Fund. Many thanks to Unit 166 for helping the Post towards the goal and everyone one else who made donations to get the Fund to where it is today. To keep this goal top of mind, we will post the balance in this newsletter every month and at the Post. As of December 31st, the account balance was \$29,319.54.

I would like to hear from all of you regarding the direction you would like our Post to take or things that we can do to improve our Post. In order to facilitate this, we will have a monthly breakfast so we can discuss these things. The first one will be January 9th at 11AM with pancakes and sausage. Please RSVP at the Post or on Facebook. I am also available at the Post most days between 5PM and 7PM. Feel free to stop by and see me. Remember our Post is not run by the Commander but by the members!

Thank you once again for the privilege of being the Commander of such a great Post!

For God and Country Bob Ballew, Post 166 Commander

Looking over the Fairing

The Riders are currently in the election process with nominations for Director and Assistant Director being made. Until the election, I am the Acting Director, due to Director Bob Ballew's resignation when he became Commander of Post 166.

Most of the Riders recently had the privilege of assisting in placing Christmas Wreaths on Veterans graves at Bushnell National Cemetery. It is a humbling experience to participate and to see all the wreaths is an awesome sight.

We have lots of activities planned for 2022 including our Fourth Annual Derby Day Ride on May 7th.

Until next time, keep the wind to your back! Greg Doody, ALR Acting Director

ALA Unit 166 Presidents Message

Hello to all and wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year.

Looking back, 2021 was a very good year for the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 166.

Here are some of the highlights.

- New Executive Committee members and a new Vice President were installed
- Donations were made to Daystar, PAWS, Citrus County Foster Parents Association, and to families in need
- Donations were received from various members and our community and were used to benefit our veterans
- Membership has grown to over 100 members
- Adopt A Highway has been approved and will start soon
- Our bank account is healthy and growing
- Activities at the Post, including many supported and sponsored by the ALA, have drawn great crowds.

We continue to explore new ideas and work together to make good things happen.

We would love to see more members at our monthly meetings.

The next meeting will be January 10 where we will be planning for our state president visit on Feb.20.

For God and country, Judy Salo, President

Sons of the American Legion

I am excited to announce that the SAL will be hosting a Hamburger Bash on January 15th and Chris Patti will be at the Post to entertain us starting at 4:00PM that day.

Ed Nemeth and Curt Woods are the Grill Team for this event. Hamburgers and the fixings will be served at 3:00PM. The dinner is free with a donation. We are asking for those who plan to attend to sign up at the Canteen, helping us in ordering the correct amount of food. A portion of the proceeds from this event will be donated to help grow the Post's Building Fund.

I hope all of you will come and support us and the building fund. Thank you

For God & Country
Greg Doody, Squadron 166 Commander

G .Majchrowicz



January 2022

This year we will be asking for RSVPs for our major Events in order to purchase supplies more accurately

Saturday, January 1 - New Year's Day

4:00 PM Southern Style New Year's Day Dinner Please RSVP for Dinner at the Post or Facebook

Friday January 7 - First Friday

9:00AM to 5:00PM Bloodmobile

2:00PM to 5:30PM Featuring Jane's Clam Chowder

Sunday January 9 - Commander's Breakfast

11AM Pancakes & Sausage

Spend time with the new Commander

Please RSVP for Breakfast at the Post or Facebook

Saturday January 15 - SAL's Hamburger Bash

3:00PM Hamburgers and the Fixings

4:00PM Music by Chris Patti

Portion of the proceeds benefit the Building Fund

Please RSVP for Hamburger Meal at the Post or Facebook

Tuesday January 18 - Nat'l Michigan Day

5:00PM Enjoy Michigan Style Food

Sunday January 23 – National Pie Day

2:00PM Donate to the Building Fund; receive a slice of pie

Tuesday January 25 – Karaoke

6:00PM to 8:30PM Featuring "Buzzsaw Chainey"

Every Friday

Red Shirt Friday

Wear a red shirt, and when you purchase your first drink, you will receive a chip for the same drink

Queen of Hearts

6:15PM Tickets sales close

6:30PM Drawing for Queen of Hearts (members only)

50/50 Raffle

50/50 Drawing follows the Queen of Hearts

All American Legion Family members and their guest are welcome at the Post. Guests must be accompanied by and signed in by a member

General Membership Officers

Commander Bob Ballew

1st Vice Commander Mark Long

2nd Vice Commander Open

Adjutant **Becky Badders** Jane Mandis Sergeant At Arms Finance Officer Open **Bill Rowe** Chaplain Historian Tom Piazza Judge Advocate **Bob McDowell** Service Officers & Member at Large **Buzz Chainey Executive Board Member** Dwight DeJean

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 166

Executive Board Member

President Judy Salo
Vice President Dee Costello
Secretary Sheri McDaniel
Treasurer Debbie Ballew
Sgt. At Arms Barb Tripp
Chaplain Vicky Eley
Executive Board Members Dorene Bettis
Janice Mc McGough, Julie Rowe and Erskileena Owens

Sons of the American Legion Squadron 166

Commander Greg Doody

1st Vice Commander Curtis Woods

Treasurer Gary Salo

Sgt-At-Arms Ed Nemeth

Chaplain Tony Doody

American Legion Riders

Acting Riders Director Greg Doody **Bob Ballew Acting Assistant Director** Debbie Ballew Secretary Treasurer Gary Salo Sgt. At Arms **Ed Nemeth** Chaplain **Buzz Chainey** Historian Tammy Chainey Road Captain J. Leuthauser

For the Latest Information Check our Facebook Page and Website

Facebook: American Legion Post 166 Homosassa, Florida

Website: americanlegionpost166.com

Help for the Tornado Victims

We've all seen the horrific news regarding the violent tornadoes that ripped through six Midwestern states, demolishing homes, leveling businesses, and taking far too many lives. These storms left miles upon miles of devastation in their wake. We, as Floridians, certainly can relate, with our history of devastating storms throughout our state. Both the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary have Emergency Fund accounts that can help these folks.

Donations may be made to:

https://mylegion.org/Per.../Give/Donate-Online/Donate-Now and

https://donate.legion-aux.org/CSiDonate/Give.aspx/QPOMDNR5#c.

Michael Bishop, Legionnaire
Bernice Caruso, Legionnaire
Gloria Cane, ALA
Virginia Gillespie, ALA
Stephen Kelly, Legionnaire
David McGrady, SAL
James Minton, Legionnaire
Lawrence Mohrmann, Legionnaire
John Rohan, Legionnaire
Arthur Sylvester, Legionnaire
Mark Wagnett, SAL
Dana Weaver, ALA
Greg Wheeler, SAL

Thank you for your donations!

Joe Gustinis Tony Doody Connie Young

District 4 Meeting for Legion Family

The meeting will be held January 30th at Post 155 6585 W Gulf to Lake Hwy, Crystal River, FL 34429

- Registration begins at noon, meeting is at 1PM
- Light lunch available with donation
- RSVP Via Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/events/920278618923997



This program is a Legion Family Initiative with Auxiliary Unit 166 coordinating the effort.

- Members and volunteers will be picking up trash and debris from West Grover Cleveland Blvd between S. Springbreeze Way and S. Ohio Avenue.
- The road should be cleaned at least four times a year for two years, with each Legion Family participating at least once per year.
- The Solid Waste Management Division will provide safety training notes, bright orange vests and gloves for volunteers to wear, as well as safety signs to be used during the cleanup activities.
- There will be a safety meeting held before each clean up.
- The county will post a sign designating that American Legion Post 166 has adopted the roadway and is keeping it clean.



Wallet size cards are available at the Post with ways to recognize the Signs of Suicide Risk on the back of the laminated cards.

Pick up a few on your next visit to the Post. Someone you know may need it.

EVENTS AT THE POST PHOTO ALBUM - Ugly Christmas Party

The Ugly Sweaters



Surprise Visitor - Santa















American Legion Post 166 – Homosassa January National Security Month 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1				1 4:00PM New Year's Day
2 10AM ALR Mtg Bloody Mary Sunday Tailgate at the Post	3	4 10AM Post Eboard Mtg	5	6 Epiphany	7 First Friday with Jan's Clam Chowder Blood Mobile 6:30PM Queen of	8 10AM General Mtg
9 11AM Commander's Breakfast* Bloody Mary Sunday Tailgate at the Post	10 10:30AM ALA Mtg	11	12	13	14 Red Shirt Friday 6:30PM Queen of Hearts Drawing 50/50 Raffle	15 10AM SAL Mtg SAL Hamburger Bash*
16 Bloody Mary Sunday Tailgate at the Post	17 MLK Day	18 National Michigan Day*	19	20	21 Red Shirt Friday 6:30PM Queen of Hearts Drawing 50/50 Raffle	22
23 National Pie Day Blood Mobile Bloody Mary Sunday Tailgate at the Post	24	25 Karaoke with Buzzsaw Chainey	26	27	28 Red Shirt Friday 6:30PM Queen of Hearts Drawing 50/50 Raffle	29
Bloody Mary Sunday District Meeting Tailgate at the Post	31					

Coming Events

Feb 13
Super Bowl Party

Feb 20 Brunch followed by Four Chaplains Service *New Year's Day Dinner

RSVP Collard Gr

4PM Pork, Collard Greens, White Rice, Black-eyed Peas, Corn muffins *Commander's Breakfast

RSVP

11AM Sausage & Pancakes
Talk with the Commander

*SAL's Hamburger Bash RSVP

3PM Hamburger Meal 4PM Music by Chris Patti *National Michigan Day

RSVP 5 PM Michigan Style Hotdogs Trivia Contest

AMERICAN LEGION POST 166

P. O. BOX 767 Homosassa FL 34446 Published Monthly

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To:		









The American Legion Family