

Summer 2024

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

Commander's Corner

Summer Has Arrived

The official start of summer is June 21st, but it came early to Homosassa this year! Our winter members have returned home and a lot of our local members have also headed North to escape the heat. Things slow down and we try our best to stay in the air conditioning. The Auxiliary and the Sons of The American Legion will not meet again until September; the Legionnaires will continue to meet throughout the summer, and of course, The Post will remain open. This Summer edition of the newsletter will cover the upcoming month and will resume in September.

Speaking of summer, this year's weather forecast calls for a lot of hurricane activity. Please make sure you have an escape plan if needed. Also, keep your officers aware of any problems that might occur. We are a family and we are here to help each other. Funds are available for Legionnaires and Auxiliary members in good standing through the Department of Florida and National if needed.

On Saturday, June 22nd all of the American Legion Post 166 Family's Officers were installed for the coming year. Please offer your congratulations and support to these Volunteers! Pictures of the installation are included in this newsletter.

Department and District Officers were installed Sunday June 16th. Our 2025 District Officers are:

Commander Doug Hockenberry, Post 155, Crystal River

ALA President Janet Woods, Unit 77, Inverness

SAL Commander Jerry Jackson, Squadron 16, Gainesville

2025 membership renewals start July 1st. Members who pay their 2025 dues before October 1, 2024 are invited to our Free Early Bird Dinner in October. You can renew at the Canteen or at one of the Membership renewals held in August and September. 2025 dues are as follows: Legionnaires \$45.00, Auxiliary \$39 and SAL \$34. Checks, cash, and credit cards (\$1.00 fee) are accepted.

Wishing everyone a safe summer!

For God and Country

Bob Ballew, Post 166 Commander

727/432-7220 rballew931@gmail.com

Auxiliary Unit 166

Happy Summer!

We had our last meeting of the 2023-2024 fiscal year on June 11th. After setting our plans to stay involved during the summer, we celebrated the year with a luncheon at Marguerita Grill.



Our next meeting will be **September 18th at 10:30AM**. The meeting was scheduled for 09/11, however The Post will have a 09/11 Remembrance Service that morning.

During our summer vacation, our member. will continue to work our mission.

- Food and clothing can still be donated at the Post for those in need.
- The Back-to-School Brigade starts the beginning of July and runs through the first week of August. Donate a school supply when you shop at the Homosassa Dollar Tree and that donation will go to Homosassa Elementary school
- Adopt-a-Highway will continue
- Troop Boxes will be starting back as soon as mail resumes to our Army Unit
- And as a need arises, we will get busy and get the job done!

Service not Self

Debbie Ballew

President ALA Unit 166,

ALR Chapter 166

We held our annual Derby Day Chairty Ride for We were also privileged to take part in the Veterans Causes on May 4th, which was very Memorial Day weekend fundraiser for Wreaths for successful. We raised a record amount of money, Fallen Heroes, sponsored by IR-RU Social Club thanks to donations from the Crystal River Eagles Riders. We made a donation towards the purchase and their Eagle Riders, IRRU, American Legion Posts of wreaths for grave sites at Florida National 77 and 155, and the 50/50 raffle winners who Cemetery 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 Squadron 166

The Sons are on summer vacation. Next meeting is 09/21/24 at 10:00AM.

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- 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

First Friday Clam Chowder

2:30PM – 6PM

September through April

Monthly Sunday Dinners

September through June

July

Monday, July 1

5PM to 8PM Karaoke with Buzzsaw Entertainment

Tuesday, July 2

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

Thursday, July 4th

4PM Picnic at the Post (hotdogs) Ticket Event

Friday, July 5– Red Shirt Friday Activities

Tuesday, July 9

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

Wednesday, July 10 – Music

4PM to 6PM David Lee Scott

Friday, July 12– Red Shirt Friday Activities

9AM Flag Retirement Ceremony

Tuesday, July 16

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

Saturday July 17 –10AM American Legion Meeting

Friday, July 19 – Red Shirt Friday Activities

Tuesday, July 23

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

Friday, July 26– Red Shirt Friday Activities

Tuesday, July 30-

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

August

Friday August 2– Red Shirt Friday Activities

Saturday, August 3 – **Saturday Surprise**

Monday, 5

5PM to 8PM Karaoke with Buzzsaw Entertainment

Tuesday, August 6

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

Friday, August 9 – Red Shirt Friday Activities

Saturday, August 10 – **Saturday Surprise**

10AM American Legion Meeting

Tuesday, August 13

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

Friday, August 16 – Red Shirt Friday Activities

9AM Flag Retirement Ceremony

Saturday, August 17 – **Saturday Surprise**

Tuesday, August 20

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

Friday, August 23 – Red Shirt Friday Activities

Saturday, August 24 – **Saturday Surprise**

Tuesday, August 27

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

Friday, August 23 – Red Shirt Friday Activities

Saturday, August 31 – **Saturday Surprise**

2024- 2025 Officers & Meeting Times

Legionnaires

General Membership Meetings are held the 2nd Saturday of the Month at 10:00AM

- | | |
|---|--|
| Commander: Bob Ballew | Judge Advocate: Frank DiGennaro |
| 1st Vice Commander: Dwight DeJean | Past Commander & Executive Board Member: Marie Conti |
| 2nd Vice Commander & Adjutant: Lincoln Haynes | Executive Committee Member: Tom Brown |
| Sgt-at-Arms: Jane Mundis | Executive Committee Member: Bud Costello |
| Finance Officer: Darrell Walters | Executive Committee Member: David Kaczanowski |
| Chaplain: Bill Rowe | Executive Committee Member: John Surprise |
| Historian: Tom Piazza | Executive Committee Member: Kevin Myhill |

Auxiliary Unit 166

Membership Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the Month at 10:00AM

Exceptions: No meetings in July & August. **September meeting is the 3rd Wednesday (09/18)**

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| President: Debbie Ballew | Sergeant-At-Arms: Sheri Walters |
| Vice President: Cindy Haines | Executive Committee: Ida Maslinski |
| Secretary: Teresa Lewis | Executive Committee: Judy Salo |
| Treasurer: Dee Costello | Executive Committee: Vicky Eley |
| Chaplain: Lola Strickland | Executive Committee: Jan Habich |
| Historian: Julie Rowe | |

SAL Squadron 166

Membership Meetings are held the 3rd Saturday of the Month at 10:00AM

Exceptions: No meetings in June, July & August.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Commander: Randy Parrish | Treasurer: Bill Rowe |
| Vice Commander: Ernest (Buzz) | Chaplain: Bill Cloke |

ALR Chapters166

Membership Meetings are held the 1st Saturday of the Month at 10:00AM

Fun ride follows meeting

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Director: Dwight Dejean | Chaplain: Bill Sonnycalf |
| Assistant Director: Bob Ballew | Sergeant-At-Arms: Tom Brown |
| Secretary/Treasurer: Debbie Ballew | Road Captain: Pam Murrin |
| Historian: Teresa Lewis | |



Tim McKeown, USAF

BUILDING FUND EVENTS

**Honor a Veteran
With a
Personalized Poppy**

Veteran's Name
Branch of Service
Dates served

Let's Fill The Wall With Poppies
\$1.00 Donation to the Building Fund!

**WEEK-END
PUDDING SHOTS**

Different Every Week
\$2.00 Donation to the Building Fund

Tickets -
5.00
Drawing
once 100
tickets are
sold

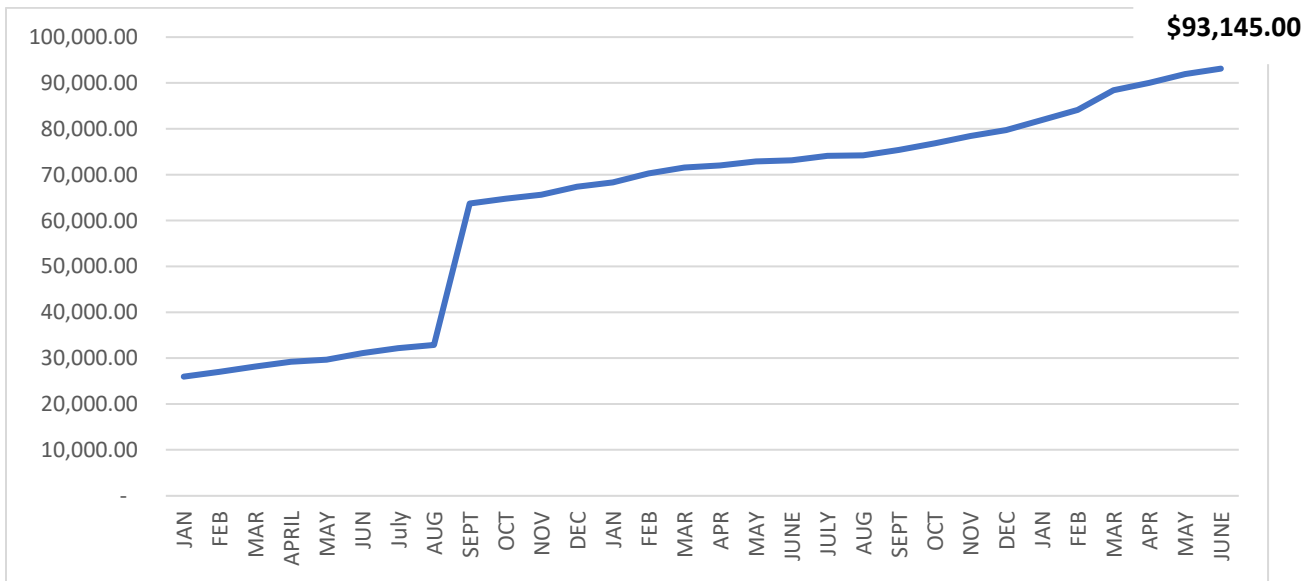
**American Legion
Post 166**

**4TH
OF JULY**
Picnic at the Post

JOIN US AT 4PM
HOT DOG BAR, CHIPS, PASTA SALAD

Tickets Available
At The Canteen For A \$5.00
Donation to
The Building Fund
GOD BLESS THE USA!

As of June 26/2024

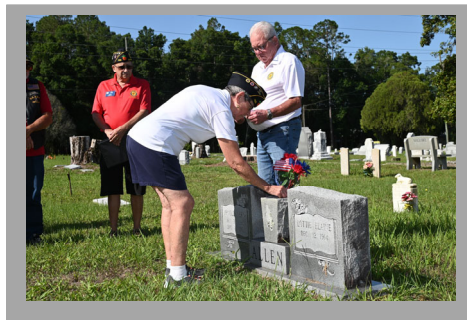


An increase of \$1,220.56 over May 2024

Post Photo Album



Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony – Magnolia Cemetery

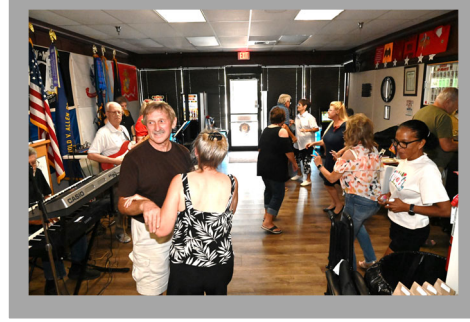


Happy 95th Birthday Art Matusiak

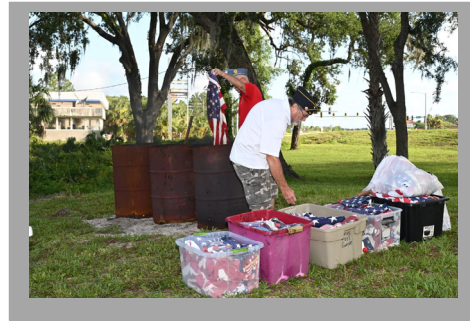


Post Photo Album

The BC Band – June 12, 2024



Flag Retirement Ceremony – June 14



Monthly Dinner

Father's Day – June 16, 2024



Post Photo Album

2024- 2025 Installatin of Officers – June 22, 2024

Legionnaires



Auxiliary Unit 166



SAL Squadron 166



ALR Chapter 166



Post Photo Album

2024- 2025 Installatin of Officers – June 22, 2024



July 2024

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	5PM – 8PM Karaoke with Buzzsaw Entertainment	10AM Executive Committee Mtg 6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle Bonz Game		Independence Day Celebration 4PM 4 th of July Celebration Ticket event - \$5.00 Donation to the Building	Red Shirt Friday 7:30PM Bonz Game	10:30AM ALR Mtg Fun Ride Follows
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle Bonz Game	4 PM – 6PM Music by David Lee Scott		Red Shirt Friday 7:30PM Bonz Game	10:00AM AL Mtg
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle Bonz Game	6PM 90 th Birthday Celebration for ACE (Al Evans)		Red Shirt Friday 7:30PM Bonz Game ALA Workshop- Altamonte Springs	ALA Workshop- Altamonte Springs
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle Bonz Game			Red Shirt Friday 7:30PM Bonz Game	Korean War Vets Day
28	29	30	31			
		6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle Bonz Game				

August 2024

American Legion Post 166 – 4520 S Suncoast Blvd, Homosassa - americanlpost166@gmail.com (352)765-3949

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
					Red Shirt Friday 7:30PM Bonz Game	10:30AM ALR Mtg Fun Ride Follows <u>Saturday Surprise</u> 4:30PM – 6PM Receive Free Ticket 7PM Drawing
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<i>Coast Guard Birthday</i>	5PM – 8PM Karaoke with KJ Buzz	10AM Executive Committee Mtg 6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle Bonz Game	<i>Purple Heart Day</i>		Red Shirt Friday 7:30PM Bonz Game	10:00 AL Mtg <u>Saturday Surprise</u> 4:30PM – 6PM Receive Free Ticket 7PM Drawing
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle Bonz Game			Red Shirt Friday 7:30PM Bonz Game	<u>Saturday Surprise</u> 4:30PM – 6PM Receive Free Ticket
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle Bonz Game			Red Shirt Friday 3PM - 5PM Membership Renewal 7:30PM Bonz Game	<u>Saturday Surprise</u> 4:30PM – 6PM Receive Free Ticket 7PM Drawing
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		6:30PM Queen of Hearts 50-50 Raffle Bonz Game 3PM - 5PM Membership Renewal			Red Shirt Friday 7:30PM Bonz Game	<u>Saturday Surprise</u> 4:30PM – 6PM Receive Free Ticket 7PM Drawing

Coming in September:

- 09/02: Labor Day Picnic at the Post 4PM. Cheeseburgers in Paradise (Post 166) plus Jimmy Buffet music
- 09/09: Karaoke – new date this month only
- 09/11: 9AM to 3PM Bloodmobile; 11AM Remembrance Service with brunch, canteen open for attendees
- 09/18: 4PM to 7PM Last Chance Band
- 09/22: Monthly Sunday Dinner. Pulled Pork, sides & desserts with a \$15.00 donation to the Building Fund



**American Legion
Post 166**



JOIN US AT 4PM

HOT DOG BAR, CHIPS, PASTA SALAD

Tickets Available

At The Canteen For A \$5.00

Donation to

The Building Fund

GOD BLESS THE USA!

*David Lee Scott
Entertainment*



July 10, 2024
4PM – 6PM



Saturday Surprise

**Every Saturday
In August
A Different Surprise
Every Week**

Free Tickets

**Available on Saturday
From 4PM to 6PM
Drawing at 7PM**

Must be present to win