

Charles E. Murray

American Legion Post 186



NEWSLETTER



No. 2017

MAY - JUNE 2017

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COMMANDER
ERIC "SOX" HUNTER
americanleg186@bellsouth.net

To All Our Members:

As this fiscal year is quickly drawing to a close, I want thank the officers and board who worked very hard to improve the post this past year. In addition, it was very heartening to see the support we received from the SAL, RIDERS, Color Guard, and Auxiliary. They supplied both financial and moral support for our projects. It showed that with the proper support we can achieve our goals.

As we look forward to the new year, I encourage all legion members to consider running for the various officers that are open ! There will be a final call for nominations at the May 4th meeting. Don't forget election day is May 31. Hopefully, if you will be out of town that day, you have filled out an absentee ballot request ! And the results will be given at the membership meeting on June 1st !

Before you pack me up and show me the door (LOL a little levity here), my hope is that we can complete the pavilion and cooler projects. We need more members to step up and either volunteer to help or come to attend some of our functions to support our post.

On a sad note, this year we have lost many of our long time members to Post Everlasting. We will miss them greatly and it will be very difficult to replace them.

As commander, you usually hear the complaints and great ideas. But NOT at a meeting ! Please, Please, give us an hour of your time and attend a meeting and share your thoughts.

Thank You for your support this entire year !

For God and Country,
Eric "SOX" Hunter

FIRST VICE COMMANDER
BARBARA SMITH
americanleg186@bellsouth.net
csmith1404@tampabay.rr.com

This will be my last newsletter as your First Vice Commander. Thanks to everyone, we have reached 98.5%, it is still an uphill battle to try to make 100%. With convention around the corner, we have a short time to make the 100%. In fact, we are only 15 legionnaires short in obtaining our goal. We can reach it, by either a paid renewal, new member, or paid transfer. Ask your neighbors! One year the National Commander's campaign was "Just Ask". You don't know if someone will join or not, but that person may be waiting for you to "Ask".

We have gained over 60 new members this year and over 75 transfers, but our post is not growing. We have lost many to Post Everlasting and there are still approximately 150 individuals that have not paid their

2017 dues. Please check your cards to see if yours is a 2017 card. If not, kindly submit your dues to the legion. We are coming to the close of the 2017 membership year. The new membership cards for 2018 will be available in July, so remember to sign up early in order to be eligible for the Early Bird Dinner.

Spring has sprung and summer is just around the corner. Most of our snowbirds have headed north and have left us for a few months. May you have a safe and enjoyable summer and hope to see you in a few months. This is a little early, but Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers out there.

It has been a pleasure serving as your First Vice Commander this year and I thank you for your confidence and support.

Fort God and County
Barbara Smith

2nd VICE COMMANDER
Bruce Carl
352-942-7948
brucel1955@yahoo.com

Winter has gone by the wayside, and summer is here (even though it is officially two months away). Most of our snowbirds have flown the coop to the North, but there is plenty going on here at the Post. There are several dinners still coming up, as well as the Father's Day breakfast. Please make sure to get your tickets early, as we will make a determination by Wednesday of the week of the dinner whether we will have it or cancel it. We are not a restaurant, and need to know ahead of time what to order for the dinners. We will not, and cannot wait until the last minute to order the food, or rely on same day ticket sales. The dinners are posted weeks before they occur, so there is no reason to wait until the last day to get tickets.

There are also several ceremonies on May and June, to include Memorial Day, Flag Day, and Post Everlasting. Please make an effort to attend these if you are able.

The entertainment continues to be as hot as the weather. Check out the calendar for more information.

Post elections will be held on May 31st.

I want to thank all the golfers and volunteers who came out to support the Children and Youth Golf tournament. A total of \$2500 was raised to be given out to three different charities.

Fisher House, Children's Fund and COTA (Children's Organ Transplant Association).

For God and Country,
Bruce Carl

POST CHAPLAIN
Charles Haig
haigie911@gmail.com
352-597-1210. Cell 352-340-7074

To all Members - Post Everlasting will be upon us next month. Sunday 7th. May, so I would like to remind members who have friends or family that have died From May 2016 to date to please let me know so they can be included in the traditional "Post Everlasting" Ceremony.

I am very pleased to inform you that Yvonne Vargas an Army Veteran has joined the "Chaplain's Corps" and will be assisting me in my numerous duties visiting sick veterans` in Nursing Homes, Hospitals and Hospice. Also helping with funeral & Memorial services. Thank you Yvonne,

TAPS
Jack Lyons
Dave Matthews

SICK CALL
Jack Dolan
Fred Sloan
Mary Kennedy



Quote for the day
"Take your troubles to the Lord and leave them there"

For God and Country
15th. District & Post 186 Chaplain



ALR DIRECTOR
Steve Tyler

Greetings one and all! I sit here on an overcast day wishing I was out riding my motorcycle, but alas that is not to be for some time. Some of you may have seen me hobbling about the Post recently. Well, back on March 14th I had corrective surgery done on three toes of my left foot. The surgery went well but I have had some minor complications with the wounds healing. It looks like it will be at least another month before I can get on my bike and ride the beautiful nature coast, and that has been the hardest part of the surgery and recovery. We are beginning to see some of our snowbirds depart for their home nests and we wish them safe travels and a

wonderful summer. I hope to see you all when you return next fall.

The riders have a few events upcoming. Our next dinner will be a marinated roast pork dinner on April 29th, which will have passed by publication time. On Saturday, May 27th we have our annual Donnie Holmes Memorial Steak Dinner. It will be steak cooked to order, fresh corn on the cob, baked potato, rolls and dessert for a mere \$10.00 donation. We will once again have two seatings, one at 5 p.m. and one at 6 p.m. Now it was brought to our attention last year that there was some question regarding the source and quality of our steaks. I can assure you we procure high quality fresh steaks from our local supplier, Food Parade. If you have ever had one of our delicious half-pound burgers at the canteen, they come from the same place. Please be assured you will have a tender, flavorful steak.

Now you know I do not like to address negatives in my articles, but I must make an exception. Last month, for the first time in my 9 years as a Rider, we were forced to cancel our Chicken Marsala dinner due to extremely poor ticket sales. This was a very difficult decision for me to make. However, if we can't sell enough tickets to make enough profit to fund all the causes we support, it doesn't make any sense to put on said dinner. Folks, the Legion, SAL, Auxiliary, and Riders need your support so we can continue to do the good work we are known for.

Back to the positive side. Folks it's that time of year. Nominations and elections for Post Officer positions are coming soon. If you care about what's going on in the post, don't sit on the sidelines. Please, run for an office, even if it's just an E-board position.

If you can't run, give your support by voting for the people you want to lead us in to our future.

In closing, as always, be careful as you travel the roads of our beautiful community, and watch out for your brothers and sisters on two wheels.

For God and Country,
Steve Tyler, Director, ALR Chapter 186

Greetings from the Canteen:
RAY ROSEN
352-597-9995

It is finally spring and almost time for our snowbird members to return to the great white north! My staff and I would like to thank all of you for your patronage and wish all of you a safe journey home. The Canteen is doing well and is always trying to improve to better serve you, our members. We have made some changes in an effort to better manage our finances, and are currently taking bids for a new walk in cooler to replace our old one, which has been here since we acquired the

building. We are also are trying to get a new fryer for the kitchen so that we can serve our members faster on busy nights like fish fry! We apologize for any delays for any delays in getting your food orders done but we have limited capacity. My staff and I would like to thank you for your patronage and understanding. Several members have mentioned that they would like to see the look of the dining room change. "They say it looks like a Chow Hall" and I agree but not being an interior designer, I am not sure where or how to start. If anyone has any ideas, please let me know. With a little help we can change the appearance to be more pleasing to our members. In closing, please remember, as a board policy, drink tickets are only good for 30 days past the issue date !

For God and Country,
Ray Rosen

COMMANDER
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



Well, we gave it our best shot last month and free beer and pizza didn't do much for our meeting attendance. But, fear not, we will continue to (bribe) I mean encourage SAL members to come to our meetings on the third Thursday of the month at 7 PM ! Elsewhere in this newsletter are instructions informing you of the latest and greatest way to get your dues paid for NEXT year. And all you need to do is provide an email address. I fear that if no one steps up soon the SAL will not have any leadership next year.

In June, the SAL provides ALL members with a Father's Day breakfast. It will be on June 18th and tickets will be at the canteen a couple of weeks before the event. All fathers who are post members will receive a FREE breakfast. But you must get a ticket from the canteen before the event so we can plan the food. All guests will be charged \$5 a person and they must have tickets too. In other words, if you plan to attend the breakfast, everyone MUST have a ticket! Please watch the bulletin board as the date approaches for further information !

SAL is sponsoring an email contest: All an SAL member has to do is send a message to Rick Kooken and your name will be entered for a FREE 2018 membership.... kookenmail@gmail.com

For God and Country,
Jim Ness

SERVICE OFFICER

RUSS ANDERSON

Things have settled down somewhat this year. To date, I have had 8 veterans seeking information or help with their claims. I find this both rewarding and frustrating because for many the process seems endless. With numerous requests for additional information. Rejection and appeals and when successful, a period of more waiting to receive benefits! There is a real need to update the system as it exists today. My advice: **BE PATIENT AND NEVER GIVE UP.**

Once again, I will be gone for several months seeking adventure in a new venue this summer. (Late June thru early September) You can reach a Service Officer through the county (Forest Oaks) or at the VA Hospital in Tampa. In the meantime, I wish to appeal to someone to step forward and take the training offered in November (and paid for by our Post). I have decided that I will not re-certify for next year.

PLEASE consider stepping up and volunteering to fill this position ! I will be glad to help you during transition !

For God and Country,
Russ



Claudia Fischer
Auxiliary President
352-686-9247
ceejav523f@yahoo.com

Another Auxiliary year has come to an end, we have had an outstanding year raising money and goods for our Veterans and their families. As well, as helping those in need in our county and working our other Auxiliary programs.

The month of May will be our closing month as we have our Election of Officers for the upcoming year. The election will start at 6:45 pm before the start of our General Meeting at 7:00 pm on May 11th. Please plan to attend.

On May 20th at 10:00 am, we would like help cleaning and placing flowers, etc. at Aripeka Cemetery, if you can help please contact Fran Finley, 352-540-8647. On May 29th, Memorial Day, we will be showcasing a Calvacade of Memories on all the Legion family, it will displayed under the Post pavilion. We ask all members attending the Memorial Day picnic to bring a covered dish. Again if you can help with any of these functions call Fran Finley.

We WILL have an Auxiliary meeting in the month of June, it will be June 8th at 7:00 pm. There is NO meeting in July. Our State Convention is June 29th-July 2nd. We have several members planning on attending and will bring back information for the upcoming new Auxiliary year.

May 11th – Aux. General Meeting and Election – 6:45 pm.
May 20th – Placing flowers at Aripeka Cemetery – 10:00 am
May 29th – Memorial Day Ceremony and Picnic at Post 186
June 3rd – 15th District Constitutional Conference at Post 111 – 10:00 am
June 8th – Auxiliary General Meeting – 7:00 pm
June 29-July 2 – State Convention in Orlando

Again check our Auxiliary board at the Post for updates or changes to events.

For God and Country
Claudia Fischer
Unit 186 President



Auxiliary Chaplain

Whatever soothes your spirit Comforts your soul
and brings you peace.

That is what is wished for you and yours.

Sick Call

Barb Dreger - Diane Isabelle
Shirley Mancini - Jo Terns
Josie Bendor

Deceased

Betty Corbim - Anne Rakucewicz
Marlene Blair

For God and Country,
Betty Lou Bennett

Auxiliary Unit 186 Membership Report

I would like to take this time to say "Thank You" to all Unit 186 members for renewing your membership for 2017! Without all of you we would not have such a great Auxiliary!

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Membership Chairman for 2 years in a row!

To all the outgoing Officers- Great Job!!! I wish the new incoming 2017-2018 Officers all the best in the year to come! It has been proven over and over, it is the membership who makes our Post the Best!

For God and Country,
Anna Pellegrini

Please Mark Your Calendars:

Election Ballots are available at the Canteen

As of April 1, 2017, the following are proud members of the American Legion Post 186 Booster Club. You, too, can be a member. Just \$10.00 per year and your name will be published on our Bulletin Board and in our Post Newsletter. This donation will help the ever-rising cost of printing and mailing. Your generosity is appreciated. The Memorial Section of the Booster Club is supported by the generosity of our members. Thank you.

2058

Carlton & Beth Ann Terrell

2029

Joseph & Donna Greenwald

2027

Frank & Sharon Sevick

Anna Pellegrini

George Coon

2025

Glen and Beatrice Ohanesian

2024

Lloyd Gross

Vincent Gigliotti

American Legion Riders

Marion & Frank Hauck

Don and Joan Jernstrom

Lloyd Sellers

2023

Frank J. Smith

2022

Ed Kolbasiuk

Gloria Murray

Steve Small

R. Larry Taddei

2021

Jimmy Schultz

Post 186 Color Guard

Ruth Oppert

2020

Bob Burch

Bob & Linda Conte

2019

Donna Greenwald

Janet Bowman

Fellip & Beverly Zielinski

Anonymous

John Keller

Joe & Mildred Garza

Robert Eudeikis

David Salomski

Jim & Eleanor Krakowiak

Jean Carvendar

2018

Burt and Cheryl Onder

Val Parker

Joe & Marge Ruggiero

Doris Webster

Jack Krause

Donna Aho

Larrie Douglas

Betty Corbin

Claus & Elisabeth Sachse

Arthur Babcock

Coburn

Joseph Federico

Raul and Lena Pena

2017

Hugh & Helen Reynolds

Raymond Frattini

Barbara J. De Guiseppe

Keith Burgess

Mike Cockill

In Memory of Past Members

Olisse Pellegrini

Dorothy Henderson

PFC Cody Grater

Bern Cottingham

Joe Sabol

Linda Harper

Donnie Holmes

Betty Jefferies

Paul Webster

Nanette Keller

Marie Meglic

Charlie Fox

George "Fitz" Hudock

Russell L. LaBaron Jr.

Leon Girard

Luis Hernandez

Frank J. Smith

Philip Cecere

Denny Stewart

William Mackubian

John Higgins

Richard Irish

PLEASE MAKE A CONTRIBUTION: \$ _____ NAME: _____

Legion Post 186 Elections May 31st



COMING EVENTS

May - June 2017

Karaoke with Shoe every Wed 7 PM

Fish Fry every Friday 5-7 PM

Steak Shoot every Saturday 1 PM

May 13th Mother's Day Dinner

May 29 Memorial Day Services

June 14th is Flag Day

June 18th Father's Day Breakfast 10 - Noon



May

5th - Mexican Karaoke/ "The Shoe" 7-10 PM

6th - KC & The Vocal Chords 7-11 PM

7th - Post Everlasting 2 p.m.

13th - Mother's Day Dinner 6 PM music by "Rebound" 7-11 PM

20th - The Belairs 7-11PM

20th - **Clean up at Aripeka Cemetery (See Fran)**

21st - **Tampa Bay Rays vs. NY Yankees BUS TRIP: Sign up at Legion ASAP**

27th - Donnie Holmes Steak Dinner 5-7 PM music by True Passion 7-11 PM

29th - Memorial Day Ceremony Aripeka Cemetery 10 AM

29th - Memorial Day Ceremony Post 186 11:30 AM

29th - Post picnic 12 - 2 PM (bring a dish to pass)

31st - **Legion Elections 1-7 PM**

June

2nd - Tourist Karaoke/ "The Shoe" 7-10 PM

3rd - TM Special 7-11 PM

3rd - 15th District Constitutional Conference

10th - Bill Castner 7-11 PM

14th - Flag Day Ceremony 11:30 AM


17th - Rebound 7-11 PM

18th - Father's Day Breakfast 10-12 AM (Free for Father's who are members and \$5.00 donation for guests)


23rd - The Twist 7-11 PM

Election Ballot available at the Canteen

MAY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30 -7 PM POOL 8 PM	2 LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	3 MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	4 PIZZA AND HOTDOGS LEGION MEETING 7 PM	5 FISH FRY 5-7 PM MEXICAN KARAOKE WITH SHOE 7-10 PM CINCO DE MAYO	6 STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM KC & THE VOCAL CHORDS 7-11 PM
7 WINGS 12-4 POST EVERLASTING 2 PM	8 QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30 -7 PM POOL 8 PM	9 LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	10 MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	11 PIZZA AND HOTDOGS AUXILIARY MEETING 7 PM Election 6:45	12 FISH FRY 5-7 PM KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	13 STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM MOTHER'S DAY DINNER 6 PM REBOUND 7-11PM
14 WINGS 12-4 MOTHER'S DAY	15 QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30-7 PM POOL 8 PM	16 LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	17 MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	18 PIZZA AND HOTDOGS SAL MEETING 7 PM	19 FISH FRY 5-7 PM KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	20 STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM THE BELAIRS 7-11 PM
21 WINGS 12-4 BUS TRIP: RAYS vs. NY YANKEES	22 QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30-7 PM POOL 8 PM	23 LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	24 MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	25 PIZZA AND HOT DOGS E-BOARD MEETING 5:30 PM ALR MEETING 730 PM	26 FISH FRY 5-7 PM KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	27 STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM DONNIE HOLMES STEAK DINNER 5PM-7PM TRUE PASSION 7-11 PM
28 WINGS 12-4	29 QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30-7 PM POOL 8 PM MEMORIAL DAY	30 LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	31 MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM LEGION ELECTIONS 1-7 PM	IMPORTANT DATES 13 TH - MOTHER'S DAY STUFFED CHICKEN BREAST DINNER \$9.00 DONATION 21 ST - RAYS vs. NY YANKEES 27 TH - DONNIE HOLMES STEAK DINNER \$10.00 DONATION 29 TH -MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY ARIPEKA CEMETARY 10 AM MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY POST 186 1130 PM PICNIC 12PM (BRING A DISH TO PASS) 31 ST - POST ELECTIONS 7-11 PM Ballots are at the Canteen		

JUNE 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
IMPORTANT DATES 2 ND - TOURIST KARAOKE 14 TH - FLAG DAY CEREMONY 1130 AM 18 TH - FATHERS DAY BREAKFAST (free for members \$5.00 donation for guests) 29 TH - JULY 2 ND - DEPARTMENT CONVENTION ORLANDO				1 PIZZA AND HOTDOGS LEGION MEETING 7 PM	2 FISH FRY 5-7 PM TOURIST KARAOKE WITH SHOE 7-10 PM	3 STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM TM SPECIAL 7-11 PM 15 TH DISTRICT CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
4 WINGS 12-4	5 QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30 -7 PM POOL 8 PM	6 LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	7 MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	8 PIZZA AND HOTDOGS AUXILIARY MEETING 7 PM	9 FISH FRY 5-7 PM KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	10 STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM BILL CASTNER 7-11 PM
11 WINGS 12-4	12 QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30-7 PM POOL 8 PM	13 LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	14 MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM FLAG DAY CEREMONY 1130 AM ARMY BIRTHDAY	15 PIZZA AND HOTDOGS SAL MEETING 7 PM	16 FISH FRY 5-7 PM KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	17 STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM REBOUND 7-11 PM
18 WINGS 12-4 FATHERS DAY BREAKFAST 10 AM-12 PM	19 QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30-7 PM POOL 8 PM	20 LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	21 MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	22 PIZZA AND HOT DOGS ALR MEETING 730 PM	23 FISH FRY 5-7 PM KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	24 STEAK SHOOT 1-3 PM THE TWIST 7-11 PM
25 WINGS 12-4	26 QUEEN OF HEARTS 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4:30-7 PM POOL 8 PM	27 LOUNGE GAMES 6 PM KITCHEN OPEN 4-6 PM	28 MEXICAN DAY 1130-230 AND 4-7 PM KARAOKE W/SHOE 7-10 PM	29 PIZZA AND HOT DOGS E-BOARD MEETING 530 PM	30 FISH FRY 5-7 PM KARAOKE/SHOE 7-10 PM	 Flag Day