



JANUARY 2021

# THE LEGION LINK

VOLUME 29 ISSUE VI

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## From your Dept Commander Rick Johnson

Rick Johnson, Commander  
[commander@floridalegion.org](mailto:commander@floridalegion.org)



### Happy 2021 There is Much to Do

Well, we finally made it out of 2020. Happy New Year everyone as we start another year with family and friends. I hope Santa was good to you and I hope that

we all stick with the new year's resolutions that we promise to do. I will make this very short this time as we have a lot to do for the remaining six months.

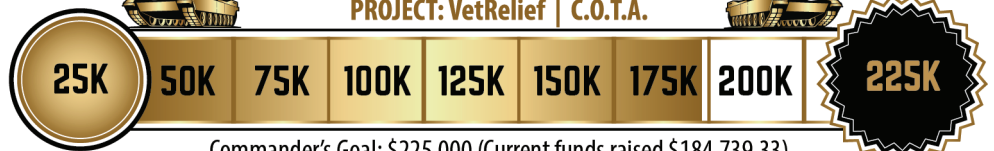
There will be a lot of changes coming down the road as we move forward. PLEASE let us work together as a family and continue to do what we promised to do for our members. I am very thankful for all the people behind the scenes that keep us moving forward and keep us steadfast.

I look forward to visiting as many posts as I can and with the vaccine being out, and that we will move forward safely and take care of each other. Please do your buddy checks and begin to get those members who have not renewed pay their dues.

God bless you all and may God bless us all.

## COMMANDER'S CHARITIES

PROJECT: VetRelief | C.O.T.A.



Commander's Goal: \$225,000 (Current funds raised \$184,739.33)



*Upcoming Events and Chairmanship*

**Jerry Brandt, 1st Vice**  
[1stvice@legionmail.org](mailto:1stvice@legionmail.org)



It is a Happy New Year; I hope life finds you well. A lot has changed in the past year, and some has remained the same. Now is the time to look at potential new officers in your Post and in your District. Are the potential officers

trained? Are they ready for an unknown year ahead? Have you been doing YOUR job in mentoring them? If not, any problems that comes up in the next year will be on YOU. Take the time to train and mentor them for the job ahead, be a friend and assist them in doing their job. A lot is going on in January and February. Besides the District meeting, you have:

- American Legion Baseball Registration Opens on January 1st. If you want an American Legion Baseball team, now is the time get a team together.
- Boys State Registration Fee Deadline on January 6th.

- Oratorical Post Contest ends on January 17th.
- National Commander's visit will be in the 8th and 13th Districts, starting on February 3rd to February 8th.
- ALR Summit will be held at Avanti Palms Resort in Orlando, FL. February 3rd to February 6th.
- On February 7th is the Four Chaplain's Remembrance Day.
- February 7th, District Oratorical Contest Deadline.

A number of Legionnaires ask me about Chairmanship, if you want me to look at you as a Chairman, please use the Florida Legion Website, at [floridalegion.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Dept\\_Chair\\_Interest\\_Flyer\\_2021-2022](http://floridalegion.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Dept_Chair_Interest_Flyer_2021-2022), this is the best way for me to choose new Chairs for the various committees. While a lot of good Legionnaires ask for a position, it is often forgotten in the rush, please fill out the Chairmanship form.

As always, let me know what I can do to assist you, your Post, and your District.

**JANUARY 2021**

1	Department HQ Closed
1	New Year's Day
1	Baseball Registration Opens
6	Boys State: Stop taking Reg Fee
6	Membership Renewal Date
7	Post 5: Visitation
8	Boy States Reg Packets Mailed
9	Oratorical Contest - Post 148
9	District 15: Revitalization
10	District 5: Meeting
13	Boys State Online Del/Alt Reg Opens
14	Membership Goal 80%
15	Legion Link Articles Due
15	Shooting Sports Target Deadline
16	District 15: Revitalization
16	District 17: Meeting
17	Oratorical Post Competitions Complete
18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
18	Department HQ Closed
20	Post 138: Visitation
22	Post 246: Visitation
23	Inaugural Poker Run, Post 117
23	Oratorical Contest District 15
27	Vietnam Cease-Fire (1973)
31	Polar Plunge, Post 137

Events are subject to change. Additional details can be found at [www.floridalegion.org](http://www.floridalegion.org). We share the information we are provided.

*Special Thanks and Working Together*

**Eunice Butts, 2nd Vice Commander**  
[2ndvice@legionmail.org](mailto:2ndvice@legionmail.org)



It is with a compassionate and loving heart, that I wish you and your families a very successful, happy, and blessed New Year. As of this writing, 15th District and Central Area are in 2nd place in membership. Special

thanks to Bruce Carl and Sid Damsgard - Zone 2 had a very rewarding end of the year with many Posts participating in Veterans Day programs and parades, Thanksgiving dinners to our homeless veterans, Wreaths Across America, Christmas, and Christmas dinners to the homeless, computers to students

attending classes from home, and the list goes on. It appears that Covid-19 has increased our Posts caring and sharing concept. You are true legionnaires. Keep up the good works.

This is a very good month to do your "Buddy Check". A friendly reminder to your members that their dues are expired. Congratulations to Posts 125, 317, 413, 26, 99, and 147 for making 100% by March 1, 2021. I know that you can do it. The first of the year will consist of visiting posts I have not yet visited yet. I have visited all but Post 11 in Zone 2.

If we would all do our jobs on each level of Leadership instead of trying to do another's area, we would all do much better as District, Area, and Zone Commanders. Each sector has its own

duties and responsibilities. It is very saddening when Posts don't know their District Commander or Area Commander. We can do better. If you cannot follow the set guidelines for your position or you do not like the Department Commander and will not do the job, then resign from the position and let someone else who will do the job be assigned. Remember, "We are glorified volunteers" who come together to carry out the mission and duties of The American Legion. Let us all become loving, caring, peaceful, and respectful of each other's opinion and ideas. Regardless of what position we hold, we make mistakes. Correct them and move on.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality of each Post and District meetings that I

*Continued on page 3>>*



<< 2nd Vice Continued from page 2  
visited in 2020.

"What is the difference between an obstacle and an opportunity? Our attitude toward it. Every opportunity has

a difficulty, and every difficulty has an opportunity.

*Legion + Community = Success*

**Michael Raymond, 3rd Vice Commander**

[3rdvice@legionmail.org](mailto:3rdvice@legionmail.org)



I believe that there is no better time of the year than this holiday season to emphasize just how important it is for Posts to be involved in their local communities. Many Post families have made a point of helping our less fortunate by getting

involved with toy drives and supplying meals during this giving time. One of the most impressive shows of support is from our very own Legion Riders. Every year during the Christmas season, hundreds of Riders host Christmas parties and then

head out to help Santa deliver toys and gifts to children around the State. There is nothing more precious than the look on a small child's face when they hear 20 or 30 Harley Davidson's roar up through their neighborhood and stop in front of their house where they see good ole St Nick dismount with a big bag of toys straight from the North Pole! I personally have been involved in this ride for the past ten years and those are some of the best memories I will never forget. It's also a fact that in some cases, these may be the only presents these kids get.

It is so important to our existence to be deeply involved in your community. Invite local organizations to meet at your post. Having an open house is a great way to invite the locals to come in and see what

you do. Hold a children's Christmas party and invite the public. If you have a County Veteran's Council, be sure to designate someone from your Post to attend every meeting, then bring the information back to your members. Also, you can let other Veteran's organizations in on your Post activities. So please get involved and watch your Post grow!

I'd like to congratulate all the Post's that are following the CDC and Department guidelines during this nasty pandemic. Through my travels I've noticed most of you are following the rules, but there are a few out there who are taking unnecessary chances that need not be taken. Please be careful, but most of all...be smart! Have a wonderful Holiday season and we will see you next year.

*The American Legion's Hall of Fame History*

**Dennis Boland, NEC**

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"I may have been the first Legion Baseball graduate in the Hall of Fame, but I won't be the last".

Pitching great, Bob Feller's statement to The American Legion Magazine in 1963

about his induction in Cooperstown, N.Y. the previous year. Known as the "Heater from Van Meter," Feller threw breaking balls at age eight and played Legion Baseball at age twelve.

Something about American Legion Baseball drove him to greatness, on the

field and off. Bob Feller, the Iowa Phenom who played Legion ball made his first Major League start at age seventeen, walked away from a lucrative pro contract and enlisted in the Navy two days after the Pearl Harbor attack that sent America into World War II. Initially given duty as a fitness instructor, Feller begged for combat service and eventually found his way to both theaters' of war onboard USS Alabama, putting in nearly four years that he frequently said he never regretted.

Feller returned to professional baseball in August 1945 and played another eleven seasons. His pre-war and post-war baseball career with the Cleveland Indians made him an eight-time All-Star, six-time American League wins leader and World Series champion in 1948. He was a lock for the Hall of Fame. His statement about being the first but certainly not to

be the last American Legion player to be enshrined in Cooperstown, N.Y., proved prophetic. Eighty more former Legion Baseball players would make their way to induction by July 2019.

These Hall of Fame athletes have said over the years that the lessons of American Legion Baseball were valuable, if not completely responsible, for their success.

We, as Florida Legionnaires have always had the opportunity to shine when it comes to American Legion Baseball. Recently one of our greatest supporters of Florida American Legion Baseball passed away. Ed White, Commander of Post 79 in New Port Richey, always attended The American Legion World Series games and at one time his Post sponsored more than five Legion Baseball teams.

*Happy New Year*

**Richard Smith, SAL Advisor**

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As we come into the new year let's push to get back on track. Remind your squadron to review their by-laws for

updates. Happy New Year. I look forward to seeing everyone at convention.





January Reflections

Barry Roberts, Chaplain

chaplain@legionmail.org



I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year! 2020 was a challenge and if it grew you closer to God then it was a good thing for your preparation for eternity! We have much to reflect upon in January, so let's start the

New Year with some blessings from God!

January second is Swiss cheese day! The third is Women Rock Day! The fourth is National Spaghetti Day! The 5th is National Bird day, 6th is National Bean day,

7th National Tempura Day, 8th Bubble Bath Day, the 9th National Apricot Day, 10th Houseplant Appreciation Day, 11th National Hot Toddy Day, 12th National Marzipan Day, the 13th National Peach Melba Day, the 14th is Organize Your Home Day, the 15th is Strawberry Ice Cream Day, the 16th is International Hot and Spicy Food Day, the 17th is Hot Buttered Rum Day.

As part of our Challenge 22 efforts, I have been in contact with the American Association of Christian Counselors and we are being offered a faith based Mental Health Life Coach Certificate through Legion Church. It is about 45 hours of online training and the \$2400 tuition has been waived, so the only cost is a \$54.00

administration fee. I already have several people from around the state enrolled in the program. If you would like to know more, please email me at bwroberts@rocketmail.com or call me at 863-661-9999.

Let's be proactive together in preserving "For God and Country" and let's be proactive together in reaching out into our communities and serving our veterans and their families. Let's be proactive together and go help somebody....

I am here for you, feel free to join and participate on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/floridalegionchaplains](http://www.facebook.com/floridalegionchaplains)

*Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13*

National has a New Grant Program for Posts

Clarence Hill, Judge Advocate

judgeadvocate@legionmail.org



A NEW POST ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, RESOLUTION 36, WAS ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND WHAT IT MEANS TO EVERY POST WITHIN

THE DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

The National Executive Committee (NEC) has approved the following resolution which can be utilized by every Post in The American Legion that meets the eligibility criteria. Below are the resolved clauses of Resolution 36

RESOLVED, by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on October 14-15, 2020, That the national commander is hereby authorized to establish a grant program titled "Mission Blue Post Assistance Program" which will provide \$1,000 grants to applying and qualified American Legion posts impacted by the government's public health protection restrictions

implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the national commander shall direct the Internal Affairs Commission through its Internal Affairs Division to screen, certify and cause grants to be distributed to qualifying posts; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an American Legion Post will be eligible for a Mission Blue Post Assistance Program grant after verification by The American Legion department adjutant that the post meets the criteria and requirements, which are listed here:

1. A post must have a consolidated post report on file.
2. A post must have filed an IRS 990 within the prescribed due date.
3. A post must have filed all other required forms and reposts as prescribed by the department.
4. A post must have actively participated in one or more American Legion program(s) within the last 18 months.
5. A post must have a financial need.
6. A post must provide a certificate of insurance naming The American Legion dba American Legion National Headquarters as an additional insured.

7. A post must provide documentation indicating that the post is properly incorporated; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the funds from a Mission Blue Post Assistance Program grant shall be used exclusively for the following:

1. Current and past due mortgage principal and interest,
2. Current and past due real estate rents,
3. Current and past due insurance premiums, and
4. Current and past due utilities; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an American Legion post receiving a Mission Blue Post Assistance Program grant will be required to submit a true and accurate report outlining how the funds were used; and the report shall be signed by the post finance officer and certified by the post commander or post adjutant; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That payment for a Mission Blue Post Assistance Program grant shall be made available by funding in The American Legion National Emergency

*Continued on page 5>>*



<< Judge Advocate Continued from page 4  
Fund; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That no more than \$5,000,000 (\$5 million dollars) shall be expended from The American Legion National Emergency Fund for the Mission Blue Post Assistance Program, except that donations from elsewhere specifically designated to fulfill the intent of the program may be applied to same without limitation; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The American Legion may solicit donations for the Mission Blue Post Assistance Program from any sources as may be available provided that any and all monies raised shall be used to augment the \$5,000,000 commitment

from The American Legion National Emergency Fund; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That the Finance Commission is authorized to make any changes to the program as it sees fit to carry out the intent of this resolution provided that the National Executive Committee is provided notification of changes made at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

What does this mean to a Post? Public health mandates in response to the coronavirus included stay-at-home orders and business closures. Those mandates financially impacted American Legion posts nationwide as member and community outreach efforts were limited, resulting in a loss of revenue.

The eligibility requirements are listed in the Resolution. If your Post's EIN has been revoked, it must be reinstated to be eligible.

American Legion posts applying for a grant will be required to first submit the completed application to department for approval before it can be sent to National Headquarters. The application procedure is the same as for the NEF. Posts have until December 31, 2021, to apply for the grant.

The instructions and application can be downloaded at [https://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/Mission\\_Blue\\_PAP\\_Application\\_1.pdf](https://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/Mission_Blue_PAP_Application_1.pdf).

*Membership, Northern Area Ball, & CPRs*

**Marie Conti, Northern Area Commander**

[northernarea@legionmail.org](mailto:northernarea@legionmail.org)



Happy New Year to The Florida American Legion Family. Congratulations to everyone that has met or exceeded the 80% goal. The next membership goal is 85% before February 3, 2021.

December 3rd-7th 2020, I traveled within the Fifth District and visited several Posts. This included the Pearl Harbor Ceremony at Fleet Reserve Association Branch 290, Mayport on December 7, 2020. I would like to thank the entire Fifth District for their hospitality.

With the New Year starting most are eager to put 2020 behind them and turn the page into next year. However, there is still much work to be accomplished for the 2020-2021 Legion Year. I suggest that you take a step back and look at where your Post is right now; see if you need to catch up on membership or any Legion Program (ask for help if you need it, that is what

your District Officers and I am here for!). Remember, anyone without a 2021 card cannot attend meetings and should not be served at the canteen.

Oratorical contests are fast approaching. Stay tuned for details about the Northern Area Oratorical Contest; the POC is Doug Hockenberry, Northern Area Oratorical Chairman.

The Northern Area Ball will be held on March 6, 2021, at Ocean Beaches American Legion Post 129, Jacksonville Beach. See attached flyer for details. Please contact PDC Jay Conti Sr. at 352-287-1400, for more information.

Now is the time get an early start on the end of year CPR Reports, which can be done on myLegion.org. With this being an unprecedented Legion Year, don't forget about the awards for Boy Scouts, JROTC & Shooting Sports, School Medals, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, and Firefighter of the Year; let's not shortchange our children & youth or our heroes in our communities.

As information and restrictions are changing often, due to COVID-19, check

the Department website for updated Program & Event Information.

Let's finish what we started and show that dreadful 2020 year out with a BANG! If you read my entire article, please drop me a line and write "READ" in the subject line.



*Southern Area Bulletin*

**Paul Bosco, Southern Area Commander**

[southernarea@legionmail.org](mailto:southernarea@legionmail.org)



Happy New Year! I hope you all had a great holiday. I was unable to send out a report in December because the keys on my laptop were sticking and it effected four of my programs including Microsoft Office.

I have decided not to have the Southern

Area Ball. The numbers in the Southern Area for contracting the Covid-19 virus are once again rising rapidly, and I would have to charge double or triple to cover the cost for the ball. It would be too risky and unsafe even with being inoculated.

The end of December has come and gone. At this sitting, Southern Area is in third place and there are six Posts at or over 100 Percent. I am sure more will be there as well. Thank you for a job well done. There is still time to reach your quota on the 14th you should be at 80 percent keep up the good work.

January Boys State Registration fees are due on the sixth (6th), and the Packets mailed out on the Eighth (8th). January thirteenth (13th) Boys State online Delegate and Alternate registration opens. January seventeenth (17th) your Post Oratorical Competition should be completed.

Keep safe and say a prayer for those who have contracted the Corvid-19 virus, and for those who are in the hospitals, and for our friends and comrades that lost the great fight and is with the Commander of us all.

*Western Area News*

**John Edens, Western Area Commander**

[westernarea@legionmail.org](mailto:westernarea@legionmail.org)



I waited to the last minute to get this report in again, because of changes to the current pandemic and states laws or ordinances in reference to the pandemic. **Most medical experts still believe the "social**

**distancing" will continue for many months to come.** I want to start off with special prayers for all our Legionnaire Family for a new and hopefully uneventful 2021 new year!

1st and 2nd Districts continue to thrive (with all the pandemic virus in the air.) Several Posts at 100% and many more getting very close. We continue using the phone (**Buddy Checks** and video chat programs to talk to our members, to hold meetings and to find out who needs help or assistance. The Buddy Checks are working, but the old word-of-mouth at special events is increasing our new members. We need to keep this up for the good of the Legion. We just need to keep working on "social distancing and wearing a mask" as appropriate and especially for social media photos.

Our two Posts that are making major

repairs after major hurricanes are working hard to get their Posts back open. A special thanks to all the Posts and the community for helping Post 375 (Hurricane Michael damage) and Post 33 (Hurricane Sally damage) in recent fund raisers. The two Commanders have done an outstanding job on Post rebuilding over the past year.

**Everyone stay healthy and keep your distance for now.** I look forward to seeing everyone as soon as this national emergency pandemic has eased up to the point of allowing larger groups to meet again. **Thanks again for everyone's hard work.**

*Constitution and Bylaws*

**Stuart Scott, District 3 Commander**

[3rddistrict@legionmail.org](mailto:3rddistrict@legionmail.org)



Our Founding Fathers, for both our nation and our organization, knew that if we didn't have an awesome constitution we wouldn't last as either a nation or an organization. The framework that was established carries on to

today.

There have been amendments, but the

documents we live by are established for us as a body.

We, as the body of The Department of Florida, are on the verge of a stalemate that WE must get ahead of. It is with this notion, that I've been asked to head a committee to help our Judge Advocates (JA) review and get approved all our pending Constitution and Bylaws (CBL).

I have asked each District Commander to seek the best person in each district to help our JA in the initial review process. This will ensure that the document that is being presented to them has at least met the standard that they are seeking. With this

process we can establish a solid standard whereas the 286 posts in The Department can have their CBL submitted, reviewed, and approved in a timely manner.

Please work closely with your District leadership. They will be the best source of information on this project and your main point of contact to help explain what is needed and will be able to assist in putting the information in layman's terms. As always, many hands make light work!





*Congratulations and Thank You*

**Bruce Carl, District 15 Commander**  
[15thdistrict@legionmail.org](mailto:15thdistrict@legionmail.org)



I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy as we get ready to close out 2020 and move on to 2021!

Like many of the Posts across the United States, Covid-19 is taking its toll on what we can do. Hall rentals are down and dinners, dances, karaoke, etc., have had to be cut back or been cancelled. Fundraising projects have been limited not only at our Posts but at many of the places we would go to and set up. Several of the Posts have not been able to have a regular meeting since March, as they did not have a Post home, and their meeting place has been

shut down.

Through all of this, the District continues to do what it needs to for our veterans, children, and community. Thanks to the outpouring of support from many of the Posts and District family, as well as our local stores - many of our veterans and their families were able to have a Thanksgiving and a Christmas. Special thanks to 15th District Auxiliary President, Mary McColgan, for all the hard work she does with the food pantry and newly housed Veterans. Also, thank you to everyone in the District who helps support this program with donations or picking up and delivering food and furniture items. Without all of you, this program would not be as successful as it is and would not survive.

The 15th District is doing very well with our membership again this year. At this point,

we have already hit the 80% January goal. All our Posts are ahead of last years' numbers for the same time period. We have 646 members more, so it looks like we are on our way to a 3rd straight 100% year in membership. There are three Posts at 100% currently, but I expect to see a few more by the end of December.

I would like to thank everyone in the District for all their hard work and dedication! Despite the virus, you all continue to do what you can to support our Four Pillars. 2021 is right around the corner, and with any luck, it must be better than 2020. Let's hope the vaccines do their job to curb the virus so we can all return to some type of "normalcy".

I would like to wish the entire Legion family a safe and happy holiday season, and a Happy New Year!

*Happy 2021, Now it's Time to Do Membership*

**Jim Ramos, Northern Membership**  
[teamramos@legionmail.org](mailto:teamramos@legionmail.org)



Happy New Year 2021, I hope you and your family are healthy, and I hope everyone is safe and that you enjoyed your holidays. Now is time to do some more membership.

Congratulations to the following Districts 4th, 6th, 1st, 17th, 5th, 2nd, and 3rd for working hard on membership, but we are just getting started again for the 2021 year. Thanks to Posts 44, 33, 272, 215, 210, 166, 230, 27, 244, 412, 403, 357, 55, 259 and 45 for making 100% by December 31, 2020. Post 259 was the first Post in Florida to make the 100% goal.

January and February are the two hardest months to do membership, but we cannot forget to ask members to renew NOW. Yes, NOW is a great time to asks your members who have not renew to pay up Please we need you NOW. We

know this is a bad time with COVID-19 and the holiday just passed and NOW we need to check membership cards. In your next Post meeting just check to see have many members are in good standing.

Special Thanks to ALL the District Commanders and their membership team for going all out in 2020. Let's go Florida, our next Goal is 80% by January 14, 2021 and we can do it together. Let me know what assistance you need to make the 80% goal for the Department of Florida. Please do not wait until it is too late.

Please check out the Department Membership manual is on the website ([floridalegion.org](http://floridalegion.org)) under resources and go down to Forms & Document (and touch or hit the learn more button) and go down to Manuals & Guides and is the first manual that you we see. Please download it to your computer take sometimes and read it, it has a lot of great information for your membership team, also use the timetable for your next event. We need to stay on top of membership because we must meet the Goals from Department. The membership timetable is to help each Post make their new goal.

We all are either an active or passive recruiter:

1. Recruit a friend, a neighbor or somebody who is a veteran.
2. Just ask if they look like a Veteran.
3. Show your pride by wearing your Legion gears (shirt, cap with the Legion Logo).
4. Buddy Checks are working
5. Please continue connecting with your members ([Buddy Check FloridaLegion.org](http://FloridaLegion.org)) to get it.

The Goal to get for January is 80% for the Department, how is your Post doing? Setting the Goals: (specific dates and timetable) below:

1. January 1 - Happy New Year 2021. Check membership cards.
2. Now back to membership (use your membership team) to make the phone calls, emails and some face-to-face contact to get members to renew. Always say thank you and make a roster of members that you contacted.
3. January - Contact prospective

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<< Northern Membership Continued from page 7

members, new members and get unpaid/dropouts' member to renew 2021 and please use mylegion.org for DMS/Post 0400 membership to add

to your Post.

4. Continue to plan for February, please look at the timetable plan

For more suggestions call me. If you have any questions, please contact

me at Phone number 352-226-4370 or email at [jramos149@bellsouth.net](mailto:jramos149@bellsouth.net)

I am here to help you and your Post be the best in Florida

**Membership Growth Opportunities**

**Ray Perez, Southern Membership**

[teamperez@legionmail.org](mailto:teamperez@legionmail.org)



The Department Commander has published the 2020-2021 Membership Plan and Awards Manual and I sent it to all the District Commanders. You can also download it from the Florida of Florida Website at [www.floridalegion.org](http://www.floridalegion.org) under the Resource link.

It is December 13, 2020 now and by the time you read this article we will be past the deadline of the 2020 membership cards and have implemented a plan for not accepting the 2020 cards at your Posts.

All our Posts are suffering due to COVID-19 and our northern members are not traveling due to the COVID numbers. With the financial situations it has caused, our Posts and the membership are behind, and we are facing the most difficult time in the Department's history. All things considered, we are holding on and many of you are doing the right things in getting our members to renew. Again, I'm looking at the December 11th Report and feel good about the 68 Posts that have reached 75% or greater. Out of the 56 Posts that

made the 75% goal I'm going to predict 36 Posts will make the 100% mark by December 31st. So, let's look at what we have for the next two months:

**January**

- Contact prospective new members
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Get unpaid/dropouts from previous years make contact
- Boys State Registration Fee Deadline and Packets mailed out
- National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
- \*Membership Goal 80% (14th)
- Post Oratorical Competitions Complete

**February is Americanism Month**

- Educate members on the Americanism Program
- Four Chaplains Day
- President Day
- Valentine Day
- Youth Law Cadet Apps Fee Open
- Membership Goal 85% (3rd)
- National Commander's Visit
- ALR Summit
- Super Bowl Sunday (7th)
- Coast Guard Reserve Birthday
- District Oratorical Comp Complete
- Area Oratorical Comp Complete

As you can see, there are many upcoming events to build our membership on but

current restrictions in your locations will dictate what you can or cannot do. We must stay creative and think outside the box when trying to complete these goals. Network within your Districts and try to help each other out. Zoom District meetings continue to be a great and safe resource.

I am looking forward to these next few months to see how the vaccination operation will be implemented. Many of our membership are in the high-risk category due to age and preexisting illnesses. Who knows maybe the vaccination process will be right at the doorsteps of our Posts?

So, for the remainder of this year, I am asking District Commanders to look at your Posts and where they stand on the use of MyLegion.org. If Commanders do not feel they are using it to its full potential, please call me. I'm prepared to produce documents and processes to make things happen down at the Post level.

I want to thank you for all you do and continue to do for the Department of Florida and our Veterans. I'll end my article with a chuckle. If you're around Madeira Beach Post 273 on a Friday, you'll find my good friend wearing his Red Shirt of course along with an ARMY cap the whole month of January. Congratulations to Army!!

**Amazing Programs**

**Kurt Gies, Americanism**

[americanism@legionmail.org](mailto:americanism@legionmail.org)



**American Legion Oratorical Contests:**

The deadlines for the Post-level Oratorical Contests are rapidly approaching. Over the years, we've noticed that most Posts have elected not to host

these competitions. But my guess is that it's because many don't recognize what this contest is all about and how easy it is to host one. All you need is 2-3 contestants, 4-5 volunteers and a place to hold it. The booklet guides you through the rest.

By not hosting one, you are potentially denying a local high school student from your community the chance to collect over \$28,000 in scholarship money by winning at all the levels on their way to becoming

the national champion. Some child, from some community, representing some American Legion post will be walk across that stage at the National Convention to be honored. Wouldn't it be cool if they represented your Post?

If you are planning to host an event, tell your other Posts in your District so they can come out, watch, or possibly even help, but also direct kids from their areas

*Continued on page 9>>*





<< *Americanism Continued from page 8*

who are interested in competing. If you're not holding a contest this year, find out who is (Post, District or Area-level) and volunteer to help them. This way, you can see what it all about and be ready to host one next year. We promise it will be an amazing experience for you and the kids and potentially be the first step to giving one of your local kids a chance at "Greatness" and some significant scholarship money!

If you have any questions, please contact your Post, District American Legion Oratorical Chairman for more details.

**American Legion Boys State:**

In 2020, Florida American Legion Boys State was cancelled. This is the first time this has happened since WWII. What a shame! But we all seem to agree this was the right call as COVID was just being learned about and no one knew much about the virus and its effects, especially on teenage boys. Therefore, every Post that paid for a delegate last year, had those funds rolled over to 2021. If this is your situation, it is time to act now. Reach out to your local JROTC Unit Commanders and ask them if they have any young men who they feel would be deserving and benefit from this experience.

At my home Post, we just had a local business owner drop off a check for almost \$800 for our Challenge 22 event this

year. He and his team at Winter Garden Pizza heard about what was happening with The American Legion and he felt compelled to go above and beyond helping raise money by petitioning their customers.

When asked why he did this, he said well in the year 2000, he was a delegate from St Thomas Aquinas High School in Ft Lauderdale to the Florida American Legion Boys State; he felt is way a way to say thank you for a "life-changing experience". You may never know how a simple thing like giving \$450 to sponsor a high school boy can change the world.

Contact your Post, District American Legion Boys State Chairman for more details.

*Merry Go Round Results and Upcoming Events*

**Jim Wineland, American Legion Riders**

[legionriders@legionmail.org](mailto:legionriders@legionmail.org)



Bev & I hope that all of you had a great Christmas and New Year! There is nothing better than family time during the holiday season!

Just in case you missed it, here are the "Merry Go Round" results. There

was a total of 737,115 points generated, well done! Now for who won, (Sonny you can put your map away to District 15) District 1 captured 42% of the points which put District 1 in first place. District 15 came in second with 33% of the points and District 5 came in third with 22% of the total. We also had participation from Districts 17, 4, 6, 7 and 12. Again, great job by all who participated.

I have mentioned to several people, when the coronavirus shutdowns began, Bev and I thought that we would just reschedule the event and move on. Nothing could be further from the truth. The businesses that we were counting on had to change their operation, which of course effected our plans. The biggest one was Harley itself; we have lost their

support. It was nothing we did; it was the virus. We lost the following - band support for the summit, a bike that we could raffle off, South Harley's location for the "In State Rally", and Harley locations to stop by on the Unity Ride.

As you know, we are self-funded and must raise our own seed money to survive.

Here are a couple of things we are going to start with. One of Post 129 members donated a 2001 Mercedes to auction off at Mecon motors in Orlando on January 12th. It is not just a car auction; we will also ask for donations for PVR. The other project Post 10 is putting together for the ALR Department is a pair of guns to raffle off, tickets will be in place soon. Our Brothers & Sisters at Post 10 in Kissimmee have volunteered to take on these projects.

A special thanks goes out to our new ALR Department Event Coordinator Jeff Hawk and Joe Marcheggiani's Leadership team.

There is more to come. We have the Unity Ride and Rally to put the final touches on. Once again Post 10 will be deeply involved finding a new location for the Rally.

As I have mentioned before, Bev and I are looking for a little help. We are a

little ahead of the schedule because we moved unused plans from last year to this, but we need more individuals to get involved and ready to step up as the needs of the program change. Please plan on attending our "Succession Planning Class" at the Summit, come see what it is all about.

Again, Thank You for all your Efforts! Here is our tentative schedule for next year for your review and comments.

- February 3, Summit - Meet & Greet 6P – 8P
- February 4, 5, & 6, Summit - Classroom, we will have AM Sunday for Road Captain Training
- April 3, Children & Youth Picnic at American Legion Post #1, Titusville, Florida, 12P to 6PM
- April, all month, Round Robin, PVR/SPI
- April 18, Meet & Greet - Marathon & Pensacola FL
- April 19-23, North & South - In-State Unity Rides
- April 24, In-State-Rally - TBA
- June 16-19, Department Convention

Beverly and I would like to thank each of you for the support we received this last year! Thank You for what you do, and we are proud to be part of your Leadership Team of such a great group!



*Baseball Bulletin*

**Terry Phillips, Baseball**



[baseball@legionmail.org](mailto:baseball@legionmail.org)

The Baseball Executive Committee is hard at work preparing for the upcoming 2021 season.

Our Department Baseball page can be found at [floridalegion.org](http://floridalegion.org), then click programs, then

select Baseball and you will see information like, the 2021 Baseball Manual, Executive Committee and Area contact information, Important dates and events, team registration info and communications.

We have been working on improving the way to get information out to the posts and membership, this opens us up to the next step as the Department Baseball Program continues to grow and expand all over the state.

I am still looking for a Northern Area Commissioner and a Vice Commissioner, please let me know if you would be interested in being a big part of what we do to serve our youth and families.

Thank You for What you Do and if you are not doing something, it is time to start doing to help this important program reach our kid's and community.

*COVID-19 Guidance*

**Ray Perez, Blood Donor**

[teamperez@legionmail.org](mailto:teamperez@legionmail.org)



This month I decided to turn our attention to COVID-19 and some of the questions Post Commanders and our members may have. The bottom line is that with this disease anything is possible.

As I am writing this article, just after the Thanksgiving holidays, the surge from the holiday has brought the totals up to over 3,000 deaths in the United States. They are expecting this to be a daily figure until after the Christmas and New Year's.

Is it possible to catch the coronavirus disease again?

The hope is that people who've been exposed to the new coronavirus will have immunity to it. When you have immunity, your body can recognize and fight off the virus that causes COVID-19. But it's possible that people who've had COVID-19 can get sick again -- and maybe infect other people.

Do I still need to quarantine for 14 days if I was around someone who has COVID-19?

Yes. You should still self-quarantine for 14 days since your last exposure. It can take up to 14 days after exposure to the virus for a person to develop COVID-19 symptoms. A negative result before end of the 14-day quarantine period does

not rule out possible infection. By self-quarantining for 14 days, you lower the chance of possibly exposing others to COVID-19.

Take action if an employee is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 infection:

In most cases, you do not need to shut down your facility. If it has been less than 7 days since the sick employee has been in the facility, close off any areas used for prolonged periods of time by the sick person:

- Wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting to minimize potential for other employees being exposed to respiratory droplets. If waiting 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible.
- During this waiting period, open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in these areas.

If it has been 7 days or more since the sick employee used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary. Continue routinely cleaning and disinfecting all high-touch surfaces in the facility.

OSHA is committed to protecting the health and safety of America's workers and workplaces during these unprecedented times. The agency will be issuing a series of alerts designed to keep workers safe. As restaurants and beverage establishments resume offering dine-in service, the following steps can help reduce the risk of workers' exposure to the coronavirus:

- Encourage workers to stay home if they are sick.
- Comply with state and local

requirements for occupancy restrictions.

- Require all staff to wear face coverings.
- Increase cleaning and disinfecting of commonly touched surfaces, such as tables, doorknobs, chairs, faucets and sinks, countertops, and touchpads.
- Wash, rinse, and sanitize dishware, utensils, and beverage equipment after each use.
- Maintain at least 6-feet between co-workers and customers, and avoid direct hand-to-hand contact, when possible.
- Use mobile ordering, text on arrival for seating, and contactless payment options when feasible.
- Encourage workers to report any safety and health concerns to a supervisor. For more information, visit [www.osha.gov/coronavirus](http://www.osha.gov/coronavirus) or call 1-800-321-OSHA (6742).

**DID YOU KNOW?** The Armed Services Blood Program is scheduled to implement sweeping changes to blood donor eligibility July 13 that will allow thousands more to donate to the Department of Defense's own blood program. "This will be the first time since the early 2000's that local national employees, as well as many military, retirees and veterans and family members who have lived in Europe for some time, will be eligible to help maintain the military's blood supply," said Blood Donor Recruiter Stacy Sanning. "We are very excited, as these changes will help ensure we can continue meeting the military's blood needs throughout the

*Continued on page 11 >>*



<< *Blood Donor Continued from page 10*

COVID-19 pandemic and in the future." These eligibility changes are in response to updates in the Food and Drug Administration's guidance for variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease or the human form of "mad cow" disease, human immunodeficiency virus and malaria.

Thanks to Don Morrison of Posts 242  
**Update on the Convalescent Collection Program (CCP)**

Hospital distributions of convalescent plasma increased 250% in November

compared to September, according to the American Red Cross. The rise in hospitalizations of patients with coronavirus this fall, and winter is the reason the Red Cross said it distributed a record number of COVID-19 plasma products to hospitals treating patients with the virus. "We need donors across the board for two critical missions, to give blood and convalescent plasma," said Paul Sullivan, senior vice president of the American Red Cross. Sullivan said since the beginning of the pandemic, over 50,000 blood drives were canceled across the nation, impacting over 1 million blood

donation appointments. "We are sending out convalescent plasma at a greater rate and it's a way for people to help those currently battling COVID-19," said Sullivan.

**Please remember to continue your Post Blood Drives. Does your District have a Post candidate for the Margret Skaggs Award for the Best Post Blood Drives?**

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a Happy New Year. Please be safe, wear your mask!!

*Thank You and Upcoming Events*

**Les Martin, Children & Youth**

[cym@legionmail.org](mailto:cym@legionmail.org)



I hope everyone took advantage of our Halloween Safety program with our newly designed coloring books. Thank you Carrie Kolze for the excellent work on the book.

I have recently been to District Meetings in Districts 1, 5, 11, 12 and 13. Each of these District meetings have had great attendance and I was able to pass information out to their Posts and many of the attendees purchased pins and coins, Thank You. I also visited several Posts in the areas near the District Meetings and Posts in the 6th and 9th Districts, as they each held virtual meetings. We really do have a bunch of nice Posts and great Post and District leadership in our Department.

Now that we are entering the new year, let's look head at what is coming up for our Children & Youth. In January, registration for American Legion Baseball opens, January is also the deadline for Boys State registration fees, and the online registration opens for Delegates and Alternates. Don't forget that the target Deadline for Shooting Sports is January 15th. All Posts should have completed their Oratorical competitions by the 17th.

In February, the application and fees

open for the Florida Youth Law Cadet Program and the Area Competitions for Oratorical should be completed. Check the Department calendar for more information on specific dates and other information.

On March 1st, many of our applications are due. General Scholarships, ROTC Cadet of the Year Scholarship and Eagle Scout of the Year. Also, on March 13th, the Oratorical competition will be held at Department Headquarters.

Our Children & Youth Golf Tournament will be held in Central Florida on March 27, 2021. The final plans are being made at this time. Our Post and District Children & Youth Chairman should be planning their events for Children & Youth Month in April. The Department Children & Youth is holding a Picnic on April 3rd, at Post 1 in Titusville. (please send a basket of whatever is to be auctioned off at the picnic) Each Post and District should look ahead at what they will be doing during April.

I have attended several District meetings this past couple of months and will be attending many more. The big push for our Posts in each of the Districts is to get out and approach your local school districts and seek out your candidate for the American Legion Teacher of the Year. With close to 300 Posts in Florida, we shouldn't have only a small handful of applications.

Come on, make our job difficult and get

your applications in. I know there are many qualified teaches in your local school districts that can earn this award. We also need more of our Posts submitting applications for "Best Post Children & Youth Program" and "Children & Youth Chairman". Again, with nearly 300 Posts in Florida, we should be receiving more than a few applications. Otherwise, it tells us that not many Posts are doing a Children & Youth program. So come on, flaunt what you're Post is doing for the kids. Be proud of your accomplishments.

Our Children & Youth coins are now available. They are available through the Department Emblem Sales or you can purchase them from me when I visit your District meeting or other events I plan on attending.

With both of our fundraisers cancelled last year. We would like to see each Post, Unit, Squadron and Chapter, hold at least one fundraising event this year for the Department Children and Youth Committee. It could be a bike poker run or a months' worth of bar poker receipts, or a bake sale or garage sale or anything else that your group may be doing.



Until Next Month, stay Safe and Healthy.





# PROJECT: VETRELIEF BULLETIN

AN OFFICIAL PROGRAM OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA



## THE CHALLENGE IS ON... WILL THE COMMANDER SING KARAOKE?

Commander Johnson is issuing a challenge to all American Legion Posts to see who can raise the most funds between now and the District Constitutional Conferences in the spring.

He is certain that the entire Legion Family can step up and provide the necessary funding the program needs to continue to support veterans through the coronavirus pandemic. **In fact, he is so confident that he set a goal to raise \$30,000 for PROJECT: VetRelief by April 30, 2021.**

Every American Legion Post is encouraged to raise a minimum of \$100 and **the Post that raises the most funds will receive celebrity treatment** during our next Annual Department Convention, hopefully in June 2021!

**As a bonus**, if we are able to reach or surpass his goal of \$30,000, Commander Johnson will take the stage at Convention *in costume* and sing karaoke. We know you'd like to see Commander Johnson belt out his favorite patriotic tune!

*Remember*, Commander Johnson chose PROJECT: VetRelief as one of his charities of choice. All efforts raised through this Challenge will also count towards his Commander's Charity goal of \$225,000.

Although this is all fun and games, the bottom line is... Florida's veterans need you to help them through their difficult times - and we know that Florida's American Legion Family can rise up to any challenge and be that support for our veterans and their families!

### CHALLENGE DETAILS

**GOAL:** \$30,000 by April 20, 2021

**Objective:** Raise a minimum of \$100 per Post. Highest fundraising Post will receive celebrity treatment at Convention in June.

#### Top Fundraising Post will receive:

- Complimentary room nights at Department Convention in June
- Table at Commander's Banquet
- Red Carpet walk and introduction during General Session
- Preferred seating during General Session
- Receive inaugural PROJECT: VetRelief Trophy

**Posts who raise the \$100 minimum** will receive a commemorative plaque to display at the Post.

## UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS

*Exciting News!* Our calendar is starting to book up again with a variety of fundraising activities to raise funds for both our Emergency Assistance and Suicide Prevention programs. We are grateful to our Legion Family for doing what they can to support PROJECT: VetRelief, even through a pandemic!

If you are hosting an event, we want to hear about it so we can help promote it! Please contact Jennifer Cooper at 407-295-2631 or [jcooper@floridalegion.org](mailto:jcooper@floridalegion.org) with the details.

### JANUARY

**Post 359 Fundraising Activities**  
*Titusville, FL*

Activities going on **ALL MONTH** long. Check their Facebook page for details.

**12 Mercedes Auction**  
*Kissimmee, FL*

Visit <https://www.mecum.com/> for details.

### MARCH

**13 Post 69 Challenge 22 Event**  
*Avon Park, FL*

2 Mile Walk, Vendors, silent auction, 50/50, door prizes, raffles and crafts to raise awareness for veteran suicide.

**27 District 5 Challenge 22 Event**

*Jacksonville Beach, FL*  
Details coming soon!



**SUPPORT CASES**  
\*Numbers reflect PVR Cases ONLY

JULY 2020 - NOV 2020

**143** families helped

**-\$134,757.70** amount distributed

*JSSP Postal Match*

**Loretta Young, ROTC/JROTC/JSSP**  
[jrotc@legionmail.org](mailto:jrotc@legionmail.org)



The JSSP Postal Match registration has now expired as of December 15th. Overall, as explained in prior articles, it has been extremely difficult to get teams registered here in Florida within the schools. Many of the school programs are still working virtually with limited after school activities.

This leaves the tournament to be conducted through private shooting clubs and is something our posts should be promoting to increase our presence in Florida. These teams for example, can be formed through the Scouting Program, 4 H Clubs or by starting a team within your post. Postal Targets can be setup in the clubhouse at a time when the post is not busy, such as an early Saturday morning. There is complete information in the Legion Link for setting up a Shooting Sports Team. Having a certified coach, proper insurance for the post, portable air

gun backdrops such as Creedmoor, and a couple of volunteers to coordinate your program is a start.

There are still posts that are not familiar with the new total online registration that includes the "Risk Management" training and background check for all the coaches who are working with the teams and submitting the applications which are processed through the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP). These requirements are in place for all our Legion Youth Programs and do take additional time to complete, so last-minute registration is complicating the process because the deadline cannot be extended.

I was able to speak with the Team Coach/ Instructor, SFC (Ret) Riess Pellegrino with the Sarasota Military Academy who is sponsored by Post 266 while they were competing at CMP this month. This team was our 2019/20 Florida Team State Champions and received recognition from the American Legion National JSSP Department. This is a Team photo of the Sarasota Military Academy at the Marksmanship Meet which was held in Anniston, Alabama.



I would like to thank SFC (Ret) Pellegrino for all his hard work and dedication to our Youth and Programs that is an investment in their future and our futures as well. It takes a lot of time and extra effort to travel with the cadets and encourage them to excel as this team has done. Kudos to all! Also, many thanks to Post 266 who has continued to support our American Legion Programs. You are an example to follow and wishing the post continued success. I'm looking forward to more success for next year and may everyone have a Safe and Pleasant Holiday Season.

*Many Thanks!*

**Larry Roberts, VA Entitlements**  
[veteransbenefits@legionmail.org](mailto:veteransbenefits@legionmail.org)



I want to start off by thanking a couple of people - Michael Raymond "Gambler" Department 3rd Vice Commander for inviting me to set up an information booth at

the Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans 2020 event and Jessica Moore the 13th District Commander for allowing me to set up an information booth at the American Legion Post 110 Challenge 22 event.

Both events were a great success, the booths were able to assist many veterans and their family members with information on suicide awareness, VA, State and Project VetRelief benefits. We were also able to make several referrals for counseling.

I would also like to say thank you to Jim Wineland the Legion Riders Director for inviting me to give a class on VA, state and local benefits at the Riders Summit in February.

Please continue to do Buddy Checks, I am finding more and more veterans that are needing our assistance because of Covid-19.

Find us on:  
**facebook**

**facebook.com/floridalegion**





Great News & Good Works

Alan Cohen, VA&R  
var@legionmail.org



I'd like to start this month's article and the new year on a positive note. As I'm sure most of you are aware, beginning this month January 2021, those veterans who receive compensation

payments from the VA will be getting an increase of 1.3%. For those collecting Social Security there will also be an increase of that amount.

Looking back as recently as this past holiday season our VAVS reps, while still not being allowed to resume their previous assignments, have nonetheless contributed to those veterans who are hospitalized. At the West Palm Beach VA Hospital donations were made so that social workers and nurses could distribute holiday meals to in-patient vets. The James A. Haley VA Hospital's Christmas Gift Program went on with our rep, Carlos Gil, helping coordinate and pack some 390 boxes and bags of comfort items for our brothers and sisters at that hospital. Similar efforts were made throughout the state, so we've much to be proud of.

On to some other things. As of this writing, while a vaccine has been approved and shipments are only starting, we've learned

that there will be some 73,000 doses shipped to various VA medical facilities throughout the country with healthcare providers and nursing home residents being the first to receive vaccinations.

The Lake Nona VA Hospital has the necessary storage facility, so they've begun immunizations already. We can only hope that many more doses will be shipped quickly so that all those who want it can have it.

In line with that, the VA has begun a voluntary trial program at only two hospitals in the country with Miami being one of them. This is an extended term (total of two years) program to test long-term results of the Novavax vaccine. Those interested can register with the knowledge that they're not obligated by registering. They will be asked questions to see if they qualify and can opt out at any point. The website to learn more is: [www.va.gov/coronavirus-research](http://www.va.gov/coronavirus-research).

With the VA's increased attention to the needs of our sister veterans, once again I'd like to remind everyone that they have VA benefits as well as the American Legion benefits. The VA has been conducting a series of webinars and now has an online guide designed so that women veterans can access a lot of information. It can be accessed at: [www.va.gov/welcome-kit](http://www.va.gov/welcome-kit). I encourage everyone to let any woman veteran know about this.

Lastly for this month, I'm happy to inform everyone that the VA has at last begun to streamline the process by which veterans with less or other-than-honorable discharges can upgrade them. Speak to your local FDVA or County Service Officer.

In closing, I'd like to wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy new year. Let's keep doing what we do best for our fellow veterans.



Carlos Gil working with other volunteers to pack Christmas gift for veteran patients at James A. Haley VA Hospital"

POST EVERLASTING

Michael Patrick Wolohan, Sr.

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of Michael Patrick Wolohan, Sr. (Mike), 73 of Ormond Beach, Florida on Friday, November 27, 2020. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Mike served 26 years in the U.S. Navy as a Petty officer first class and was a Vietnam veteran. He was a member of American Legion Post 267 in Ormond Beach with 53 continuous years of service. Mike served as Post Commander for 5 years, District Commander for 3 years, and Northern Area Commander for 1 year. He earned an Associate degree with a focus in American Sign Language.

Mike was survived by his loving wife Annetta Wolohan of Ormond Beach, sister Joanna Talbert and husband Gary of Mechanicsville, MD, sister Jeanne Lambert of Silver Spring, MD, brother Matthew Wolohan and wife Di of Northport, WA., step-sisters Lois Hoover of Washington, DC and Carol Hoover of San Anselmo, CA, daughter Kelli Mose and husband Paul of Smithsburg, MD, daughter Sarah Ford and husband LCDR Jeremiah of Bluffton, SC, son Michael P. Wolohan, Jr. and girlfriend Phyllis of Gainesville, Va., step-son Jonathan Litmer and wife Christen of Indianapolis, IN, stepdaughter Andrea Papsidero and husband Vincent of N. Tonawanda, NY. Mike is also survived by 7 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and several extended family members.

Donations can be made in Mike's memory to Tunnels to Towers and St. Jude Children's Hospital. If you would like to send your condolences you may do so through his wife, Annetta Wolohan, at 156 Cumberland Ave., Orlando Ormond Beach, FL 32174.

<https://baldwincremation.com/obituaries/michael-wolohan-sr/>





**December 17, 2020**  
**80% Target Report (Currently 79.44%)**

11	Johnny Castro	85.51%
15	Bruce Carl	84.70%
4	Cherie Korn	82.84%
6	Kurt Gies	81.96%
12	Dennis Mallon	81.17%
1	Lamar Carroll	78.88%
17	Jim Bowers	77.20%
16	Randall McNabb	76.34%
8	Skip Felicita	76.19%
9	Arthur Barber	75.44%
13	Jessica Moore	75.38%
5	Troy Horsley	75.04%
7	Burl Thomas	74.39%
2	Roger Hewitt	71.44%
14	Thomas Frank	69.31%
3	Stuart Scott	68.45%
Eastern	Chris Hamrick	81.62%
Central	Sid Damsgard	78.19%
Southern	Paul Bosco	77.59%
Western	John Edens	77.56%
Northern	Marie Conti	76.58%
Southwestern	Jerry Faight	75.75%
Post 400		90.09%
Post 208		74.51%



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**Cancer Care Insurance Plan**

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust products and services are there when you them most. Listen to how others have benefited from services like our Cancer Care Insurance Plan.

- Cash benefits sent to Legionnaire members diagnosed with cancer
- We send you money – even if you don't have cancer

**NEXT MEMBERSHIP GOAL**  
**80%** 1/13/2021

[www.thelit.com](http://www.thelit.com)



# EASTERN AREA



# Country Hoedown

**FEBRUARY 20TH 2021**

**POST 117**

**NOON TILL???**

**Country Vittles**



**Tickets \$20  
Couples \$30**

**Live Music**



**Proceeds to benefit COTA**

**Local Hotels**

**Holiday Inn  
Express & Suites Palm Bay  
1206 MALABAR ROAD SE  
PALM BAY, FLORIDA 32907  
321-220-2003**

**\$ 99.00 plus tax**

**Per night**

**Mention: Eastern Area Ball**

**AL Post 117**



The American Legion



**NORTHERN AREA BALL  
COMMANDER**

**MARIE K. CONTI**

**Saturday, March 6, 2021**

**Legion Blue & Gold /  
Military Theme**

**American Legion Post #129 JAX BEACH**

**Tickets: \$25.00 per person**

**Dinner:** Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Salad and American Legion Birthday Cake!

**DRESS:** Formal / Semi-Formal Social hour 5:00-6:00, 6pm Program/Dinner. **Entertainment after Program**

**Hotel is less than 5 minutes from the Post at a very reasonable rate of \$109.00 per night Rooms can be reserved through Hotel (Please call Hampton Inn @ 904-280-9101 for Reservations & mention The American Legion (Group Rate).**



THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA  
**SOUTHWESTERN AREA BALL**



*Commander*

*Jerry Thomas  
Faught*

*Requests the pleasure of your company*

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6**

*Thank You America!*

COCKTAILS: 5PM

DINNER: 6PM

PRIME RIB OR FISH & SHRIMP

SHOW: 7:30PM

CAHAL DUNNE, IRELAND'S PIANO MAN

TICKETS: \$30 PER PERSON

DRESS: SEMI-FORMAL

LOCATION: AMERICAN LEGION POST 103

2101 TAYLOR ROAD

PUNTA GORDA, FL 33950



**HOTEL INFO**

SPRINGHILL SUITES PUNTA GORDA HARBORSIDE

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