

BUGLER

American Legion
Lakeshore Post 137
5443 San Juan Avenue
Jacksonville, FL. 32210

Meetings: 2nd Saturday 10am
October 2008

Office: 387-3373
Lounge: 387-1581

Editor: Nora Marcantel, FALPA, NALPA

www.americanlegion137.com
commander@americanlegion137.com



Commander
FRED
BERGMAN



Auxiliary President
ANITA LEE



S.A.L. Commander
WM "BILL" KELLY



Chef de Gare
RON GARLAND



COMMANDER'S REPORT



Greetings my friends! September was a very good month here at Post Home The following are only some of the highlights for the month.

Our Annual Labor Day Party was held on Sept. 3rd, once again with live entertainment being provided and refreshments being served. As is the custom at Post 137, the flags were flown around the perimeter. An unforgettable event occurred around the pool –our members held hands circling the pool as the Gunslingers played “God Bless the USA” it was very impressive and everyone had a good time. The photos will be placed on the web site for your enjoyment. On September 6, we hosted a USMC Delayed Entry Program training day for 5 recruiters and 45 recruits. Training was held in the Tiki Hut by our own, Ray Runyan, with exercises and a game of football on the lawn by the river (Ray did not participate in the game) followed by a leisurely swim in the pool and ending with a cookout (Ray did attend the cookout). On September 7th, we hosted Cub Scout troop 26 from Ortega, Jacksonville. On Sept 13th immediately following the monthly General Assembly meeting the Blood Mobile was standing by. A total of 26 pints of blood was donated. As all of you know this is a very important program. Thanks are in order to Bill and Binion.

The 5th District Commander Robert Brewster attended the Executive Committee meeting and the General Assembly. He did however disappear when invited to participate in the blood donation effort. During the Commander's visit, he announced that it was apparent to him why Post 137 was awarded the “Best all around Post” in Florida. He also announced that volunteers will be needed for the “Family Day” picnic to be held October 4, 2008 at Cecil Field. More information will be provided, if you would like to volunteer for this event, please notify anyone in the Post 137 office.

As you all know our volunteers are many and they do a wonderful job. As I am unable to name them all in this article, I offer them my sincere thanks and I urge others to thank those that provide volunteer services. Without them we could not sustain our level of care and giving.

Our Post has an average of 3 deaths and 4 members being hospitalized per month. I realize this is a sensitive issue given our status in life. However, I ask that we do not talk about a member's medical and personal information for all to hear. Some members do not appreciate others knowing their personal business. In addition to showing respect for a fellow member's personal feelings, it is unlawful under the Privacy act to discuss another person's medical diagnosis. Please be compassionate.

Please help me make October 2008 a success.

For our members,
Fred Bergman

Service Officer's Corner

Several items to assist the veterans and their families . . .

- Any needed **VA form** can be found and printed from the www.va.gov web site.
- If the VA has disapproved your claim and you believe the VA was wrong,
- **Always Appeal...** Review the reason as to why your claim was disapproved and submit the additional documentation to prove your claim.
- Always insure that your spouse and family have copies of your **DD 214**. Without a DD214, your family will not be able to request a flag, collect any death benefits or file for any benefits such as health care or pensions. I dislike being so blunt with our members, but the Post receives numerous requests from next of kin to assist with obtaining copies of DD 214's after a veteran has transferred to **"Post Everlasting."**

Veterans you have taken care of our country, we all THANK YOU. Now be sure you have taken care of your family. If you need my assistance, I am here for you.

For God and Country.

Carl Jowers

3RD VICE REPORT:

Happy October, Legion Family. The Children's Halloween Party will be on October 26th at 2 pm in the MOON Building. There will be a HAUNTED HOUSE, FOOD and GAMES. SOOOOO !!!!!!! Children, Put on your SCARIEST COSTUME and join the fun! HEE HEE HEE.

For GOD and Country, Barry Congressi



4TH VICE REPORT:

Because of Tropical Storm Fay, our regularly scheduled V.A.V.S. visit to Lake City V.A. Hospital was cancelled for Friday August 22, 08. I have no formal Report to submit for the month of August, 08.

All donations for August will be taken on our Sept. 26, 08 visit to Lake City.

Just a reminder, our Annual Christmas visit is rapidly approaching. If your Group or Organization is planning on making a cash donation to support our Christmas "Ditty Bags" program, we need your donation as soon as possible.

Our next V.A.V.S. visit will be: Oct. 24, 08 departing at 4:30 PM.

Yours in Service, Lewis E. Gray

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDER : ADULT HALLOWEEN PARTY NOVEMBER 1ST. SEE YA!

The BLOOD DRIVE held on Saturday September 13th was a Healthy Success! Post 137 members and friends gave a staggering **21 Pints of Life** to help folks in dire need.

Blood Chairman Bill Dallman, Rod & Pole Benders President Binion Williams and all the Caring Donors , to each and everyone a super “BIG THANK YOU”.

SALUTE: Legionnaire Binion Williams has given over 70 gallons of blood:

VETERAN’S CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY PROGRAM: At the Legion Mtg. on Saturday Teresa White was introduced as the Chairman for this year. The Committee includes Mr. Ed, Lena Bergman, Doris Gray, Roger Malo and Mel White. Teresa ask us all to help make this a joyful Christmas for our Veterans and their Families. Call Office for info.

COMMANDER gives 25 Minutes. Bartenders say no more!! After 25 minutes of working behind the bar during the Bartenders Appreciation Day, (total disaster) our own “Fearless Fred” was invited to **DON’T** give up “Commandering” but please give up bartending. I think that means keep your day job Commander. UPPPS!

VISITOR Speaking of Commanders Post 137 was honored by a visit from **5th District Commander Bob Brewster.** Volunteers are needed to work the Family Picnic for Deploying Troops on October 4th at the Armory on Normandy Blvd. INFO Call Office.

A GOOD GUY is leaving Post 137. Post Adjutant KEN FOLDY will be moving into Post 372 Mandarin as the new Commander. If you know Ken you have to appreciate the Man and Legionnaire he is. As Fair, Compassionate and Upstanding a man as you could ever know. Ken has done a fine job in his position as Post 137 Adjutant and made many friends due to his sincere and honest approach to every member. **Best Wishes Ken** in your new endeavors. Just remember, you and yours are always welcome back at Post 137.

A WONDERFUL YOUNG LADY called me and wondered if I needed any clothing, kitchen items, etc. of course I always need these things for various projects, I said absolutely. She came to the Aux. Mtg with bags of nice items that have helped with Cabins in the Woods, and the Can Do Crews latest venture 18 year olds coming out of Foster care and on their own.

THANK YOU KRISTI BELISLE. Keep it up, You are a true Legion Family Member.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to everyone born Sept.24th - Oct 23rd. Libra-the scales. Beautiful, Kind and Intelligent. (Ha ha) and down right Ornery sometimes. Ask anyone who knows one.

GET WELL SOON to all our members and friends who are feeling poorly. Cool weather is coming and hopefully you are feeling better so you can enjoy the seasonal change.

Ron Henningfelt, and all the others we do not know about, Y’all GET BETTER SOON.

1ST VICE REPORT:

Hello Legionnaires. Time is passing so fast, there is hardly time to catch a breath between benchmark goals on issues I have planned to address this year. There are ten membership benchmarks for 2008 – 2009. The first was on September 3, 2008 the goal for that date was 50%. The other nine occur early in each successive month until May 20, 2009. Thanks to extra effort on the part of Sarah and Commander Bergman and Finance Officer Myra Jowers, we achieved our September 2008 goal with a little over 3 1/4% to spare. Right up to the end, I was afraid we had not made it. I like being wrong in that way. We worked hard for that but, a lot of credit goes to those who paid your dues early. Thank you all very much. Our goal for October 1 is 55%. As of September 10, Department reports us at 54.2%. That means we are less than 16 renewals away from that goal. What that means is, we are on track, with a long way to go.

When the combination of circumstances and events began to develop so that I could see my way clear to make my decision to run for First Vice Commander, I began to formulate a plan that, would allow me to make a modest contribution to the future of American Legion Post 137. I committed that plan to Commander Bergman for his approval and recommendations. His positive response encouraged me to consider that plan my mandate for the current year. By this, I will judge my performance at the end.

Two aspects of our lives as Legionnaires and Legion Family are membership worldwide and the functions of day-to-day post community life. A reasonable question one might ask is: Why be concerned with membership worldwide? The answer to that is really simple. Our strength is in our membership worldwide. The number of people who make up our organization determines the weight given to the issues we, together, deemed vital to the health and welfare of those who have given so much to insure freedom. We must make sure that our wounded comrades are cared for in the best possible manner and that the widows, widowers and orphans of those who made the supreme sacrifice, receive the benefits and opportunities needed from this grateful nation. Our missing and prisoners of war must be freed and the remains of those who perished for freedom must be returned home to friendly soil to rest in peace with honor. For that to happen, we need a great number of men and women, who are of one mind, comrades all.

For now my focus is on current member retention. In these days of economic stress, it is hard for some to come up with the cash to renew their membership. For those who are not experiencing this problem, I am asking you to take care of the matter. For those who are having difficulty, I still love you and pray you will find relief soon.

On the subject of recruiting, there is a “Corps of Volunteer Recruiters” being developed at this very moment. There are two team captains hand picking team members to serve in some serious recruiting events. We can avail ourselves of a new program offered by Department Headquarters to assist us in our recruiting efforts. I will have more to say about that later. Stand by for news, as Paul Harvey would say.

If you have a friend or acquaintance that you believe is eligible for membership give me their name, address

and/or phone number. Write the information on a piece of paper and add “Attention 1st Vice Commander” drop it in the mail slot in the office door. I will see that the person is contacted.

The cutoff for Early Bird renewals is October 31. November 22, is the Early Bird Dinner. Roast beef is a personal favorite of mine, so I selfishly chose that for the Early Bird Dinner.

Now, a word to the elected officers of Post 137. Could I interest you in attending Fifth District meetings? The next 5th District Meeting is October 12, at 2:00 PM, Post 244, located at 2309 Jernigan Rd in South Jacksonville. Attend one and see if you like it. It will cost a dollar at the meeting room door and you may be fed for your effort. A 50/50 drawing for a dollar a ticket might interest you. Post 137 is usually well represented and that makes us real proud. A show of unity and strength on the part of our 2009 administration couldn't hurt.

Whatever your favorite concerns are, we're either working on it or the check is in the mail.
For God and Country,
Harvey D. Finn

USMCCA

A special "THANK YOU" to **American Legion Riders, Chapter 137** for their support and generous donation of \$200.00 to USMCCA to help with the continuing work on the **CABINS IN the WOODS** Veterans program. With this and USMCCA's donation of \$267.00, I am told by Myra J. and Nora M. that with what they have and this donation they can come close to completing another two buildings. That is a total of 18 apartments they will have made ready for Homeless Veterans wanting to come in and make a life for themselves. Great work Ladies.

The Marine Corps will celebrate its 233 Birthday (November 10th). **USMCCA** will celebrate with a **Formal Military Ball and Dinner on November 8, 2008**. This Event will be held in the Moon Building. Starting the Evening of events off with Happy Time at 6 p.m. Sit Down Dinner will be served at 7 pm by the Cadets from NJROTC. Ridgeview High School ~ **GUNSLINGER BAND** ~ will entertain with their Dress Dinner Show at 8 pm. **Journey back to the Big Band Era.** Dance floors, Love Songs and Romance. With music from WWII – Present.

Tickets \$15.00 See a USMCCA MEMBER. Ask at office.

* Marines *Army, *Air Force, *Navy, *Coast Guard ALL ARE WELCOME.

Dennis Glisson, USMCCA President

Events Committee

The Roaring Twenties Follies will be on Oct. 18th. You have to see it to believe it! The show starts at 8 PM. There will be a **spaghetti dinner** with homemade sauce, garlic bread and salad available from 5 to 7 PM for a \$5.00 donation. Also, there are tickets available for **door prizes**. These tickets do not guarantee a seat. Come early and have dinner. That way, you will know you have a seat!

The **Adults Halloween Party** will be on Nov. 1st. There will be prizes for the best costume, the scariest and so on.

Music by Vicki Lee. Proceeds will go to fund the **Veterans Christmas Holiday Program**. Come join the fun. Diane Congressi, Events Committee Chairman



AUXILIARY WAYS & MEANS

First I would like to Thank everyone for supporting our dinners & breakfast. Every organization needs money and the Auxiliary is no different, we need money to support our many programs. Friday Oct.10, is the Auxiliary dinner we will be serving steaks or chicken (1/2 baked chicken) your choice. Breakfast on Oct, 12, will be adding Red SOS to the menu. We look forward to serving you. Thanks from Connie and Crew.

Auxiliary News

We held our regular meeting on September 4th. Membership sent as of the end of August was 255 renewals and new. As of September 3rd, Department shows us at 41.46%, 86 more are needed to reach our September goal of 55% and of those 36 have already been mailed. Please remember to renew your membership early so you can enjoy Early Bird dinner that will be in November. Please encourage potential members to join as we always need more active members.

Coupon clipping is still ongoing and the Unit sent over \$33000.00 for July & August. There was a first reading of our Constitution & Bylaws and corrections were noted and we will have a second reading at our October meeting.

Thank you cards for the military are continuing to be signed.

There will be a light breakfast and lunch served at the District School of Instruction to be held at our Unit 137 on Saturday, September 20th from 10am till 2pm.

Connie and crew did a wonderful job with breakfast and dinner with all leftovers going to the Quigley House which is a homeless shelter.

Sent used pill bottles to the VA Medical Center and can use more if you have them to donate. Please remove labels for your privacy.

Mary Montgomery coordinated a going away luncheon for Unit 256 Medical at Camp Blanding and we sent a donation and one member helped at the luncheon.

A budget committee has been appointed and hopefully it will be ready to come before the members at the October meeting.

Junior Activities had their first meeting in August with 4 girls and one guest present.

Anita Lee, President

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP REPORT

According to my records we are now at 52% as of September 11th. I want to thank everyone that has renewed their membership. This has helped us reach this figure. Please keep the renewals coming in. We want a large crowd at the EARLY BIRD DINNER.

Thanks, Geri West, 1ST VICE

CABANE 304

We had a good time at Nationale; it was so nice to have it here in Florida. Merci to Chef de Gare, Ron and Voyager, Danny for all the help in the kitchen; oops, I better include my husband Norman, he helped, too. Merci to Dame Robbie and Dame Vivian, Great Team. We will be having a dinner on the 3rd and a breakfast on the 26th. Remember the Rendezvous is the 28th see you there. Merci, La Presidente Sandra Gentry

40/8 VOITURE 304 NEWS

Merci, to all the Dames and Voyageurs working on committees. You are all doing a great job. The dates for the November Wreck are Friday the 14th and Saturday the 15th. Let's find some good candidates and get them Wrecked. Membership renewal notices will be mailed out soon, but you don't have to wait. See Ray Runyan, Chef de Train, and he will take care of getting you renewed. The Hooch Wreck is October 3,4,and 5 at Voiture 402, Duluth, Ga. The date for the Christmas Party is December 6th. Time to be announced. Yours in Service, Ron Garland, Chef de Gare

Whitehouse Baptist Church Honors Veterans COME JOIN IN

On Sunday November 9th at 10:30 a.m. the 2nd annual program to honor all Veterans will be held at Whitehouse Baptist Church. All Veterans are invited to attend. The Color Guard from American Legion Post 137 will present the colors.

A special DVD will be shown to honor all of those who stood in arms and sacrificed to defend America. It is true that "**All gave SOME and SOME gave All**" We want to recognize **ALL**. Come join us as we Honor our Veterans.

After the ceremony stay and enjoy a B.B.Q. Dinner which will be served for all our guests, no one will leave hungry.

We are located on Beaver Street @ 1/4 mile East of Chaffee Road. Whitehouse Baptist Church. Debbie Clemens. revgolfnut@comcast.net



✚ CHAPLAIN'S REPORT ✚

*This is the day that the LORD hath made rejoice and be glad in it. Psalms 118:24.

Every day I thank GOD for this great country we live in. I thank GOD for the great organization we belong to ... The American Legion.

Our Summer months have passed and maybe with the coming of Autumn we can get some relief from the heat.

The Labor Day activities went over well and all attending seemed to enjoy themselves.

Jacksonville National Cemetery groundbreaking ceremony was held Sunday September 21, 2008 at 2 pm. The Cemetery is located at 4083 Lannie Road, Jacksonville, Florida 32218. The 569 acre site is north of the Jacksonville International Airport, about 5 miles from Interstate- 295. Burials are expected to begin before the end of the year.

For more info: call VA Regional Offices

Toll-Free 1-800-827-1000 (OR) WWW.CEM.VA.GOV

It is my sad duty to inform you of the following legionnaires who have transferred to POST EVERLASTING.

<i>NEWCOMB BARRS JR.</i>	<i>GEORGE H. MCLEMORE</i>	<i>MICHAEL W. RAWLS</i>
<i>SIMON A. SMITH JR.</i>	<i>MORRIS I. WILKINSON</i>	

Please keep these Legionnaires and their families in your thoughts and prayers. For GOD and Country, Tony Romano

2nd VICE REPORT

How time flies when you are having fun! Here we are getting ready for all the Holidays and I am excited about all the events coming up. WOW! Everyone is so busy with Dinners, Breakfast and Events for the weekends.

This month our Dinners are taking a change. Steaks—Chicken—Roast beef a great assortment for October. “Follies”- now there is some sights for anybody’s eyes.”

“Bingo” is getting better all the time. Don’t stay home alone come on out to “YOUR POST” and have a great time. Almost forgot! Better get your tickets for the “Military Ball” before they are all gone.

“HAVE A SPOOKY HALLOWEEN”

For GOD and Country, Danny Grant

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Sons of the American Legion

Lakeshore Squadron 137

sonsoftheal137@aol.com

Meeting Thursday, October 9, 2008 @ 7:00 p.m.

Your sons are currently at 16% membership for 2009. We have met our quota for August and September but let's try to exceed in October and really get our renewals in now. Keep Cheering for Membership and I know we will make it.

October 4th is going to be a big day. The 146th ESB of the Florida National Guard is deploying to Iraq and the American Legion Department and Detachment of Florida are planning a Family Day Barbeque at the Snyder Armory on Normandy Blvd. near Herlong Airport. **We need about 100 volunteers to help** cook/feed 1500 troops and family members, so we need your help to make this happen. The Detachment of Florida has donated \$5,000.00 to help our troops and family members have a special send off. Let everyone know we take care of our family and our family is our service men & woman and their families. Please Get Involved, you will see firsthand what a special day this will be.

Don't forget your sons Famous **\$5.00 Roast Beef Dinner** on Friday October 17th. Please come out and Support your Squadron.

Squadron Cmdr. Bill Kelly

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

We have a busy schedule ahead. We hosted the Friday Night dinner on the 27th of September. A big **"THANK YOU"** to those members who came out and supported us. We also participated in the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the National Cemetery. It was an awesome showing of support for the final resting place for the veterans in our area. I don't have a final count of how many Legion Riders participated, but ALR 137 had six members attend with two non-members also attending.

The Bike Show was held on Sept. 27th, I will post the results of the winning bikes in the next Bugler.

We have been asked to help support the District with the family picnic for deploying troops at the Armory on Normandy Blvd. on Oct. 4th. ALR 283 has put Post 137 on their scavenger hunt on Oct. 11th. If you can support these events, please come out and do so.

We finalized our elections of Officers and those results will be posted in the Post and in November Bugler. For God and Country

Ride Proud, Ride Safe,

Bill Johnson, Director

Club Managers Report

clubmanager@americanlegion137.com

The Post Executive Committee has authorized 22 new bar stools to replace the aging ones in the lounge. Last month the ice machines in the Club, Tiki, and Moon Bldg were repaired for continued quality operation.

Don't forget there is always something going on in your Club Lounge, just check out the calendar. Stop in and have a beverage with a comrade, bring the family for dinner. We have live entertainment every weekend. Or, stop by and just say "Hello". Your Continued Support is Welcomed and Appreciated.

Serving Veterans and our Members Daily,
Bill Kelly

Happy Halloween

**HAVING A GET-TOGETHER!!
DO YOU NEED A SPACE?**
Contact: Mr. Bill Lomax
for information
about the use of
the "MOON BLDG"
or "La Chateau et 40/8"
CALL: 778-2116

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Please visit my web site: jerrycroley.com Loyal Order of Moose	American Legion Post 137 Veterans of Foreign Wars Fleet Reserve Assoc.

