

# The Legion Link

November 2009

Vol. 17 Issue 4



## THE POWER OF COMMITMENT



Web Site: [www.floridalegion.org](http://www.floridalegion.org)

E-mail: [mail@floridalegion.org](mailto:mail@floridalegion.org)

### *In this Issue...*

#### Page 1

Dept. Commander

#### Page 2

Dept. Vice Commander  
Dept. Sgt-at-Arms  
Dept. Commander (cont.)

#### Page 3

Children & Youth  
Dept. Chaplain

#### Page 4

Membership

#### Page 5

Veterans Employment

#### Page 6

Job Fairs  
POW/MIA  
Americanism  
November Fun Facts

#### Page 7

Legion Riders  
Oratorical

#### Page 8

Roster Updates  
Program Reminders

### **Phil Hearlson Department Commander [phearlson@aol.com](mailto:phearlson@aol.com) 352.307.8119**

Performing the duties of the Department Commander can be very educational. I had heard about "Cabins-in-the-Woods", but thanks to Past Department Commander George Werhli I had the opportunity to visit the facility on my visit to 3<sup>rd</sup> District. Volunteers of America were a recipient of a HUD grant to provide housing for homeless veterans. This program has placed approximately 30 veterans in individual households in Lake City. Each veteran has his or her own living area, bedroom area, kitchen, bathroom and screened porch. They are allowed to stay in the facility for up to two years and counselors work with the veterans on health issues, benefits and entitlements and help each person develop their independent living skills. Local Posts hold food drives and donate items for the individual apartments. I was impressed with this program and the support that it receives from the 3<sup>rd</sup> District Legion Family.

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Commander, Jim Troupe accompanied me to a ceremony to honor former prisoners of war held at the VA Medical Center in Lake City. There were POW'S from WWII, Korea and Viet-Nam. What an honor to be in the presence of these veterans who stood tall and never gave up on their beliefs in our country. Pictured with me are former POW'S Arthur Chadwick, John Connelly, John Morrett, Joseph Plappert, and Thomas Witt.



On September 22<sup>nd</sup> The American Legion held a roast for Past Department Commander, Tom Seitzinger. It was held at Post 64-Okeechobee. Tom was the target of jokes and anecdotes that evening and he laughed and kept a smile on his face as stories were told. I learned a lot about Tom that evening, but I won't reveal what I heard.

On October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> District Commander Bill Walsh and I attended the Census 2010 Partner Summit held in Lake Buena Vista. This summit focused on the homeless and people with disabilities. The census is important for nonprofits such as The American Legion and their communities. For every 100 people not counted, a community loses an estimated 1.2 million in federal funds for programs such as Medicaid, social services and vocational education. The homeless, including our homeless veterans are in danger of being undercounted. Your Post can assist by contacting your local census office and talked with a partnership specialist about simple ways your Post can help get a complete count. If anyone would like to apply for a census job, call 1-866-861-2010 or visit [www.2010censusjobs.gov](http://www.2010censusjobs.gov). It is my understanding census takers will earn between \$11.00 and \$18.75 an hour.



*Commander's column, continued from page 1....*

The US Army Tampa Recruiting Battalion held an awards ceremony in Tampa on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 300 recruiters and their families were in attendance. With these men and women on recruiting duty we don't have to worry about the strength of the US Army. The American Legion gave certificates of appreciation for the men and women who assisted in putting up the Viet-Nam Memorial at convention. The American Legion Family was given a plaque in appreciation for our services. After the awards ceremony the recruiters and their families enjoyed a BBQ provided by The American Legion Family. Thank you to Butch Johnson and Sons of The American Legion for preparing the food. Thank you to Col Richie and Command Sgt Major Vap for their supporting comments for The American Legion. And thank you to all The American Legion Family in attendance.



*Al Porter*  
 Department Vice-Commander  
 albertporter@bellsouth.net

Hello Legionnaires –

It was great to attend a dinner for Boys and Girls State participants in the 10th District. At Post #67 we listened as they told us about what their accomplishments during the week in Tallahassee.

The Membership Rally at Post#103 was a great success. The event was very well attended, and Post Commander Arnold Makovsky was a wonderful host.

A visit to Madiera Beach Post #273 finished off the weekend with Commander Dan Koker. We had a super lunch and our 55% goal was met. "Congratulations" to all post members for their hard work. Traveling to the posts around the state gives me a unique opportunity to meet Legionnaires and all of the American Legion family who work so hard to accomplish their goals.

Taking part in a conference at Department Headquarters for social workers, I was pleased to be able to explain what the American Legion does to help our veterans.

I was honored to attend a tribute to Korean War Veterans, sponsored by the Southern Area Commander David Knapp at Post#222 in Fort Lauderdale. I was honored to hear all their stories and about the medals they received during their time in the "Forgotten War"

As always, please let me know of your events. I would love to attend if I can. Keep up the Good Work for our Legion Family and for our veterans.

*Mike Addis*  
 Dept. Sgt@Arms  
 maddis@tampabay.rr.com

Thank goodness November finally got here, crisp air & Thanksgiving are finally here. My wife and I especially look forward to Thanksgiving.

We're proud to be a part of Post 252 and the crew that will feed about 200 patients at Bay Pines VA Hospital. Warren Post started the tradition of the Dept. Commander helping peel potatoes the night before, last year PDC Paul Martel got the honor and this year I'm happy to say that Department Commander Hearlson has agreed to continue the tradition. The VA hires big busses to transport the patients to Post 252, and we give them a traditional home cooked meal. For the ones that cannot get around, we assign a volunteer that stays with them the entire time, helping with the food. There will be approx 40 turkeys this year deep fried and roasted in the oven.

Also, we have the Fall Conference coming up on Nov. 13-15. You should try and attend if possible. I will be giving a course for Sergeant at Arms on Saturday from 2:30-3:30. Let me say that this session may be attended by anyone who has an interest in procedures and protocol.

If you have any questions or want a certain subject covered, please E-Mail me and I'll get it taken care of.

I have the honor of going to American Legion College in Indianapolis this month also. I'm going with an elite group consisting of J Conti, Ryan Gonzalez, Martha Harris and Fletcher Williams. One of the highlights of the school will be having dinner with the National Commander Clarence Hill. Go to face book to follow his travels around the nation and you will see that Commander Hill is not afraid of stepping on toes, he's already put on a lot of pressure where it was needed in the name of the Veteran and the American Legion. Way to go Commander. We're PROUD of you.

*Jim Ramos  
Department of Florida  
Children & Youth Chairman  
jramos149@bellsouth.net*

September 18-20, 2009 I attended The American Legion National Commission on Children & Youth Third Annual National Children & Youth Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Conference was good with a lot of information and some new programs. So what does this mean to us in the Department of Florida? WE have to plan some more. October was busy with all the Halloween events within your Post. But there's no time to stop. We have to plan for November. A very good time to get Veterans (our members) in the classrooms to talk about what you have done for your country, what The American Legion is all about, what we do for our veterans and how we support our troops.

*November* is one of our busier months, NOW let's start with November 1<sup>st</sup> Daylight Saving Time ends (back one hour, Oh no). What can we do to let all your members know to set there clocks back one hour? November 11 is Veterans Day. I hope you plan to be in a parade or to just have one. Have a dinner or an open house to honor your Post Veterans and your communities (not members). Just say THANK YOU for their service to our country. Also, invite your local leaders too. Let them know that The American Legion is 91 years old; talk about some history.

*November* 13-15 is the Department Fall Conference. Please make plans to come. I will have, on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, a class on Children & Youth from 4:30pm to 5:30pm in Oleander A room, with information on programs within Children & Youth; "How to do the programs and some ideas". If you have some ideas on Children & Youth programs please let me know and we can come up with a plan. Please have your ideas in writing so all can benefit. I'm hoping all District Chairmen and some Post Chairmen will attend.

*November* 15-21, 2009 is American Education Week. Some suggestions - Advertise & Publicize:  
A signed proclamation or Community Covenant by the Mayor

All school "open house" times, dates and schools

Send out news releases on all activities

The Post can sponsor and promote some of the following suggestions:

Poster, art and essay contest

"Know Your America" program

Exhibits of student work and special projects

A Career Night

American Legion School Award Medal program

American Legion Oratorical Contest program (\$18,000)

American Legion "Family" Boys & Girls State and Boys & Girls Scouting programs

American Legion Junior Shooting sports

"Need a Lift?" program

*November* 23-30, 2009 is National Family Week and, as you know, November 26 is Thanksgiving Day. Plan a dinner or just help out some family in need. Also look out in the community too. These are just some suggestions.

December 7, 2009 is Pearl Harbor Day. President Franklin Roosevelt said "Yesterday, December 7, was a date that will live in infamy". Remember the WWII Veterans and honor them at your Post. Plan for Christmas events like a parade or be in one. Also think about having a Christmas party or dinner for your members and /or New Year's Day party.

*My program push for this year is for the Child Welfare Foundation. If you or your Post can gave just \$25.00 it will help our Children & Youth. More information and suggestions will follow in the future.*

*Robert Vick  
Department Chaplain  
ravick311@yahoo.com*

This month I want to write about a caring heart and basic generosity. Scripture 1 Sam. 16a;7 God looks not on a man's stature but on his heart.

How often have you seen an unkempt, sometimes smelly person sitting on a street with a cup or hat, for donations, and a sign saying "Homeless please help"? How about when you stop at an intersection and a person approaches you with a sign "Unable to work, need help" or "Homeless need help" or "Veteran needs help, God Bless you"? When I see these people and signs my flesh asserts itself and says "He looks healthy enough to work" or " I worked for mine and he can work for his" or if I give him a dollar, he'll just spend it on booze or drugs". How often have we heard what is probably an urban legend about the beggar who is picked up at te end of his begging day in an expensive automobile, and we think "he's probably better off financially than I am".

Often, I'm sure. The Bible teaches us in Gen 4:9 Yes I am my brother's keeper. Nowhere in the scripture are we admonished to determine what our alms will be used for. If the donation goes for drugs, booze or any other nefarious activity, is not our concern. The recipient of your alms has to answer to God for how he uses our largesse.

We only have to obey God by giving of ourselves and our resources. I assure you, God will return to you manifold times what you give. Scripture: Luke 6:38

Remember to Fully Rely On God (FROG). God bless our veterans and families. God Bless America



# 65% Goal

## November 4, 2009

*District/Area Membership Report as of Oct. 28, 2009*

District/ Area	Commander	Goal	Rec'd	% Goal
4	Gerald Montgom-	4,044	3,012	74.48
17	Arthur Schwabe	4,368	2,993	68.52
16	George Paradise	12,144	8,278	68.17
6	William Walsh	9,570	6,412	67.00
15	Larry Faulkner	5,794	3,872	66.83
7	Keith Holz	4,440	2,962	66.71
9	Joseph Motes	4,818	3,204	66.50
2	George Segrest	1,376	909	66.06
10	Larrio Walden	1,095	723	66.03
1	Stephen Shuga	6,473	4,262	65.84
12	Carl Schneider	8,772	5,743	65.47
11	Paul Bosco	4,757	3,114	65.46
8	Gregory Putman	9,042	5,878	65.01
3	James Troupe	1,655	1,062	64.17
14	Angela Glover	2,314	1,483	64.09
13	Frank Ward	9,365	5,988	63.94
5	Gregory Lovejoy	8,154	4,743	58.17
Central	Kathryn Ferrin	22,378	15,112	67.53
Eastern	Earl Friedeborn	18,342	12,155	66.27
Western	Martha Harris	7,849	5,171	65.88
Southern	David Knapp	12,984	8,524	65.65
Northern	James Corner	18,221	11,810	64.81
SW	Richard Francis	18,407	11,866	64.47
<b>Dept</b>			<b>64,638</b>	
<b>Post 400</b>		<b>22,248</b>	<b>12,036</b>	<b>54.10</b>
<b>Post 208</b>		<b>1,942</b>	<b>1,232</b>	<b>63.44</b>
<b>Totals</b>		<b>132,000</b>	<b>77,906</b>	<b>59.02</b>

*Robert Brewster, Membership  
brewsterrobert@bellsouth.net*

First the good news! All 17 Districts and all 6 Areas in the Department of Florida reached their 55% goals. A special congratulations goes out to the following Posts 392, 131, 174, 63, 308, 181, 388, 187 who have already reached their 100% plus membership. Many more Posts are very close to these figures. However, on the other side of the coin, each District has one or more Posts that need help as far as reaching their membership goals. We are at the quarter mark of the year, but let's not wait until the last moment to try and reach our membership goals.

I am often asked how and where I recruit. My simple answer is everywhere. If every member of the American Legion would make the commitment to sign up one more member, our membership would be extremely easy for all. Ask that buddy of yours who didn't join last year or the year before. Tell him what The American Legion does for him and for the young men and women who are serving today. Tell him what we do for the aging veteran who is unable to participate in the daily Legion activities. Visit the recruiting offices in your area. Make them members of your Post. Talk to the individual you see wearing military attire. Ask if they are veterans and sell them on becoming a member of your Post. Look around at the ballparks, the churches, schools, town meetings, etc. Legion members have signed up new members at the V.A. hospitals, clinics and domiciles. The Heroes At Home Program at Sears, which will be coming up close to the Christmas holidays, is another prime area to recruit.

Since July 1<sup>st</sup>, I have been involved in membership drives at military bases, city festivals, in front of supermarket stores, at county commission meetings and at job fairs. This Veteran's Day I will be at the Orange Park Golden Corral from noon until about 9:00 P.M. I will be setting up a membership table with all the pamphlets, flyers outlining veterans' benefits and Legion activities. Let's see how many of you will contact your local Golden Corral and do the same. Next month I will print in this article how many members we have secured at this event.

Please let your local newspapers, whether they are daily, weekly or monthly, know about your Legion activities. We are members of the greatest veterans' organization in the world. Let others we meet know about it so they can join too.

**Happy Thanksgiving** Keep our Legion family members and all our troops in your prayers this holiday season. I am looking forward to seeing you at the fall conference. For God and Country



**VETERANS EMPLOYMENT**  
**Dick Mondro, Department Employment Chairman**  
**dickmondro@comcast.net**  
**Disabled Veterans Employment**



***Why is it a good business practice to hire disabled veterans?***

First, let me say that I strongly favor the hiring of veterans because I believe that is the “right” thing to do. But I can also share an extensive list of business reasons, starting with this one: Many critical skills have already been put to the test for you. They are prime candidates for positions requiring security clearances, and are highly diverse with regard to gender and ethnicity.

Veterans have mastered self-discipline, a very important attribute for most civilian positions. Individuals do not survive in the military very long if they lack self-control, the ability to take directions and follow through on responsibilities in a timely fashion, and the skill to get along and work closely with others, often under conditions of extreme stress. Veterans have been willing to put themselves on the line for the good of others and the mission at hand. Many have served in demanding leadership positions as well. A valuable bonus for the civilian world is that veterans are accustomed to arriving at a specified place on time, day after day, “ready to roll.”

Who qualifies as a “disabled veteran”?

An individual who has served on active duty in the United States armed forces, was honorably discharged, and has a service-connected disability. The term also applies to individuals who receive compensation, disability retirement benefits, or a pension due to a public statute administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs or a military department.

Many veterans who were wounded while on active duty meet both the definition of “disabled veteran” and the ADA’s definition of an “individual with a disability.”

What Employment Laws should be considered?

If the veteran was your employee previously, you will want to take a look at the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). Provisions of USERRA cover re-employment rights and the requirement to allow the veteran to return to a situation s/he would have attained had s/he never left for military service.

If the veteran would be a new addition, you will want to consider the same aspects of the ADA (and the Amendments Act) as you would for any other qualified candidate with a disability. Title I of the ADA generally requires covered employers to make reasonable accommodations—changes in the workplace or in the way things are usually done to provide individuals with disabilities equal employment opportunities. But the fact that an individual is a qualified disabled veteran does not automatically mean any change or accommodation will be necessary.

If you are seeking specifically to hire someone with a service-connected disability, then, under certain conditions, you may ask applicants to self-identify voluntarily as individuals with disabilities or as “disabled veterans.” Generally, to do so, your company must fall within affirmative action planning thresholds and/or be voluntarily using the information to benefit individuals with disabilities, including veterans with service-connected disabilities.

May an employer give preference to disabled veterans over another applicants?

In many cases, yes. The ADA neither requires nor prohibits affirmative action on behalf of disabled individuals.

Companies with affirmative action plans often proactively recruit veterans to their workforce and also file an online VETS-100/100A report annually.

Financial Incentives by hiring a disabled veterans.

In some situations, small businesses—those with gross receipts not exceeding \$1 million or with no more than 30 full-time employees—are entitled to an income tax credit for expenditures incurred while making their business accessible to individuals with disabilities. The best advice is to consult your company’s tax attorney about this—and again, speak with your state’s employment service.

Win Government Business!

According to <http://www.recovery.gov/>, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 targets investments towards key areas that will save and create good jobs immediately, and \$88Billion has been paid out to create jobs to date. If your business has not sought Government business before, the Recovery Act site is a great place to start. Another great resource is the Fed-BizOpps website (<https://www.fbo.gov>) which lists available Government contracts. Between the two sites, you can find contract information, notices of available grants, and details about federally supported loans.

Some other websites to get started.

I would start with the comprehensive government agency sites, such as those of the EEOC for ADA issues, and the Department of Labor (DOL) for USERRA. Then, visit [www.dol.gov/vets](http://www.dol.gov/vets), [www.servicelocator.org](http://www.servicelocator.org) and [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).

To reach out to Veterans Service Organizations, try [www.va.gov/vso](http://www.va.gov/vso). Another valuable site is [www.disability.gov](http://www.disability.gov), which the DOL launched in late July for people with disabilities, their family members, veterans, caregivers, employers, and others. The new site, previously named [www.disabilityinfo.gov](http://www.disabilityinfo.gov), features comprehensive information about disability-related programs and services, as well as social media tools. Thank you for considering hiring veterans.

## JOB FAIR's & EXPO's

November 2009

VETERANS' JOB AND BENEFITS FAIR

November 6, 2009, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Workforce Alliance Career Center

1951 N. Military Trail, Ste. D, West Palm Beach, 33409

WORKFORCE CONNECTION - OCALA/MARION JOB & CAREER FAIR

November 10, 2009, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

CFCC Klein Conference Center in Ocala, across from the Paddock Mall

THE 3RD ANNUAL NW FLORIDA VETERANS AND MILITARY HIRING FAIR

Sponsored by WORKFORCE ESCAROSA AND JOBSPLUS

November 13th, 2008 from 9:00AM –2:00 PM

Days Inn Conference Center

8700 Navarre Pkwy., Navarre

Call 850- 607-8700 ext. 104 or 103 or 850-833-7587

December 2009

RECRUIT MILITARY CAREER FAIR

Dec 3, 2009, 11:00am - 3:00pm, Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center

**Kathryn Ferrin**  
**Dept POW/MIA Chairman**  
**usafkf@yahoo.com**

Thank you to all Posts that honored our POW's & MIA's (past & current) on 18 September. They deserve our honor and prayers.

Special Note: Congrats to The Department of Florida...Our resolution for a POW forever stamp was approved at National Convention. It may take the Postal Service three (3) years to make it available to the public...but we did it!

Why not have rededication ceremonies of your Posts POW/MIA table? Many of your members may not know the meaning of each item on the table or the meaning of the table itself. The manual is available on line or contact me at FLdeptowmia.com. For God & Country



**Americanism**  
**Dianne Thibodeau**  
**DianneThib@bellsouth.net**

The relationship of the American Legion to the schools of America is that of a friendly and firm supporter of free education as a means of keeping and improving a free civilization. Accepting its responsibilities, the American Legion has taken a positive approach towards the training of American youth in the rights and privileges, the duties and responsibilities of citizenship.

Under the umbrella of Americanism falls American Education Week. The legion first observed this in 1921, just two years after the legion was formed. This year it falls on November 15 – 21, 2009.

The fundamental objective of American Education Week is to acquaint the parents and all citizens of every community with the achievements, aims and needs of their schools. There are many available brochures and booklets on this subject. You should be promoting attendance at an open-house and other school activities as well as having arranged for an outstanding Veterans Day program and school visits. Hopefully you have requested an American Education Week proclamation from the Mayor.

I apologize. Last month I forgot to make you aware of two Joint Resolutions of the Congress that authorized the President to issue annual proclamations calling for the observance of "Citizenship Day" (September 17<sup>th</sup>) – (this was approved 1952) and "Constitution Week" (September 17<sup>th</sup> – September 23<sup>rd</sup>) – (this was approved 1956). The President now issues a single proclamation designating both.

Americanism covers a lot; much more than what most people think. Through the year I will do my best to educate you on this very important living force. For God & Country



## November Fun Facts

November 3

*Sandwich Day—Birthday of John Montague, 4th Earl of Sandwich; creator of the sandwich*

November 4

King Tut's Tomb was discovered

November 5

American Football League was formed

November 8

*Dunce Day—Observed on the anniversary, November 8, 1308, of the death of Duns Scotus, a medieval scholar who was responsible for the introduction of the word 'dunce' into the*

*English language.*

November 9

Berlin wall opens 1989

November 10

U.S. Marine Corps Day, 1775

November 11

Veterans' Day

November 17

World Peace Day

November 20

Universal Children's Day

*Mike "Smiley" Amig  
American Legion  
Department of Florida  
American Legion Riders Chairman  
flalr@comcast.net  
904-742-0841 (c)*

Welcome the following chapters to the Department of Florida American Legion Riders: Chapter 284, Belleview; Chapter 321, Cooper City and Chapter 267, Ormond Beach.

We will have a Legion Riders meeting during the Fall Convention in Orlando at 2:30pm.

#### Cold Weather Riding Safety

While The Florida American Legion Riders continue to enjoy our sport of motorcycling all year long, in some parts of the country Riders must sadly drain their gas tanks, change the oil, clean and lubricate their bikes, and then plug in a battery tender for the long wait until warm weather returns.

But not all of us give up riding altogether because we live in the Sunshine State.. What's a little cold? We continue to ride all year, both for the fun and to continue to support military funerals and other obligations. They ride aware of the inherent risks presented by wintertime motorcycling. These risks are real but can be mitigated with common sense and the "cold" realization that cool weather riding presents challenges not normally associated with warmer weather.

With proper maintenance we know your bike is ready for the road, but a little more attention must be paid to make certain it is also ready for the cold. Check the recommended viscosity ("weight") of your oil against the average temperatures you will ride in. Make sure your battery is up to the task of cranking your engine in chilly morning temperatures. If you run a liquid-cooled bike check that your antifreeze is correctly mixed and at the right levels.

ARE YOU PREPARED? Warm or not, your cousin from up north snowmobile suit might not be the best option. You must balance the need for protection against the cold against the loss of visibility and freedom of movement from too much clothing. Above all you must stay warm. As your body temperature drops, your dexterity decreases, your reactions slow, and your judgment becomes clouded—not good when coping with the additional risks presented by cold weather riding.

Wind chill factors increase with the speed of the bike. According to the National Weather Service, even on a balmy 40-degree day your body is exposed to the equivalent of 25 degrees at 55 mph. Any under-protected parts of the body, like feet, wrists, neck, and face, can suffer severe frostbite, even in Florida, under these conditions on even a short ride of as little as thirty minutes.

Be sure to obtain proper equipment and wear appropriately layered clothing. Windshields are a must, but also consider purchasing heated grips or gloves. Many riders also wear vests or chaps. Most riders also wear specialized motorcycle or long underwear, scarves or neck/face warmers, and some riders will even seal openings with duct tape on the wrists, neck, and pants legs, reducing the risk of cold air infiltration. Be careful out there and watch out for the four wheelers. Ride Safe



*Oratorical  
Ron Musselwhite, Department Chairman  
Ron\_seis@comcast.net*

The Oratorical program is in full swing. Students are already inquiring about it. All Post need to be in touch with the schools. Do not forget about the Home Schooled. All District Chairpersons need to contact each Post in their District now, to see if they are having a contest. I have gotten a few District & Area dates. I need to know when your District & Area dates are as soon as possible. I will see you at mid-winter conference.

#### **Central Area**

Herb Hope  
4432 W McCoy Street  
Tampa, 33616  
813.837.0075

#### **Northern Area**

Ericka Groleau  
1480 Jasmine Street  
Atlantic Beach, 32233  
904.247.7648

#### **SW Area**

Debra Roush  
405-3rd Avenue SE #A  
Ruskin, 33570-4433  
813.454.6321  
droush@tampabay.rr.com

#### **Eastern Area**

Joe McNeil  
804 Poplar Lane  
Melbourne, 32901-7944  
321.725.7617  
jmjoecrane@aol.com

#### **Southern Area**

Bill Gemayel  
7470 NW 1st Court  
Pembroke Pines, 33024  
954.987.8941  
billgem@yahoo.com

#### **Western Area**

Fletcher Williams  
5908 Meadow Lane W  
Crestview, 32539-9125  
850.689.1895  
fletcher.williams@cox.net

## ***Roster Updates***

*Department Blood Donor Chairman* - "Bubba" Perkins, 364 N. Corbin Ave. Inverness, 34453-9167, 352-637-1944, bub-  
baperkins99@yahoo.com

*Southwestern Area Commander* – Richard Francis, francis69@embarqmail.com

*2<sup>nd</sup> District Vice Commander* Ralph Camp – camprb@wfeca.net, 850-569-2520

*4<sup>th</sup> District Americanism Chairman* - Frederick Daniels, PO Box 732, Floral City, 34436, 352-637-5027

*6<sup>th</sup> District ROTC/Shooting Sports Chairman* - Bill Greco, 2160 Antler Dr. St. Cloud, 34772, 407-891-6537, craft87007@earthlink.net

*6<sup>th</sup> District Oratorical Chairman*. Rene Stachelrodt, 1236 Russell Dr. Ocoee, 34761, 407-453-5695, rstachelrodtjr@juno.com

*9<sup>th</sup> District Boy Scout Chairman* Andrew Buglione – andyscoutman@att.net

*10<sup>th</sup> District Oratorical Committee* PDC Johnson Davis, 3253 NE CR 337, Bronson, 32621

*14<sup>th</sup> District - District Vice Commander*. Steven Samuels - samuels33030@yahoo.com, 786-202-7376

*14<sup>th</sup> District JROTC/Shooting Sports*: Carl Laks, 8061 SW 108<sup>th</sup> St. Kendall, 33156, 305-270-0575, hllaks@aol.com

*14<sup>th</sup> District Oratorical Committee*: Roy Levi, 3889 NW 6<sup>th</sup> St. Miami, 33126, 305-649-2642, rlevi@bellsouth.net

*15<sup>th</sup> District School Medals Award Committee* Jim Travis, 10706 Nixon Rd, Tampa, 33624, (813) 961-0242

Post 6 Commander: James Balius, 2204 Poinsettia Dr. Deland, 32724, 386-717-6766, post6@netzero.net

Post 39 Commander: Roger Brown, 1980 1<sup>st</sup> Pl. SW, Vero Beach, 32962

Post 99 Commander: Harry Washington Jr. 11383 Old Crystal River Rd. Brooksville, 34601, 352-796-3259

Post 133 Commander: George Popadak 11402 SW 104<sup>th</sup> Ave. Miami, 33176-4085. (305) 251-1600 poppeg@peoplepc.com

Post 133 Adjutant: Emmett "Collin" Johnson, 19660 Cutler Ct. Cutler Bay, 33189.

Post 137 Adjutant: Kenneth Foldy, 91 Devoe St. Jacksonville, 32220, (904) 710-5886, finallymine@msn.com

Post 159 Adjutant: Greg Putman – email: putmanaldist8@verizon.net

Post 165 Mailing address: 16811 NW 24<sup>th</sup> Ave, Miami Gardens, 33056-4003

Post 174 Commander: Thomas Sanders -516 S. 10<sup>th</sup> St., Fernandina Beach, 32034-3530, (904) 556-3782, floridan402002@yahoo.com, Post email: americanlegionpostnassau@gmail.com, Post # 904-321-1550

Post 230 Commander: Badger Moring – 352-475-2201

Post 232 Commander: Bill Sohl, 9302 Holden Park Rd. Hawthorne, 32640, 352-222-3360, countrybumpkin7@peoplepc.com

Post 243 Commander: Robert Morris – 407-797-0000, alagatar55@yahoo.com

Post 243 Adjutant: Louis Berrios – loub8rtdpapd@yahoo.com

Post 296 Email: post296@alp.gccoxmail.com

Post 325 Home address: 3420 US Highway 301 N. Ellenton, 34222

Post 340 Commander: Steven Evers – 850-516-7499, Post number: 850-477-8094

Post 343 Address: 5103 Idlewild St. New Port Richey, 34653, 727-847-4184, Commander: Joe Penta – email: pattijo22@verizon.net, Post email: pattijo22@verizon.net

Post 344 Address: 400 S Sykes Creek Pkwy, Merritt Island, 32952, Adjutant : David Brand, 2175 Jason St. Merritt Island, FL 32852, 321-453-6907, davidbrand@earthlink.net

Post 354 Commander: Barbara Cherbonneau, 10630 SW 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Ocala, 34478, 352-873-1737

Post 354 Adjutant: Benjamin Cromwell, 8462 SW 109<sup>th</sup> PL, Ocala, 34481, 352-854-9395

Post 358 Adjutant: Floyd Schaffer, 2022 53<sup>rd</sup> St. Ft. Pierce, 34950, 772-240-8472

Post 382 Address: 8668 Navarre Pkwy PO Box 215, Navarre, 32566-2185, Adjutant: Jim Messer , 1850 Luneta St. Navarre, 32566, 850-932-1491, j.messer@mchsci.com

Post 386 Address: 1001 Carpenters Way Apt F214, Lakeland, 33809

## ***Program Reminders***

**Boys State** - Registration Fees due December 23, 2009. The registration fee is \$300.00 per boy.

**Oratorical** - Post Contests must be held no later than January 10, 2010.

**Blood Donor** - Holiday Drive begins Thanksgiving Day.

**Boy Scouts** - Their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary is celebrated through December 31, 2010. Have you made plans to celebrate with a scouting unit?

**JROTC/Shooting Sports** - Have you contacted your High School JROTC to find out if they are interested in participating in the Shooting Sports program?? Targets are due to National January 31, 2010.

*Even If you're on the right track, you'll get run  
over if you just sit there—Will Rogers*