

The Source



Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Florida

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Editors Ed Sheubrooks
Jim Roberts

Commander's Column

Detachment Commander Michael Dooley (flcmdr@gmail.com)



Hats off to Western Area Ramrod (Area Commander), Roy Smith for corraling his cowpokes and doggies into first place with 65.15%. Congratulations to District 3 Commander, Jay Billinger, of the "Bar 3 Ranch" with 67.74%. Panama City Squadron 392 has rounded up members for an amaz-

ing 138.46%. Just over their shoulder is Seminole Squadron 252 with 138.24%. What a race.... Good Work Gentlemen.

I had the honor of attending the annual Thanksgiving Dinner for the veterans at Bay Pines held at Seminole Post 252. Approximately 260 veterans were served that day. Thanks to Paulie Micieli for putting me up for the night and thanks to the 16th District Posse for showing up to help with the preparation and serving. Later that evening Paulie and I were treated to a wonderful din-

ner at the home of 16th District Commander Kirk Miller and his lovely wife Cheryl.

The first lady and I made our visit to the 5th District this month. Bill Kelly opened his home to Jimmy and Anita Roberts and us and was, as usual, the ultimate host. We can not thank him and Barbara enough. On Saturday we started out with squadron 250 for the SAL district meeting and then off to 129 for the Commander and President's Dinner. Sun-

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Dates of interest:

- January 8 - Jim Roberts Campaign Fundraiser - Post 139 Tampa
- January 10 - Detachment 65% Membership Target
- January 18 - Martin Luther King Jr Day
- January 30 - 13th District SAL Meeting - Squadron 136 Pine Island
- February 6 - Four Chaplain's Sunday
- February 9 - Detachment 75% Membership Target

Adjutant's Corner

Detachment Adjutant Ed Sheubrooks (fladjutant@gmail.com)



I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Now that the busy holiday schedule

is behind us, we need focus our attention on Membership. At this time, we still have 10 "Goose Egg" Squadrons in the state. In addition to this, we have seven Squadrons that are under Charter strength. Seventeen (17) Squadrons out of 164 with no membership, or with very little membership at all. If we are to attain our Goal of

13,500 members, we need to make some serious changes and quickly. So let's head to the "Corrals" and saddle up our horses! It's time to head on down to the Rodeo and "WIN" the Gold Buckle!

Post #139 will be hosting a Fund Raising Event for Jim Roberts on January 8,

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(Continued Commander's Column from page 1)

day morning we had breakfast with squadron 54 then visit with squadron 197 and then back to 129 for District 5 family meeting. Monday breakfast with squadron 37 and then off to squadron 194 before we had to head back home.

The Department Auxiliary has asked for our help with their Winter Fest. It will be held January 14 to the 16th in Plant City. They need volunteers for directing parking and security among other things. It will start at 5pm on Friday and finish on Sunday at 10pm. If you can work any hours during that time please let me know so that I can get you on their list. This is a huge undertaking for them and they will appreciate anything that we can do.

Gentlemen, we desperately need volunteers to serve as representatives for our VA hospitals. We have 13 facilities in the state and no representatives. Our national chairman has asked that we do all that we can to correct this. Please if you have any time to volunteer contact Ed Sheubrooks for information on how to become a representative.

Some other dates to remember is the January 8th fund raiser for Jimmy's campaign fund. It will be held in Tampa at Post 139. Details are on the website. They have worked very hard on this event so please support their efforts. The Southwestern Area Ball will be held at Post 38 Fort Myers on January 15th. That information is also on the website.

Please do not forget to be gathering your information for year- end reports. I cannot express enough how important those reports are to our organization. We know that every squadron has done something thing this year but we need to have it on the report to get credit for it. No matter how big or small EVERY effort needs to be reported.

We will be spending most of the rest of December at home celebrating the holidays with our family but will be back on the road every weekend in January. Until we talk again Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your families.



(Continued Adjutant's Corner from page 1)

2011 at Tampa Post #139. This is not just for the 15th District or the Central Area. It is open to anyone from around the State that wishes to attend. This includes, Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL members. The theme is a Country Western Night, with dinner starting at 6:30pm. The cost is \$10.00 per person. There will also be a Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffles, and a Jail & Bail! We hope that you come out and support the event and the Campaign.

If you're Squadron, District or Area would like to do a similar event for the Campaign in your respective area, please feel free to contact me and we will schedule the event. On February 12th, 2011 there will be a Poker Run starting at Post #273 in Madeira Beach, the run will end at Post #7 in Clearwater. The best part of this Poker Run is that you do not need a Motor Cycle. It is open to all vehicles, even Detachment Commander Dooley's (BIG WHEEL)! For more information, visit our website.

Plans are being worked out for our upcoming Detachment Convention in June. We will again be housed at the Caribe Royale Resort in Orlando. We will once again have all of the Committee and Commissions meet on Friday. The DEC will also meet on Friday as well. This will free up time on Saturday, and hopefully will allow more input from you the members. Convention is not just a time to party and visit, it is also a time that a tremendous amount of business is conducted. Please visit the Website to make you plans to attend.

I know it's early, but our year end is just six months away from now! And yes, I am talking about year- end reports, as the saying goes, the Early Bird get the worm! I hope that every Squadron is recording their man hours and dollar contributions to date. If not take a few minutes to go back and log down what your Squadron did from August to December. Keep a monthly log from now until May. When it comes time in May to complete the reports you will have the information close at hand. It doesn't matter how small the donations or the amount of man hours, all are important and all count towards our goals. In addition to our usual reports, we will also have the Consolidated Squadron Report form to complete for National. This report will be mailed to all Squadrons in April. This report must be completed and submitted to National Headquarters. This is the only report form that National accepts. Until next month!!!

Special Olympics

Detachment Special Olympics Chairman, Stan Viergutz (bonstan1jags@aol.com)



I want to thank everyone who sold & bought tickets for the NASCAR raffle for Special Olympics. The winning ticket was drawn at our Fall Conference. The winner of the side of the #56 NAPA car was BJ from St. Cloud. The winning ticket was sold by Rick Obermeyer S.A.L. Commander of Squadron #80 in St. Cloud. Since this raffle was so successful I have obtained another piece of priceless NASCAR memorabilia. **A Driver's Suit WORN & AUTOGRAPHED by the #00 Aarons Car Driver, David Reutimann.** If you would like to sell tickets to help your Squadron raise \$\$\$ for Special Olympics Please call me at 904-704-2871. Tickets sell for \$1 or 6 for \$5 and 100% of the proceeds go to Special Olympics in the name of your Squadron. One Squadron has already sold 600 tickets.

Detachment Commander's Homecoming

The Detachment Commanders Homecoming will be held on April 2, 2011 at Post #7 in Clearwater. Time of the event has not yet been established. There will be a program following dinner. The cost has not yet been determined. Plans are to have an Add Booklet put together and sold for the event. More information will forthcoming in the near future.

Endorsements for Office

The following endorsements for District and Detachment office have been submitted. Any member wishing to run for a District or Detachment Office must send a letter of endorsement to the Detachment Adjutant. This letter must be signed by the Squadron Commander and Adjutant or the Post Commander and Adjutant.

DETACHMENT OFFICERS

Detachment Commander

- William D (Bill) Kelly - Squadron 137 Jacksonville

National Executive Committeeman Alternate

- Allen Holley - Squadron 139 Tampa

Detachment Vice Commanders

- Central Area
 - Kirk Miller - Squadron 275 Dunedin
- Southwestern Area
 - Ron Lechner - Squadron 103 Punta Gorda

Detachment Chaplain

- Stanley Weyman - Squadron 24 Bradenton
- Ron Van Wie Sr. - Squadron 252 Seminole

DISTRICT COMMANDERS & VICE COMMANDERS

8th District Commander

- John R. Dunn - Squadron 312 Oneco

13th District Commander

- Steve Gordon - Squadron 103 Punta Gorda

15th District Commander

- John D. Craig - Squadron 139 Tampa

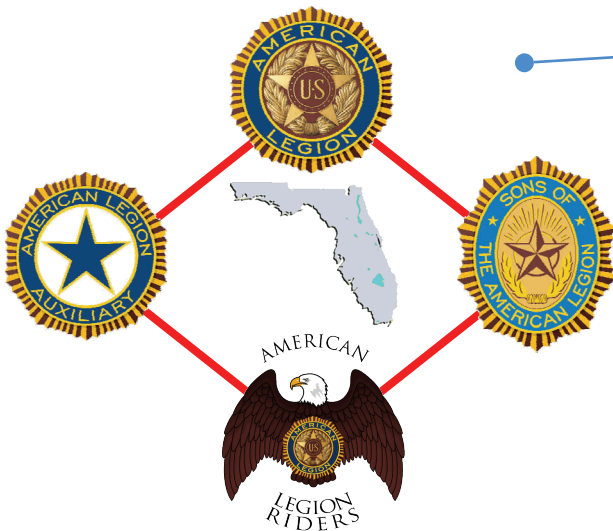
13th District Vice Commander

- Jeff Decechis - Squadron 103 Punta Gorda

**Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Florida**

"In Honor of Those Who Served"

The Florida American Legion Family



The Sons of The American Legion is a program of The American Legion created in 1932.

The Florida Sons of The American Legion with over 13,000 members this year has donated over \$408,000 & over 147,000 hours to the many programs of The American Legion Family.

For More Information about the Florida Sons of The American Legion, visit us on the Internet at:

www.floridalegion.org/sons

Or e-mail us at floridasons@gmail.com

Source Articles

We are looking for your input into the Detachment's News Letter. We have space available for the District Commanders and Area Commanders to submit an article. We can also publish an upcoming event happening in your Squadron. **All articles must be to the Editor by the 10th of each month. We now go to print on the 15th of each month.** Articles can be sent via e-mail to Fishermn9@aol.com or faxed to (772) 460-1559.

We are looking for your input and help to keep this newsletter going. We are looking for articles from the Area Commanders, or District Commanders. Let us know what is happening in your Area or District and we will inform the rest of the Detachment. It could increase attendance at your functions and or meetings!!!!



Campaign Committee for Jim Roberts still needs help with fundraising efforts to support the campaign fund. We are asking The American Legion Family for their help with fundraising efforts. Any SAL Squadron, Legion Post, Auxiliary Unit or Riders Chapter can hold a fundraiser, just let the Campaign Committee know so we can get Jim to attend if he is available. Email us at robertsforcommander@gmail.com. Contributions can be sent to Campaign Treasurer Ed Sheubrooks at 800 S Brocksmith Rd, Ft Pierce, FL 34945. Make checks payable to: **Jim Roberts for National Commander Campaign.**

For more information - please visit the Campaign website at:

www.floridalegion.org/sons/campaign/campaign.htm