

The Legion Link

February 2014

Vol. 21 Issue 7



Making a Difference for Veterans Everyday



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Jay Conti Sr.
Department Vice Commander
ViceCommander@floridalegion.org
BRAVO-ZULU
352.287.1400



What a Start of a New Year! We had our National Commander Dan Dellinger with us for 5 days as he toured the state of Florida on the East Coast from

Port St. Lucie to Jacksonville. I can tell you first hand that every stop we were at, each Legion Family stepped up and greeted the CDR with open arms and each Post Commander did a wonderful job in protocol!

We are into 2014, which means we have to close the books on the 2013 Tax year with the City, County, State and Federal Governments as a Post. So please ensure that your Post Form 990 (income tax return for the Post), Incorporation papers (reregister as an corporation with the State) and any W-2 or Form 1099's your Post does for paid employees. Also, look at any other tax or certificates if they are due like your Lounge License, Food Handlers Certificates, Heath Certificate, and machine certificates, BINGO (City or County Certificate), etc. Please hold or attend a 4-Chaplains Ceremony Services on 4-Chaplains Day February 2, 2014. Don't forget the Department

Oratorical Contest on March 8, 2014 (9am) at Department Headquarters. As a Post, District or Area Commander you should be attending the Oratorical Contest; or if you never seen one before you need to attend this one as its **Top Of The Line!**

On Sunday, January 12th, I had the pleasure of attending a GOLD-STAR Ceremony event at American Legion Post 284 in Belleview, FL. What an outstanding job the Legion Family of Post 284 did with this Ceremony as they honored the Families of six of our fallen Comrades with a GOLD-STAR Salute, In attendance were Congressman Rich Nugent, Florida Gold-Star Mothers Inc. President Jo Ann Maitland (Past ALA 11th District President), Many other local and state officials as well as Chapter 284 who lined the entrance of the Post and rendered honors to each and every GOLD-STAR Family as they entered for the Ceremony.

To American Legion Post 284 Commander Ed Jaworski and the Legion 284 Family; I say thank you for your commitments to the Families of our Fallen Warriors. **BRAVO ZULU!**

PHOTO: Congressman Rich Nugent & Vice CDR Jay Conti Sr. at the Gold Star Event at Post 284



**From The Desk of the Department Judge Advocate
Larry Sheets**



It is important to note that Posts are urged to update their Constitution and By-Laws every three years. Even if you do not change anything, you should still go over them and mail them in to Department, so that we can attach a new cover letter stating that they were approved with a new date.

Should a Post decide to change something in their Constitution and By-Laws, the Post Commander should appoint a committee to review them, and recommend any changes that may need to be made.

Notify the Post membership in accordance with your Constitution and By-laws, in the time required, of the time and date which the recommended amendments will be voted on. Keep in mind that it requires a 2/3 majority vote to make any changes.

Once the above has been accomplished, mail a copy of your existing Constitution and By-Laws along with another copy which includes the changes approved by the membership to Department Headquarters. Any changes should be in Bold Type.

Once they reach Department, Rachel will scan them to me, at which time I will go over them. If there is a problem with them I will deal directly with the Post Commander or Judge Advocate.

When final approval is made, you will be sent a letter, along with the new amended Constitution and By-Laws along cover letters from The Department Commander and myself, with the date they were approved.

Please follow the above as it simplifies the process, and will allow us to get everything accomplished as soon as possible. Unless I am swamped, I try to return them back to you in 15 days.

Chaplain Steve's Spiritual Corner

Greetings fellow Legionnaires. I hope this time of the year finds all of you in good health and spirit. Ecclesiastes 3:1, To every thing there is a season, and a purpose under the heaven. The month of February is about love. Love thy God, Love your spouse, Love your neighbor, Love everyone no matter what. Love is abundant. The more you give the more you have. The future is better than you think. The minute you spread love around it will give you plenty of reason for joy in your life. Giving love is humanities greatest challenge. However, as most of us realize sometimes it's difficult to love everyone but you certainly need to try so we can have a fulfilling and meaningful life with all. Sometimes a little letter can go a long way in expressing love and happiness especially during Valentine. For instance:

To My Dearest Adriana

You are definitely the love of my life. I savored every moment that I am with you. You fill me with total happiness and love that I will always cherish. Adriana, you make me happy when I am feeling down. You raise me up and give me such warmth and affection that I can never get enough. Each day that I wake up it's about caring and giving that you always hand in hand show me. I feel anew with your unwavering love and kindness. Adriana, you let me be myself without question. I feel a sense of gratitude, understanding, and love unsurpassed in my daily life with you. I feel that I am somebody with purpose and meaning. I will always love you with my total heart and soul. I am so happy and blessed that you have come into my life and I thank God for every moment that I share with you. Fly me to the moon, love you Steven. For God and Country – God Speed and God Bless

**February is
Black History
Month**



Wells-Barnett



Carver



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

The American Legion will hold a 15 month commemoration of 100 years of service to veterans, military personnel, families and communities starting at the National Convention in 2018, continuing throughout 2019, continuing through the National Convention in 2019 and culminating on Veterans Day 2019. The Department of Florida will form a Centennial Celebration Observance Committee to develop a plan for events at the Department level. PNC Clarence Hill will serve as chairman of the committee and each District should appoint one member to serve on the committee. When selecting a representative, District Commanders should consider someone interested in history and willing to serve through the celebration. The goal is to have a committee established and hold a meeting at the Department Convention. Anyone else desiring to be on the committee should volunteer by email to cehill316@aol.com.

Posts are also encouraged to form their own centennial committees and plan events around significant events in their history. Each Post can convey its legacy by sharing historical photos, videos and print material on the Legion's new Centennial Celebration web page: www.legion.org/centennial. Detailed instructions on how to create a Post history page is available on the web page, as are the types of information a Post should look to identify for their centennial. For more information on the National web page, email ledwards@legion.org. Department HQ has copies of the Centennial Celebration Workbook that gives step-by-step procedures on creating and posting your history, and the Legacy Vision which is an overall guide to the process. Department has little in the way of early history, but from the 1950's on, there are issues of the Florida Legionnaire and Legion Link that can be consulted.

Wayne Newland
Department Boy Scout Chairman
772-388-6677

The American Legion Cracker Trail Competition, hosted by District 11 will take place on February 28, March 1 and 2 at Camp Tanah Keeta, near Jupiter. Entries need to be in by 2-20.

<http://www.gulfstreamcouncil.org/pdf/CrackerTrail2014FinalHandbook.pdf>

They also need volunteers to help judge and score the various events. If you can't be there in person, send a big fat check to help pay the bills. Maybe do both. It ain't cheap to put on a major event like this.

The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year entry must be into Department by March 1 (but, you don't have to wait until the last minute). Remember, the Eagle Scout must live in Florida, and either be a member of a unit chartered by a Legion Post or be the son or grandson of a Legion Member (living anywhere). Application can be found at <http://www.legion.org/publications/160902/eagle-scout-year-nomination-form>.

Congratulations to Tom Pendergast, Post 39, Vero Beach. The first Legion Knot award application submitted after I became Chairman, has been cleared by Department and sent to National. We expect to present this award to Tom at the Gulf Stream Council Annual Awards Dinner, February 11.

This month's Big Shout Out goes to Post 117, Palm Bay for chartering Scout Troop 734 that lost their previous charter partner. The Troop is already meeting at the Post. Way to go, guys.



Loretta Young
JROTC/Shooting Sports Chairman

Congratulations goes to Stranahan, Monarch, West Broward, and Coral Glades High School Marksmanship Teams. They travelled to Titusville Florida Saturday (11 JAN) to compete in the State of Florida American Legion Championship. They competed in matches against 180 other cadets from JROTC Units across Florida which comprised 40 different teams.

Stranahan finished 1st in the 20 shots standing and second in the 30 shot 3 x 10 match. Overall, Stranahan placed 2nd, Monarch placed 7th, West Broward placed 10th, and Coral Glades placed 17th out of the 40 teams!

Please help us congratulate these cadets as they prepare for Monarch, South Plantation, Broward County Championships, and the Marine Corps Service Championships over the next month!

I look forward to other schools joining us at the Titusville match next year. And as usual, good luck to all in the upcoming competitions.

Steve Barentine
Americanism Chairman

District and Area Oratorical Chairmen: Make sure your contests are completed and your results forwarded to the Department. The Department Oratorical Contest will be Saturday, March 8th at 9 am.

Boys State Chairmen: You should be in your schools picking your delegates and alternates. If you have not received your Chairman's Packet you should contact Carol Polk at Department.

Remember the Department Commanders' and Auxiliary President's Homecoming is coming up in April. For God & Country! I M.M.F.J.W.



Valentine's Day Sudoku

Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the letters H E A R T S. Don't guess - use logic

		E	R		
R					E
	E			A	
	R			S	
H					S
		A	T		

John Dollinger
POW/MIA Chairman

The National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific or Punchbowl is home to many World War II veterans graves. In addition there are over 800 unidentified remain from the Korean Conflict. These remains were placed there by a Military Review Board after they were determined to be unidentifiable. There was little technology to identify remains at the time.

In 2012, due to advances in technology, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) determined that the possibility of identifying the remains now existed. The unknown remains were disinterred for analysis and possible identification.

One set of remains that were recently identified are Army Cpl. Joseph Howard who was originally from Philadelphia PA. To identify Howard's remains, scientists from JPAC used circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools, such as dental comparison, which matched Howard's records. Cpl. Joseph Howard was buried in Jacksonville, Florida on January 9, 2014

Today, 7,896 Americans remain unaccounted for from the Korean War. Using modern technology, identifications continue to be made from remains that were previously turned over by North Korean officials or recovered from North Korea by American teams.

90% Goal

March 5, 2014

Membership Report as of December 30, 2013

District/ Area	Commander	Goal	Rec'd	% Goal
6	Thomas Biddle	10,741	10,256	95.48
13	John Dollinger	8,786	8,238	93.76
3	Randall White	1,715	1,586	92.48
12	Kenneth Wakefield	8,442	7,719	91.44
8	Joseph Magee	8,255	7,460	90.37
15	Eunice Butts	5,329	4,798	90.04
5	Thomas Gora	7,810	6,955	89.05
16	Sidney Damsgard	12,028	10,636	88.43
17	Dorothy Moore	4,152	3,653	87.98
1	Jimmy Martin	6,288	5,522	87.82
2	Willie Jackson	1,373	1,203	87.62
7	Charles Giffin	3,911	3,390	86.68
11	Frank Maitland	4,168	3,572	85.70
14	Gary Decker	3,026	2,559	84.57
4	Charles Ferguson	4,198	3,502	83.42
9	John Vazquez	4,349	3,611	83.03
Eastern	Robert Kiley	19,183	17,975	93.70
SW	Debra Roush	17,041	15,698	92.12
Central	James Burgess	21,268	18,824	88.51
Northern	Michael Wolohan	17,875	15,696	87.81
Western	Verna Joyce	7,661	6,725	87.78
Southern	William Johnson	11,543	9,742	84.40
Department			84,660	
Post 400		12,067	11,411	94.56
Post 208		3,181	2,826	88.84
Totals		111,525	98,897	88.68

Steve Shuga

Florida American Legion Press Association

FALPA President

Florida American Legion Press Association (FALPA) maintains a strong desire to increase our presence around the state through its membership, creating a variety of media resources and articles that keep us all informed of what is occurring beyond our back yards.

We seek a strong alliance with our vast variety of American Legion newsletters and encouraged each American Legion Post, Auxiliary Unit, Sons Squadron, and Riders Chapter to retain members with FALPA and NALPA credentials. Posts, Units, Squadrons, and Chapters can join as an entity and gain credentials as well. Newsletters can then be stamped with the FALPA and NALPA logos.

Your Press Associates contribute articles, stories that energize your membership to read and get involved. A copy of your monthly Post, Unit, Squadron, and Riders newsletters are requested. FALPA will record the documents in its historical data bank that will be available for anyone to access in the very near future.

FALPA Newsletter is published quarterly and provides a variety of articles across the American Legion spectrum that interests our members. There are some great newsletters around the state of Florida but few are accredited and even fewer make it beyond their intended target audience.

NALPA – National American Legion Press Association's annual dues are \$15. FALPA - Florida American Legion Press Association annual dues are \$5. Current and past associates are reminded to renew. New associates are always welcomed. See your Post FALPA representative or contact FALPAP13@gmail.com for an application.

The dues offset the costs of postage, materials, and awards. FALPA/NALPA Press Passes are provided with your current memberships as credentials to use when collecting data and taking pictures to support articles related to The American Legion and its programs.

Please join FALPA & NALPA. You'll be glad you did – we guarantee it!



Steve Shuga
Children & Youth Program Chairman
cy@legionmail.org

Happy New Year – 2014 is guaranteed to be a festive year for the American Legion Children and Youth Program. The aims of this program is to strengthen families, provide services to young people and meet the physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual needs of our nation's youth.

The American Legion appreciates the decision of many high school graduates who choose to serve in the US Armed Forces immediately following high school. These young men and women who chose to protect our freedom deserve our respect, admiration and gratitude. In lieu of our appreciation, the Legion has created a **Military Commitment Certificate of Commendation** that is available through Emblem Sales to be awarded to those local students for enlisting or pursuing commissions upon graduation.

Monthly Program Reminders

Plan you C&Y activities at least two months ahead & order your resources early using the order forms in the current Post Administrative Manual.

Important C&Y Program Dates

Posts are encouraged to seek out Florida's Senior High School candidates to apply for the **American Legion General Scholarship**. See your Post Administrative Manual for application. Candidate applications are due at Dept. HQ no later than **March 1, 2014**.

Florida Children & Youth Fund Grant applications due to Dept. HQ no later than **May 1, 2014**.

As we thrive to fulfill **The American Legion's Fourth Pillar** providing the **"Whole Child"** concept, let us all do our very best to ensure that every child has a home, health, education, character, and opportunity to be a productive, well-rounded citizen that will guide and lead us into the future.

Post activities should be focused around the dates of holidays and events below. Please report all CY monthly activities. Our goal is a 100% reporting from every post. Everyone benefits from timely submissions. Remember your **Coins for COTA and Children Welfare Foundation –Piggy Banks or Cans**. Promote safety in the community with schools getting back in session, alert drivers of our children walking along roads, school bus pickups and school zone speeds.

Important C&Y Program Dates

Children Welfare Foundation – 100% Member Per Capita Banner Program – Every Post, Unit, Squadron, Chapter can support this by providing \$1 per member and submitting this check to Dennis Boland, Child Welfare Foundation.

February Holidays

- 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 17 President's Birthday
- 20 Washington's Birthday

The month of February is also known as: American Heart, Black History, National Children's Dental Month.

Check out the link for more monthly activities and events. (<http://www.holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/february.htm>)

Special Olympics
Dianne Thibodeau, Chairman

I found a lot of interesting information on the Special Olympics website. I encourage each of you to check it out. Don't forget - when you make a donation – use the new form. Make sure you or your post get the proper credit. It can be found on the Florida Legion web page, under Programs, under Special Olympics.

For the next couple of months I will be posting some of the "Frequently asked questions" and their answers.

What is Special Olympics?

Special Olympics is a global organization that changes lives by promoting understanding, acceptance and inclusion among people with and without intellectual disabilities

How many people does Special Olympics serve?

Special Olympics serves more than 4 million persons with intellectual disabilities in 226 Programs in 170 countries.

What is the Special Olympics Athlete Oath?

"Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

What is Special Olympics' mission?

To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop. To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

If you have any questions or comments, you can contact me by phone or email. diannethib@bellsouth.net (321) 733-4951 (home) (561) 315-0679 (cell).

Stanley Gold
National Legislative Chairman

I want to thank everyone for all the cards and well wishes after my wife died. It meant a great deal to me.

New update on H.R. 1726, introduced by our Florida member of the House Bill Posey. It is about honoring the 65th Infantry regiment, the only all Hispanic segregated unit in the U.S. Armed Forces. They played a prominent role in three U.S. wars. Of all the honors Congress can bestow, the awarding of a Congressional Gold Medal is the most distinguished. The latest count as of January 18th has 243 co-sponsors (minimum needed is 290) and the senate bill S.1174 has 28 co-sponsors (minimum needed is 67). All Florida members are on the co-sponsor list.

Below is a small example of what our Legislative Department in Washington D.C. does on every "Bill" that effects veterans. They attend these types of meetings all year.

Oversight and Investigation Subcommittee Examines Surgical Implants

At a January 15 congressional hearing, The American Legion testified on the Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) tracking system for surgical implants. The Legion also addressed the VA's practice of allowing vendors into its operating rooms, and the Veterans Health Administration's (VHA) habit of circumventing the Federal Supply Schedule.

The testimony was presented by Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) assistant director for health care, Roscoe Butler. "There are several problems with VHA policies and implementation of implant medicine healthcare." Butler told the subcommittee. "Most of these problems could be fixed with clear written directions from (VA) Central Office, and better oversight and consequences to enforce compliance."

The testimony notes VA still has a problem tracking surgical implants, and until it is fixed veterans remain at risk. An audit made by VA's Office of the Inspector General two years ago identified expired surgical devices on VA supply shelves. The government Accountability Office (GAO) has also indicated that VA has an inaccurate tracking capability in recording the serial numbers of implant surgical device.

"The grave concern to The American Legion is that, in addition to having expired products on the shelves, veterans potentially could be walking around today with expired surgical implants." Butler said.

The American Legion is urging Congress to require VA to implement an automated tracking system that:

Initially records the serial number of a surgical implant device when procured and placed into VA's inventory.

Records the expiration date and

Alerts VA staff when the product is near its expiration date.

The Legion wants VA to accelerate its timeline for implementing a new Prosthetic Inventory System that includes these components; it also wants VA to verify that no veterans currently have expired surgical implants.

The Legion remains concerned that VA does not have an official policy on the presence of vendors in its operating rooms (ORs). While having vendors in ORs to provide technical advice may be medically necessary, it needs to be made clear that veterans have consented to their presence, and have received full disclosure that strictly adheres to a clearly delineated VA policy. VA has admitted that they do not have a specific policy regarding vendors in ORs.

Update on Flag Amendment Bills

On May 22nd House Joint Resolution (H.J.Res.) 47 was introduced by Rep. Spencer Bachus (AL). This legislation is a proposed constitutional amendment to protect the American flag from physical desecration. Its text states simply: "The Congress shall have power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States." The measure currently has 24 co-sponsors.

On June 13th, Sen. Orrin Hatch (UT) introduced Senate Joint Resolution (S.J. Res.) 17, a companion measure. This measure currently has 22 co-sponsors.

The task before us now is finding additional co-sponsors for these two measures. Please contact your representative and senators, and ask them to become co-sponsors of the flag amendment in their respective chambers. (Resolution 272-2012)

*Let us always meet each other with a smile, for
the smile is the beginning of love.*

~ Mother Teresa ~

VA Public Affairs

VA Offers \$600 Million in Funding to Support Services for Homeless Veteran Families

Grant Program One of Many VA Initiatives to End Veterans' Homelessness

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has announced the availability of up to approximately \$600 million in grants for non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives that serve very low-income Veteran families occupying permanent housing through the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program.

“Those who have served our Nation should never find themselves on the streets, living without hope,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “These grants play a critical role in addressing Veteran homelessness by assisting our vital partners at the local level in their efforts. We are making good progress towards our goal to end Veterans’ homelessness, but we still have work to do.”

The SSVF program is designed to assist very low-income Veteran families who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. The program employs a housing first model, an approach which centers on providing homeless Veterans with permanent housing quickly and then providing VA health care, benefits and services as needed.

Required services include outreach, case management, assistance in obtaining VA benefits, and providing or coordinating efforts to obtain needed entitlements and other community services. Grantees secure a broad range of other services for participants, including legal assistance; credit counseling; housing counseling; assisting participants in understanding leases, securing utilities, and coordinating moving arrangements; providing representative payee services concerning rent and utilities when needed; and serving as an advocate for the Veteran when mediating with property owners on issues related to locating or retaining housing. Grantees also offer temporary financial assistance that provides short-term assistance with rent, moving expenses, security and utility deposits, child care, transportation, utility costs, and emergency expenses.

VA announced the availability of funds today through a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) via the Federal Register. VA is offering \$300 million in FY 2014 funds and \$300 million in FY 2015 funds, subject to available appropriations. VA will make award decisions based on a national competition.

In FY 2013, VA awarded approximately \$300 million in SSVF grants for operations beginning in FY 2014. VA is focusing up to \$300 million in surge funding on 76 high priority continuums of care in an unprecedented effort to end Veterans’ homelessness in these communities. In FY 2013, funding from the SSVF program served over 39,000 Veterans and over 62,000 participants (i.e., Veterans and their family members).

In November, VA and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the results of the 2013 Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness, which was prepared by HUD. The report estimated there were 57,849 homeless Veterans on a single night in January in the United States, an eight percent decline since 2012 and a 24 percent decline since 2010.

The SSVF program is authorized by 38 U.S.C. 2044. VA implements the program by regulations in 38 CFR part 62. More information about the program can be found at www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp.



John Dollinger
13th District Commander
13th District Happenings

The 13th District Posts reached the 80% goal for January 3rd and as a District we have already attained the 85% goal for February 5th. Although as a District we have achieved the 85% goal, several Posts still have some work to do to achieve their 85% target. I would like to recognize Posts 336 and Post 388 for having reached their 100% membership targets already. When the going gets tough, the tough get going... Keep it going!

I would like to welcome 2 new Posts to the 13th District, Marco Island Post 404, and Charlotte Post 405 both have their Temporary Charters into the National Organization. I would like to thank all the District Posts and personnel that supported making these new Posts become a reality.

March 9th the District Picnic will be held at Post 103 beginning at 1:00 pm. The day promises to be a fun time with lots of things to do. Come spend some time in the 13th District Jail!!!

May 3rd is the 13th District Constitutional Conference at Post 103. Registration starts at 8:00 am and the Meeting begins promptly at 9:00 am. Every 13th District Post should be represented at this meeting. At this meeting you will be electing District Officers for 2014/2015.

I would like to thank the Posts and members of the 13th District for their continued support and assistance.

14th District Events Schedule
Updated as of January 6, 2014

Jan 24-26, 2014 – Boy Scouts Lincoln Marti Jamboree.
 Post 346 will participate.

Feb. 8, 2014 – Flag Retirement Ceremony, Town of Miami Lakes.

Hosted by Post 144, and Boys Scout Troop 566.

Feb 28-Mar 2, 2014 – American Legion Florida Cracker Trail Camporee.

Post 346 will participate

Mar 1, 2014 – 14th District General Meeting

Starts at 10:00 AM, Sign in 9:00 AM - at Post 31-South Miami.

March 8, 2014 – Dept. Oratorical – Dept. Headquarters – Time: TBA

April 12, 2014 – Dept. Commanders Homecoming – Post 7, Clearwater

May 26, 2014 – Memorial Day Observed.

Post 144 will participate at City of Hialeah Ceremony.

Post 346 will participate at local venue – TBD

May 31, 2014 – 14th District Constitutional Conference

Starts at 10:00 AM. Sign in – 9:00 AM at Post 31 - South Miami.

June 12 - 15, 2014 - Department Convention – Renaissance-Sea World

July 6-12, 2014 – American Legion Boys State

**In addition, the District Commander will be conducting Post Visitations every other week throughout the year beginning in September. These visitations will be used to ensure that our Posts are operating properly, to reinforce the need for increased membership, participation in Legion Programs, and to provide support and leadership training to Post Commanders and Post Officers.

NOTE: Schedule subject to change. Additional dates may be added



February Fun Facts

- 1 - National Freedom Day, commemorates President Lincoln's signing of the 13th Amendment.
- 6, 1971 - Lunar golf, Alan Shepard hits a golf ball on the moon
- 7, 1935 - Monopoly, the board game, first goes on sale
- 8, 1910 - Boy Scout of America is founded
- 11, 1990 - Nelson Mandela released from prison
- 14 - Valentines Day
- 17, 1959 - Vanguard 2, the first weather satellite is launched
- 19, 1878 - Thomas Edison receives a patent for the first phonograph
- 22, 1819 - Florida Purchase Treaty acquires Florida from Spain

Most folks are as happy as they make up their mind to be.
 ~ Abraham Lincoln ~

ROSTER CHANGES RECEIVED UP TO JANUARY 15, 2014

Dept. Finance Chairman- Frank Reese	1431 13 th St. West Palm Beach, FL 33401 (561)307-6521
Dept. Asst Judge Advocate- Larry White	3193 N. Hyssops Pt. Beverly Hills, FL 34465 (352) 212.8750 larrywhite155@tampabay.rr.com
Dept. Baseball Chairman- Benny Combs	5800 University Blvd W Apt 304, Jacksonville, FL 32216 (904) 210-2236 benny.combs73@yahoo.com
371 Commander- Bill Doherty	3681 Cypress St. Palm Beach, FL 33410 (561) 312.2981 billdohertyjr@yahoo.com
69 email address	post69avonpark@aol.com
189 Commander- G. Wayne Newland, Sr.	8740 97 th Ave, Vero Beach, FL 32967 (772) 584-2450 waynenewland@att.net
389 Adjutant- George Dunn	1112 W Shell Point Dr. Lot 309, Ruskin, FL 33570 (813) 774-9918 gdunn524@tampabay.rr.com
Miami VA Rep- AJ Velazquez	1100 Edington Pl, Marco Island, FL 34145 (305) 804-9887
43 meeting time/ email address	alfpost43@gmail.com meeting: 2nd Sat 1000
222 Commander- Paul Flanagan	1961 SW 52nd Ave, Plantation, FL 33317 (954) 565-6501
141 Commander- William 'Bill' McIntyre	6800 NW 39th Ave. # L362 Coconut Creek FL 33073 (954)232-4119 hobobill3@hotmail.com
141 Adjutant- Helen James	P.O. Box 222171 West Palm Beach, FL 33422 helenoftroy1248@aol.com