

# GATOR EXPRESS

American Legion Post 166  
116 Howe Hall Road/P.O. Box 147  
Goose Creek, SC 29445  
843-553-5454  
www.alp166sc.com

# APRIL 2018

## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

**"Call to the 100<sup>th</sup> Department Convention"** The Convention will be held at the Columbia Marriott on **June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Here is your chance to see what is happening at the Department and your opportunity to vote on any changes to the Department's Constitution and By-laws. Elections will be held for the Officers of the Department as well. This is your opportunity to be heard. For more info, contact Post Adjutant, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice, or myself. We will gladly go over the agenda of the convention. The registration fee is \$25.00 this year. Sign-up sheets are available in the office.

Nominations for next year's Post Officers will be held at this month's General Membership meeting. Please plan to attend this meeting to have a say in who will lead your Post this coming year. **Let your voice be heard!**

**We have a Winner!** Post 166's Oratorical representative, Jessica Scannell, has won the Department's Oratorical Contest. She will be representing both our Post and the Department at the National Oratorical Contest in Indianapolis, IN on **April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>**. Let's wish her well so she can bring National Contest Title home to South Carolina and Post 166.

Please remember our Servicemen and Women who are protecting us.

**Jim Kvam  
Commander**

## **ATTENTION MEMBERS!**

Please check your membership card! Our GOAL for this year is 1287 members. As of date we have renewed 1194. We are short 93 members. Please renew and continue enjoying the fellowship of your Post. There are several ways you can renew. You can go online to MyLegion.org, mail your renewal to American Legion Post 166, P.O. Box 147, Goose Creek or simply stop by the Post. We take cash, check or credit card. Come by and see me and renew.

**William 'Bill' Simpson  
1st Vice Commander**

## **\*2ND VICE COMMANDER'S COMMENTS\***

There are a lot of activities scheduled by the Post and the many tenant organizations in the next few months. Please check the flyers at the Post and website for more information on the events.

I would also like to remind everyone of the Battle of the Bands & Car Show on **May 5<sup>th</sup>**. Plenty of Great music, awesome vehicles and more with the food and craft vendors. Details are on the web page as well as flyers in the post.

Please visit the website or check the Post for flyers.

**Brian 'Bat' Masterson  
2nd Vice Commander**

## **APRIL SHOWERS POST STYLE**

Our 2nd round of nominations of officers for the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL is scheduled for April. There are several positions still available. 2nd Vice Commander and Historian are available as well as any other position. Don't forget that there are up to 15 members on the Executive Board Committee to fill. Please help the Post help you. Get Pro-Active.

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Welcome to our new member: **Michael Bozine, Daniel De-Wald, Bud Hoener, Dianne Scannell, Adam Alex**. Thank you for making **OUR** Post, **Your** Post and being part of **one of the Largest Posts** in the State of South Carolina.

### **\*TAPS\***

It is my duty to report with great sadness that Legionnaire **Rufus Blanton, Melvin Stein**, has reported to the Supreme Commander. The Legion family greatly grieves the loss of this Comrade. May Almighty God give his family comfort and strength during this period of need. The Legion family sends their love and support during this time of grief.

**William 'Bill' Simpson  
1st Vice Commander**

**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE POST 166 AND  
THE AMERICAN  
LEGION DEPARTMENT  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
ORATORICAL WINNER!**

**JESSICA SCANNELL**

**JOB WELL DONE!**

## \*CANTEEN CORNER\*

The Post's officers and staff are busy preparing for the 2nd Jammin' the Creek and Car Show scheduled for the 5th of May. Contacting sources for advertising, signing up bands, food vendors and craft vendors has been an on-going endeavor. Remember it is YOUR Post that this event is supporting. Do your part, come out and support the Post; hear some excellent music from the bands; view memories at the car show; purchase birthday, anniversary, wedding or Christmas gifts from the craft vendors and eat your fill from the food vendors.

**Kim Lied**  
Club Manager

### \*CHAPLAIN'S CORNER\*

3/7 - 6 volunteers 70 patients  
3/14 - 7 volunteers 64 patients

Thanks go out to Bill Proudfoot, Bruce Blodgett, Frank Greis, Johnny Johnson, Bill Simpson, Deb Reynolds, Bernie Buldoc, and others from time to time, for visiting with the veterans.

#### Everyone is welcome to join us.

Please, keep me informed of anyone in sickness or distress as well as any deaths. You can contact me by calling/texting at 843-469-8154 or email me at: williamestreuber@bellsouth.net.

**Bill Streuber**  
Chaplain, VAVS Director

### FEBRUARY 2018 FINANCES

Income	- \$27,663.05
Expenses	- <u>\$25,731.11</u>
Net Income	- \$ 1,931.94

### \*40 & 8 REPORT\*

March was not a good month for official visits. So, April's promenade will be led by Locale Chef de Train, Brian 'Bat' Masterson.

First round of nominations were held and there are positions available to be filled for the Voiture. Ask not what your Voiture can do for you ..... Please consider any position. You'll learn more about how the 40&8 works, more information on the different programs and how people are affected by our support as well as meeting new Voyageurs. That's where the fun lies!

As you know, membership cards are due. See Bat for your 2018 card.

The color is *B*lack.

**Deb Reynolds**  
Chef de Gare

### POST SERVICE OFFICER

**How would you respond to a mental health crisis?**

#### FACTS

- \* Approximately 50% of returning Service Members who need treatment for mental health conditions seek it.
- \* The rate of depression in military members or Veterans is 5 times that of civilians according to the 2014 JAMA Psychiatry study.
- \* An estimated 22 Veterans complete suicide each day in the United States

**How to be trained as a Mental Health First Aider**

Do your part to help reduce mental health stigmas and strengthen your community by registering for training at [scthrive.evenbright.com](http://scthrive.evenbright.com). Or call SC Thrive at 1(800) 726-8774.

Service Expo 2018 is April 21st at Low Country Harley-Davidson from 11-3.

**Tim Burnside**  
[burnside2timothy@outlook.com](mailto:burnside2timothy@outlook.com)

### \*KITCHEN\*

There will be 2 buffet breakfasts this month, April 1st and April 29th. Wings are picking up, slowly. If you are a wing enthusiast, come out and enjoy ours. They're Great!

We have added an item on Sunday as a special treat. Try the NEW casserole dish created by each of the Breakfast Crew's leader!

We are always adding new items to the menus. We welcome any reasonable suggestions.

**Mike Porcelli**  
Kitchen Manager

### TIN CAN SAILORS

Shipmates,

Last newsletter before Liberty Call is upon us. We need to have a much better showing this year than last from our local crew. We have lowered the registration on a trial basis to \$35 to see if that helps. We will sit back and look at the outcome after we see what our profit margin will be. We would like to break even or go over, so we'll see what transpires. Please join in and support our reunion and make it a success. We have out-of-towners coming in, so it would be great to show them a good time. This is a time consuming evolution, so we need a lot of help to pull this off effectively. Give me a call if you have questions.

**Dean Nimocks**  
Skipper

**THE AUXILIARY ASKS  
YOU TO PLEASE  
BRING COUPONS TO  
SUPPORT MILITARY  
FAMILIES OVERSEAS  
\*BOX IS IN THE BAR\***

### SAL SQUADRON 166

Do not forget to renew your membership for 2018.

We are asking for volunteers to assist with the upgrading in the ballroom of the Post.

**Clyde Chandler**  
Commander

### CRAFT/HOBBY GATHERING

There will be a Craft/Hobby get together at the Post each Wednesday from 10am-2pm. Call Shelagh Lammers for more information at 843-871-6546

**\*HONOR GUARD\***

Just like any other non-profit organization, our Honor Guard is always looking for new members and holding fundraisers. True to form, so must we.

ADVANCED AUTO PARTS is allowing us to hold a FUNDRAISER at their store on St. James Blvd in Goose Creek on Saturday, April 21st. It will run from 9am to 2:30pm. We do not have a specified donation amount, so anything you want to donate is much appreciated.

As always, our money goes to recruit and new members, and to buy materials which we use for Memorial Services. Help us accomplish our mission of "Providing Full Military Honors to all Veterans at the Time of Their Passing." It means a lot to their families, and is a lasting memory of their loved ones.

If you would like to help out, or can't make it but would like to donate, we have a box in the office at the Post. You can just put donations in an envelope and mark it 'Honor Guard.'

Thanks to everyone who supports us, so we can support our Veterans!  
Any questions, please contact David Coates at 843-901-1651 or email: HonorGuard166sc@gmail.com

**For the Guard,  
L. David Coates  
Honor Guard Captain**

**\*AUXILIARY NEWS\***

Ladies,

Our next Auxiliary meeting will be April 2nd at 7:30. We will be doing nominations for officers. Come out and support your Auxiliary. Steak night is April 19th from 6-8. We need desserts to sell. Please help, if you can. April 15th is our Jr. Girls meeting at 2:00. Please get your child/grand there on time. Bring in your unwanted coupons and vases. We are raffling off a quilt and sham. See me, Lori, to get your tickets. 1 for \$1 or 6 for \$5. We'll draw for the winner on May 7th at our meeting.

**For God and Country  
Lori Murphy**



**Are you caring for someone with memory loss?**

As a care giver, you may feel alone. You are not alone.  
Find support by connecting with people who share a common experience

American Legion Post 166 is hosting a  
**FREE** Community Support Group  
For those who are caring for someone living  
with memory loss.

Tell your story or just listen.  
Either way, you'll be connected.

2nd Tuesday every month 2:00 p.m.

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If you have questions, call:

**Al at 843-819-7391 or Dana: 843-810-8810**

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## LEGION RIDERS

Let's start with saying "A JOB WELL DONE" concerning our Spaghetti Dinner last month. The money we raised will go towards the American Legion Legacy Fund. Additionally, there was a good turn out to support the Warhorse Brotherhood M/C's "Homeless Heroes Poker Run." On to April - the Legion Riders who are planning to participate in the 2018 ALRSC Legacy Ride, we will be leaving on the 20th riding to North Augusta on Day 1. Day 2 will add the rest of the South Carolina Legion Riders, ending up in Florence. Day 3 will end at the Capitol Building in Columbia. So far, there are 13 riders and a follow-up vehicle with trailer signed up. On April 28th, the Swamp Fox Chapter of the Nam Knights will have their 3rd Anniversary Bash. **The ALR monthly meeting is April 14th at 9:30 on the Bar side!!** At our meeting, we will continue membership renewals. Make sure you have your dues, proof of insurance and registration. **April will be the 2nd round of nominations, for your NEW (hint, hint) Legion Riders Officers of Post 166.** I look forward to seeing ALL of our members at our meeting. If we have ANY Legion, SAL or Auxiliary members who would like more information concerning the Legion Riders, attend any of our meetings and see if you would like to be part of the American Legion Riders.

**Bruce Richburg**  
**Director**

## CABANE NEWS

Dames,

Thanks to all that made our Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner a success, and a VERY SPECIAL THANKS to William Simpson, Bat Masterson and Bob Peyregne.

We have the Gator Wreck coming up May 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. We would love to see everyone. We will be hosting our Nationale Presidente Joyce Robberstad as she makes her Nationale visits. Please come by Friday and introduce yourself.

We, also, have elections coming up. Please let me know if you are interested in being an officer in our Cabane.

As always, we would love to see everyone at Rendezvous the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.

**Michele DeJonghe-Hill**  
**La Presidente**