



American Legion Rood Williams Post 271

775 U.S. Highway 1

Tequesta, Florida

February 2018 Newsletter

Commanders Message

Legionaries, A new year is upon us and this year I am dedicating my time to bring our Post in line with the mission of the American Legion. Our post home has been neglected for at least 20 years, with subpar repairs and band aid fixes and an attitude of indifference. In the past few month's you have seen many improvements, Painting, Signage, landscaping, irrigation and more. This will continue until all issues are resolved.

Membership, as we lose members due to illness, death, relocation or disillusionment, we will persevere a policy and attitude that this is a place for Veterans to carry on the Mission of the American Legion. Changing the view of the public that our post is a watering hole for a bunch of drunks (actually said during a public hearing in Tequesta). We are a proud and essential part of the community and will continue to change the negative image of our post.

We added a Legions Riders group, we are reaching out to all Veterans to join our post and become an active member. Sadly, the same few individuals dedicate countless hours uncompensated to continue our mission. We need more members to step up and active. The Honor Guard struggles to find members to attend funerals or memorials, many ask why don't we have more events like a Golf Outing, or other activities, the answer is we do not have enough members willing to become involved in these issues.

I want to personally thank the Members of the Sons of the Legion and the Auxiliary for all they do. We are resolved to work together as a Legion Family to address the challenges facing us this coming year. Today is the day and now is the time to become more involved. God bless you all, and God Bless our American Legion.

Respectfully,
Jimmy Josko
Commander

Chaplains Corner

The arrival of the New Year does not signify a simple change in the calendar, but it also signifies opportunities for bringing positive changes not only with the American Legion, but ourselves as well.

Let's all strive to make the Year 2018 a positive, productive, and caring year for all.

Al Landry
Chaplain

Membership

As of January 7, 2018, we have 476 members (or 80.952 percent) who have paid their 2018 dues. Although we have reached the minimum Department Goal for January, I believe we can do better. Help us to exceed the February 2018 goal by renewing ASAP, so we can have a 90% paid membership roster by February 7. Please be aware, the notices for your annual dues are sent out by National and sometimes the notices and payments cross in the mail. So, if you have already paid your 2018 you can disregard the notice. The key card for entry into the canteen has been changed and you must be a member of Post 271 and have a current membership to receive a door card. Additionally, if you leave money or a check for your 2018 dues and you are not on our roster, you may be asked for additional documentation or your money will be returned. I thank all of you who have paid your 2018 dues and look forward to talking with you sometime in the near future.

Respectfully,
David Pietrafese
1st Vice Commander

Service Officer Report

Taps: Miles O'Connor, WWII
Mike Kaiser, (Big Mike)
Cindy Bailey

Sick Call: None.

Al Landry
Service Officer

Legion Riders

We are ever moving closer to finally becoming a recognized Chapter. Once the paperwork is signed we will be known as ALR 271 Tequesta, Fl. We currently have six (6) ALR Riders and are always looking for more. A Facebook page has been set up and pictures to follow.

If you are in good standing with post 271 as Legion member, Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion and enjoy motorcycling (must have your m/c endorsement) then come check us out or contact me via email at sdnewell4@gmail.com. Our next meeting will be held Saturday 9AM February 10, 2018.

Steve Newell
American Legion Rider Director

Auxiliary

February is a month of Love. I would like to wish you all a Happy Valentine's day. If you are looking for Love I hope it finds you. Come in and help us show our Love for our Veterans. To see more of what your Unit has been doing, go to our website at <http://www.alaunit271.org>.

Membership: I would like to welcome our new members and our new transfers. Please join us the first Thursday of every month for our meeting. Please to all of you that have not renewed your membership this year, do so now. We appreciate your support in helping our Veterans so please send in your dues. Your membership cards are now expired. The door cards have changed so you will need to show your card to get new door card. You may drop them off in the canteen. You can also pay them online @ <http://www.alaf1.org> Dues are \$35.00 and \$10.00 for juniors. Thank you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Claire or myself

Show me the Money: Come join us, every Wednesday @ 6:30, who doesn't like to win money?? The more that play the bigger the jackpot. Our jackpots are only getting bigger. We also do a 50/50. It's a lot of fun. Come join us. If you would like to help, please put your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet in the Ladies Room.

Basket of Cheer: For those of you that are new to our Unit, in March for St Patrick's day we do our basket of cheer fundraiser. If you can, please donate a bottle of booze. Bring it to the legion and write Aux on it. It will be placed in the office. Or bring it to the legion no later than Tuesday the 20th of February at 7pm. That is the day we will be putting our basket(s) (depending on how many bottles we had donated). Tickets will also go on sale on the 20th. Tell your friends. You do not need to be a member to win nor do you need to be present

Girls State: We will be picking 2 girls to go to Girls State at our March meeting. Please come and interview the girls. If you have a child or grandchildren that would like to be interviewed, please contact Grace at 561-309-8907. If you need or want more information log on to the following link.

https://alaf1.org/wp-content/uploads/ALA_Girls_State_Brochure_07-2016-lp-2.pdf

Nomination of Officers: At our March meeting we will be having our first nomination of officers. So, if you are interested in helping and being an officer come nominate yourself.

Thank you and God Bless,
President Sandra Swafford

Email: auxiliaryunit271@gmail.com **Website:** www.alaunit271.org

Honor Guard

We have had a busy January. We received four requests to perform Funeral/Memorial/Burial Honors. We have been able to provide the traditional 3-volley rifle salute at two of them. One we had to decline as we had no riflemen available for an 1100 hours service on a workday. The other one will be this coming Wednesday, 17 JAN, at 1500 hours at Riverside Cemetery. This points out the need for more members to volunteer to participate. We especially need Legion Family Members who have flexible hours, so they can make time, often on short notice, to attend funerals, celebrations of life, burials and inurnments of our departed service members after they have reported to the Commander of us all.

We will be having ceremonial drill practice at 1900 hours on the FIRST and THIRD WEDNESDAY of each month. We will continue with practice for the Military Honors, including COLOR GUARD, RIFLE SALUTE, and FOLDING and PRESENTATION of the NATIONAL COLORS to the next kin. Included with each of these procedures are close order drill, manual of arms for color guard members, M-1 Rifle manual of arms, etc.

We will continue our monthly memorial ceremony with TAPS during Sunday Brunch on the last Sunday of each month. Please come and render honors to our departed comrades.

WE NEED YOU!!! to JOIN the HONOR GUARD. SERVICE MEANS a FREE DRINK, CITIZEN!!!

The Post will supply uniforms and accessories, rifles, blank ammunition and more! You need only supply black socks and black shoes or boots.

Bob Jaegers
Sergeant at Arms
Drill Instructor

Blood Drive

Thanks to all the donors at our latest Blood Drive we reached our goal of 10 donors! Now let's see if we can increase it to 15 donors! Please remember that donating blood can save the life of someone's loved one! Our next Blood Drive is scheduled for 3/4/2018, so please mark your calendars and come give the GIFT OF LIFE.

Al Landry
Blood Drive Chairman

For the Good of the Post

We are still looking for a few Chairpersons (see the list on page two). The one we need the most is the Entertainment Chair. This will be a Co-Chair along with an Auxiliary, SAL and hopefully soon a ALR. If you are interested in this, please contact me.

Andy Heric
Post Adjutant

2018 Financial Balance Summary

For the Month of: December 2017

Date Submitted: January 18,2017

Checks/Debits Paid:	52 @	\$22,369.71
Credits:	13 @	<u>\$23,387.53</u>
Balance:		\$1,072.82

Checking Account Balances:

Legion Account:	\$5,435.44
Operating Account:	\$6,399.34
Building Fund:	<u>\$42,366.84</u>
Balance:	\$54,141.62

There are many projects needed to bring our building up to code and back to top shape. These projects take money. Please donate to the Building Fund and help our Post to Shine Again!

Harry N. Malecki
Finance Officer
fo@roodwilliamspost271

Boys State

Nothing to report for January 2018. Stay tuned for the March 2018 Newsletter for more details.

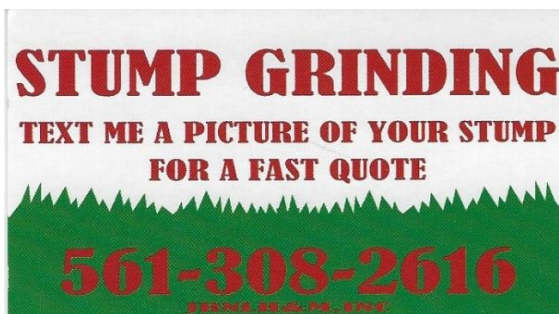
Harry Malecki
Boys State Chairman

Boosters

Kevin Cronin	\$250.00 (Building Fund)
Michael D. Ewing	\$100.00
Christopher P. O'Rourke	\$100.00 (Building Fund)




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