

BUGLER

American Legion
Lakeshore Post 137
5443 San Juan Avenue
Jacksonville, FL. 32210

Meetings: 2nd Saturday 10am

Editor: Nora Marcantel, FALPA, NALPA

Office: 387-3373
Lounge: 387-1581

WWW.americanlegion137.com
commander@americanlegion137.com



Commander
DENNIS
THOMPSON



Auxiliary President
JERI WEST



S.A.L. Commander
WM "BILL" KELLY



Chef de Gare
BARRY
CONGRESSI



COMMANDER'S REPORT



Greetings Legionnaires and Legion Family. I am pleased to report our membership renewals are on goal at 95%. Our Membership Chairman, 1st Vice John English, is hard at work calling those members who haven't yet renewed. John's enthusiasm for this task is encouraging and his "get-it-done" attitude means a lot to Post 137.

Myra Jowers has been appointed by the Executive Committee as Acting Finance Officer due to the recent illness and move of Dave Barnett, our Elected Finance Officer, to Georgia. I know Myra will do a great job in filling the shoes of "Old Moneybags" who is being missed by all the members of Post 137. Dave has all of our best wishes and I know everyone will keep him in their hearts and prayers.

Our House Committee is hard at work completing the needed boat dock repairs and remodeling of the men's restroom in the Lounge. Both of these needed projects have been planned and expenditures for them were duly authorized by the Executive Committee. The Rod & Pole Benders made a significant contribution toward the dock project and they have my personal thanks. I might add that purchase of an ice machine for the TIKI facility has also been authorized.

All of these projects are being accomplished with money from our active Building Fund which is funded by profits from the Post Lounge operation. Without the hard work and dedication of our Club Manager, Bill Kelly, and the entire House Committee, these projects could not be accomplished. These Legion family members are to be congratulated for a job well-done.

April will be another busy month. Don't forget our "Post Everlasting Ceremony" will be held at our General Assembly on April 14th. This event will be hosted by our very capable Chaplain, Gene Odom, who always does an excellent job. Also, the Post Commander's/Past President's will be held on Saturday, April 21st.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY.....
Dennis Thompson
COMMANDER

Service Officer Report

VA Health Care

Special Note about Veterans' Benefits

Eligibility for most VA benefits is based upon discharge from active military service under other than dishonorable conditions. Dishonorable and bad conduct discharges issued by general courts-martial may bar VA benefits. Veterans in prison and parolees must contact a VA regional office to determine eligibility. VA benefits will not be provided to any veteran or dependent wanted for an outstanding felony warrant.

Enrollment

For most veterans, entry into the VA health care system begins by applying for enrollment. To apply, complete VA Form 10-10EZ, Application for Health Benefits, which may be obtained from any VA health care facility or regional benefits office, or in the Post 137 Business Office. Once enrolled, veterans can receive services at VA facilities anywhere in the country. Veterans who are enrolled for VA health care are afforded privacy rights under federal law.

Prosthetic and Sensory Aids

Veterans receiving VA care for any condition may receive VA prosthetic appliances, equipment and devices, such as artificial limbs, orthopedic braces and shoes, wheelchairs, crutches and canes, and other durable medical equipment and supplies. VA will provide hearing aids and eyeglasses to veterans who receive increased pension based on the need for regular aid and attendance or being permanently housebound, receive compensation for a service-connected disability or are former prisoners of war. Otherwise, hearing aids and eyeglasses are provided only in special circumstances, and not for normally occurring hearing or vision loss. For additional information, contact the prosthetic representative at the nearest VA health care facility.

Home Improvements and Structural Alterations

VA provides up to \$4,100 for service-connected veterans and up to \$1,200 for non service-connected veterans to make home improvements necessary for the continuation of treatment or for disability access to the home and essential lavatory and sanitary facilities. For application information, contact the prosthetic representative at the nearest VA health care facility.

Social Security:

The full retirement age in 2007 is 65 and 10 months, but it will gradually increase until it reaches age 67 for people born in 1960 and later. To help you decide the best time to retire, contact us for a copy of *Retirement Benefits* (Publication No. 05-10035). Contacting Social Security

For more information visit www.socialsecurity.gov or call toll-free, 1-800-772-1213 (for the deaf or hard of hearing, call our TTY number, 1-800-325-0778). Specific questions can be answered from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. Automated phone service is available 24/7.

If you need additional information on these or other Veterans programs contact the Post Service Officer in the Business Office Monday, Wednesday, or Friday 1500-1700.

For the Members
Fred Bergman

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Rod & Pole Breakfast 2-4 p Children's Easter Party NASCAR PARTY PALM SUNDAY	2 Lite Supper 5:30 pm BINGO 6:30pm	3 Steering Com. 6:30 p Color Guard 7 pm DARTS 7p	4 KARAOKE 7:30 P	5 Aux Mtg Exe 6:30 pm Gen 7:30 pm V-304 Cheminot 7p Promenade 8 p	6 ROD & POLE CATFISH DINNER PEGGY & HOSS	7 PEGGY & HOSS
8 NO BREAKFAST HAPPY EASTER	9 P.O.W. DAY Lite Supper 5:30 pm BINGO 6:30pm	10 Entertainment Committee 10 am DARTS 7p	11 KARAOKE 7:30 P Legion Rider Mtg. 7 pm	12 FREE MOVIE "The Pacifier" 7 pm	13 ROD & POLE PORK LOIN TISH & SAMMY "D"	14 Legion Meeting Exe 9am Gen 10 am Post Everlasting Cer Juniors 11:30 am SAL 12 noon TISH & SAMMY "D"
15 BREAKFAST ROD & POLE	16 Lite Supper 5:30 pm BINGO 6:30pm	17 Tri Base Job Fair 9-2 p Morocco Shrine Center COLOR GUARD 7 PM DARTS 7p	18 KARAOKE 7:30 P Birthday Covered Dish	19 FREE MOVIE "Blood Diamond" 7 pm	20 LEGION DINNER STEAK JIM CRAFT	21 NASCAR PARTY at TIKI BAR Past Cmdr & Pres. Dinner 5 pm Cocktails JIM CRAFT
22 BREAKFAST CABANE	23 Lite Supper 5:30 pm BINGO 6:30pm	24 Cabane 40/8 Rendezvous 7 pm DARTS 7p	25 KARAOKE 7:30 P	26 FREE MOVIE "Pursuit of Happiness" 7 pm	27 AUXILIARY DINNER POT ROAST VAVS Visit - 4 pm VA Hosp Lake City VICKI LEE	28 Post Clean-Up Morning Hours VICKI LEE
29 BREAKFAST AUXILIARY	30 Lite Supper 5:30 pm BINGO 6:30pm					



April 2007

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY APRIL 1st: CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY 2 p.m. Moon Building.

INITIATION CEREMONY for Auxiliary unit 137 at the April 5th Meeting 7:30 P.M
All new members and others who have not been initiated are invited to attend. JoAnn K.

APRIL 9th POW DAY: SHAKE A HAND say "THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE"

APRIL 14th: POST EVERLASTING CEREMONY, LEGION GENENERAL MEETING 10 A.M

AMERICAN LEGION BIRTHDAY HONORING PAST POST COMMANDERS and PRESIDENTS WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 21, 2007. IN ADDITION, WE WILL BE HONORING OUR WWII VETERANS. COCK TAILS AT 5 P.M.
See calendar for further details.

APRIL 27th NATIONAL ARBOR DAY: Plant a tree and help eliminate "yucky air".

AUXILIARY MEMBERS: Ladies we are at 90.32%. We need 137 more members new or renewals to reach our 100% goal. We made 100% last year. Please help us this year. We have great programs to support.

CONGRATULIONS SARAH MACKESY: The Post Secretary Sarah is celebrating her 1st year Anniversary at the Post. Her hard work, dedication / caring and friendliness is appreciated by all. We are happy to have Sarah working with us at Post 137 and look forward to her being here for many more years.

SPRING TIME IS HERE and it is POST CLEAN-UP TIME

With Spring comes the need for a post clean-up day ("police call") or getting our Post ("shipshape") general good order is necessary. We are scheduling such an event on Saturday April 28th. Volunteers are needed and everyone is urged to come early and see what you can do to help. Remember this is your Post Home. Be proud of it and help if you can. Jerry Lepore

BUGLER CREW: You folks are the best. Thank you for your support in getting The Bugler out each and every month. We are approaching our 5th year of publication and it is because of you and your help. Crew Chiefs; Miss Sylvia and Miss Grace Thank You. Editor

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: "Aries" March 21st- April 20th and "Taurus" April 21st-May 21st
GET WELL We want you up and about, it is Spring time and you have to feel better!

1ST VICE REPORT:

Greetings! At the March Gen. meeting 8 new and 5 transfer members were read in. Your Post as of March 10th stands at 94.5% membership renewals for 2007. That is less than 80 Legionnaires and or new members to contact for 100% membership.

During my phoning of members that had not renewed their membership I spoke to one Legionnaire that was not renewing his membership because the Post sells alcohol. I ask him where he buys his groceries he said Winn Dixie. I reminded him that they also sell alcohol. What I am trying to say is Post 137 is not about selling alcohol. It is about Veterans young and old, able and disabled. It is about our active duty men and women both here and overseas. As well as our youth who are our future soldiers.

I am proud to be a member of Post 137.
For GOD and COUNTRY,
John English, 1st Vice

2ND VICE REPORT:

Well we have made it into Spring time and all looks good. I really do want to say THANKS to all of our members and guest who have been so supportive of our Friday night dinners. That is the best way I know to have your cake and eat it to. You help our programs and get a swell meal to boot. Also, a nice evening of music so you can gently push your loved one around the dance floor.. I hope to see you at more of our functions, as many as you can attend. We enjoy your company.

For GOD and COUNTRY,
Dan Grant, 2nd Vice

3RD VICE REPORT:

Hello everyone. It is going to be a quiet month for Children and Youth. The Easter Party will be on the first. My usual helpers will be there, hopefully. The Easter Bunny will make an appearance. There will be food, games, and, of course, the egg hunt. We are looking forward to making the kids happy. Please, if you would, bring a basket or something for your child's part in the egg hunt.

Children and Youth will host a breakfast on the 15th.
Good food, good friends, good fun.
For God and Country,
Barry Congressi, 3rd Vice

4th VICE REPORT:

On February 23rd 2007, the following members of Post 137, and Voiture 304, participated in our monthly visit to Lake City V.A. Hospital: Lewis & Ann Gray, Norman & Sandy Gentry, John & JoAnn Kelley, Joe Kohten and Dale Prewitt.

The following is a breakdown of money spent and credits given to us:

Refreshments: \$60.00, \$35.00 Unit 137, \$25.00 to Cabane-304.

Books and magazines; \$500.00,

Games and puzzles \$15.00,

Playing cards \$25.00

We gave out \$100.00 (cash) to the Bingo Game winners.

Total Credit given \$700.00, Total hours 40, Total miles 968. Gas allowance: \$48.00.

Note: 35 Vets were present for games.

Our next scheduled visit to Lake City V.A. Hospital will be April 27th, 2007. We will depart Post 137 at 4 p.m. Remember, this is a change from our old departure time of 4:30 p.m. As a reminder to past reports, if you would like to donate books, magazines or other items drop them off at Post 137 and mark them for V.A.V.S. Program. If you would like to participate in our V.A.V.S. program let me know, your help is always needed. Remember it's up to us as Veterans to help Veterans. Someday it could be one of us sitting in that wheel chair,

THINK ABOUT IT!

Yours in Service,
Lewis E. Gray, 4th Vice

AMERICAN LEGION POST 137 VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

AMERICAN LEGION: Kenneth Foldy

Ken recently volunteered for Monday Night Bingo duty and has become a big part of the Bingo program. His dedication as a Post 137 volunteer is very much appreciated.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT: Beverly English

Beverly has become instrumental in her volunteer efforts for Friday night Auxiliary Dinners and providing light snacks for the Bingo Program. Thank you, Beverly, for your volunteer spirit!

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION: Tony Hornbuckle

Tony has donated his services and materials in the remodeling of the men's restroom. You have my gratitude for being a valued member and volunteer!

Dennis Thompson, Commander

PRESIDENTS REPORT

We held our regular monthly meeting March 1, 2007. We read in 2 new members. Our membership is at 90.32 %, we need 137 more members to make 100%. Most of our meeting was devoted to our Girls State applicants. We had 13 Applicants. We elected 6 representatives and 6 alternates.

Our Children and Youth Chairman reminded us again of the Children's Easter Party on April 1st. We have contacted our Auxiliary Youth Hero; this comes under the Children and Youth Program as well. His name is Austin Foster, he is a Jr. at Lee High School, and he is also in R.O.T.C. He is 17 years old. He rescued an elderly couple from a burning house. We will present him with his award at the Past Commanders and Presidents Dinner on April 21st.

Auxiliary Initiations of new members will be held at our regular monthly meeting Thursday April 5th. If you have not paid your 2007 dues, please get them in.

Sincerely, Jeri West Unit 137 President

LEGION HONOR GUARD



CABANE 304

Remember our Kid's Easter Party at the Legion April 1st. Our p.m. We will not have covered dish dinners anymore. If you would like to please tell me.

Merci,
Betty Lomax, La Presidente



Rendezvous will start at 7
run for an office next year

VOITURE 304

I'm still looking for estimates for the roof on the Chateau. I received one that was completely out of our range. I won't even say what it was, it was so far out! A second estimate was much closer to our budget. It was verbal. I'm waiting for it in writing. I just want you all to know that I'm not backing away from this project. I think we all agree -- it is necessary.

It is time to start thinking about the election of officers for the coming year. Before you know it, June will be here.
Yours in service, Barry Congressi, Chef de Gare

LEGION RIDERS:

The National Commander recently called Pony Express in conjunction with the Legion will leave Indianapolis, Indiana, and travel at the National Convention in Reno, Nevada. Pony Express is to have messengers from deliver donations to designated cities along an alternate route, pick up donations and Legion Legacy Fund at the Convention in Pony Express is organized by The American is no requirement for membership in the Legion. There is also no requirement for the (car, bus, plane etc.) The only requirement is registered messenger (which is free). Lake agreed to be a Pony Express Station.

I am working on tentative plans for a ride Reno. To help raise money for the Legacy companies willing to help sponsor a rider welcome.

Election of officers will be held in May. will be in April.
Rick Wiggs

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the route. Or to ride
deliver them to the
Reno. Although the
Legion Riders, there
Legion Riders or the
method of travel,
that you be a
Shore Post 137 has

from Jacksonville to
Fund, persons or
would be most

First nominations

LEGION HELPS SPEED-UP WALTER REED PROCESSING

March 6th 07. The Nation's largest Veterans Organization today signed an agreement with Walter Reed Army Medical Center that will significantly alleviate the long back log in out-processing wounded Soldiers. Today's action is a major step towards ending the problems brought to light at Walter Reed. The delays in timely out-processing of Soldiers caused backlogs that forced the Soldiers to be housed in deplorable facilities. The Legion's presence at Walter Reed will help the wounded cut through the red tape that hinders a timely transition between D.o D. and the V.A. We as a Nation have an obligation to provide the best health care as well as the best accommodations we can give for our wounded. The Legion has battled since 1919 for the benefits due America's Veteran's.

NAVY TRI-BASE FAIR

April 17, 2007

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Morocco Shrine Center

**3800 St. Johns Bluff Road S.
Jacksonville, FL 32224-2620**

- **National and local companies will be hiring!**
- **Bring copies of your resume; come dressed for success!**

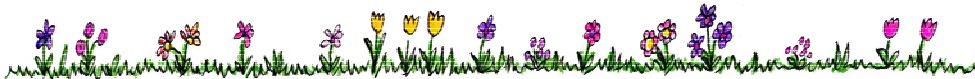
For more information and a list of employers, contact:

NSB Kings Bay, GA, Fleet and Family Support Center at (912) 573-4513

NS Mayport, FL, Fleet and Family Support Center at (904) 270-6600 ext. 120

NAS Jacksonville, FL, Fleet and Family Support Center (904) 542-2766 ext. 130

- **Separating, retiring or retired service members.**
- **Military spouses and family members with ID cards.**
- **Involuntarily separated service members and their family members with Transition Assistance (TA) cards.**
- **Separated service members up to 90 days after separation date.**



✝ CHAPLAIN'S REPORT ✪

The first quarter of 2007 has passed and Spring is not far away. I know most of us are looking forward to warmer weather, although our past winter temperatures were not too severe. That's our advantage of living in Florida.

Our Post is looking great, thanks go out to our hard working members who gave their time and effort to make our Post a special place for our members and their families to enjoy.

Nominations and election of your Post officers for the coming year is not far off. If you have anyone in mind that you think will do a good job for the Post, please let his or her name be know and nominated when the time arrives. We have been very fortunate in the past to have elected very dedicated officers who have all contributed to the continued success of our Post.

At our April meeting we are planning to the last year. This is a very solemn ceremony. Please attend if you possibly can.

Remember to keep up and lend your support to our Legion programs and fund raisers.. Your help is always welcome and needed.

It is
fellow
Everlasting.

ROBERT W. HAWES	MICHAEL "MAC"
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always my sad duty to report to you of any
Legionnaires who have transferred to Post

Please remember Robert and Mac and their families in your thoughts and prayers.
For GOD and COUNTRY, Gene Odom, Chaplain

I NEED SOCKS FOR THE VETERANS

If you served in Korea, remember how **COLD** it was in the winter, frost bite on the toes! If you served in Viet Nam remember how **WET** it was. All the time wet feet. Do you remember how much trouble you had with your feet! **WELL**, we have veterans right here in our hometown who still suffer from these problems with their feet from serving in these hell holes. Some are homeless some have passed caring, but we haven't. It doesn't matter who they are or why they don't have this or that. What matters is they served their time just like you and now they need our help. It could be the other way around. They need clean white socks to put on their feet! We need white tube socks 6 to a pkg., \$5-\$6 a pkg. at several discount stores. When I chaired the Jr. Girls you always came through for us with clothes, toiletries, food, things for the Jr. and we appreciated it.

Now, **THE VETS NEED SOCKS!** PLEASE, help me get them. I will be going to the Clinic downtown the last week of each month starting in April taking sandwiches, bananas and hopefully **SOCKS**.

Folks, if you can do this just put your name on the bags and the office or bartenders will know who it is for. I "Thank You" so very much for what ever you can do. Nora

COMING EVENTS

- Plans are underway for the upcoming Annual Firemen/Policemen's Dinner on Saturday May 5th which Post 137 sponsors.
- A team has formed to put on a 1st Annual Veteran's Car Show at Post 137, May 19th. For more information See the May Bugler. Commander

Sons of the American Legion

Lakeshore Squadron 137

sonsoftheal137@aol.com

Meeting Saturday, April 14th, 12 Noon

Your Sons are currently at 92% with 216 paid members. Please come on in and renew so we may get that 100% Squadron Ribbon for the Fifth Consecutive Year. Thanks to everyone who has Renewed, Reinstated and Recruited this year.

A big thanks to everyone who supported our Corn Beef Dinner last month. Special Thanks to Terry, Sandy and Dianne for all your help. Job Well Done.

Your Squadron Donated \$128.00 for the food and refreshments for the Legion Boys State Interview last month. Hopefully they will once again do honor in representing our Post in Tallahassee.

I've heard back from Detachment Commander Mark Davis on his trip to the Northern Area, 5th District, and our Post, He would like me to let everyone know what a wonderful time he had here at our Post and, Thank everyone for their Hospitality he was shown here by Post, Squadron, Unit 137.

Nominations for Squadron Officers will be taken at the next two monthly meetings. All Offices are open to every Squadron member. The time is now to step up and help lead the 5th largest squadron in the state of Florida. We already know it's the best, but improvement lies within.

For God, Country and Our Legion Family,
Squadron Cmdr. Bill Kelly

OFFICIAL ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

Election of Post Officers for the 2007-2008 Legion year will take place on Saturday, June 2, 07 from 8 A.M. until 5 P.M.

Nomination for officers for this term will take place during the scheduled Post meeting on Saturday, April 14, 2007 and Saturday May 12, 2007. The date for absentee ballots should be available on or about May 21, 2007.

Please check the May issue of the Bugler for the exact date and details about how to obtain an "Absentee Ballot." After the vote is counted and verified, on June 2, 2007 the results will be announced that evening.

If there are any questions, please contact Post 137 Office on Mon., Wed., or Fri. between 1300 hours (1 p.m.) and 1700 hours (5 p.m.)

Jerry Lepore,
Judge Advocate,
American Legion Post 137

APRIL MOVIE MARQUE 7 p.m.

12th THE PACIFIER

19th BLOOD DIAMOND

26th PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

CLUB MANAGER – BILL KELLY

I would like to report our membership that we have completed the pricing upgrades. We have the registers programmed and the prices listed on the bulletin board, there should be no question concerning the prices. Thanks to every for your understanding during the change over.

A big thanks to Diane, Barry, Ray & Joanne for the job of decorating the hall for Valentines, Sock Hop, St. Patrick’s Parties. Job Well Done.

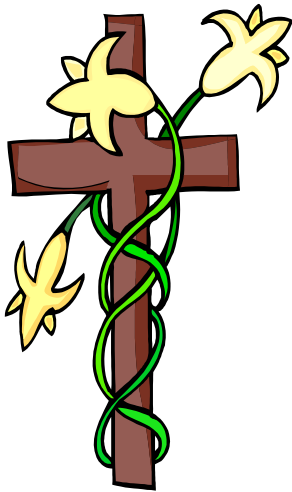
We are running a new Computer Finance Program to better meet you needs and help with financial forecasts and budgets. Thanks to Carolyn for all your hard work.

The Executive Committee has approved the purchase of an ice machine for our Tiki Hut, which by the way will be opening on weekends later this month. Please keep an eye out for announcement signs in the club for further information.

Remember there is always something going on in your club, Sunday is NASCAR on the big screen, Monday BINGO & Light Dinner, Tuesday is DARTS, Wednesday is KARAOKE, 2nd thru 4th Thursday is MOVIE NIGHT, Friday is Dinner, Friday and Saturday is always LIVE ENTERTAINMENT and TIKI every weekend.

SEE YA’LL IN THE CLUB.

Club Manager, Bill Kelly



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