



THE BUGLER

The Official Newsletter of Post 137

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

Meetings: 2nd Saturday 10am

Editor: Nora Marcantel, FALPA, NALPA

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Commander
DENNIS
THOMPSON



Auxiliary President
JERI WEST



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



Chef de Gare
JOHN KELLEY



Commander's Report



I want to take the opportunity to wish everyone in our "Legion Family" a wonderful Christmas holiday and a very Happy New Year. I look forward to another great year for Post 137 and sincerely hope you and yours have a prosperous year all of 2008.

Our Department membership goal for the month of December is 75%. I have every confidence Post 137 will meet and surpass this goal. Don't forget, the Legion Programs and Community Programs sponsored by this Post depend on the renewal of your membership dues. This is also a good time to consider a "Paid Up For Life" (PUFL) membership. We have the PUFL applications here at the office and I encourage every Legionnaire to stop by the office and complete an application.

I am pleased to announce recent appointments. Ken Foldy has accepted the job of Post Adjutant and Jonathan Cooke has agreed to be our Post Webmaster. Ken has done a terrific job as our Bingo Chairman and Jonathan has done the same as SAL Sgt. at Arms. Both of these individuals have a Can Do "spirit" and I look forward to working with them. Participation in last month's City of Jacksonville Veterans Day Parade by members of Post 137's Legion Family was a sight to behold. I was very proud of everyone who attended and participated in this event.

The Annual Marine Corps Birthday Party was a resounding success! I again had the privilege of speaking to the group and I believe everyone enjoyed themselves. The volunteers responsible for this event deserve a big "OH HRAH" from all the members. Semper Fi, fellas!

Our Post Home business office rehabilitation is essentially now complete. It gives me a great deal of pride to see the general clean up and new furniture, ceiling fixtures and carpet which has been put in place. If you haven't been by the office for a while stop by and you will see what I am talking about. Your continued support and participation in all the weekly Post functions is needed and I encourage all of you to continue to bring guests with you. Remember, "Enthusiasm is Contagious" is not just a theme or words on a wall. All of us pulling together can make a difference for Post 137 and The American Legion. For GOD and Country, Dennis Thompson, Commander .

For GOD and Country,
Dennis Thompson, Commander



Eddie Dykes

1ST VICE REPORT:

At our November meeting I was pleased to read in 21 new and transferred members. We have a long way to go to reach 100%. We still need all the help we can get. Our Membership is at 74.751%, 1199 members. Please, I ask of everyone, when you speak to someone, ask if they are a member and if not, ask would they like to be? It will help to make our "100% Goal. "Thanks For Your Help."

For GOD and Country,
Eddie Dykes, 1st Vice Commander



Dannie Grant

2ND VICE REPORT:

A MOST HAPPY TIME OF THE YEAR! Your Post is very grateful for your support throughout the year. It allows Post 137 to support more veterans, community and neighborhood programs. "Thank you". If you have kept up with the past 6 months of activities you know how many programs we have been involved with. For the balance of our 2007/08 year we ask for your continued participation and support. All sorts of activities will be going on in December. Come enjoy the festivities, bring your guests to help you celebrate this wonderful Christmas Season.

For GOD and Country,
Danny Grant, 2nd Vice Commander



Barry Congressi

3RD VICE REPORT:

First, I want to thank everyone who attended the Children's Halloween Party. We had 100 to 110 people. We had so many children, we lost count. But, take my word for it, there were many. It was a great success, thanks to you and your children. The Childrens Christmas Party will be on Dec.16th. Same time, 2:00 PM. Santa, food and gifts for all. Please come if you can. Children and Youth will host the Legion dinner on Friday, Dec. 21st. Burn your own steak. See you then.

For GOD and Country,
Barry Congressi, 3rd Vice Commander



Lewis E. Gray

4TH VICE REPORT:

The following dedicated Legionnaires, S.A.L., Auxiliary an Voiture / Cabane 304 members, participated in the Oct. Visit to Lake City Veterans Hospital; Lewis & Ann Gray, Jack & Connie Manning, John & Joann Kelley, Joe & Patsy Kothen, Carl & Myra Jowers, Norman & Sandy Gentry, Shirley Hall, Dale Prewitt & Joseph Gray. We departed Post 137 at 4 pm and had dinner at a restaurant in Lake City. We started Bingo on time at 7 pm. We were given credit for 30 patients, most of who were in wheel chairs.

Refreshments were served after the Bingo Games. A special thanks to John K. for calling Bingo and keeping us on schedule.

The following is a breakdown of money spent and credit given to us.

Refreshments: \$70...\$35 to Cabane 304 & \$35 to Aux.Unit 137.

Books & magazines \$300. Clothing \$31.

Games & Puzzles \$5, Playing cards \$20, VHS Tapes \$1,870.

Our "Thanks" to Jerry Lepore for donating the tapes Canteen Books \$100.
Total Credit \$2,396. Total Miles 1,815. Gas allowance \$48, 3 vehicles.

Our next scheduled visit to Lake City V.A. Hospital will be our "ANNUAL CHRISTMAS VISIT." We depart Post 137 at 4 pm. This being my final report for 2007. I would like to Thank all the dedicated volunteers, you Commander Dennis Thompson, for making the V.A.V.S. program one of your top priorities this year.

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



Ken Foldy

ADJUTANT'S REPORT:

Hi Legion family, my name is Ken Foldy your new Post 137 Adjutant. I have been a member of Post 137 for over 2 years and have 10 years Army active and reserve time from the Vietnam era. I am a Foster Parent of over 3 years now, and a Notary Public. I am the Bingo Chairman for the post on Monday nights and look forward to serving you and this post to the best of my ability.

Bingo is on Monday nights at 6:30 pm we are at the end of the year for 2007 the last Bingo night for 2007 will be Dec. 3rd and start again on Jan. 7th. I am looking forward to the 2008 year with all of you. I hope you all have a very MERRY CHRISTMAS from my family to yours and the Legion family.

For GOD and COUNTRY,
Ken Foldy, Adjutant



Jerri West

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

We held our regular monthly meeting Thursday, November 1, 2007 at 7:30 pm. We had 6 new members read in and voted in, bringing our total to 420 or about 68%.

We had several members attend the Fall Conference in Orlando.

Unit Americanism Chairman, Anita Lee reported that she mailed \$8,144.04 in coupons to 13 Bases. Junior Nola M turned in coupons to Anita.

Unit Chaplain, Nora Marcantel, reported contact with several members due to illnesses.

Children and Youth Chairman, Diane Congressi, reported that the Halloween party for the children was a huge success and the count was around 100-110. She thanked everyone that brought goodies and thanked junior Ashley Lane for her help with the games

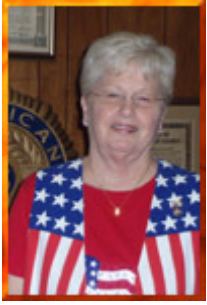
Juniors, Skye & Jay Cox, Emily Castro and Murphy Bramer visited Moosehaven Nursing Home and spent time with the patients.

Jax V.A.Clinic Chairman Nora M. and Myra Jowers Visited the Clinic and served the Vets sandwiches, bananas, boiled eggs, sweets, coffee and orange juice. The Vets are very appreciative.

Nora & Junior, Nola M. worked on Saturday at Orange Park Mall signing up runners for

the Susan G. Komen "Run for the Cure" Cancer Race.

Yours in Service,
Jeri West, Unit 137 President



Sandra Gentry

Cabane 304 Report:

Gee the time has flown by. It seems like only yesterday I was assuming my duties and here we are CHRISTMAS Party coming up on Dec.15th. We will begin with "Adjustment Time" at 6 pm then on to the fun of gift exchanging. Remember Voyageurs; a gift for a guy and dames; a gift for a dame. (\$10.00 value).

We all wish to thank Danny, Norman, Diane, and Vivian for their help at the Nov. Dinner. A great job from everyone. "THANK YOU".

There will not be a Rendezvous in Dec., however Jan.22, 2008, Rendezvous begins at 7 pm with Adjustment at 6 pm. Hope everyone can make it. Merry Christmas to all and Happy New Year.

Merci,
Sandra Gentry, La Presidente



John Kelley

Voiture 304 Report:

Christmas came early to V304. Check out the concrete at the end of the Chateau. Merci, Barry C, Tom T. & Bill L. for overseeing that job.

Again I'm reminding all Voyageur's who haven't paid their dues to please do so. Lets make V304 shine with a 100%.

Remember our Christmas Party Sat. 15 Dec. Adjustment 6 pm Dinner 7 pm & Santa too. Dames bring a gift for a lady and Voyageurs bring a gift for a gentlemen (no names).

Next Cheminot Promenade Dec. 6th. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone. Please be safe..

Yours in Service,
Chef de Gare, John Kelley



Gene Odom

Chaplain's Report:

Here it is the month of December and the beginning of a new year. Hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving and looking forward to the Christmas Holidays and all of the joy brought on by this special season.

Let us be mindful of our yearly Christmas projects. The Christmas Baskets Programs is in need of our assistance. Thanks to all our volunteers and our members generous contributions which makes this project so successful each year. Anything you can do to help will be appreciated. We have many needy families who are comforted by our support.

The Annual Marine Corps Birthday was as usual a big success. Many of our Legionnaires came out and enjoyed the festivities.

A big thank you to all the Legionnaires who participated in the Veterans Day Parade. Our Post was well represented.

If you have not renewed your membership for the coming year, I would urge you to do so as soon as possible. It would be great to be at 100% by the end of the year.

Again it is my sad duty to list the following Legionnaires who have transferred to Post Everlasting. **WILLIE L. GOOGE** **BENJAMIN T. PACE**

We also have several Legionnaires who are ill or are recovering from illness. Please keep all of these Legionnaires and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

For GOD and Country,
Gene Odom, Chaplain



Bill Kelly

Son's of the American Legion Report:

Your Sons membership is currently at 55% we need everyone to renew as soon as possible. Please make a special effort to renew or remind a son to renew, Thank You.

Sons of the American Legion,
Lakeshore Squadron 137
sonsoftheal137@aol.com
**Next Meeting: Thursday, December
13th, 7:30 p.m.**

Joey Gray is taking an active part in the Sons. With his duties as Chaplain and VAVS Chairperson he finds time to present Awards on behalf of the Sons at the Ed White R.O.T.C Drill Meet. Job Well Done, Joey.

Another active Son is Jonathan Cooke our Sgt. of Arms. He has taken over as Legion Web Master. Job Well Done, Jonathan.

On Saturday December 8th the Lakeshore Squadron 137 will be hosting the Detachment of Florida Commander John Jennings at the Legion General Assembly Meeting at 10AM. I would like to request all Sons make an effort to attend and show you support for the State Commanders visit.

Anyone wishing to assist us with the Commanders visit may contact me at the Club.

Special Thanks to Ann Gray for our Sandwich Program and Hal Helms my Adjutant for keeping things working. Job Well Done.

On behalf of All The Sons at Squadron 137 we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year in 2008.

For God, Country & Our Legion Family
Bill Kelly, Squadron Commander



Bill Kelly

Club Manager's Report:

With the end of the year now here: it is time to reflect. What an outstanding year it was. The Club finances are in order and every cent is now being accounted for. With just a few weeks left the projection of revenue to the building fund should be about \$70,000.

A special "Thanks" to all our members who contributed their time, effort and money to making our Post the pride of Florida.

Last month was another special month with the Marine Birthday, Veterans Day Parade, and the Early Bird Dinner, Thanks to all the members who volunteered to make all these events such a success.

The Club will be holding it's Christmas Party Saturday, December 22 at 7:30 PM. The Club again will have its Christmas Eve Celebration Monday, December 24th at 6 PM with covered dishes and music by Sammy D & Friends.

The Annual New Years Eve Party will be Monday Night, December 31 at 6 PM. The tickets will be \$25.00 per person and feature a buffet dinner and music by Nole & Mindy.

On behalf of our entire staff and myself we would like to wish every member a "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Servicing our Members,
Bill Kelly, Club Manager



Rick Wiggs

Historian's Report:

The seconds continue to tick and the pages continue to turn. As the pages turn the end of the book comes ever nearer and the story of "The Greatest Generation" will soon become history. Among those still with us are the remaining WWII veterans. In Washington D.C. there is now a monument to those brave men and women. Too many of them have never seen the Monument. Honor Air is trying to correct that. On May 17, 2008 there will be another gathering and First Coast Honor Air will be sending 100 WWII vets on a one day trip to Washington to visit the monument to their sacrifices. There will be medical staff on-board and for those who need it, escorts will be available. Buses taking veterans to JIA will depart Orange Park High School at 10:00 am. A police escort will lead the buses to Duval County where JSO will take over. Motorcycles will also parade along to honor these vets. This will be first come, first served. So get your applications in now. You can go on-line at www.firstcoasthonorair.com to apply or contact Rick Wiggs at (904) 772-7984 home or (904) 703-0601 cell for help.



Rick Wiggs

American Legion Riders Report:

On Sept. 29th the Legion Riders held a Red Neck Road Kill Surprise dinner before the Red Neck Follies. This dinner was not decided on until after the Bugler had been published so few knew about it. Those who did come and eat enjoyed the food and suggested we put on another dinner. We will on Dec.14th. There was a ceremony held at NAS Jax. to honor Viet Nam Veterans. This ceremony was long over due. The Patriot Guard was invited to attend and form a Flag Line. Recently Sean Compton appointed me as the 5th District Chairman for the American Legion Riders. I am proud to accept this position and will work to make the ALR a driving force for the Legion. December Rides: 6

Dec: Orange Park Ale House KSU 6 pm, 9 Dec. Whitey's Fish Camp KSU 3 pm, 15 Dec."The Loft" in Crystal River KSU 10 am, 22 Dec. Ride to Ride KSU 10 am.

Rick Wiggs, 5TH District Chairman



Jonathan Cooke

Webmaster's Report:

Since I just took on the additional role of webmaster, I'll introduce myself briefly. Many of you know me already for having designed this website in its current form in late 2006. I have been in the Information Technology field for 24 years and have been a software Application Developer and Systems Technical Analyst at Blue Cross for the past 10 years where I have created intranet and internet applications and websites such as the first FloridaMedicare.com, and ConnecticutMedicare.com for the 85,000 hospitals, physicians offices and healthcare providers under our Medicare government programs division processing some 17 billion dollars in annual claims. Although I still have my day job, when I'm in the post please consider me approachable as I would love to hear any ideas or suggestions you might have. The website is for all of us!

Recent Activities: November 23rd, I added an Interactive Events Calendar to the site, replacing the scrolling list that was there before ("Events" button, top menubar). This new format allows a greater level of detail and flexibility of display and is an online supplement to the calendar in the Bugler. If you know of an event you would like added, just email me anytime. I hope you enjoy it!

Jonathan Robert Frank Cooke,
Webmaster, SAL Sergeant at Arms
webmaster@americanlegion137.com

**“Wishing you joy in your world
And peace in your home
And love in your heart
At Christmas and always”**

Commander Dennis Thompson
President Jeri West
Sons of American Legion Bill Kelly
Chef de Gare Barry Congressi
Le Presidente Sandy Gentry
Bugler Editor Nora Marcantel

EMPLOYMENT OFFICER REPORT – FRANK MADIGAN

Upcoming Job Fair Opportunities

Jacksonville, FL 32207

RecruitMilitary Career Fair 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

December 6, 2007

Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena

300 A. Philip Randolph Boulevard

Jacksonville, FL 32202

**For more information contact Larry Slagel
(513-683-5020)**



TEN-HUT!

Post 137 Announcements

A personal thank you is extended to Barry, Tom, Bob, Tony and Emory for their work in improving the decoration lighting in the Assembly Room. Replacement of the old burned out lighting made quite a difference in the overall appearance.

The results of the "Redneck Follies" are in and Post 137 was able to raise over \$1600. toward the Christmas Basket Program. Many thanks to everyone who participated and made this event a great success. A very personal thanks to Diane & Joann who really made the event happen.

The proceeds raised this past May at the 1st Annual Veterans Car Show are now being expended for Veterans Service to include the purchase of a new television for the waiting room at the Jacksonville Veterans Clinic as well as clothing items needed by patients at the VA facilities. Thanks again to all those involved in the Car Show as well as Lewis & Ann Gray who head our Post 137 VAVS program.

The Halloween parties held on Oct. 27 & 28 for the Adults and Children at the Post were both, a great success. Many thanks to all who worked so hard on both events. They are -- Adult Party helpers; Bev. M, Vivian G. Bill, Barbara. Tom. Barry & Diane. The Children's Party helpers --Emory, Bev, Tom, Bill, Sylvia, Grace, Ann, Vivian, Ashley, Poppie, Ray, Barry & Diane. Both the Events Committee and the Children and Youth Committee are to be congratulated for a job well done. If I missed anyone, please know that your help is appreciated.

Thanks to Tom T. and Bob S. for their hard work in finishing the assembly of the office furniture. The office has taken on a new look which all of us can be proud of. The installation of new carpeting will take place soon and will essentially complete the refurbishment.

WELCOME Ken Foley, new adjutant. Ken will be assuming the duties of the adjutant's office for Post 137. Good luck Ken and Welcome!!

WELCOME Jonathan Cooke, new Webmaster. We would like to welcome Jonathan to the Legion family and to the duties as Webmaster. We will be looking for many new ideas from Jonathan.

SOLDIERS 4 SOLDIERS PROGRAM

We have been advised by the National American Legion office that the Soldiers 4 Soldiers program has been discontinued. As many of you are aware, this program involved the donation of used cell phones and computer cartridges for recycling. The monies raised were then donated to the Legion Legacy Fund. Unless or until someone can come up with another point or contact for proper distribution of the phones and cartridges, I can see no alternative to that of discontinuing the program on a Post level. We appreciate the past participation by our Legion Family.

VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

Legionnaire Sam Defranco volunteered 4 vehicles for Post 137's use at the Jacksonville Veterans Day Parade held Nov. 12th. We were very proud of the attendance from Post 137 for the event and Sam's vehicles were a hit with everyone, both participants and observers of the parade! Many thanks for being the "Legionnaire Extraordinaire".

Legionnaire Tony Hornbuckle gave his time and services in assisting the Commander with moving furniture and fixtures during the recent carpet installation in the Spencer Room and Office. Many thanks for all the help.

Mac and Virginia refinished the tabletops in the TIKI area recently. The finished product looks great and improved the looks of the Tiki. Thanks a lot to the both of them.

SEMPER FI

The USMCCA and Boosters would like to say thank you for your support in making the 9th Annual and 232nd Marine Corps Birthday Party a big success.

We hope our Guest and Legion Family know more and understand why the Marines are proud in celebrating the Birthday of the Corps, and have been since 1921.

Each year, we try to do things better than the last. A little different History and some good times to remember. USMCCA wants to "Thank" the Legion Family, Club Mgt., Post 137 and 5TH DISTRICT Commanders and all our guests for your support and attendance at the November 10th Party.

USMCCA looks forward to the upcoming year and will do our part in Legion endeavors to make Post 137 second to none.

For Corps, God and Country, Dennis Glisson

MEXICAN BUFFET



Saturday, December 8
Come enjoy Mexican Buffet
from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Your chefs will be
Doris, Byron and John

Delicious food, good company.

Biloxi Trip

The Legion Biloxi Trip is on again!!
17 – 20 of February 2008
Applications are available at the bar.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
  Merry Christmas – Happy New Year						
<i>December 2007</i>						
<p>1 Music by PEGGY & HOSS – 8 p</p>	<p>2 BREAKFAST Rod 'N Pole 8:30a – 11 am 1 pm -- Fill Ditty Bags for V.A. Hospital Lake City</p>	<p>3</p> <p>4 Steering Corn. 6:30 p Color Guard 7 pm DARTS Sign-up 7:00 Play 7:30</p>	<p>5</p> <p>KARAOKE w/ Bill Scott 7:30 P</p>	<p>6 Aux. Exe Mtg 6:30p Gen Mtg 7:30 p V-304 Cheminol 7p V-304 Promenade 8 p VIDEO BOWLING 7 PM</p>	<p>7</p> <p>LEGION DINNER T-Bone Steak Burn your own 5:30 pm G-MEN -- 8pm</p>	<p>8 Leg Exe Mtg 9 am Gen Mtg 10 am Jr. Mtg. 11:30 am Mexican Buffet 5 – 7 pm –Olé Sammy "D" & Co G-MEN -8pm</p>
<p>9 District 5 Mtg Post 129 Jax Beach 2 pm Assemble Christmas Baskets 9:00 am</p>	<p>10 NO BINGO until January 7th Christmas Basket Delivery</p>	<p>11</p> <p>DARTS Sign-up 7:00 Play 7:30</p>	<p>12</p> <p>KARAOKE w/ Bill Scott 7:30 P</p>	<p>13 Legion Rider's Mtg. – 7:00 pm S.A.L. Mtg 7:30 pm VIDEO BOWLING 7 PM</p>	<p>14 AMERICAN LEGION RIDER DINNER "Lumpia & Pancit" 5:30 pm The Steven Craig Band - 8p</p>	<p>15 40 & 8 Christmas Party Attitude Adjustment 6:00 pm Gift exchange follows The Steven Craig Band - 8p</p>
<p>16 Children's Christmas Party 2 – 4 pm Moon Bldg Santa and Elves</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 Color Guard 7pm DARTS Sign-up 7:00 Play 7:30</p>	<p>19 Birthday Covered Dish 7:30p KARAOKE w/ Bill Scott 7:30 P</p>	<p>20</p> <p>VIDEO BOWLING 7 PM</p>	<p>21 CHILDREN & YOUTH STEAK DINNER Burn your own 5:30 pm VICKI LEE 8pm</p>	<p>22 CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY – 7 pm Music by VICKI LEE 8pm</p>
<p>23 24 "Covered Dish" Christmas Eve Celebration "Sammy D & Friends "</p>	<p>25 Christmas God bless you and yours!</p>	<p>26</p> <p>NO KARAOKE</p>	<p>27</p> <p>NO VIDEO BOWLING</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Music by NOLE & MINDY 8 pm</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Music by NOLE & MINDY 8 pm</p>	<p>30 31 New Year's Party 6:00 pm Nole and Mindy</p>

Are you 62 years old or more
and own your own home?
Would you like to pay off
your existing debts?
Would you like additional
monthly income?

With a Reverse Mortgage

Your current mortgage is paid and
You can receive
a lump sum cash payment or
You can receive additional
Monthly income for life or
You can receive a Line of credit and
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your payments are tax free and
You pay back **"nothing"** as long as you
live in the home and
The home remains in your name.

For information on Reverse
Mortgages and other loan services,
call Fred Bergman (904) 505-4260
e-mail Fbergman@comcast.net

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Please visit my web site:
jerrycroley.com

Loyal Order of Moose

American Legion Post 137
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Fleet Reserve Assoc.

HAVING A GET-TOGEHER!!

DO YOU NEED A SPACE?

Contact: Mr. Bill Lomax
for information
about the use of
the **"MOON BLDG"**
or **"La Chapeau et 40/8"**
CALL: 778-2116

Thank you Golden Corral Restaurants

Your tribute to our local military on November 12, 2007, was truly a patriotic gesture. I am told the meals were delicious and your patriotism stands above the ordinary. Thank you again Golden Corral for thinking of our local men and women in uniform.



MERRY CHRISTMAS
From the Post 137 website!

