



BUGLER



Monthly meeting: Exe. 2nd Wed. 6 P M, GEN. 2nd Sat. 10 A M

Off. (904) 387-3373 Lounge 387-1581 Hrs. Mon. Wed. Fri. 1:30-5 pm

Commander Fred Bergman

Editor Nora Marcantel

President Anita Lee

COMMANDER'S REPORT

MARCH 2010

Hello Legion Family.

Are you also as tired of winter as I am?

Our pool and TiKi Bar looks so lonely these days. I am ready to see some happy folks having a wonderful time and enjoying the sun. Time goes on and once again we will be looking for cooler days .

You may have heard about "the marathon" General Assembly Meeting of February 13th. There are some issues at hand that we need to take care of and yes there are some members that are passionate about those issues. If you are concerned about anything you have heard, please, give me a call or come by and visit me at the office.

Most rumors are without fact or are half truths.

You owe it to yourself to look at the evidence connected to any rumor and then make up your own mind about your concerns.

My door is always open to you. Maybe you can help with a solution.

We will work this out for the GOOD of our POST and the LEGION.

I would like to share the following Information with you as this is part of the approved Guidelines for Post Operations

American Legion National Officers Guide Book.

Article 11: Limitations of Liability.

Section 1 The Post shall incur or cause to be incurred **NO LIABILITY nor OBLIGATION** what so ever which shall subject

to liability any other Post, sub division, group of men, members of

The American Legion, or other individuals, Corporations or Organizations. * In the future the use of legal documents will help solve many of the issues that we have continually struggled with over the past 18 months.

On a happier note; over the past month our members have displayed their dramatic abilities by conducting a Four Chaplains Ceremony. This Ceremony featured an all star cast including our own National Champion Color Guard and the Ridgeview JNROTC Unarmed Drill Team. The Four Chaplains Service was followed by a Post Everlasting Memorial. Fred Bergman

FREDS NOTES

As most of you know, over the past year there has been a letter and email campaign launched against the Commander and Grievance Committee by a few of our members that do not agree with the actions taken against members that have committed acts against our Post.

As a result of the letters and email sent to the Department Commander and others, the Department Commander ordered the Northern Area Commander to "investigate" our Post on Feb 4th.

I am very discouraged that a few Post members were willing to commit acts against our Post and it's members and then go to any length to blame someone else

I know this only involves a small group of members and I would rather to have shielded our members from even knowing the problem exists.



S.A.L.
Commander
Jonathan Cooke



A LR Director
Tim Shelton



COLOR GUARD
Cmdr. J.J.
O'Brien



Director
Raymond
Runyan



USMCCA
Director
Dennis Glisson

Prior to leaving our Post the Northern Area Commander wrote a letter back to the Department Commander with his findings, copy to me. I am sharing this letter of his findings with you as it concerns all of our Legion family.

I see no need to present any additional information that will further discredit the persons involved and I hope this letter ends the rumors. By-The-Way I agree completely with the last statement in Commander Corner's letter.

DISCOVERY COMMITTEE

During the **January 9,2010 General Meeting** it was brought to the floor, discussed and voted on that it would be helpful if we really knew the facts of the Voiture 304, Forty et Eight Organization and the use of American Legion Post 137 facilities.

The General assembly voted that one member from each Legion Group: (Legion, A. L. Riders, Rod & Pole Benders and USMCCA) and two members of the **Forty et Eight Organization** would **form a fact finding committee** to come together. **The two Organizations / Corporations** were to **produce documents of claims concerning the following:**

1. Recorded Deeds, Legal papers of ownership.
2. Tax receipts for previous years of occupation
3. Insurance policies and years of payments
4. Utilities receipts and years of payment, electric, water, sewage, trash removal
5. Telephone and television and security use receipts
6. Lawn care, grounds up keep and improvement
7. Building improvement, repair and maintenance receipts
8. Current Approved copies of Constitutions and By-Laws
9. Approved State Liquor dispensing forms
10. Documents extending Post 137 kitchen facilities use
11. *Membership Acceptance Discrimination / membership guidelines

Documentation is still pending. However, it should be **completed by the March 13,2010 General Assembly Meeting.** I will keep you advised in each monthly Bugler.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARCH HIGH LITES

- Saturday 6th BINGO Moon Bldg 1-4 pm Refreshments "HOW MUCH"
Saturday 13th BLOOD DRIVE 9:30-2 pm. Bin Williams said, "COME ON"
ST PATRICK'S DAY PARTY Main Hall 8 pm "LOOKING"
Wednesday 17th KARAOKE Covered Dish Birthday Celebration "HOW OLD!"
Saturday 20th POKER RUN for PUPS, Disabled Vets Service Dogs "DID WHAT"
BINGO Moon Bldg 1-4 pm Refreshments "DO IT AGAIN"
Sunday 28th Legion & Aux., Child & Youth, Easter Party "HOW TWEET"

COLOR GUARD CAPT. **J. J. O'Brien** ask that anyone who has **Served at, Trained at** or **Deployed** from CAMP BLANDING during **WWII** please give him a call as a re-union is in the process of being planned and he wants all you guys and gals to get together for a swell time." KILL TIME & SHOOT THE BULL" is what they call it! He is really wanting a turn out to be proud of. **PLEASE CALL 1-904- 786-8294**

SATURDAY BINGO 1-4 P M will start up at Post 137 in the Moon Building Saturday 6th & 20th. Refreshments will be available, a new approach to an old game.

Remember the Moon Bldg is **SMOKE FREE** For all you folks that do not like to be out after dark this is perfect. Bring your friends, spend a great afternoon having some fun! This game is **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**.

BIG JIM SISK, President of the Rod & Pole Benders Club announced the following donations, \$300.00 to V.A.V.S. \$200.00 to Children & Youth and \$200.00 to Post 137 Color Guard. NO folks this is not a "Fish Story" I got it from the big guy myself. What a charm, they also gave Roses to the 47 ladies present for their Feb. 14th free breakfast.

*****.HAPPY BIRTHDAY to everyone lucky enough to be born in March. You are true charms. Jolly well likable to. Well, most of you anyway. Keep your eye on your dream.

GET WELL SOON to all who are ill. We wish you a speedy recovery.

+Sincere Sympathy to Family and Friends of Ms Sally Mae Bryan. Ms. Sally was a 21 year member of Auxiliary Unit 137. She will surely be missed.

+Sincere Sympathy to Post 137 Finance Officer Sherry Shelton and her Family in the lose of her Brother. We hope your recovery from your knee surgery is going well. EDITOR



CHAPLAIN'S REPORT



LIVE AS YOU PRAY

As I was pondering for something of interest to write about, I came upon this article. I knelt to pray when day was done and prayed. " O Lord, bless everyone; lift from each saddened heart the pain, and let the sick be well again." And then I woke another day and carelessly went on my way. The whole day long I did not try to wipe a tear from any eye; I did not try to share the load of any comrade on my road; I did not even go to see the sick child next door to me. Yet again, when day was done I prayed " Oh, Lord, bless everyone." But as I prayed into my ear there came a voice that whispered clear. " Pause, thoughtless soul, before you pray, whom have you tried to bless today? God's sweetest blessings always go by hands that serve Him here below." And then I hid my face, and cried, " Forgive me, Lord, for I have lied; let me see another day, and I will live the way I pray." By Walter Huntley Yesterday I noticed our area flooded with scores of Robins. They stop here for a short while, then continue heading North. Warmer weather is just around the corner, maybe.

It is my sad duty to report to you the following Legionnaires who have transferred to

Post Everlasting.

***Robert Lewis Giddens *Edward (Ed) R. Heft * Charles O. Johnson**

***Raymond Alan Luckie *Richard Oppel * Edward Holewinski**

Keep these Legionnaires and their families in your in your thoughts and and prayers.

Remember our sick and incapacitated.

Pray I have regretted some of my past, Father, but I can also see the light You brought out of my bad choices. Thank you, Lord, that you'll do that for the mistakes I have made. May God Bless and guide you today and always.

For God and Country, Tony Romano

BLOOD DRIVE

Next Blood Drive will be March 13, that gives you plenty of time to get the word out and mark your Calendars. Hours of Donation on March 13 are 9:30 to 2:00.

The 13 pints we received during our January drive were appreciated, but much lower than anticipated considering the 2500 membership of Legion Post 137.

There will flyers around the Legion hall with the phone number for the Blood Bank so any of you who missed our last drive can make an appointment to give. Remember to tell them you are donating for American Legion Post 137.

For all who donate Saturday, March 13, you can bring your slip in on Sunday, March 14 for a free breakfast from the Rod and Pole Benders Club. If you can't make it for breakfast on the 14th, the Auxiliary will also honor it on dates they are cooking breakfast.

Binion Williams, Blood Drive Chairman

(unedited)

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 137

Thank you for your support on our steak nights. We will be having T-Bones on March 26. Come on out and join us. Keep in mind, the more you support us the more we can support our programs.

We are collecting items for one of our own, PFC Robert Perry, who is stationed in Iraq. We are adopting his Platoon. We will be sending Pringles, candy, razors, soap, socks, etc. We are going to ship out a box each month. It is the least that we can do for them.

Spring is right around the corner. With the warmer weather we will start having Bike Runs. You don't need a bike to join us. We accept buggies, trucks, and cars. What better way to get out in the fresh air, meet some great people, and raise money for a good cause.

I've been in contact with Susan Bolton with Patriot Service Dogs and I would love to have all the ALR and everyone in post 137 to join me on March 20, 2010 on a Poker Run for Pups. The goal of this Poker Run is to raise the funds needed to raise and train the service pups. After being well trained the service dogs are placed with Disabled Veterans in need. ALR well be donating \$100 for the training, food, and veterinary care of the service pups and would greatly appreciate any donations from the rest of the Post. We need to help the Disabled Veterans as much as possible after what they sacrificed for all of us. Ride Proud, Ride Safe

For God and Country, Tim Shelton, Director

KARAOKE NIGHT We want to invite everyone to join in on Wednesday nights for Karaoke. The third Wednesday Night is Happy Birthday Night

This is when we all Celebrates everyone's Birthday born during that month.

COVERED DISHES are the **THING** and all are asked to please bring a dish of food. Not absolutely required but very helpful if you are hungry.

We start at 7:30 pm and hope you can make. Now you do not have to sing but all are "Welcome to Try." You might get a kick out of just watching and listening. Give it a go!



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From: Commander, Department of Florida Northern Area

To: Commander, American Legion Department of Florida

VIA: Commander, Department of Florida 5th District

Commander, Lakeshore Post 137

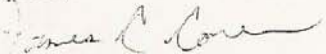
Subject: Investigation into the activities and business of Lakeshore Post 137

As directed by the Commander, Department of Florida a thorough investigation into the activities of Lakeshore Post 137 was conducted. It had been alleged that the Commander of Lakeshore Post 137 was operating outside of American Legion Bylaws and yielding excessive punishments for minor infractions of Post and civil infractions.

During my investigation that included interviews with numerous random members of Lakeshore Post 137, I concluded that in all cases the Commander and Grievance Committee conducted thorough investigations into each grievance case and provided punishments commensurate with the charge and within the scope of Post, Department, and National Bylaws. I found no indication that charges against the Commander of Lakeshore Post 137 was anything more than unfounded allegations.

Additionally, I would like to submit that I found most members of Lakeshore Post 137 to be delightful and a credit to the American Legion.

Sincerely,

 2-4-10

James C. Corner

ROD & POLE BENDER'S

47 Breakfasts were given away free to Mothers on Valentines Day. If you didn't make it to the club, you missed a good breakfast!

Check your Calendar for upcoming events which include a Blood Drive on March 13th. If you donate you will receive a free breakfast on Sunday, March 14th courtesy of the Rod & Pole club! Speaking of breakfast, the Rod & Pole will be hosting Sunday breakfasts March 14th and again on March 21st. Come out and start your Sunday right with a good breakfast!

Results of the club fishing tournament in January were Binion taking the Big Fish and Ray taking aggregate. For February we had Tom T. taking Big Fish and Binion taking aggregate. Congratulations guys!

Don't forget that our weekend fishing trip is coming up! The Rod & Pole will be heading to Aster, Florida March 5, 6 & 7th for a weekend of fishing and camaraderie. Last but not least, don't forget our March meeting on Monday, March 8th at the Legion! (unedited)

40 & 8 Article for the March Bugler

For the next few months we are going to describe some of the eight programs sponsored by the 40 & 8 Nurses Training: One of the programs sponsored by the 40 &

In 1955 the 40 & 8 recognizing the shortage of Registered Nurses, adopted a program to provide financial assistance in the form of scholarships, to those individuals who enrolled for this training. With 2,131 students receiving over \$1,100,000.00 in scholarships this past year, the Forty & Eight has granted in excess of \$20,000,000.00 and graduated over 23,000 Registered Nurses since the inception of the program.

Ron Garland for Ray Runyan, Chef de Gare

CABANE REPORT

The Cabane and Ladies Auxiliary visited Wolfson Children's Hospital and Ronald McDonald House on Feb.10th. Wolfson Children's was presented two cases of Josh Dogs for the benefit of the children under going surgery. In behalf of the of 40 & 8, the Cabane donated 40lbs. of pull tabs to Ronald McDonald House. Also, Barry and I made a personal donation to Ronald McDonald House. On March 12th, the Cabane will host another St. Louis Style Rib Dinner. Still with all the fixings. Still \$8.00. We would like to wish Voyager Ernie Niles and Cabane member Ann Gray, speedy recoveries from their recent health issues. Cabane La Presidente, Diane Congressi

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HOW DO YOU WANT YOUR POST FUNDS SPENT ? ? ? ? TELL ME !!!

Did you know that our Post has a total of 5,400 members? YES, that, is more than many cities in this Country.

We, as a large Corporation have a responsibility to maintain our current property. We must PLAN for the FUTURE.... Plan for HEALTH and SAFETY, IMPROVEMENTS, REPLACEMENTS, SECURITY and APPEARANCE. These have been foremost in mind for almost two years.

Remember the condition of our restrooms, since being repaired correctly and updated they are and asset to our Post. How much good money, was poured into trying to keep the old smoke eaters running. Now, people are coming in that haven't been in for years. Our new system is working. Now the two most immediate concerns are:

Fence: Along the front parking area extending from the Office, to the TIKI HUT and the main parking lot. The fence is an additional measure to protect children from the temptation of jumping into the pool during and after hours. The current fence is 4' tall and does little to prevent un

authorized usage. Our Post is in a location that draws neighboring individuals to observe and desire usage of our amenities. An attractive 6'-8' fence will cost between \$3,500. and \$5,000.

Parking Lot: One of our members broke an ankle by stepping into a hole in the parking lot last year. It only gets worse, but **repaired correctly** the parking area will hold more vehicles and Aid in the appearance of our Post.

We are currently doing very well financially and have more assets than at any other time in Post History.(Correct Financial Reports are Posted) or may be seen in the Office.

Two Questions we might want to think about.

Do we want our money to stay put: let our Post get Rundown, become a Health & Safety Risk to our members, and even loss members again as happened a few years ago.

Wasting money on over priced, used materials and shoddy workmanship example(shelter over the front entrance, \$7200.) Some, donated items are someone else's junk which has to be repaired over and over again. Remember the smelly rest rooms and carpet.

The old kitchen range, Moon Building, storage room with bare electric wires, junk stacked all around, metal barrels full of trash and leaking pipes everywhere. YUK !

Do we want to return to those days ?

“OR”

Do you want to stay fast to the course we are now taking? Bids from legitimate Companies. Real repairs, with new materials and real receipts for true accountability.

The knowledge that our Post AND Post Business is now being conducted as an Approved American Legion Organization in accordance with Dept. and Nationally Approved Constitution and By laws with Fairness and Respect for each other in a secure and safe Post Home. “Please let me know” Fred Bergman

COLOR GUARD RE UNION

Several months ago someone sent me a wonderful picture of Post 137 Color Guard .The only problem was no names were with the picture, didn't know what to do with it.

After much asking Color Guard Captain J.J.O' Brien brought me a picture with names and they are Celebrating their reunion September 12, 2009. The merry makers are:

Front row, left to right, Jeff Fazan, Bob Myers, Lewis Gray, Bill Brown, Rick Michael,.
 Back row, left to right, Ben North, Lee Nau, Bob McLaughlin, Norm Gentry Carl Jowers
 Scotty Gwerhart, Jerry Lepore, Harvey Finn, Bob Wood, J.J.O'Brien, Jim Schage, Myra Jowers. What a
 great
 group We are proud
 of our Color Guard
 Going from schools,
 Funerals, programs
 and parades.
 Past National
 Champions.
 Thank You
 Color Guard.
 Editor



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AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello Ladies,
 Things have been moving right along but a little slower than last year. We had our 2nd annual dinner at the Ronald McDonald House on January 31st and we served approximately 25 – 30 people. There were about 60 people total at the house and we had plenty of food to feed them all. Thanks to all for the deserts that were made and delivered and also a thank you to Unit 88 for their participation.
 Our 13th annual Police/Fireman’s dinner will be held on April 11th and as usual we would appreciate deserts. We are still collecting new stuffed animals to give to the police and fire people so they can give them to children when they go out to calls where they are present. A great big THANK YOU to Verna for the two bags of stuffed toys that she sent to the last meeting. Also thanks to Sandy Gentry for the bag of toys she brought to the meeting.
 Coupons for our troops is going full steam ahead and since we have restarted the program in September we have sent \$60183.67 as of January.
 The monthly visit to the VA Hospital in Lake City was the 26th of February and as usual the folks down there were very happy to see our group come in with refreshments and to play bingo. The two cases of JOSH DOGS have come in and were delivered to Wolfson’s Childrens Hospital. See picture. Have a great day!!! President, Anita Lee (unedited)

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AUXILIARY 1ST VICE REPORT

I have processed a total of 478 members ,
 including New, Seniors and Juniors
 renewals to date for a 76%.
 This is a little behind last years totals. I urge
 you to get your Renewals in !!!
 We are having our annual initiation of new
 members at the April meeting, if you are a
 new or even old member who has never been
 initiated PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND!!
 We would like to urge all of our members to
 attend our monthly meeting the first Thursday
 of each month and support our programs.
 If you have any questions regarding
 Membership please do not hesitate to call me
 For God and Country (unedited)

Jeri West Unit 137
1st Vice/ Membership Chairman
783-0393

1st VICE REPORT

At our Gen. Assy. Meeting I read in 13 New & Transferred members, Our numbers for Feb. are 1407 members 85.067 %. That is on Goal but we still need your help to Reach 100%. Please keep trying. For God & Country, Eddie Dykes (unedited)

2ND VICE REPORT

This year is going by so fast. Cupid was just here for our Valentine's Party which was a super evening, lots of "Love and Laughter" for all.. Now it's time for the

Post St Patrick's Day Party: Green beer, with corn beef and cabbage the whole nine yards. Just another fun time at your post. Before you know it, summer will be here and it will be "Tiki Time" and outside entertainment, so much to look forward to.

Be sure to check the entertainment line up for each month as you come into the post at the front entrance. Also, The Bugler and Post Web Site. Next month,

April we are having a **Country Music Weekend With Matt Altman!**

So break out those boots and hat's and come out and have some fun.

Don't forget Dinner on Friday and Breakfast on Sunday

Say a prayer for those that are in harm's way.

Support your Post For God and Country, Emory Austin

3RD VICE REPORT

Good Morning Legionnaires

The children and youth, children's EASTER Party will be on March 28 from 2 to 4 pm, I do welcome any input and support from you to help make this party a success. The next planning meeting will be Feb 22 at 6:30.

The club manager Bill Kelly has volunteered to be the Easter bunny this Year so Big Bill your off the hook.

Breakfast will be served on Feb. 21 to benefit the Children and Youth

Thank You,

Walter Rasco.
(unedited)

4TH VICE REPORT

(see another page)

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4TH VICE REPORT

On Friday the 22nd of January, 2010 members of Post 137, Voiture 304 (40/8) made our monthly visit to the V.A. Hospital, located in Lake City, Florida. We departed Post 137 at 4:30 pm and arrived in Lake City at 5:45. We ate dinner at Ken's B.B.Q. Restaurant.

The BINGO GAMES started on time at 7 pm in the Hospital Auditorium. A special thanks goes out to Carl Jowers for calling BINGO. The games were finished at 7:45 pm.

Refreshments were served by ladies from Auxiliary Unit 137 and Cabane 304 (40/8) The Patient attendance was (40), most of which were wheel chair bound. The patients were very receptive and seemed to be in a very good mood.

The following is a breakdown of money spent, and credits given to our organizations. Bingo winners \$100.00 (coupons).

Refreshments \$60.00, Games & Puzzles \$55.00,

“ T “ Shirts (new) \$124.00, Jackets \$30.00,

Lap Robes \$130.00, 2010 Calendars \$14.00,

D.V. D.' s \$36.00, V.H.S.Tapes \$624.00,

GAS ALLOWANCE \$80.00

NOTE: Total Credit \$1,903.00,

Total Hours 50, Total Miles 1,210.

Thank you Bob Shupe for your donation of 200 V.H S. tapes and Binion Williams for his donation of 60 (new) T-Shirts & clothing.

The following dedicated members of Post 137,

and Voiture-304 gave their time to participate in this months visit:

Lewis & Ann Gray, Norman & Sandy Gentry, Joe & Patsy Kothen,

Carl & Myra Jowers, Al Scarratta and Lyn Swan.

Our next scheduled visit to Lake City V.A. Hospital will be March 26th, 2010.

We Will depart Post 137 at 4:30 pm. Remember,

If you have books, V.H.S. tapes, D.V.D.'s or

other items to donate, please mark for V.A.V.S. and drop them off at Post 137.

Hope to see some new faces this month for our March trip.

REMEMBER: its up to us as Veterans, to take care of our own.

YOURS IN SERVICE, Lewis E Gray

CLUB MANAGER'S REPORT (No report, out of town.)