

# GATOR EXPRESS

American Legion Post 166  
116 Howe Hall Road/P.O. Box 147  
Goose Creek, SC 29445  
843-553-5454  
www.AmericanLegionPost166sc.com

# JULY 2017

## COMMANDERS COLUMN

Thank you for electing me as the Post Commander. We had a very nice installation ceremony and it was great to see those of you who did choose to participate in the evening. It was great to have Past Department Commander Joe Lysaght as our installation officer; the Auxiliary was sworn in by Past President of the Auxiliary, Sue Allison; and Past Commander William Simpson did the honors of installing the Legion Riders and Sons of the Legion Squadron Officers. I know that we will have a successful year as we pull together to make this the best post in the state.

We need to have more participation in our post's functions. We have over 1200 members but only about 10 percent are using the post or attending the events that are planned. We cannot continue with this trend if we expect to remain open 7 days a week. Please come in and enjoy your post.

Let's make this a post where all veterans want to join and transfer to be members.

Jim Kvam, Post Commander

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new members; **James Harrelson, Jim Fields, Sal Saldana, Don Kopczynski, and Ron Thorn, Derek Collins.**

Thank you for making **OUR** Post, **Your** Post and being part of **one of the Largest Posts** in the State of South Carolina.

William 'Bill' Simpson,  
1st Vice Cmdr.

## \*TAPS\*

It is my duty to report with great sadness that Legionnaires **John McCants, Cletus Miller, Leo Stempin, Nick Greene, Russ Willis** have reported to the Supreme Commander.

The Legion family greatly grieves the loss of these Comrades. May Almighty God give their families 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 Cmdr.

## 2018 MEMBERSHIP CARDS RENEW! RENEW! RENEW!

I have 2018 membership cards. Now is the time to renew. Avoid the rush and renew now. Our dues are still \$45.00 a year. Renew before the end of September and receive your early bird stamp for a free breakfast in October. All you need to do is stop by the post and see me or mail them in. Remember, we now take credit cards for payment also. Hope to see a bunch of you soon.

Please keep our TROOPS in your thoughts and prayers who are serving here at home and abroad.

Hope to see you around the post.

William "Bill" Simpson  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander

## FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS! THANKS FROM ALL OF US AT POST 166!



**CHEF DON**  
**1984 - 2017**

## \*ATTENTION! NEW MEMBERS\*

There will be a new members initiation ceremony on July 19, 2017. It will start promptly at 7 pm. All new members are invited to attend and participate in this ceremony. Participants are requested to muster with the Sergeant-at-Arms in the conference room (Post Commander's office) at **6:45 pm** for a quick briefing and form up before the program. This is a casual ceremony and is open to all members of the Post and their guests and is conducted prior to the General Membership meeting. During the ceremony you will receive an initiation certificate suitable for framing to display in your home or office. If you plan to participate in this moving and informative event, please contact the Post Adjutant at [adjutant@americanlegionpost166sc.com](mailto:adjutant@americanlegionpost166sc.com) or by calling the Post at 843-553-5454. You'll be glad you did.

### \*CANTEEN CORNER\*

Jessica's baby shower will be held in the bar Sunday, July 9th at 1pm. Please bring a side dish to share and come show her some love!

Don't forget to ask your bartender about Queen of Hearts and our Carolina Hold 'Em Tournaments on Sundays from noon - 3pm.

July 12th will be our next Drawing Party with Sandi. Cost is \$20 per person. This month's picture is "Flip Flops"

Make a point to welcome our newest bartender Joy and welcome back Monica!

Kim Lied, Club Manager

### \*SAL - SQUADRON 166\*

The 2018 membership cards are now in. Be an early bird and get your dues in before the rush.

Meeting night is the 5th. Please attend as many meetings as possible. Attending our meetings is the only way to be aware of changes and upcoming events as well as having your voice heard.

Clyde Chandler,  
Squadron Commander

### \*POST SERVICE OFFICER\*

#### How to Acquire VA Income

Far too many veterans believe they have to be accepted in the Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical system to acquire an income (compensation) for a service connected disability. Simply put, this is not true for any veteran who served honorably in the Armed Forces. All veterans must submit appropriate VA Form(s) that will result in a medical evaluation that could possibly determine a service-connected disability and the amount of disability compensation. The evaluation conducted by the VA or QTC will determine if there is a service-connected disability. Assuming a service-connected disability has been established by the VA, service-connected disability compensation will begin, and the Veteran will be automatically set up in the VA medical system and will receive *free* treatment for the service connected disability.

Tim Burnside, Post Service Officer  
burnside2timothy@outlook.com

### \*AUXILIARY NEWS\*

Our unit is now in District 9 with Vickie Kiley as District President. Due to this change, Vickie resigned from her position as Department Auxiliary Emergency Fund chairperson and Gloria Loomis-Hill was appointed in her place. Congratulations ladies! New Department President is Judy Hennis.

Steak night is July 20th from 6:30-8:30pm. Please donate a dessert, if you can. The box for unwanted coupons is located in the canteen. These are sent to active duty families overseas. Cameo Florist is now Eiffel Florist. Please donate your unwanted vases to them.

2018 membership cards are available for renewing. This would be a good time for new members to join our Unit. Our membership dues are \$25 and the Junior Girls' dues are \$5. If you have any questions please contact Shelagh Lammers at 843-871-6546.

For God and Country

Lori Murphy, Auxiliary President

### \*FOR YOUR INFORMATION\*

POST FINANCE UPDATE

MAY 2017

INCOME: \$ 26,446.29

EXPENSES: \$ 29,205.37

**NEGATIVE INCOME: - \$2,957.22**

YOUR POST NEEDS

**\*YOUR SUPPORT\***

### \*40 & 8 REPORT\*

As we start a new Voiture year, make it your mission to attend the promenades and other events scheduled for Voiture 1067 this year. Everyone needs to step-up and help make our Voiture **THE** premier Voiture of Grande du South Carolina. We have lost a few of our members and we have to fill the voids they have left behind them. With that said, new membership cards are in.

Important dates to remember:

- Grande Promenade July 28-29

- Promenades 7/25, 8/22, 9/26

- Voiture Picnic October 7

- The color is Gold.

Deb Reynolds, Chef de Gare

### \*HONOR GUARD\*

The Honor Guard is composed of Post 166 members, of all ages, who band together to ensure Veterans are afforded the Military Honors they earned at the time of their passing.

We drill twice a month, on Saturdays at 2 pm. During these drills, we teach and practice basic rifle positions as well as our Military Honors Detail routine. None of it is hard, it's repetitive motion, and members of all ages are able to do it with no problem.

We love new members! That member could be you. Because our members have their own personal lives and work situations, we are always looking for new members to share the load.

Don't cut yourself short! You can do this, too, just like we do. If you would like more information, talk to one of us or attend one of our drills or call David at 843-901-1651. Contact us through our email at [honorguard166sc@gmail.com](mailto:honorguard166sc@gmail.com)

For the Guard

David Coates, HG166

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## \*CHAPLAIN'S CORNER\*

June 2017

7 - No visit, inclement weather  
14 - 8 Volunteers saw 62 Patients  
Meet at the Post at 6 pm, leave at 6:15, and return by 9 pm.

Everyone is welcome to come with us.

Please, please, please keep me informed of anyone in sickness or distressed 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/VA Hospital Chairman

## KITCHEN

The kitchen staff wishes to thank Don Pace for his 30+ years of dedicated service. With that said, the breakfast rotation is a crew short and is looking for a fourth flat-iron egg cook with team. Call Mike at 843-553-5454 if interested. We wish to thank all those who continue to volunteer hours and skills to keep the food coming each week. With the loss of 1 breakfast crew we are planning a buffet breakfast once a month to fill in for the 4th team. Although the breakfast will be served in the buffet format, it does not mean that it is an all-you-can-eat. Once through the line per ticket that will be given at the time you pay for your meal.

Mike Porcelli, Kitchen Manager

## \*BBQ PORK BUTTS\*

The TCS are offering whole BBQ pork butts at \$25 each. Average weight: 10-12 lbs each before smoking. The butts are available by **advance orders only**. In order to make sure we have enough, cut off order date will be **Sunday, July 2nd**.

### FREE LOCAL DELIVERY FOR 3 OR MORE BUTTS.

You can pay/pick-up your order on Saturday, July 8th during the TCS's BBQ dinner fundraiser. To pre-order one or more butts, contact Dean Nimocks through the Post at 843-553-5454.

## \*2nd VICE CMDR. COMMENTS\*

The Post is celebrating on Saturday July 1<sup>st</sup> from 12 – 4 P.M. We are providing Hamburgers and Hot Dogs with the trimmings. Please bring your favorite side dish and come celebrate with us. There will be a Dunking Booth, 50/50 drawing, Games and Music.

Jammin' The Creek is in September and we could still use some volunteers. If you have some time Sept. 8, 9, or 10<sup>th</sup> and would like to assist in the fundraiser for the Post please see Kim or myself and we will gladly welcome the help.

Brian (Bat) Masterson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander

## HONORABLY DISCHARGED?

Miss being able to use the exchange? Read this! The Army, Air Force and Navy exchanges will start allowing all honorably discharged veterans to shop online, (think Amazon only cheaper with no taxes). The target date is Veterans Day, November 11, 2017, but you must register first. Registration began June 1, 2017. To register call 1-844-868-8672. For more information: [www.defense.gov/News/Article/Article/1049558/dod-opens-online-exchange-shopping-to-veterans](http://www.defense.gov/News/Article/Article/1049558/dod-opens-online-exchange-shopping-to-veterans).

## LEGION BASEBALL GAMES

1ST ROUND - JULY 5

2ND ROUND - JULY 12

STATE - JULY 22 (SUMTER)

SE REGIONALS - AUGUST 2  
(ASHEBORO, NC)

AL WORLD SERIES - AUGUST 12  
(SHELBY, NC)

PLEASE COME SUPPORT  
YOUR "TEAM"

VISIT THE POST TODAY!

VISIT OFTEN!

## LEGION RIDERS

I would like to say "Thank you" to ALL of the Legion Riders who came out to help with our Spaghetti Dinner on the 22nd. The money we raised will go to help us purchase items for the Veterans in the VA hospital to try and make their stay a little more comfortable. Also, thanks to the Legion Riders who came to the Installation of Officers for the 2017-2018 year that was held on June 10th. A special thanks to the Legion Riders who went out on June 24th and helped clean the head stones of the Veterans' graves at the Confederate Memorial Site.

On Saturday, July 8th, there is a Red, White and Blue Bash at Low Country Harley-Davidson. Fun starts at noon and ends at 4pm. A family-friendly event to benefit our Veterans through the Fischer House Charleston. Sunday, July 16th is our Christmas in July Ride to the VA hospital. The Legion Riders will be serving a buffet breakfast on the bar side starting at 8am. KSU at 11am. We will be police-escorted to the VA hospital.

The Legion Riders' monthly meeting will be Saturday, July 15th at 10am on the bar side. Immediately after the meeting we will move to the ballroom side to wrap the presents that have been donated. **Please bring tape and Christmas wrapping paper.**

I hope to see ALL of our Legion Rider members at our meeting and our Christmas in July ride.

Bruce Richburg, Director

## TIN CAN SAILORS

Shipmates,

It is time again for our "World Famous" TCS BBQ. It is scheduled for Saturday July 8th. Of course, we will have to start the work on the BBQ on July 6th with washing and marinating our butts (1700), then on Friday, 7 March, (0530) we will commence cooking our butts then start chopping our butts (1700). On Saturday, we will meet at the Post around 0830 – 0900 to start set up so we can start serving at 1100 and end by 1500. See all of you Shipmates there to make this one of our best BBQs. Please check out our web site for ships that our members were stationed on: [TinCanSailorsofGooseCreek.com](http://TinCanSailorsofGooseCreek.com) Please remember all of our Shipmates and Comrades in sickness and distress!

Orval Mills, Skipper