



The News

American Legion

Post, Unit, Chapter 84

Havana, Florida



2nd District Commander Willie Jackson Visits with Members

On September 19, 2nd District Commander, Willie Jackson attended the Post's monthly meeting, and spoke during the Special Presentations event at which Unit and Chapter members were present.

He addressed the importance of community involvement, and making the most out of membership opportunities.

When asked about the Education Outreach Committee idea, 2nd District Commander Jack-



son, wholeheartedly supported it and stated he would assist with getting Post 84 into area schools, in order to better education today's young

people about the symbolism of the flag, the importance of civics, and other national items that are in-line with their grade level learning.

Sandwich Fundraiser on October 5

Post 84 has secured time/space from VFW 3308, located at 2769 W. Tennessee St., for October 5, at 6 p.m. for a pulled-pork BBQ Sandwich fundraiser!

With the pork, chips, and a pickle will also

be served. The price is \$2.50 per serving.

Volunteers are needed to help with this event. Please contact Commander Jim Brennan at (850) 212-8677 or email:

al-post84@earthlink.net

ASAP, to sign-up for this event. If you can't volunteer, please come and have dinner with us at the nifty, low-price!

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October 1, 2013

Important Dates and Meeting Reminders:

- Oct 5, Post 84 BBQ Fundraiser
- Oct 10, Riders Meeting
- Oct 17, Post and Unit Meeting

All will be held at VFW Post 3308.

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Post 84 and VFW 3308 - Working Together

While Post 84 is taking steps towards getting our own "Post home," the VFW Post 3308 has kindly lent us the use of their facilities.

For a small, monthly fee, the Post, Unit and Riders are able to utilize the VFW for our meeting spaces, and occasional fundraising activities.

Our common bond is that of 'the need of the veteran,' whether it be in the form of camaraderie or raising special funds for exceptional reasons.

While we may not have all served in an active theater, we all either served or were married to the Service.

We take this time to thank our hosts and look forward to all endeavors which are for the greater good of the veterans.

The VFW has also welcomed us to attend their weekly dinners which are held on Friday evenings. Please see their website for more information: <http://vfwpost3308.org>

Welcome New Member - Herman Armstrong

Herman Armstrong was voted upon and approved for membership at September's monthly meeting.

He is retired U.S. Navy and comes to us from Post 400. He lives in Midway, Florida, with his wife, Carlyne.



Editor's Corrections

Apologies to September's new member, Jack Harnett. Here is the corrected information: Jack served in the U.S. Army as JCARWAC (with the Air Force) and lives in Quincy, Florida, with his wife Melissa.

Sick Call

Pat Brennan

Education Outreach Committee Ramping Up

Our Post will be taking the mantel of educating area students on all areas concerning the U.S. Flag, what every fold stands for, every stripe and every star. They will learn the importance of Flag etiquette and why respect of our Nation's great symbol leads to good citizenship and improvement of life overall.

Some of the Legionnaires who attended the preliminary committee meeting were: Fred Herrod, Larry Raynes, Jack Harnett, Kathee Coughlin, and Jim Brennan. The Committee Chair has yet to be decided.

If you would like to become part of this important outreach opportunity, please email the Post at: al-post84@earthlink.net

October Birthdays

Michael Slagle
Samuel Swords
Benny St John
James Brennan

Here's wishing a Happy Birthday to all!

Auxiliary News - Notes from Pres. Coughlin

- Welcome new members! Judy Hays and Vivian Brown and Junior members Ashlyn Anderson (G'Pa Smithwick and Mom Latoya) and Aris Rogers (Fred Brown) were voted into membership in ALA Unit 84 at the September meeting. Junior members have the same eligibility requirements as senior members, but they cannot have reached their 18th birthday.
- October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. On the 6th, please remind 6 friends to have a checkup or mammogram. Remember, men can get breast cancer as well as the ladies! Oct. 13 will be the "Paint the Town Pink" event, in which anyone can participate.
- Plans are underway for the "Veterans in the Classroom" program - stay tuned.
- Collecting canned good at the next two meetings for our Homeless Veterans Program to help them have a happy Thanksgiving. Due to the "Toys for Tots" run on Dec. 8, the Christmas/Holiday dinner date has been changed to Dec. 15th. Details at Oct. 17 meeting.
- If you become aware of a veteran or their family in need of assistance, please contact me or Commander Jim Brennan.



Unit 84 President
Kathee Coughlin.

- Please remember to keep track of all activities in support of our programs. We will need them in March for our reports.

The Founding of the American Legion Auxiliary

Information courtesy of the ALA website

Founded in 1919, after the formation of The American Legion, a number of women's organizations wanted to become the official affiliation of The American Legion. The women who had served so faithfully during the trying days of the war wanted to continue to serve.

After careful consideration, the committee agreed that a new organization should be made up of the women most closely associated with the men of the Legion, and that these women would serve with the Legion, in peace as they had in war.

The committee decided to build a new organization from the ground up, so the Auxiliary could then carry forward the phases of Legion activities more suitably performed by women.

In less than one year, 1,342 local units of the Women's Auxiliary to The American Legion had been organized in more than 45 states.

The American Legion Auxiliary is the world's largest women's patriotic service organization. With a membership at nearly 800,000, local American Legion Auxiliary units have a strong presence in

more than 9,000 communities nationwide.

The American Legion Auxiliary's mission is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad.

For God and country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

ID Theft Prevention & Scam Warnings Presented at September Meeting

Alexander Warmka, of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, gave a briefing to members of the Post, Unit, and Chapter, at the beginning of the September monthly meeting.

Mr. Warmka reminded attendees to never give out their social security numbers, as some groups have similar sounding names to legitimate organizations. He also informed us that when in doubt about charitable donation requests over the phone or via email, that we can always check with 1-800-435-7352 or visit their website at: www.800helpfla.com

He continued with information regarding Florida's Do Not Call

Registry, and if telemarketers do not abide by this list, that we are encouraged to file a complaint with Consumer Services.

To find more information, please visit their website, which is comprehensive, yet easy to understand. If you do not have Internet service, please visit the closest library and they will assist you in locating the information you require or request.



Planning Begins for Homeless Veterans & Family's Holiday Dinner

Although it is only October, it's time to start preparing for this year's Homeless Veterans & Their Family's Holiday Dinner.

Last year, Post 84 hosted between 150 to 200 veterans and their family members, at the Elks Lodge, in Tallahassee. The food was graciously provided by Miller's Ale House.

Like any large-scale, chow-hall scenario, this will take man (and woman) power to coordinate the endeavor to the likes of a gracious orchestra performance.

Many hands lighten the load.

The date set at the Elks Lodge is Sunday, December 15.

Volunteers are needed for the following:

10a.m. Set-up

11a.m. Drivers to pick up the food

1p.m. Serving time

Look to be discussing the Dinner at upcoming meetings, as these veterans are our brothers and sisters; this may be the only real meal they get that week or day. It may be the only thing

that keeps them going through the holidays. It may be the only bright spot in a bleak existence for their children.

Together, we will make the difference.



"Hunger is not debatable." ~Harry Hopkins, 8th United States Secretary of Commerce

Legion Rider News - From Director Roger Hays

Upcoming Ride:

Ability 1st Presents Tallahassee's 2nd Annual Bikefest on Saturday, October 12, 10a.m. to 4p.m. at Tallahassee Summit East, located at Highway 90/Mahan and I10. Great food and live music all day. Cost is \$10 per person and proceeds support Ability 1st Programs & services for people with disabilities in the Big Bend. For more information, visit or call: www.ABILITY1ST.info or (850) 575-9621.

Notes for Riders

I encourage all members to be on

the lookout for qualified new members and invite them to a meeting. I would also like to increase event and meeting participation. **Remember, this is your Chapter and your input and participation can make it a success.**

I would also ask the membership to send me the details of any veteran or motorcycle events that you are aware of. I will send this info out to the membership via e-mail, bring it up at our meetings and post it on the Chapter Facebook page: <https://>

www.facebook.com/legion.havana.

I would also like to see our presence know in the local community. I encourage members to wear ALR vest, shirts, hats, etc. when attending local events.

If someone has questions about the ALR, answer them the best you can, and if they want more info give them the Chapter e-mail address

ALR-CHAPTER84@EARTHLINK.NET

New ALR Chapter Adjutant

One of the first points of business at the September meeting was the nomination and approval of a new Chapter Adjutant.

Pat Brennan, shown in the photo on the right with some of the Executive Council, standing right, accepted the nomination, was voted upon and approved to take the post.



Group picture at the end of 9/11 Memorial Ride held by the Defenders LEMC in Tallahassee. There were representatives on the ride from the American Legion Riders, Buffalo Soldiers MC, HOG, Chrome Divas, the Christian Motorcycle Association, as well as independent riders. A great run with great people.

American Legion Post 84 - Havana, FL

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www.americanlegionpost84.com*



About Us

Our Post is based on the belief that our Veterans and their family's needs are of the utmost importance to us. Our Post membership is committed to addressing those needs.

We welcome the opportunity to meet you at our monthly membership meeting which is held every 3rd Thursday, at VFW Post 3308, at 7p.m.

History

The Post was chartered in 1938, in Quincy, Florida. It was named after John H Shaw. It thrived until Sept. 2009 when the charter was turned into the Department of The American Legion of Florida. In January 2010 the Post was revived with new membership and was moved to Havana, Florida. The Post started with 10 members and a number of members from the original roster. It has since grown to 47 active members in the first 12 months and also has organized an Legion Riders Chapter 84 and the Auxiliary Unit 84.

About the Newsletter

Melissa Sleeman, Editor

What do **you** want to see in your newsletter? It's your Post News, so it's up to you. Please send any suggestions, questions, compliments or complaints my way, and we'll see what we can do.

If you have an item of interest or article you'd like to submit to the newsletter, please send it to:
al-post84@earthlink.net

Please include in the subject line: NEWSLETTER.

Deadlines for all articles/items is the 20th of every month.