

April/May 2009 American Legion Newsletter



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(334) 285-3730

Commander Post 133 Teri Parkinson

Post Website

<http://www.al133.com>

State Website

<http://www.americanlegionalabama.org>

National Web Site

<http://www.legion.org>

Email us at newsletter@al133.com



Volunteer of the Month:
February: Sue Yeomans
March: Susan Alexander

From the Commanders Desk (Teri Parkinson):

The Post facility upgrade work is still in progress. The Access Control system is in and up and running. If you haven't been by the post lately, the next time you come in the bartender will have to "buzz" you in. Ask them for an access control form and once completed you will be given your own access card. We will not be mailing these out as they contain a chip that could be damaged in the mail.

The new Smoke eaters are in and installed. After talking to a number of our folks both smokers and non, they all seem to feel that the difference is amazing. We went with Purifan units that look like a tire on a ceiling fan, but they really work very well. We will need to change the filters out every 2 months, but it seems the rewards to our membership will far outweigh the costs involved with this. We hope that those of you who have stayed away due to the poor Air quality issue will come back in and see us again, as we are working hard to give you a reason to come back and visit!

We have replaced the flat top griddle in the kitchen with a new flat top/oven combo and have 2 new refrigerators and 1 new freezer on order to complete our appliance overhaul in the kitchen. We have had our old equipment worked on numerous times and it was simply time to cut our losses and replace them altogether. All old equipment will be cleaned up and sold.

Springtime is here and as such it tends to get us all out and about more often. Whether we are visiting friends, family or just out for a Sunday drive, we all tend to enjoy this time of year a great deal. And with spring of course, comes the daunting task of keeping up around our homes and Post. General maintenance, clean up, yard work, etc... follows as we come out of hibernation and begin to get more active with the nicer weather. I will be asking for volunteers at least once a month to do just this in the upcoming months at the Post. Please pitch in and show as much pride in our Post as we do our homes.

UPCOMING ELECTIONS: Soon, ALL groups within the Legion family will be nominating members to fill leadership positions for the upcoming year. At the close of the Legion's April 2009 General Membership Meeting nominations for Post 133's Officers for 2009 - 2010 will be closed. Elections will be held in accordance with the Post's By-Laws on Tuesday May 12th from 1200 to 1900. The SAL and Ladies Auxiliary will accept nominations and hold elections in accordance with their published guidance. Nomination sheets for the SAL and Auxiliary are posted at the Legion. The Legion nominating committee is comprised of Jerry Larney, Chuck Ashley and Bobby Boswell. You must notify one of these Legion members if you intend to run for office or nominate someone for a Legion office position as there is NO sign up sheet for Legion officer nominations. The bartenders have copies of the necessary "Letter of Intent" if you are interested in running for any open officer position. This letter must be

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completed by all nominees' to be considered. Whether you are running for office, nominating someone for office, or coming in to cast your vote, we need our membership to work with us during this period of time. This is a democratic process and all members are encouraged to get involved! The next 2 months meeting are very important months and I would encourage each and every one of you to try your best to make it to your respective groups meetings.

Membership appreciation night will be 2 May 2009 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. I hope to see you there!

For God and Country,

Teresa Parkinson, Commander

1st Vice Commander (Norm Ginther):

First, I'd like to thank Teri for having enough confidence in me to appoint me to this position. Since we will be selecting new officers for the 2009 – 2010 membership year in May, I don't expect to have any grand impact on the Post's programs between now and then. I assure you that my loyalties are with the American Legion and Post 133.

I'd also like to wish Merlin and T.J. well in their new rolls as Commander and 1st Vice Commander of Post 210 in Montgomery. It sounds like a huge undertaking but I'm certain they are up to it.

Norm Ginther, 1st Vice

2nd Vice Commander (John McGovern):

A new flattop stove was acquired and installed this past month and by the time you read this, we should also have a new commercial grade freezer and 2 new refrigerators in place. These upgrades were sorely needed and hopefully will complete the kitchen upgrades required for some time to come. Please be aware; the "grease drawer" in the new flattop is significantly smaller than the older unit. As a result it *must* be emptied and cleaned much more often.

I'd like to thank all of you who have volunteered to work in the kitchen. Congratulation to Susan Alexander and Sue Yeomans! These two ladies were awarded "Volunteer of the Month" for February and March. Thank you both! I am contemplating having a "Volunteer Appreciation Night." This event would be "by invitation" only and would include complimentary beer and a meal. I'd like to do something tangible to express my appreciation to those of you who have worked in the kitchen and this may also provide the added incentive needed to increase the number of volunteers in the future.

I look forward to seeing you around the Post!

John McGovern, 2nd Vice



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 133

President Beverly McGovern

As always I want to start off by thanking all of the Auxiliary members who have done an outstanding job volunteering either on Wednesday or Friday nights your efforts are greatly appreciated by all. In addition I'd like to forward a big thank you to Richard, Josh, & Norm who stepped in and helped the Auxiliary out on our February & March steak nights. A big hand goes out to all the Auxiliary members who gave up their time to help out in the Kitchen on Sunday March 22nd. The Legion was prepping for the arrival of new equipment and had to clean out the existing coolers and freezers. We could not assist in these types of projects if it wasn't for the continued help of everyone especially with the disposing of numerous "science projects" and helping to clean up. Thank you all!

Those of you who were unable to join us the ladies had a great afternoon on Sunday, Mar 15th, at the Wetumpka Casino, we had a couple of hours of fun together and some of use even managed to bring home some winnings.

I also want to take the opportunity to remind the membership that the 2009 membership season is quickly coming to a close. This means that the new season, 2010, is approaching each and every one of us. As a friendly reminder, if any current member has not paid their 2009 dues, please do so now!

The nominations for Auxiliary Officers will be accepted at our April Meeting. Mark your calendars now – the next meeting is Monday April 13th at 7PM.

Elections for Auxiliary Officers will be conducted during our regular scheduled meeting on Monday 11 May 09 at 7PM.

A tree is known by its fruit; a man by his deeds. A good deed is never lost; he who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love.

Saint Basil the Great



SAL SQUADRON 133

Commander – Leonard Wheland

I understand there is some confusion as to when the SAL has their monthly meetings. Thank you for your efforts to make a meeting on Monday, wrong day or not, member participation is the key for a successful SAL. Thank you for and please continue to make, the effort to attend.

The third Tuesday of the month, every month at 1900 hrs (7 pm) is the designated day and time. I know that the newsletter calendar shows Monday as the day of our meetings, which is incorrect; however, thank you for showing up and showing interest. Next month, April 21st.

A form has been placed at the post, on the bulletin board next to bowling machine to nominate officers for 2009-2010. Please contact any member prior to signing their name on the form to ensure that they have the time and desire to be an officer and would like to hold that position. Do they want to put forth the effort, continuously for one year and not just half a year or part time?

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Director Bobby Parkinson

Web site

www.alr133.com

Post 133 American Legion Riders



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

NO INPUTS AT THIS TIME, ALL UPDATES WILL COME VIA E-MAIL TO OUR MEMBERS.

A message from Tim “Merlin” Smith:

Are You a Member?

We have well over 300 names on our membership roster but there are between 20-30 that attend the Post activities and or volunteer to support the functions. A member is someone who, along with paying their dues, also contributes by volunteering and supporting the many activities of the organization. The post is only as strong as its members, not its membership.

It's great to say “I belong to the American Legion” but it is of greater pride to be able to say ***“I am a member of the American Legion, Post 133.”***

There are 15-25 individuals from the Auxiliary and the post that are always available to assist with any functions or activity they are asked to do. With less than 3% of the members serving 300 + members and numbers of unnamed individuals that go the extra mile, through hard work, financial and monetary contributions and other activities just think how much stronger our Post would be and how many more people we could benefit if all of our card carrying comrades would become MEMBERS.

So, are you a Member or just a person that carries their American Legion membership in their wallet? Are you one of the 3% that does 90% of the work or are you part of the 90% that readily accepts the credit for the work of the 3%?

Why not join the few and increase our capacity to help more of our Veterans and their family. Come Out help and you might just find you will enjoy yourself in the process of helping others and you Legion.

Merlin

Editor's note: Merlin submitted this just prior to accepting the position of commander of AL Post 210 in Montgomery. He had a good message in this article and we wanted to share it with you.

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April 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 SAL Dinner	2	3 ALR Steaks	4
5 SAL Breakfast	6	7	8 SAL Dinner	9	10 AUX Steaks	11
12 ALR Breakfast	13 Ladies Aux Mtg	14 Legion Mbershp Mtg	15 AUX Dinner	16	17 Legion Steaks	18
19 40 & 8 Breakfast	20 ALR Mtg	21 SAL Mtg	22 SAL Dinner	23 40&8 Mtg	24 Legion Steaks	25
26 Legion Breakfast	27	28	29 SAL Dinner	30		

May 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 ALR Steaks	2 Membership Appreciation Night 6-9PM
3 SAL Breakfast	4	5	6 SAL Dinner	7	8 AUX Steaks	9
10 ALR Breakfast	11 Ladies AUX Meeting	12 Legion Mbrshp Meeting	13 AUX Dinner	14	15 Legion Steaks	16
17 Legion Breakfast	18 ALR Mtg	19 SAL Mtg	20 SAL Dinner	21	22 Legion Steaks	23
24 40 & 8 Breakfast	25	26	27 SAL Dinner	28 40&8 Mtg	29 Legion Steaks	30
31 Legion Breakfast						