

# Dec/Jan 2010 American Legion Newsletter



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**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](mailto:newsletter@al133.com)



## **Volunteers of the Month: October & November: Dan and Tanya Lawless**

### *From the Commander's Desk:*

Well, the holidays are upon us and we have some upcoming events to let you know about. 1<sup>st</sup> the Children's Christmas Party will be on 5 Dec 09, 10:30 – 1:00 p.m. Please bring your children/grandchildren on out to join in the festivities. We will have lunch, snacks, juice, games, door prizes, game prizes and of course they can get their picture taken with Santa! Pass the word around, this isn't just for Legion family members, but for everyone. The Legion Christmas party will be on 12 Dec 09, come on out and join us for a great time. We will be having a charity spaghetti dinner on Saturday, 19 Dec 09 beginning at 5:00. All funds raised will go to purchasing gifts for the children currently in the Birmingham Children's hospital. New Years Eve tickets will be on sale soon, so watch for the flyers and e-mail traffic on this as well. We will have some designated drivers available for those who may need this service.

As was voted on during the 6 Oct 09 General Membership meeting, the TV's in the Canteen have been replaced! We found a great deal on 50" Sanyo Plasma TV's during the Black Friday sales and snatched them up. Thanks to Boz, Dan, Rex, Bobby and John for helping to get them mounted and tuned before the Iron Bowl no less! Due to receiving information that the VA would not really benefit from our old sets, we are looking to possibly donate them to a nursing home or another such type of facility. If you know of somewhere that we can donate our old sets, please let one of the Post officers know.

As of this printing, our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander, John McGovern has resigned so that he could return to the workforce. John has done an outstanding job in the past 1 ½ years for our post and all organizations/members. Please take a minute to thank John for all his hard work the next time you see him. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice position is one that takes up an awful lot of time and effort. Trying to work and manage this position at the same time would be near impossible. The Executive Board will nominate and vote in a replacement at the 1 Dec 09 meeting.

Membership: For those of you, who have not yet renewed your membership dues, please do so as soon as possible. We will be reconciling the updated membership rosters from all organizations with the Access control rosters and any member who has not updated their dues NLT 31 Dec 09 will have their access control card inactivated until such a time as their dues are paid in full. This is not being done to offend anyone or to intentionally cause any inconvenience, but for security of our members and our bartenders.

I hope each and every member of American Legion Post 133 has a safe and joyous holiday season.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!**

*Teri Parkinson, Commander*

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## ***2nd Vice Commander (John McGovern):***

By the time you read this I will have resigned my position as your kitchen manager. I have decided to return to the work force and I simply can't work full time and fulfill the duties required of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander. I can honestly say I enjoyed the last 17 months. It was truly a learning experience, and although I experienced frustration at times, I derived a tremendous sense of satisfaction from all the good things we accomplished in the kitchen as a team. I say "we" because I certainly couldn't have accomplished all the things that have transpired during the past 17 months without the help and support of all the organizations that comprise Post 133. I'd especially like to thank the members of the Executive Board and the General Membership for having the vision and wisdom to approve the funds needed to replace practically all the equipment in the kitchen. As you may or may not know the following improvements were made during the past 17 months:

- The Ladies Auxiliary donated a new commercial gas stove that was sorely needed.
- The Legion approved the money required to replace the old coolers and freezers with new state of the art, energy efficient stainless steel appliances.
- The Legion approved the money required to replace the old flat-top with a state of the art combination flat-top and oven.
- The Legion approved the money required to replace the old, leaking sanitizer with a state of the art, energy efficient appliance.
- Additionally we have upgraded the computer capabilities in the kitchen:
  - Replaced the old printer with a new high speed combination printer/fax/copier and scanner.
  - Replaced the old computer with a new state of the art CPU and monitor with the capability to quickly and easily back up the data in a timely manner.

I'd also like to recognize the following individuals:

- Butch Kinney – I think Butch has served in most, if not all the offices of Post 133 and he has certainly served his time in the kitchen! He took me under his wing when I assumed the duties of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice and "showed me the ropes." He showed me the best places to buy supplies and emphasized the need to minimize expenses to maximize profits. Thank you Sir!
- Bobby "Boz" Boswell – The "Boz" retired from the Commissary in April 09 and immediately volunteered to help me out on a daily basis. He instantly became a much needed asset who assisted me with shopping on Tuesdays, cutting steaks and wrapping potatoes on Thursdays in addition to doing anything and everything I asked of him. The assistance he has provided is immensely appreciated and I salute him!
- My Regular Group of Volunteers – Combined, I think the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL has somewhere between 500 – 600 members. You would think with that many people it would be easy to find volunteers to work in the kitchen. Unfortunately, the opposite is true. One of the worst parts of this job was trying to find the people willing to work a few hours a week in the kitchen. I have come to rely on a very small number of men and women to keep the kitchen in operation and am sorry to say they have been used and abused. I am hesitant to mention them by name lest I omit someone but I am positive they know who they are. To these men and women, I say a sincere "**Thank You and I Appreciate You!**"

For the Good of the Legion  
John McGovern, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander



## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 133

*President Beverly McGovern*

I would like to give a special thank you to all the Auxiliary members to participated in both the Veterans' day Flag Retirement ceremony and for those that helped with the food at the Post later that afternoon. As always your efforts were above and beyond what was expected, and very much appreciated by all.

I would also like to thank everyone who was able to be at the Post on the morning of Nov 21st, to decorate for Christmas, It was a joint effort by all and it turned out beautiful.

As a reminder there will be no Auxiliary Wednesday night Supper on Dec 16th, due to many other activities/events taking place in our members lives we are unable to support supper that evening.

Auxiliary Coat Drive is in full swing and will until Jan 16. Please take a moment or two to look in your closets and donate all your old serviceable jackets, sweaters and even lap throws so we can pass them out to the Veterans at the hospital.

For all our good efforts we unfortunately are running a little late with getting the Angels made and placed on the gift tree, but we will have them soon. The Welcome Center was closed for awhile but now they have re-opened. I have the names of 10 families that are in need of our help. If you would like to participate you can contact myself or Caroline for a copy of their "wish lists" for Christmas. It will have their age and size they wear. We realize that times are hard but the Angle Tree gifts makes a big difference in the lives of many of our local families who are not so fortunate as some of us.

We will also this year ask those that participate to sign for your Angles so that we can keep accountability of who will be buying for which family and to make sure all presents are in place for the Santa's gift giving on Dec 5<sup>th</sup>.

Our next meeting is Monday, December 14th I look forward to seeing as many of you at this meeting at possible.

Let Every Day Be Christmas  
Christmas is forever, not for just one day,  
for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away  
like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf. The good you do for others is good you do yourself.  
(Written by Norman W. Brooks)

Bev McGovern, President



## SAL SQUADRON 133

*Commander – Andrew Cherry*

I would like to thank everyone for your support of our raffle for 4 Alabama -Auburn tickets, to raise money for the Child Welfare Foundation, and to give our congratulations to Jeff McNair, Jr. Vice Commander of the Department of Alabama, the winner of the tickets. **Roll Tide & War Eagle**

### **Membership - Membership - Membership**

Just a reminder, SAL meetings are at 7:00 PM the third Tuesday of each month. If you have not renewed your membership for 2010, time is running out. You must have your 2010 membership card by Jan. 1st 2010, in order to enjoy your privileges and benefits of being a SAL member. Perhaps the biggest benefit one receives as a member of the Sons is the satisfaction of knowing you are helping others in your community and elsewhere. However, there are also some tangible benefits available through commercial vendors. Sons are eligible for almost all of the same discounts that are available to members of The American Legion. Just visit [www.legion.org/benefits](http://www.legion.org/benefits) to look at a list of many consumer benefits available to members of The Legion Family.

### **Volunteers - Volunteers - Volunteers**

SAL membership has not stepped up and not volunteer as needed. I would like to thank all who have done more than their share to try to keep the SAL afloat. If you would like to see Hamburger & Hot Dog night make a comeback, we must have the volunteers before we can do so. Times for evening cooking's, are prep time at 4 o'clock, cooking from 5 o'clock to 8 o'clock plus clean up time. Cannot make that early starting time, show up late, get a bite to eat and help clean up for those who have cooked.

Kitchen cooking is how the SAL is able to sponsor and support Boys State, Legacy Scholarship Fund, Child Welfare Foundation, American Legion Baseball along with other activities.

I would like to wish everyone a **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year**.

Thanks for your support, Andrew Cherry commander.  
For god, country and the betterment of Post 133



## Post 133 American Legion Riders



From the Director:

Don't forget we have the Children's Christmas party, Saturday, 5 Dec 09 beginning at 10:30. For those who have volunteered to help out, if for any reason you can't make it by 9:30, please, call one of your officer's and let them know. The only thing we have ride wise will be 6 Dec 09 which is the Toy's for Tot's ride. More info will follow under separate e-mail when we get the final time/location information. Due to the up and down nature of our weather in Dec-February, we don't currently have any other rides planned. However, look for separate e-mails when we find we have decent weather and can get out and ride. We did have a great ride out to Tallassee for the Civil War reenactment, about 12 bikes which was a great turnout!

| <b><u>Dates to remember:</u></b> |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 4 Dec 09                         | Friday ALR Steak Night - Volunteers are Gene, AA, Tom, Ricki, and TJ |
| 13 Dec 09                        | ALR Breakfast  |
| 19 Dec 09                        | Charity Spaghetti Dinner   |
| 25 Dec 09                        | Christmas Day  |
| 1 Jan 10                         | New Years Day  |

### Post Hours of Operation:

#### **The Canteen is Open the Following Hours:**

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Sunday            | 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM |
| Monday - Thursday | 3:00 PM – 10:00 PM |
| Friday & Saturday | 3:00 PM - Midnight |

#### **The Kitchen is Open the Following Hours:**

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Sunday Breakfast | 8:00 AM - Noon    |
| Wednesday Dinner | 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM |
| Friday Steaks    | 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM |

# December 2009

| Sunday                                | Monday                                      | Tuesday                                       | Wednesday                     | Thursday                             | Friday   | Saturday  |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|
|                                       |   | 1<br><b>Legion<br/>Membership<br/>Meeting</b> | 2<br><b>40 &amp; 8 Dinner</b> | 3                                    | 4<br><b>ALR Steaks</b>   | 5<br><b>40 &amp; 8<br/>Christmas Party<br/>Millbrook Parade<br/>Santa Claus Visit<br/>1030 - 1300</b> |
| 6<br><b>SAL Breakfast</b>             | 7   | 8   | 9<br><b>SAL Dinner</b>        | 10                                   | 11<br><b>Aux Steaks</b>  | 12<br><b>Legion<br/>Christmas<br/>Party</b>   |
| 13<br><b>ALR Breakfast</b>            | 14<br><b>Aux<br/>Membership<br/>Meeting</b> | 15<br><b>SAL<br/>Membership<br/>Meeting</b>   | 16<br><b>Aux Dinner</b>       | 17                                   | 18<br><b>Legion Steaks</b>                                       | 19<br><b>Cooper<br/>Bradshaw Fund<br/>Benefit Dinner</b>  |
| 20<br><b>40 &amp; 8<br/>Breakfast</b> | 21<br><b>ALR<br/>Membership<br/>Meeting</b> | 22  | 23<br><b>SAL Dinner</b>       | 24                                   | 25<br><b>Christmas Day<br/>Post 133<br/>closed<br/>No Steaks</b> | 26  |
| 27<br><b>Legion<br/>Breakfast</b>     | 28  | 29  | 30<br><b>SAL Dinner</b>       | 31<br><b>New Years<br/>Eve Party</b> |  |   |

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# January 2010

| Sunday                 | Monday                                      | Tuesday                        | Wednesday          | Thursday                     | Friday  | Saturday   |
|------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|---|--|
|                        |   |                                |                    |                              | 1<br><b>New Years Day</b>                     | 2<br>Remove Decorations  |
| 3<br>SAL Breakfast     | 4   | 5<br>Legion Membership Meeting | 6<br>40 & 8 Dinner | 7                            | 8<br>Aux Steaks                               | 9  |
| 10<br>ALR Breakfast    | 11<br>Aux Membership Meeting                | 12                             | 13<br>SAL Dinner   | 14<br><b>Mid-Winter Conf</b> | 15<br><b>Mid-Winter Conf</b><br>Legion Steaks | 16<br><b>Mid-Winter Conf</b><br>ALR Wing Night<br>5:00 – 8:00 PM |
| 17<br>Legion Breakfast | 18 <b>MLK Day</b><br>ALR Membership Meeting | 19<br>SAL Membership Meeting   | 20<br>Aux Dinner   | 21                           | 22<br>ALR Steaks                              | 23   |
| 24<br>40 & 8 Breakfast | 25  | 26                             | 27<br>SAL Dinner   | 28<br>40 & 8 Promenade       | 29<br>Legion Steaks                           | 30   |
| 31                     |   |                                |                    |                              |   |  |

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