



# The American Legion

## District 9 Broward County



For God and Country website: [www.aldist9fl.org](http://www.aldist9fl.org)

WINTER 2006

Volume 1 Number 2

## Commander's Report

### An Oasis of Life

Deep inside the maze of streets of an industrial area in South Florida is a final stop. Final? Really the beginning. This is not the subject I had in mind for the holiday season message from the American Legion District Commander of Broward County, the 9th District. Our American heroes right here in South Florida clearly let me know it should be.

They served; they never wavered from loyalty to us. Many just hung their heads as they enjoyed the mild December morning sun warming them. The wheelchairs circled tables of "cold ones" like an assembling wagon train around a campfire. The barbecues started up.

Announcements were made. Some came to be seen; some came to work; others just came to be with those that fought. The fight was still there. I boomed my voice knowing that I could not hear what was being said. After a few words, I gave the microphone to another dignitary. That is when my eyes caught the intense expressions of a military veteran on a table with wheels. Right on Commander, he said, right on. He did not have arms or legs to animate his enthusiasm.

A couple of hours would pass as hamburgers and hot-dogs were consumed with haste. After all, it would be another year before our return again.

As I made my way around, I saw this military veteran again. I marveled at his expression of tireless energy for life. Given his world today, tomorrow and years from now, I had to reflect on his determination to spread the good cheer and spirit of the season the best he could. What a smile.

And I thank them. As we all should this Christmas season. The Alexander "Sandy" Nininger, Jr. Florida State Nursing home for veterans of Military Service is located in Pembroke Pines, 954-985-4824. Or, contact Voluntary Services at the Veterans Administration, 305-575-3140.

I remain in service this holiday season, for God and Country,  
PAUL RENNEISEN  
Commander, District 9, Department of Florida

## Vice Commander Bill Gemayel Report Membership

The District has consistently met all membership goals to date, thanks especially to the efforts of Post 385 and 223. While we expect to exceed the 80% goal on January 6th for most of our Posts, meeting subsequent goals will become increasingly difficult without a special effort from all. The following standings are as of December 13, 2006.

### Current Totals

Post 385	351.5%
Post 223	106.4%
Post 170	91.5%
Post 162	90.3%
Post 36	89.7%
Post 308	89.2%
Post 310	88.6%
Post 304	84.9%
Post 157	83.7%
Post 142	81.5%
Post 365	81.3%
Post 180	79.2%
Post 209	77.7%
Post 265	77.7%
Post 222	77.5%
Post 92	76.2%
Post 178	74.5%
Post 321	72.9%
Post 220	72.2%
Post 287	64.0%

### Future Goals and Dates

December 2	75%
January 6	80%
March 3	90%
March 31	95%
May 2	100%

Bill Gemayel, District 9 Vice Commander

### OUR DISTRICT MEETINGS ARE:

- January 21st 2007 Post 36
- February 4th 2007 Four Chaplains
- February 18th 2007 Post 304
- March 18th 2007 Post 92
- April 15th 2007 Post 310
- April 29th 2007 Spring Picnic Elks Lodge
- May 20th 2007 Post 321
- June 10th 2007 Constitution Conference Post 180

*Please check our website or call me for information on each months meeting. 954-441-8735 or 954-559-3202.*

## Vice Commander Joe Motes Activities' Report

Our website is coming along well, I wish more Posts would send me information pertaining to their Post activities. As for our newsletter, well, you can see by this issue, it is improving, a few Posts have submitted articles, but it would be nice to see more articles in the next issue.

The 10 Week Club has been a great success, we are now selling tickets for Game 3 which is schedule to start on March 11th, and each game earns the District \$1000 which in the long run will benefit our youth programs, so I hope you will all continue to support it and maybe even win \$100.

On November 24th, I mailed all District 9 Posts the Spring Picnic tickets, the tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. Once you have sold your batch and if you need more, please call me at 954-441-8735 and I will mail you more.

Myself and Vice Commander Bill Gemayel have been visiting Posts in the District so we can get to know you all on a personal level. These visitations are to explain to your members about our District website, our newsletter, the 10 Week Club, membership, plus any of our activities that may be planned for the District in the future, and how we may be of any assistance to your Post. So we will be calling you if we have not visited your Post, for permission to drop by.

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## Chaplain's Report

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to announce that the Four Chaplains Memorial Service will be held on the traditional first Sunday in February, at the First Baptist Church of Fort Lauderdale at 2:00 p.m.

The American Legion 9th. District of Florida in conjunction with the Veterans In Christ will hold the annual Four Chaplains Memorial Service on February 4th. at 2:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Fort Lauderdale, Fl.

The Church is conveniently located at 301 East Broward Boulevard, in downtown Fort Lauderdale, Florida with ample parking across from the main entrance to the church on Northeast 1st. Street one block north of Broward Boulevard.

For Our Lord and Our Legion,  
S. Jay Walrond, Chaplain

## 9th District President's Message

Thank you to all who made the Department President's visit to the 9th District such a success! President Linda wanted an opportunity to visit with the Unit members in an informal setting and enjoyed being able to do so here. She appreciated her visit to the Sandy Nininger State Veterans Nursing Home and the 9th District Ball with the 50' and 60's rock 'n roll music

Our District Sergeant at Arms, Judy Sessums, is the Auxiliary Representative at Sandy Nininger and is collecting new stuffed animals for the patients in the Alzheimer's Units. If you wish to participate, let either Judy or I know. Remember, these are all veterans

You are all doing a great job on membership. As of December 7th, the 9th District Auxiliary was at 84.32%. I'm sure we will make our 85% goal thanks to all your efforts. We have five Units that have already passed their 85% goal. Congratulations!

I will be contacting the Unit Presidents in the near future to set up dates for the District Staff to visit each Unit. If you wish to have your Initiation of New Members at the District Visitation, please let me know. I'll be looking forward to visiting with each of you and learning what the different Units are doing on our various programs. Keep up the good work.

Respectfully,  
Elaine Kledzik

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## Get Well Wishes to.....

Past Department President Olga Terrell and Thelma Higby of Unit 162.

Our prayers and wishes go out to Jim Gardner for a speedy recovery. Thank You Jim for all your generous donations to the 9th District for our Ball's and picnics. Also for volunteering your services to help with the cooking to make our 9th District Ball's a great success. Thank You for everything.  
9th District Staff

## Baseball Chairman's Report

Since 1925, The American Legion has sponsored a nationwide youth baseball program. During these past seven decades, millions of young players have enjoyed playing baseball. The American Legion and their 2.8 million members have raised millions of dollars each year for players to learn the importance of teamwork, discipline, leadership and good sportsmanship. The American Legion sponsors [www.baseball.legion.org](http://www.baseball.legion.org) to give players an opportunity to develop their skills, personal fitness, leadership qualities and ...to have fun.

Some posts are afraid of the commitment required in American Legion ball or just don't have the time or staff. Well I'm sure that every post in District 9 can support the league in some fashion, but the best way is to sponsor a team. If your post will sponsor a team I know that your District will help you anyway we can.

Our District has organized a wood bat league that is by far the best in the state.

This past season a team from our own District 9, Coral Springs Post 178, went all the way to the state tournament and finished tied for 2nd in the final games, with a 26 win – 4 loss record. This shows that wood bat baseball can compete.

Although our teams' 30 game schedules are more than you'll find in Babe Ruth, Connie Mack or Little League, the players will be challenged in a way that will improve their game. They will play with teammates who are being recruited and scouted by college and pro coaches. You will read about your teams in the Sun Sentinel newspaper. The players will receive instruction from coaches and managers who have years of experience not only on how to improve their game, but on how to use their athletic talent to be admitted to the college of their choice.

The District play includes a regular league season from April through August with playoff games, post season tournaments, and next year the Florida Department wants us to expand our play into the fall ball season in conjunction with the Broward County high schools.

In 2008, The Southern Area has been awarded the opportunity to host the State Tournament. All eyes will be on South Florida. We are beginning to prepare now.

Finally, if you do decide that you want to sponsor post teams please contact your District and Southern Area Baseball Chairman. My name is Ron La Duke, telephone # 954-821-3727, e-mail at [rdukesr@bellsouth.net](mailto:rdukesr@bellsouth.net)

## What's Happening at your Posts...

### James Carl Frederick Post 157 Margate, FL.

We are looking forward to the New Year and to continue doing the Legion programs. We again will be doing the BBQ fund raiser for the Southern Area Boys and Girls State transportation. The tentative date is March 10th. We are hoping to raise at least \$2000.00. Look for further details in the mail. Please come out and support this event.

Peter O. Nepa, Commander

### American Legion Auxiliary Unit 157 Margate

Our Unit has been working on a project to purchase and install Game Boy systems with wireless remote and games for each of the rooms at the Joe Dimaggio Children's Hospital. We have 55 rooms covered so far, which completes the Children's Cancer ward of the hospital plus a few other rooms. Our goal is a total of 96 units to complete the project, so we are well over half way there. Our sincere Thanks to all who have donated to make this possible.

Andee Rooney, President

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## Treasurer's Report

Since my last report, there was little activity in our account with the exception of the District Ball which is not completed to date. I am waiting for additional from program ads and ticket sales. The Ball already shows a profit nevertheless.

For those few remaining who have not paid for their Ball ads, you may make the checks payable to American Legion 9th District and mail them to me at:  
709 Tidewater Way, Deerfield Beach, FL 33442.

Thank you for your cooperation. For God and Country.  
Ray Blanchette, Finance Officer



## Boy Scout's Report

For Eagle Scout certificates or if any post needs help? get in touch with me phone 954-782-2817 or email at: [anyscoutman@bellsouth.net](mailto:anyscoutman@bellsouth.net).

### Voiture 728 of the 40 & 8 Report

Voiture 728 of the 40 & 8 Supports the 9th District Holiday Barbecue for the Sandy Nininger State Veterans Home on Saturday, December 2nd.

In a joint effort, John Smiley purchased food and drinks for 200 people and loaded it all in Bob Jones' Mercury SUV and delivered it all to the home. Another member brought his barbecue grill and spent most of the afternoon grilling hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken to feed the hungry crowd.

Two boxes of clothing and 55 home made lap robes were presented by the Voiture. Ladies of the Cabane purchased and delivered a new refrigerator as well as handing out gifts and assisting in the serving of food. A great time was had by all.

Robert "Bob" Jones, Correspondent  
Voiture 728 and member Post 178

### What's happening at your Post..

Things are popping at 304! Congratulations to Our Legion Auxiliary. Auxiliary has beaten us to 100% membership but we Legionnaire's are close behind at 90% as of 12-14-06. We are presently lighting a fire under our Sons squadron to get moving on their membership.

We continue to make Post improvements. We have small group of dedicated members who volunteer their skills and time whenever needed. It's great to be a part of an important charitable organization. Stop in the Post and see what's happening.

Department Commander George Wehrli and his wife Irma recently dined at Post 304 in conjunction with his visit at the Nininger Veteran's Nursing Home in Pembroke Pines. Our Jay Walrond, Past Department Chaplain, invited George and Irma to attend Fort Lauderdale Baptist Church's Christmas Pageant. They were very impressed and thoroughly enjoyed the event.

Upon our visit to the Nininger Veteran's Nursing Home, Post 304 presented a check for \$1000.00 to Mr. Oscar Correale. Oscar is the Supervisor of Recreational Therapy for the Home and our Vet's couldn't be in better hands.

Looking forward, we expect a successful season and wish warm regards to all for the Holiday Season.

For God and Country  
Kevin Lounsberry  
Commander Post 304

## Elderly and Veterans Services Division

On Saturday December 2nd, The American Legion, Department of Florida, 9th District, and Broward County Service Officer, hosted a holiday barbecue and celebration for the Alexander "Sandy" Nininger State Veterans' Nursing Home located in Pembroke Pines, Florida.

The holiday season was kicked off with a festive celebration, for all of the veterans and was well received. The event was hosted by guest speaker George Wehrli, American Legion Department of Florida Commander, and members of his staff. A holiday coral group performed, and entertainment provided by a senior pianist, Legionnaire Dick Thomas, and a magician performed.

I am also pleased to further report that \$600.00 was raised to support this successful event. Two 52+ inch televisions and several DVD/VCR players were also donated to the State Nursing Home, on behalf of several American Legion Posts.

Finally, if any Post or individuals wish to forward any gifts or greeting cards to our service men and women in Iraq, it is recommended that the website address, ([www.anysoldier.com](http://www.anysoldier.com)) be logged on for information and instruction to contact military personnel overseas. I appreciate the confidence and appointment to serve as Aide to the Department Commander, to effect this veterans' holiday party.

Vito M. Rao, CVSO  
Elderly and Veterans Services Division

## Boy State's Report

06 Oct 06 Start sending in regular quota money of \$290 per delegate.

06 Oct 06 First day to accept over-quota money of \$290 per delegate (accepted only if regular quota is paid).

02 Jan 07 Start contacting all high schools in your area to get names and set up interviews, give principal, guidance counselor or activities directors the application on pages 4-5.

12 Jan 07 All money for regular quota and over-quota must be received in Department Headquarters by this date. No personal checks will be accepted. Make checks out to: Florida American Legion Boy's State. Florida Boy's State, PO Box 547859, Orlando, Florida 32854-7859

Chairman, Good Luck this year, God Bless You, and enjoy a wonderful holiday season.

John A. Smiley, Jr. Ninth District Chairman  
Boy's State Program 954-753-2510

## New Disabled Senior Veteran Tax Break

As part of the November 2006 elections, the voters of Florida approved an amendment to the state constitution that gave some veterans a major reduction in their property taxes. Effective 7 December 2006, combat disabled veterans aged 65 and older who entered military service from Florida are entitled to a discount on their property taxes equal to the percent they are disabled.

State law already gives a 100 percent property tax break to 100 percent service-connected disabled veterans and \$5000 exemption to those disabled more than 10 percent. Another amendment the voters approved potentially increased tax breaks for all low income seniors, but unlike the veterans beak, it must be approved and implemented by each local taxing jurisdiction to take effect. Broward County voters also showed their support for portability of the Save Our Homes Homestead Act tax exemptions by 77 to 23 percent - but that was a non-binding initiative that will require legislative action or another statewide constitutional amendment initiative to actually take effect.

The new veterans amendment is a major benefit for those who qualify. As stated above, the amendment is effective 7 Dec 06 but applies to the 2007 tax rolls with the tax break showing up in the fall of 2007 tax bills. Implementation guidance is still being finalized but the deadline to apply for the disabled veteran tax break is apparently 1 March 2007. Submission is to the County Property Appraiser's Office and will have to include U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs documentation of combat related disability. Also required will be proof of Florida residence at time veteran entered military service.

I have compiled this information from a variety of sources to help all veterans understand this amendment and benefit from those tax breaks they qualify for. I am happy to assist anyone with questions, subject to the caveat that I am a Realtor and retired Army officer, not a tax lawyer or implementing government official. For Broward County Property Appraiser's Office (Lorri Parrish and her team) go to their website at [www.bcpanet.org](http://www.bcpanet.org) or call 954-357-6830. For Miami-Dade go to [miamidade.gov/pa/](http://miamidade.gov/pa/) or call 305-375-4125.

## Post 223 in History

The following article appeared in the Fort Lauderdale Daily News on April 21, 1950.

### Gandy-Wiggins Post at Davie One of Last Formed in County.

One of the newest American Legion posts in the county is Gandy-Wiggins Post 223, at Davie.

The post was founded in 1946 with 53 members signing the original charter and was named after Junior C. Gandy, who was killed when his plane was shot down by the enemy over Burma, and Ira Wiggins, killed in Africa when a gasoline truck on which he was riding was exploded by enemy action.

These were the only two Davie men to die in action during World War II.

First commander of the post was B.P. Balthaser, a veterinarian, O.E. Markley was his adjutant and Herbert Lynn was first vice commander. Chaplain of the post was Martin Davis, finance officer W.E. Hammer.

The post has been extremely active during its short existence, being chiefly famed for the rodeos which have been staged under its auspices at the Chamber of Commerce grounds in Davie.

The organization paid for the stadium and other facilities which have been build at the grounds.

Present commander is Charles E. Davis, with Percy Bergeron as vice commander, Arthur Wolf junior vice commander, Floyd Cherry adjutant and E.K. Hammer, finance officer. E.K. Fitzpatrick is chaplain and Arthur Yarrow historian. E.P. Cone is sergeant-at-arms and Joe Wolf service officer. The executive board includes Olaf Borenson and Merritt Bardwell.

Charter members of the post, almost all of whom are still active, are:

R.E. Davis, Martin Davis, Anthony M. Salvino, Robert Gray, F.M. Haddock, A.J. Strickland, J.C. Van Kirk, Melvin Johnson, Thomas Prescott, Ole Williamson, Joe Wolf, L.P. Walker, B.C. Wilkerson, Harry A. Earle, Chester Durden, L.V. Lincoln, Jr., Lloyd Gardner, Arthur Wolf, Robert C. Wabnitz, Harry J. Griffin, Billy Radenau, Phillip Lloyd, I.W. Windham, C.E. Davis, Earl Hall, G.F. Anderson, H.M. Lynn, Olaf Borenson, W.E. Hammer, A.D. Griffin, Carl E. Griffin, Clifford Goad, B. (Black) Cantrell, B.F. Balthaser, G.E. Bennett, H.C. Bowen, W.L. Bronson, Al Cherry, H.P. Cone, Harry Crevenson, Bill Gill, S.E. Goad, H. Hutchinson, F.H. Miller, W.G. North, John Odom, R.W. Saar, H.C. Shaw, C.E. Shepard, Hully Stirling and C.E. Viele.

### Post 223 does the following each year:

1. Send two boys to Boys' State annually.
2. Fund one girl through another Post.
3. Give two \$1,000 scholarships to Western students each year.
4. Gave a \$150 sponsorship four Western's 9/11 annual observance.
5. Gave a \$300 gift for a flag pole for the Veteran's Memorial at Western's football field.

I would like to add that we donate thousands of dollars to the community also. I wish you would call our secretary Betty at Gill Realty, 954/583-0831. I know you will be amazed!!



**Western High School Honoring and Remembering heroes from September 11th.**

In a touching ceremony for the 5th anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attack in New York City, Western High School held their 5th Memorial Observance of 9-11 honoring America's Heroes and remembering those whose lives were lost.

The ceremony was held in front of the school's World Trade Center and Pentagon memorial with the sounds of bagpipes playing as local police and firefighter honor guards arrived. The memorial dedicated on May 17th, 2002, was created and built by students under the direction of the school's Drafting and Engineering teacher, Bob Spereno, who is a member of Post 233. It is comprised of seven-foot tall replicas of the towers of the World Trade Center that are surrounded by a two-foot high pentagonal wall. The base for the monument's flag pole is an image of the state of Pennsylvania, remembering each site of the tragedy. The interior of the memorial is covered in crushed stone, replicating the rubble that resulted at each location. Principle Scott Fiske honored Bob Spereno with a plaque for his leadership in building the memorial.

Western High School students continued their tradition of presenting glassed enclosed American flags on top of plaques to selected FDNY firehouses. The flag presented were traditionally folded by the honor guards 13 times to create the symbolic triangular shape representing the shape of a cornered hat, emblematic of the hats worn by colonial soldiers during the war for Independence.

This year's honored firehouses were Engine 40, Ladder 35, Rescue 001, Ladder 003, Ladder 005 and Ladder 101, representing three captains, six lieutenants and 40 firefighters. The plaques list the names of the brave men and women from those houses who lose their lives attempting to save others on September 11th. Family members of FDNY firefighters were invited to attend the event and accept plaques on behalf of the firehouses. The plaques were then sent to the FDNY firehouses following the observance.

In the five observances, Western High School has memorialized 72 members of FDNY. Western High's ROTC and Color Guard ceremoniously raised the flag in the center of the memorial. Soon afterward, a firefighter in firesuit and helmet walked to the flag pole and lowered the flag to half-mast. The names of the firefighters whose lost their lives were called out as a bell was rung after each name. Fire stations from all over Broward were present for the ceremony.

Western High School is the only school in the State of Florida to hold such a memorial ceremony recognizing America's heroes.

This year's 5th annual 9-11 Remembrance, Post 223 sponsored Ladder 005, whose firefighters were:

Lt. Vincent Giammona  
 Lt. Michael Warchola  
 FF Louis Arena  
 FF Andrew Brunn  
 FF Thomas Hannafin  
 FF Paul Keating  
 FF John Santore  
 FF Gregory Saucedo

Each plaque has the following inscription on the back:

**SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL  
 WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL  
 FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA**

*The vision of Western High School's 9/11 Memorial was born on 12 September 2001. Each year the Engineering Class at the school designs and builds a monument, and in 2001 it seemed only appropriate that the project be dedicated to the tragic attacks that occurred on 11 September.*

*The monument is comprised of replicas of the towers of the World Trade Center that are surrounded by a pentagonal wall. The base for the flag pole is an image of the state of Pennsylvania; thus, the monument honors the three locations of the disaster. The interior of the memorial is covered in crushed stone to replicate the rubble that resulted at each site.*

*The Memorial was dedicated on 17 May 2002. Annual ceremonies have followed each September which commemorate the event of 9/11, and each year the flags from these events have been sent to New York City fire companies who lost comrades on that day.*

If any Post would like to sponsor a memorial plaque, send a check for \$150 to:

Western High School  
 1200 S.W. 136th Avenue  
 Davie, Florida 33325  
 Attn: Mike Works

on the memo line write 9/11 Memorial Fund.

**Alexander Nininger Veteran's Home Christmas picnic held on December 2, 2007 with Department Commander George Wehrli in attendance.**



**Commander George Wehrli with our picnic cooks.**



**Santa even dropped in for a visit with our Vets.**



**Post Commanders Roy Schofield and Kevin Lounsberry (r) with District Commander Paul Renneisen (2nd from left) serving our veterans.**



**District Commander Paul Renneisen helping serve our veterans.**



**Post 304 Commander Kevin Lounsberry presents a check for \$1000 to Oscar Correale of the Nininger Home, also in attendance are Department Commander George Wehrli, District Officers Paul Renneisen, Vito Rao, Bill Gemayel and Joe Motes.**



**Attending members of Post 385 at the picnic (left to right), Roy Schofield, Department Commander George Wehrli, Carol Fraser, Alberto Darby and his wife Amparo Darby, District Commander Paul Renneisen, Diane Calfee and Joe Motes.**

**Department Commander George Wehrli during some Post Visitations.**



**Post 304 with Department Commander George Wehrli, his wife Irma with District 9 Commander Paul Renneisen and wife Patricia, Post Commander Kevin Lounsberry, and District Vice Commanders Bill Gemayel and Joe Motes.**



**Post 310 with Commander James Farney and Commander George Wehrli.**



**Post 36 with Post Adjutant Pete Bugnacki and Commander George Wehrli.**



**Post 162 Commander Mike McGeachy with Commander George Wehrli and his wife Irma.**



**Department Commander George Wehrli, his wife Irma, and District Vice Commanders Bill Gemayel and Joe Motes dining at Post 162.**

9th District Past and Present Commanders Ball held on November 11, 2007 at Post 222



9th District Past and Present Commanders Ball held on November 11, 2007 at Post 222



## District 9 Upcoming Activities

**Auxiliary Basic Concepts (Leadership Class)**  
January 27, 2007 at Post 180 in Plantation  
starting at 9:00am. Luuch \$5.00

**Southern Area Ball** Saturday, February 3, 2007.  
Social Hour 6:00 PM Dinner at 7:00 PM Post  
222, Fort Lauderdale

**Four Chaplains Memorial Service** on February  
4th. at 2:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of  
Fort Lauderdale, 301 East Broward Boulevard, in  
downtown.

**Spring Picnic** tickets are now on sale, prices are  
\$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for minors and children  
under 3 are free. The picnic will be held at the  
Elks Lodge on April 29 starting at 11:30am.

Please contact Vice Commander Joe Motes for  
tickets.

### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY 2006-2007 OFFICERS

**President**

Elaine Kledzik (162) 954-574-9595

**Secretary / Treasurer**

Barbara Delalla (157) barbfl@bellsouth.net

**Chaplain**

Bonnie Hatt (142) 954-943-6863

**Sgt. at Arms**

Judy Sessums (321) 954-983-6478

**Advisor**

Maureen Costello (162) 954-429-9226

**Advisor**

Pearl McIntyre (162) 954-421-2584

**Historian**

Lorrie Hess (36) 954-452-5062

**Parliamentarian**

Gail Dupuis (36) 954-522-3264

## What's happening at your Post...

**Post 308 West Hollywood** took part in Veteran's Day activities in Hollywood and gave speech in the Pembroke Pines Picnic. They have started a shooting program at the Miramar High School JROTC and have submitted funds for a student to attend Boys State.

Member Sr. Vice Commander Charles Perkins should be undergoing surgery very shortly, please send him best wishes, contact Bob Young for address at 954-296-1242.

We have picked up 8 new members from Post 400 and 6 that are in the Military still active. Our post is one of the most active posts and we need all members to attend the meetings. Our meeting area is handicapped accessible.

**Post 385 Weston** took part in the Pembroke Pines Picnic with 7 members in attendance. On November we were invited to attend the Weston City Commissioner's meeting were we gave a brief presentation about our new post and our involvement in the communities of SW Broward.

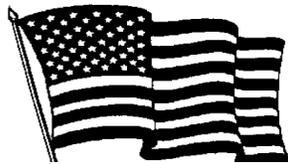
We also participated in the Sandy Nininger Veteran's Home on December 2nd with 6 members and we also recruited 2 m3mbers that transferred in from Post 400.

At our December 2nd meeting, our members voted on renaming our Post to **The Bruckenthal - Cann - Rojas Post 385**, in honor of Nathan Bruckenthal (USCG), who lived here and was stationed at the Fort Lauderdale Coast Guard base, Adam Cann (USMC) from Davie and a graduate of South Plantation High School, and Kenny Rojas (USA) from Pembroke Pines and a graduate of Flanagan High School, which is one of the three high schools we support.

Finally, we have picked up 32 new members in the last 2 months from Post 400 and signed up 4 new members.

**Joseph Motes - Newsletter Editor**  
**American Legion District 9 Broward**  
**2133 NW 208 Terrace**  
**Pembroke Pines FL 33029-2320**

## FIRST CLASS MAIL



### 2006 - 2007 District 9 Officers

**COMMANDER - Paul Renneisen**

pilotpay@pngusa.net  
 954-938-9333

**VICE COMMANDER - Billy Gemayel**

Billgema@yahoo.com  
 954-987-8941

**VICE COMMANDER - Joseph Motes**

joemotes@aol.com  
 954-441-8735

**ADJUTANT - Leo Schenone**

loadpool@yahoo.com  
 954-553-0434

**FINANCE OFFICER - Ray Blanchette**

954-428-9862

**SGT-AT-ARMS - T.J. Jones**

commander287@bellsouth.net  
 954-683-9664

**CHAPLIN - Jay Walrond**

swalrond@bellsouth.net  
 954-920-1390

**SERVICE OFFICER - Vito Rao**

vrao@broward.org  
 954-831-0421

**JUDGE ADVOCATE - David Scott**

### 2006-2007 Boosters

Paul Renneisen	Bill Gemayel
Joe Motes	Bonnie G. Hatt
Elaine Kledzik	Lorrie Hess
Mike McGeachy	Nancy & Hal Fox
Jay & Judy Walrond	Joan Duva
Jackie Martin	Judy Sessums
Roy Gladde	Chuck & Gayle Moreland
Wayne Powell	Gene Campbell
Ginny Hagemann	Conrad & Shirley Rell
Scott Frieders	Jim & Judi Farney
Ron Wires	Ray Blanchette
V. Matthew Rao	Joe Kledzik
Leo Scherone	Michael Bombaro
John & Kathy Holmes	Russ & Robin Dobbyn
Jim Davidson	Maureen Litsch
Carol Kifner	Pattie & Carl Dupper
Kevin Buchholz	Elizabeth Woods
William Fokken	James & Irene O'Connell
Joseph Gallagher	T.J. Jones
Roy Schofield	Reggie Hammes
John Smiley, Jr	Herbert W. Hayes, Jr
Lester Barr	

Booster moneys are used to help promote, publish and mail the District 9 newsletters. Wouldn't you like to be a District 9 Booster member? Send your \$3.00 Booster donation for the remaining two issues, payable to: **American Legion District 9** to Joe Motes at: 2133 NW 208 Terrace, Pembroke Pines FL 33029-2320.