



The American Legion

Broward County 9th District Communiqué



Summer 2010

Website: www.aldist9fl.org

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Past Commander's Report

9th District membership ended with 93.65% with 4 Posts exceeding 100%. We needed 306 renewals for 100%. The 2010 final Post totals as of June 30, 2010 are:

Post	Goal	Cards	% to Goal
220	28	36	128.571
365	120	128	106.667
308	50	53	106.000
180	212	215	101.415
142	617	610	98.865
321	373	368	98.660
223	31	30	96.774
162	639	611	95.618
157	631	597	94.612
385	225	212	94.222
36	262	240	91.603
304	342	304	88.889
222	463	411	88.769
92	422	371	87.915
265	32	27	84.375
170	62	52	83.871
310	138	110	79.710
178	86	66	76.744
209	34	24	70.588
287	51	33	64.706

The 9th District Constitutional was very well attend, 15 out of 20 District posts were in attendance. This year we had the most district award competition forms turned in. The following awards were given out for the following category:

Blood Donor:

1st place Post 92, 2nd place Post 142

Special Thanks to Post 157 and Pete Nepa for the printing of this newsletter.

Boy Scouts:

1st Place Post 142, 2nd Place Post 180

Ray Blanchette Memorial Community Service:

1st Place Post 304, 2nd Post 142

Chaplain:

1st Place 222, 2nd Place 180

JROTC:

1st Place 304, 2nd Place 223

Helen Gaekle School Award:

1st Place 222, 2nd Place 304

Adjutant of the Year:

Post 157 Ralph Colon

Sal Castaldi Memorial Award Americanism:

Post 180 Edgar Mallard, 2nd Place 142

Chuck Saltin Memorial Award Children & Youth:

Post 142 Paul Renneisen, 2nd Place Post 180

Derek Clowes Memorial Award Sgt-at-Arms:

Post 222 Fred Keebler, 2nd Place Post 304

Glory Cleary Memorial Award (most members):

Post 220

First 100% Post Category 1: Post 220

First 100% Post Category 2: Post 308

First 100% Post Category 3: Post 365

First 100% Post Category 4: Post 180

Best Overall Post: Post 180

Legionnaire of the Year: Steve Newman Post 222

**OUR DISTRICT MEETINGS FOR 2010 - 2011
WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY @ 2:00PM:**

OCTOBER 3, 2010 @ POST 321

JANUARY 9, 2011 @ POST 180

MARCH 6, 2011 @ POST 36

MAY 15, 2011 @ POST 310

JUNE 5, 2011 CONSTITUTIONAL @ POST 180

DISTRICT BALL NOV 13, 2010 @ Post 142

DISTRICT PICNIC MAR 20, 2011 @ Snyder Park

9th District Past President's Message

We are on the last leg of our "Hot Air Balloon Ride" with our landing in Orlando at the Caribe Royale for the Department of Florida Convention from June 24 – 27, 2010. All our Initiations and Visitations have been completed. We would like to thank all the Units for their hospitality and good food. Our Constitutional Conference was well represented with nine out of twelve Units in attendance for a total of sixty seven. We were honored to have our Department of Florida Parliamentarian Maureen Costello, Department of Florida National Security Chairman Lois McFall, Southern Area Membership Chairman Pearl McIntyre and Department Legislative Committeeman Gail Dupuis present. Lois McFall asked for our support as she is running for 3rd Vice President of the Department of Florida.

We elected our 2010 – 2011 9th District President. Congratulations to Jan Tyrkas of Unit 321 Cooper City. Our National Convention Delegate was also elected, who will be Judy Sessums of Unit 321 Cooper City.

Our 9th District Awards were presented as follows: Americanism – Unit 321 Cooper City, Children & Youth – Unit 321 Cooper City, Community Service – Unit 310 Hallandale, Education – Unit 321 Cooper City, Juniors – Unit 321 Cooper City, the Legislative Award was shared by Unit 142 Pompano Beach and Unit 321 Cooper City, National Security – Unit 142 Pompano Beach Poppy – Unit 304 Dania Beach, Public Relations – Unit 321 Cooper City and VA&R – Unit 142 Pompano Beach. Congratulations to all the Units and Chairmen for a job well done. The coveted Membership Award went to Unit 92 Hollywood with 108.22%. What a commendable commitment shown by President Barbara Rella and Membership Chairman Joyce Santolla. Also, the Chaplain of the Year was awarded to Cathy Gaffney of Unit 92 Hollywood. Great job Ladies! We had three Units reach 100% or more Unit 92 Hollywood, Unit 304 Dania Beach and Unit 180 Plantation.

Thank you for all your efforts in a tough economic year. To date the 9th District is in 13th place in the Department of Florida with 90.27%. Thank You to all the 9th District Officers, District Advisors, Chairmen and Unit Presidents for their support, and efforts to make this year a success for the "Blue Flames". We would also like to thank Post 180 Commander Edgar Mallard for his help setting up the hall for the Constitutional Conference and preparing a delicious lunch. We also enjoyed the morning donuts and coffee provided by Unit 180.

Thanks for the "Unforgettable Ride"! It has been an honor and privilege to have served as the Department of Florida 9th District President for 2009 – 2010. We are looking forward to seeing you at Department Convention.

Celebrating 90 Years of Service not Self, for Veterans, God and Country,

Bonnie Hatt – 9th District President



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY 2010-2011 OFFICERS

President

Jan Tyrkas (321) 954-288-6570

Secretary / Treasurer

Judy Sessums (321) 954-562-6478

Chaplain

Judy Jensen (304) 954-927-9781

Sgt. at Arms

Jackie Martin (36) 954-463-7883

Historian

Open

Parliamentarian

Bonnie Hatt (142) 954-913-3700

Florida State Park Vet Passes:

State Park Fees for Veterans S.B.2256 introduced by Sen. Andy Gardiner (R-9) and H.B.1145 introduced by Rep. Leonard Bemby (D-70) has been passed and sent to the and or gratis Entrance Passes to eligible members of the military community who present proof of eligibility:

- 25% discounted Annual Entrance Passes for active duty and honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard or reserve units of the U.S. Armed Forces or National Guard.
- No cost Life Entrance Passes for veterans with service related disabilities and surviving spouses of members of the US military who have fallen in combat.

The discounted Florida State Parks Annual Entrance Pass is only available for purchase at any Florida State Park staffed ranger station. The no cost annual Life pass can only be obtained at a staffed ranger station. A list of staffed ranger stations can be found at www.floridastateparks.org/thingstoknow/doc/annualpass/staffedrangerstations.pdf. Satisfactory written documentation to prove eligibility includes current military identification card showing the bearer as active duty, reserve or retired member of a branch of the Department of Defense, or Personal identification (i.e.: driver license) and:

- Most recent DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, showing the named individual's Character of Service as Honorable, or
- Other current official documentation from the Department of Defense, or one of its branches, naming the bearer as active duty, reserve, veteran or retired military, or
- Current official documentation from the Department of Defense, or one of its branches, naming the bearer as having sustained a service-related disability, or
- The final DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, showing the date of death as the same date as the date of separation, and Marriage certificate or license, or death certificate showing the bearer as the spouse of the military member who has fallen in combat.

National Park Passports:

In addition to the senior pass available to U.S. citizens or permanent residents who are at least 62 years old for a one-time processing fee of \$10, the following can be obtained:

- **Access Pass:** A Free Pass for People with Disabilities. It is a special permit for people of any age who are medically determined to be blind or have other permanent disabilities. It offers the same benefits as the Senior Pass, but it is completely without charge. No processing fee is charged for the Access Pass. Like the Senior Pass to national parks, the Access Pass cannot be purchased by mail or online. It must be obtained in person at a federal area where an entrance fee is charged. To qualify for the free Access Pass to national parks, you will need to provide one of the following: a statement from a licensed physician, a document issued by a Federal agency such as the Veteran's Administration, proof of Social Security Disability Income or Supplemental Security Income, or a document issued by a state agency such as a vocational rehabilitation agency.
- **A One-Year National Parks Pass for People Under Age 62.** If you are under age 62 and do not qualify for a Senior Pass to national parks, you can still save money by purchasing an Annual Pass, which costs \$80 and is good for one year from the date of purchase. At national parks, monuments and recreation areas that charge a per-vehicle fee, the Annual Pass to national parks admits you and your passengers without charge. Where a per-person fee is charged, the pass admits you plus three other adults (children under 16 are not subject to charges). There are three ways to purchase an Annual Pass to U.S. National Parks. In person at a national park that charges an entrance fee, online from the National Park Service Annual Pass site <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/index.html>, or by calling 1-888-ASK-USGS, Ext. 1

American Legion District 9
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Pembroke Pines FL 33029-2320

FIRST CLASS MAIL



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- **Volunteer Pass.** If you enjoy the national parks and want to help out by becoming a volunteer you can get an complementary annual pass for your efforts. You'll receive the same discounts and national park benefits as the Annual Pass described above, but the Volunteer Pass is available to volunteers who provide 500 hours of cumulative service. For more information about the Volunteer Pass to our national parks, call 1-888-ASK-USGS.

2010 - 2011 District Officers

COMMANDER - GEORGE RAFAJKO
 grafajko@bellsouth.net

VICE COMMANDER- JOSEPH MOTES
 joemotes@aol.com

VICE COMMANDER - RICHARD DAVITT
 marine1973-76@comcast.net

ADJUTANT - CAROL FRASER
 cafraser34@comcast.net

FINANCE OFFICER- JOSEPH MOTES
 joemotes@aol.com

SERVICE OFFICER - RAMON AGUIAR
 ramonaguiar@comcast.net

SGT-AT-ARMS - RICHARD JOHNSON
 rickj@hotmail.com

CHAPLIN - GARY GAROFALO
 sgaro20000@aol.com

HISTORIAN - PAUL STEIN

2009-2010 Boosters

Joe Motes	Bill Gemayel
Roy Schofield	Jackie Martin
Loretta Young	Helen Gaeckle
Elaine Kledzik	Ginny Hagemann
Gene Campbell	Gail Dupuis
Rose & Pete Napa	George & Elaine Rafajko
Ellen & Russ Bailey	Michael DeVeronica
Ron Lewis	Peggy & Bud Backes
Post 321 Auxiliary	Thelma McKinney
Dennis Newton	Joan Duva
Ron & Debra LaDuke	Diane & George Apostole
Mattie Mason	Ryan & Cristen Hiott
Nat Anselmo	Tom Lathrop
Carole Hess	Bernard Landers
Bonnie Hatt	Donna Erickson
Bill LeFrancois	Justine & Jeff Benedix
Edgar Mallard	George Valree, Jr.
Reggie Hammes	Mary Kelly-Perkins
Pete Bugnacki	Harold Loery
Debbie Rubino	Steve Newman
T.J. & Bertha Jones	Pearl & Bill McIntire
Larry Sapp	Joseph Gallagher
John Hone	Frank Marcella
Sal Delorenco	Gary Garafalo
Vinnie Dinitto	Jim Davison
J.J. Jensen	Mary Snyder
Russ & Robin Dobbyn	Al & Alison Cavale
Phil DeVeronica	Carol Fraser
Raleigh Arnett	Lenore Stribling
John Vazquez	Patti Kurtz
Dale & Helen Lueck	Anthony Leroy
Mike Adamo	Floyd White
Suran Simpson	Mary & Tom Jones
Eric Huer	Albert Stevens
Terri Magin	Tony Robinson