

American Legion Post 318
1000 Savanna Club Blvd
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34953



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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The Post Messenger

The American Legion Post 318
1000 Savanna Club Blvd.
Port Saint Lucie, FL. 34925-3347



December - 2016

Richard Feldman, Commander
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Visit us @ www.americanlegion318fl.org

Member NALPA & FALPA

Issue No. 281

Sally Zimmerman
Post 318 Editor
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It's not the price you pay for your membership, it's the price you have already paid to be eligible.

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Commander's Message

HELLO American Legion Family:

First of all I want to wish all of our members a Merry Christmas, a Happy Chanukah, and Joy for this holiday season. We are grateful for all that the Legion family does for Veterans, Children, the homeless, and everything else that the American Legion stands for. Joy to All.

Just to recap some of our November events, our Veteran's Day Ceremony was well attended at Veterans Memorial Park and at our Post. The Post was proud to salute all Legionnaires of Post 318 as well as to honor those Legionnaires who went to Post everlasting this last year. We also had a great Thanksgiving at the Post. Thanks to all of you who helped and volunteer for these two events.

December 7th there will be a ceremony at Veteran's Park at Rivergate remembering Pearl Harbor and World War II.

December 10th will be the date of our annual Christmas Party followed on December 17th with the Sons of the American Legion Christmas Party for Children, always a sight to enjoy and see the joy and smiles of the children.

If you can donate toys we have at the Post a Toys for Tots basket as well as the annual Salvation Army Tree, and of course our SAL can use all the help we can donate.

At our December Legion Meeting we will honor and give out to Fireman Lieutenant Paul Smith and Law Enforcement Office Detective Mathew Briglia who were awarded State Firefighter and Law Enforcement Officer of the Year trophies

When you are at the Post take a look at our new message videos in the corner of the Canteen. We update our Pictures and I am sure you will enjoy seeing the videos.

A reminder 2017 dues are due at this time and door cards will be changed on January 2, 2017. So please, if you haven't, pay your dues now.

I received a letter of resignation from our Chaplain, John Dunn, due to health reasons. I was able to talk to him today and he felt he had to focus on his health issues. I thank you for all you have done for the Post. As you all know the Chaplain's position is one of the most important at the Post. Anyone interested in becoming the Post's Chaplain, please contact me as soon as possible.

This month I would like to name Matt Dunleavy as Member of the Month. He has filled in as Service Officer to help our Service Office Ron Zimmerman who is fighting his own health issues. Great job Matt and thank you.

If any member has concerns or suggestions for the betterment of the Post, I am available by phone or at the Post.

For god and Country **Richard Feldman, Commander** 772-342-2394

Richard Feldman, Commander 772-342-2394

~ In Memory Of ~

February 2017

Alfonzo "Butch" Stevens
by Paul Hess

April 2017

Ken Baker by
Kay & Bonnie Baker

September 2017

Royce "Pat" Murphy
by Terry Murphy, Alan
Tumerelli, Vinnie Corrado
& Patrick Murel

October 2017

Robert (Steev) Zikus
by Jan Hupman
Pat Nelson
by Teresa Knorrston

December 2017

CPO J.C. Martin
by Eddie & Bonnie
Beverly
Bill Yeager by
Capt. Sal Bagnara of
the Viking Prince
William T. Hates
by Lorraine & Deborah

August 2018

Edward Zikus Jr. by
Edgar & Jana Johnson

August 2019

Mary McLaughlin by
Thomas Jr & Nicole Kearn

December 2019

Donald Lee Holley
by Josie & Gene Nagele

December 2020

Geraldine Malaband
by Philip DelToro
Burton T. McInerney
by Rose Mary McInerney

March 2021

Dick Boulette, Dennis
Cush
Roy Gulbrandsen, Bill
Yeager, Garin Salisbury,
Conrad Tutelo by
Post 318 Honor Guard

October 2026

Ed Black & Steve Wisor
by S.A.L. Post 318

2nd Vice Report

Hello Post 318: As we enter this Holiday Season, it's nice to see our Post growing and prospering with new members and all our friends from up North. I have received a lot of positive feedback about the entertainment over the past few months. As you probably noticed, we have been having great entertainer on both Friday and Saturday nights starting at 7:00. I have been working hard to give you all the entertainment that I know you like and I will continue to do that. Thank you for all the positive comments. May the Holidays bring you joy and happiness and may God continue to Bless you and our Country today and every day.

Sal Anicito, 2nd Vice Commander

Service Officer Report

So You Don't Waste Your Money... Charitable Contributions – Who Should I give to???

Where has the past year gone? With only a few days to Christmas we will soon be deluged with printed and media ads asking us to donate to this charitable cause or that one. A good many of these that we see and hear are soliciting donations to help our veterans and others in need.

The list of major charitable organizations is huge. Most are national organizations and the money you donate does not necessarily stay in the community where you live to support veterans and others in need of a helping hand. Some organizations are better than others when it comes to the percentage of money actually spent in helping people vs. the percentage spent on salaries and administrative costs.

With so many different organization asking, how does one decide which organizations to contribute to? There is a web site that is very easy to use where you can research the organization BEFORE you send them your hard earned money. The National Center for Charitable Statistics (www.nccs.urban.org) has a data base where you can find information on any non-profit organization that is legitimate. Non-profit organizations are required by the IRS to file a 990 Tax Return every year that shows how much was spent on "programs" and how much was spent on salaries and administrative costs. When you go to the web site, there is a link "Find A Non-profit". Just click on that and on the next screen, type in the name of the non-profit organization. A list will come up with names that match your inquiry. Just scroll down and locate the one you are looking for. On the right side there is a link to their latest 990 tax return in PDF format. Click on that to view their tax return. You will be amazed at the information you will find there.

Another web site I use is Guide Star (www.guidestar.org). While it requires a membership to view some of the more in-depth information on a company, you can do a "quick look" at the percentages of money spent on programs and administrative costs.

As I stated earlier, the majority of money non-profit charities raise does not necessarily stay in the community where the person who donated it lives. With donating to American Legion Post 318 (Legion, Auxiliary, Son's and Riders) IT STAYS HERE AND IS USED FOR THE PURPOSE IT WAS DONATED FOR! For specific information on how your organization spends the donated funds, attend a meeting and ASK!

Ron Zimmerman Sr, Post 318 Service Officer

To all our Legionnaires: Please send in your 2017 renewals. 2017 is only about four weeks away. We are close to our gold of 100%, but we need everyone to do it by the end of the year. Have a Happy New Year, Merry Christmas, Hanukkah and enjoy the holidays. Remember DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE, HAVE A DESIGNED DRIVER and we will see you in 2017.

For God and Country,
Martin Motherway, First Vice

Auxiliary Report

Greetings Ladies,

It is so good to see our friends returning from the north. I hope to see many of you at our December meeting. Our district president, Cathie McMullan, will be joining us this month. Let's all come out and show her what a great unit we have.

In November we have honored our vets and celebrated Thanksgiving. As a whole we have much to be thankful for, not the least is our friendships and opportunity to support our veterans and their families. Some of our vets have fallen off the grid and are now homeless living in deplorable conditions out in the woods. Our riders, in connection with other community groups, do what they can to make them a little more comfortable. You can help by bringing in a package of new underwear or socks.

We are also supporting the Grace Pac program through the schools to provide food for those children who have no food available on the weekends. The schools try to send those children home with food for the weekend so they don't return to school sick and weak on Monday. You can bring non perishable food items such as packaged cheese and crackers, or any food items ready to eat to our next meeting.

Judy Martinez has taken over as our new membership chairman. She is doing an awesome job! You can contact her with your membership questions at 772-342-1392.

Keep your newsletter calendar handy as a reminder of the many events that happen in December. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday with friends and family.

Your friend,
Phyllis Young, President 772-293-9999

Rider's Report

Our homeless feeding program continues to be blessed by the community. First St. Bernadettes Catholic church made a large food donation. Then the area boys scouts picked us as their charity of choice for their door to door food drive. The amount of food donated was staggering. Approximately 5000 pounds of food. This couldn't come at a better time. The need is so great.

The Salvation Army angel tree is in place. Simply take an angel and make a needy child believe in the magic of Christmas. I do.

Let's remember our men and women all over the world in harms way.

God bless the United States of America


Jim Burk, Rider Director



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**Post 318
Christmas Party**
Saturday, December 10
5:00 PM to Close

Buffet 5:00 - 7:00 PM

Turkey and Spiral Ham
Sausage and Peppers
Misc. Sides
Dessert

Entertainment by Alita and The Boyz

**Sons of American Legion
Annual
Children's Christmas Party**
Saturday, December 17 11:00 - 2:00

ANGEL GIVING TREE

Angel Giving Tree

The Salvation Army has the reputation of being the real charity. Almost 100% goes back to the community. If you saw the recent newspaper article that over 40% of Saint Lucie County residents fall below the poverty line, you realize the need is greater than ever. I am proud to be the Vice Chairman of the local Salvation Army. This year our Post has graciously consented to the placing of the Angel Tree in the Post. The Angel Tree is for the purchase of a Christmas gift for a needy child in our county. It will have angels on it with the following info:

1. The child's name and age
2. Their wish list

You simply have to take an angel and go purchase a gift to help out. Once you have done this, give me a call and I will come pick it up. Let's show our community that when it comes to charity, nobody does it better than Post 318.

For God and Country (and children)
Jim Burk 772-812-2495



New Years Day Party
Buffet 1:00 - 3:00 PM \$10.00

Pork Roast and Fried Chicken
Black Eyed Peas, Sauerkraut
Applesauce and Dessert
Entertainment by Big T 2 - 6 PM

S.A.L. Report

Happy Holidays Post 318; This a wonderful time of the year and I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We had a great turnout for our annual S.A.L. Golf tournament. I want to thank all the participants, sponsors and of course the volunteers who make this such a huge success. **THANK YOU ALL!!!!** We raised \$6000.00 for our veterans and youth programs.

We did well on our Lasagna dinner. Thanks to everyone who attended and thanks again to the volunteers who make it happen.


Our children's Christmas party will be Dec.17th at 11 am. Stop by and see Santa as he gives Christmas gifts to all the children.

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR S.A.L. MEMBERSHIPS!!!!!!!!!!!!!! THEY ARE DUE NOW

God Bless America,
Andy Saffioti, S.A.L. Commander

Be a Booster-\$20.00 per year Newsletter Boosters

December 2016 Paul D. & Susan T. Brennan	July 2017 Hot Diggity Dog David A. Lapone	November 2017 Fred Thompson	February 2022 Dallas Black
March 2017 Bob & Sally Booth	August 2017 Hot Diggity Dog Theodore & Patricia Bonham	December 2017 Eddie & Bonnie Beverly	November 2024 Jewish War Veterans
April 2017 Kay Baker	September 2017 Hot Diggity Dog Robert Seip	March 2018 USAF Maj. Joseph Lyons	
May 2017 Walter West	October 2017 Nancy Hughes	December 2018 Lee Caldwell	
June 2017 Hot Diggity Dog		May 2019 10-13 Club	



Help us feed & care for our homeless Veterans

Our post, in partnership with the *Salvation Army* and *Sarah's Kitchen*, provides a hot meal every Thursday at Pinewood Park in Ft Pierce. We feed between 12:00 and 1:30 and are averaging around 55 people per week. We also visit several "camps" in the area and take them food and everyday necessities to make their life a little more comfortable. **But we need your help!**

How can you help? We need donations of toiletries such as toothpaste, tooth brushes, soap, shampoo, deodorant and wipes; canned goods, beef jerky and non-perishable food; socks and underwear; bug spray, sun block and anything else we take for granted. There is a drop off bin at the Post for your convenience. Please make sure the food you drop off has not expired! Expired food of any type must be thrown away! "Cash" donations are always welcomed as well. Since this is a post program, it's tax deductible. You can give your "cash" donations to either myself or the duty Bar Tender and they will make sure we get the money. Thank you for your support of this very worthwhile endeavor.

For God and Country
Jim Burk, Past Commander

American Legion Post 318 Calendar of Events

December 2016

SUNDAY	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 8 Service Officer 1 - 4 PM Ace of Hearts - 7 PM Trivia - 7:30 - 9:30	2 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 5 Fish Fry 5 - 8 PM Sunny D 7 - 11 PM	3 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 8 Legion Riders - 9:30 AM College Football Jimbo, Karaoke 7 - 11 PM
4 Breakfast 8:30 - 11 AM 9 - Noon \$2 Bloodies/ Screwdrivers Kitchen Open 11:30AM - 5 PM NFL Specials 11:30 - 5 PM	5 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 3 Marine Corp League - 7 PM Monday Night Football	6 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 3 House Committee - 5:30	7 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 2 Dinner 5 - 7 PM Pot Roast - \$9.00 Pearl Harbor Day Karaoke by Jimbo 6:30 PM	8 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 8 Service Officer 1 - 4 PM Ace of Hearts - 7 PM Trivia - 7:30 - 9:30	9 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 5 Fish Fry 5 - 8 PM Greg Fessel 7 - 11 PM	10 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 8 PM Legion E-Board - 9 AM General Meeting - 10:30 AM Post Christmas Party 5PM Hosted by the Legion Family Alita & The Boyz 7 - 11 PM
11 Breakfast 8:30 - 11 AM 9 - Noon \$2 Bloodies/ Screwdrivers Kitchen Open 11:30AM - 5 PM NFL Specials 11:30 - 5 PM	12 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 3 S.A.L. Meeting - 6:30 PM Monday Night Football	13 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 3 Honor Guard - 6 PM	14 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 2 Dinner 5 - 7 PM Home made Lasagna - \$9.00 Karaoke by Jimbo 6:30 PM	15 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 8 Service Officer 1 - 4 PM Ace of Hearts - 7 PM Trivia - 7:30 - 9:30	16 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 5 Fish Fry 5 - 8 PM Sunny D 7 - 11 PM	17 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 8 PM S.A.L. Kids Party 11 - 2 PM College Football The Driftwoods 7 - 11 PM
18 Breakfast 8:30 - 11 AM 9 - Noon \$2 Bloodies/ Screwdrivers Kitchen Open 11:30AM - 5 NFL Specials 11:30 - 5 PM	19 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 3 Auxiliary E-Board 5:30 PM Regular Meeting - 6:45 PM Monday Night Football	20 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 3	21 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 2 Dinner 5 - 7 PM Ham - \$9.00 Karaoke by Jimbo 6:30 PM	22 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 8 Service Officer 1 - 4 PM Ace of Hearts - 7 PM Trivia - 7:30 - 9:30	23 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 5 Fish Fry 5 - 8 PM Glen (Elvis) 7 - 11 PM	24 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 8 PM MCL Auxiliary - 11 AM College Football Post Closes at 8 PM No Entertainment
25 Kitchen is Closed Merry Christmas to All Post Open 1 - 9 PM	26 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 3 10 - 13 Club - 7:30 PM Monday Night Football	27 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 3 Honor Guard - 6 PM	28 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 2 Dinner 5 - 7 PM Chicken Francaise or Chicken Parmesan - \$9.00 Karaoke by Jimbo 6:30 PM	29 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 8 Service Officer 1 - 4 PM Ace of Hearts - 7 PM Trivia - 7:30 - 9:30 PM	30 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 5 Fish Fry 5 - 8 Permanent Affair 7 - 11 PM	31 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 8PM College Football New Years Eve Party Pot Luck No Entertainment
Jan1 9 - Noon \$2 Bloodies/ Screwdrivers Happy New Year Buffet 12 - 3PM \$10.00 Big T 2 - 6 NFL Specials 11 - 5 PM	2 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 3 Marine Corp League - 7 PM	3 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 3 House Committee - 5:30 PM	4 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 2 Dinner 5 - 7 PM Pot Roast - \$9.00 Karaoke by Jimbo 6:30 PM	5 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 8 Service Officer 1 - 4 PM Ace of Hearts - 7 PM Trivia - 7:30 - 9:30	6 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 5 Fish Fry 5 - 8 PM Entertainment 7 - 11 PM	7 Kitchen Open 11:30 - 8 Legion Riders - 9:30 AM College Football Entertainment 7 - 11 PM