

GATOR EXPRESS

American Legion Post 166
116 Howe Hall Road/P.O. Box 147
Goose Creek, SC 29445
843-553-5454
www.alp166sc.com

2024-2025 OFFICERS

Commander- Lee Swerczek; 1st Vice Commander- Janet Rein,
2nd Vice Commander - Michelle Hunt, Finance Officer:, Post
Service Officer: Janise Jensen Chaplain - Bill Streuber ; Judge
Advocate - Derrel Morgan; Sergeant-at-Arms - Robert Mero;
Historian- Mike Thomas; Adjutant - Rick Bernard

JULY 2024

POST COMMANDER COMMENTS

Welcome to July, we continue to move at a very fast pace at this Post. I hope each of you are taking advantage of the wonderful events that our staff and volunteers put on each month. We just recently started the newcomers coffee and doughnuts on the last Saturday of the month between 9-11 AM. Please plan on joining us to welcome our newest members.

We can always use new ideas and more volunteers, if you are interested in helping please reach out to the office.

For God and Country

Lee Swerczek
Post Commander



MEMBERSHIP is the lifeblood of the American Legion

American Legion Membership for Post 166 beginning July 2024..... is \$60.00 a year. The goal is to obtain 100% renewals including new members, and transfers from other posts. Funds received support programs of the American Legion for our veterans, families and events.

Payments can be made - by cash, check, bank check, money order, or on-line at :
mylegion.org.

If you have any questions, or concerns please contact me at the post (843) 553-5454.

Janet Rein
1st Vice Commander
Membership Chairman



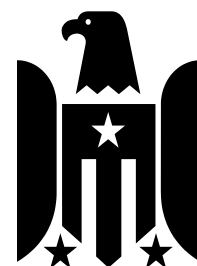
POST SERVICE OFFICER

DID YOU KNOW ???

That you can check the status on your VA claim on your:

MYHEALTHEVET.COM account

Janise K. Jenson
Post Service Officer, Post 166
843-553-5454



AUXILIARY REPORT

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA

We had a busy June and I really want to thank EVERYONE for their help and support in making our events successful! Even though we made everything happen with the ones that did volunteer, we still need more people to step up and help! Not only helping the Auxiliary but helping the Post and all the entities connected to the Post! If YOU want the Post and its entities to keep doing what we are doing then YOU need to volunteer some of YOUR time. Can YOU spare a few hours a week?

July actually starts our new year and our officers are in place and our calendar is set! We are starting off with our Back to School bookbag and supply event. We purchase bookbags and then collect school supplies to fill them and distribute them to several local schools. We need YOUR support in filling these bookbags. Please contact Nina Waddell at 843-797-1525 and she can give you a list of what is needed. We will be collecting the whole month of July and will then fill the bookbags and distribute them in August just before school starts. Hope we can count on YOU.

To all the members and interested members we invite you to our regular monthly meetings at the Post on the 1st Monday of each month starting at 7pm. You are welcome to share any idea you have that might help us in our mission of supporting our Post, helping and assisting our Veterans, our military and our military families. If you have any questions that I may answer please do not hesitate to ask. You may contact me by phone, text or email and I will get back to you with that answer or have someone with an answer get back to you as soon as possible. My contact information is Gloria Evans-Hill at 843-343-4212 or geh29445@gmail.com. Let me hear from you.

Please check on OUR Veterans, military and military families along with YOUR family, neighbors and friends that may be needing a helping hand. Pray for those that may be sick, homebound or who may have lost a loved one. If YOU know of anyone in distress please take the time to LISTEN and don't be afraid to ASK questions and GUIDE them to get the help that they may need. BE THE ONE!

Our next meeting will be August 5th at 7:00pm

For Service not Self

Gloria Evans-Hill, President



Membership Update:

2025 membership cards are available for those who wish to pay early. You may pay your membership dues of \$50.00 by cash or check, payable to ALA Unit 166. Remember your 2024 membership card is valid until December 31, 2024.

Early Bird Breakfast is scheduled for October 19th.

Auxiliary members who pay their 2025 dues by December 2nd will have their name put into a drawing to have their dues for 2026 paid for by the Unit. The drawing will be held at our January 6th meeting.

In service not self,

Louise Dixon, VP and Membership Chairman, 843.343.1483

SAL Squadron 166 NEWS

A message from Commander:

We would like to thank everyone that came out to support our annual fish fry. It was great to see everyone and it was another great event for the SAL. A special thanks to our brothers Clyde Chandler, David Claiborne and Ronald Todd for running another successful fish fry!

I look forward to meeting the new members at the new members meet & greet, the last Saturday of every month. Come on out and say hello. Let's help show our new members what a great post they have joined.

Finally, Happy Independence Day!!! We wish everyone a safe and fun holiday.

Please, volunteer when and where you can. Remember, it's the members that make the post great!

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
JASON VAN HEUMEN
COMMANDER
SAL SQUAD 166



TAPS

It is my duty to report with great sadness that Legionnaires:

JOE McGRORTY

ANDY KREEK

FRANK PELLEGRINI

Has reported to the Supreme Commander.

The Legion family greatly grieves the loss of these Comrades.

May Almighty God give their families comfort and strength during this period of need.

The Legion family sends their love and support during this time of grief.

Lee Swerczek
Post Commander



www.patriotguard.org

South Carolina Patriot Guard Riders
Charlie "Doorman" Ford
Ride Captain

(C) 843-530-0998

rcharlief@aol.com

We Are Here to Honor Your Fallen Veterans.

THIS IS A FREE SERVICE

Just Use Web Site For Our Services Or To Join

Thank You

SHOW YOUR PRIDE*

WEAR A POST SHIRT/HAT

**ORDER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE
CALENDAR BOX ON THE CLUB SIDE.**

ALL ORDERS ARE PRE-PAID.



AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY



BACK TO SCHOOL

Supply Drive!

Drop Off Location:

**American Legion Post 166
116 Howe Hall Rd Goosecreek SC**

**Please call Nina at 843-797-1525
for questions and when dropping
off items**

WHAT WE NEED?



Book bag items for example pens pencils,
paper, crayons, rulers, glue sticks

Games are also needed for children to
play after breakfast: example Connect 4,
Jenga, Checkers, Candy Land



PLEASE DROP OFF ITEMS BY JULY 30TH

THANK YOU



Ralph H Johnson VA Medical Center

Help support our veterans in need and restock our closet....

1. Men's clothing: Small, Medium and X Large shorts, t shirts, sweatpants, sweat jackets and Sweat pants
2. Men's shoes: Size 8, 8.5, 9, 9.5, 10, 10.5, 11, 11.5
3. Hygiene items for men and woman: Deodorant, body lotion, shampoo/conditioner, toothpaste
4. Reading glasses: 1.0, 1.25, 1.5, 1.75, 2.0, 2.25, 2.5, 2.75, 3.0, 3.25, 3.5, 3.75, 4.0, 4.25, 4.5, 4.75
5. Shower shoes: Sizes 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14
6. Snacks (granola bars, chips, water, any snack item that is nonperishable and individually wrapped)

Here is the VA wish list.

[Link to Amazon Wishlist](#)

For questions, please call Voluntary Service at 843-789-7230



Christmas in July

***WELCOME NEW MEMBERS ***

Welcome to our new members:

Timothy A. Scoville, Eric Smith, Kwame Kinlaw, James Breen, Earenst Powell, Kevin Anderson, Betty Swem.

Attending the General Membership Meeting, 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7PM is a great way to get introduced to your Post.

Janet Rein, 1st Vice Cmdr.

Membership Chairman



LEGIONNAIRES

Tired of receiving dues renewal notices in the mail. Please consider becoming a:

Paid Up For Life (PUFL) Member of the American Legion. Go to MyLegion.org and log on under membership and you can get all information about becoming a **PUFL**.

Become a **PUFL**, you will be glad you did.

Janet Rein, 1st Vice, 843-553-5454



***COMMERATIVE BRICKS*
AVAILABLE**

FOR PURCHASE

CONTACT OFFICE AT:

843-553-5454 FOR INFO / PURCHASE



POST 166 NEWCOMERS

MEET AND GREET

Last Saturday of every month

9-11 AM

**Join us for coffee and donuts
and meet our newest members.**



LEGION RIDERS

Our Riders meeting is on 20 July 2024

On 21 July 2024 we will host our 19th Annual Christmas in July Event which supports the Patriot Villas Veterans Home in N. Charleston.

We have a flyer circulating (see attachment) that address the items need the most. Everyone is welcome. Have a safe summer and stay cool.

H. Devarie, Jr.
ALR Chapter 166
Director
843-377-6899



**USE THIS
QR CODE FOR OUR
*WEBSITE***



Please COME BY THE Post and see our commemorative Patio and Mural*

****POST 166 HONOR GUARD****

The Honor Guard has always been the smallest tenant at the Post. Our roster has rarely reached a dozen members trained to present full Military Honors and in the past few months our numbers have been reduced by three. Two of our members, Mick Potter and Andy Kreek, have reported to the Supreme Commander at Post Everlasting and another member has been forced to retire for medical reasons. Mick and Andy each served in the Honor Guard for nearly 15 years and the other man gave almost 10 years. Truly, they gave dedicated service to our missions.

The loss of these long-serving and faithful members in such a short period hurts and will be felt for some time. These men were our compatriots in hundreds of funerals and Post related services. They were our friends and helped maintain the high standards necessary for our work. Their experience and guidance were invaluable assets and they will be missed for all these reasons.

Despite heavy hearts, the rest of our membership will continue to carry out the tasks and duties inherent with our role. Our membership has already stepped up to accept additional personal duties and responsibilities within the unit structure. At the same time, we continue soliciting new members to augment our ranks.

We are primarily seeking retirees, male or female, who are willing to devote a few hours a month in providing Military Honors for funerals of Veterans and supporting special Post events. Yes, 2 of our riflemen are female! The main task is handling and firing an M-1 rifle. The manual of arms is not complicated at all. We will teach you & outfit you and all we ask for in return is some of your time and a positive attitude.

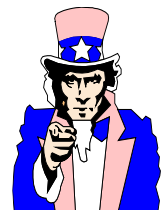
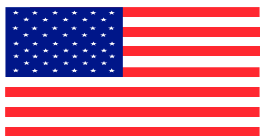
Post 166 is one of the few Honor Guard units in the state. We have a lengthy and proud tradition of excellence and invite you to join with us. For more information, contact me at 843-789-3597 or

For the Guard,

Mike Thomas via e-mail at Thomdav2@att.net.



****HONOR GUARD NEEDS YOU****



Post 166 Chaplain's Report

V.A.V.S. Report

1. Ralph H. Johnson VAMC

*

2. Specialty Clinics

- * Masks are relaxed, but still required to be worn when /where appropriate.
- * Goose Creek Clinic
 - Normal operation (nothing to report)

3. Volunteer Service

- * New volunteers are being accepted.
- COVID-19 Vaccinations are no longer being required: however, you must sign the Memo Wavier for VAMC Liability, and be on file. (See Bill Streuber for Waiver)
- Must get Flu Vaccine every year.
- * V.A.V.S. Quarterly Meeting - Monday, March 25 at 13:00 WebEx*

4. Volunteer Report

- * June's Volunteer Activity - North Charleston Clinic
 - Nothing to report
- * June's Activity
 - Nothing to report.
 - Chaplain will be working on visiting veterans at local Assisted Living Centers.
 - More information to be provided.

* Activity Report

- Visiting Report

<u>Volunteers</u>	<u>Veterans</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Donations</u>
13	363	60	874.2	\$273.17

- Volunteer Service Report

<u>Volunteers</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Services Rendered</u>
1	273	2,800	Reminder Phone Calls

Chaplain's Report

1. Sickness and Distress

* If you are in need of the Post Chaplain please contact Bill Streuber at (843)469-8154 or westreuber@homesc.com.

2. Cards Mailed Out

- * Sympathy: 3 (Joseph McGrorty Family; Karen Clair Family; Andy Kreek Family)
- * Get Well: 2 (Frank Pellegrini; William Simpson)
- * Thinking of You: 0

3. Memorial Services

* Preparing for Joseph McGrorty Celebration of Life to be held at the Post Saturday, June 29th at 13:00.

4. Chaplain's Administration

*Purchasing a Kapok Life Vest / Jacket for the Four Chaplain Interfaith Memorial Ceremony

William E. (Bill) Streuber,
V.A.V.S Chairman / Post Chaplain



40 & 8 REPORT

The installation of Officers has been completed and we are ready to start the new year.

Grande Promenade is July 26th & 27th in Murrells Inlet at Post 178. Now would be an excellent time to get involved at the Grand level.

This month's promenade will be busy with events to be discussed. We have the Nationale Promenade in September. The new membership cards should be in so it would be a Golden opportunity to get your new cards.

I would still like to see more participation in our Voiture activities in the coming year. This is your Voiture, Help make it all it can be.

Brian (Bat) Masterson

Chef de Gare Passe



CABANE 1067

Thank you V-1067 for the installation of officers. The Dames decided to keep the same office that they held last year. I had the pleasure to present the Dottie Mustain award to Joyce Willis and the Heidi Spigelmire award to Dell Simpson.

Thank you for all your hard work. With your support, I know we will have another great year. We gave money to Wreaths Across America. Also a donation was made to Youth Sports, Nurses Training, Child Welfare, and the Train Fund.

Our next Rendezvous will be on July 23rd.

The Grande Rendezvous will be July 26 & July 27 at Murrell's Inlet. I hope to see you there. For God and Country.

Kathy Ahner, La Presidente



FLAG DROP BOX

There is a flag drop off box located in front of the Post. This box is designated for old worn out flags that need to be disposed of. If you have such a flag at home or at your business, you may come by anytime and drop it off in the Flag Retirement Box or bring it inside and we'll make sure it is properly disposed in a proper manner.

Lee Swerczek, Post Commander



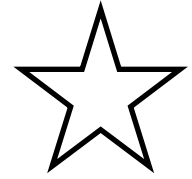
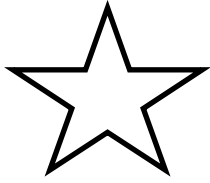
LOTS OF ACTIVITIES
THIS MONTH
COME JOIN THE FUN



VETERANS & ACTIVE DUTY

MILITARY

“ALL WELCOME”



BE THE ONE

LEGIONNAIRES; RECRUIT *3* NEW MEMBERS,

GET A *BE THE ONE PIN*

JANET REIN, 1st VICE. CMDR.

ATTENTION

THE AUXILIARY ASKS YOU TO PLEASE BRING COUPONS TO SUPPORT MILITARY FAMILIES OVERSEAS

BOX IS IN THE BAR

WANTED*

ALUMINUM CANS ; PLEASE BRING YOUR EMPTY ALUMINUM CANS ONLY TO THE POST FOR RECYCLING. THEY SUPPORT OUR JROTC PROGRAM.

BLESSING BOX

A Blessing Box has been set up in front of the Post next to the Flag Retirement Box. This box is for anyone who would like to donate nonperishable items for those in need in the local community. Items can be put in the box anytime. Let us show the community the American Legion Post 166 really does care.

Lee Swerczek,
Post Commander



HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT
OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AT:
AMERICANLEGIONPOST166
GOOD INFO TO BE HAD.



Over forty years experience

MICHAEL HODGE
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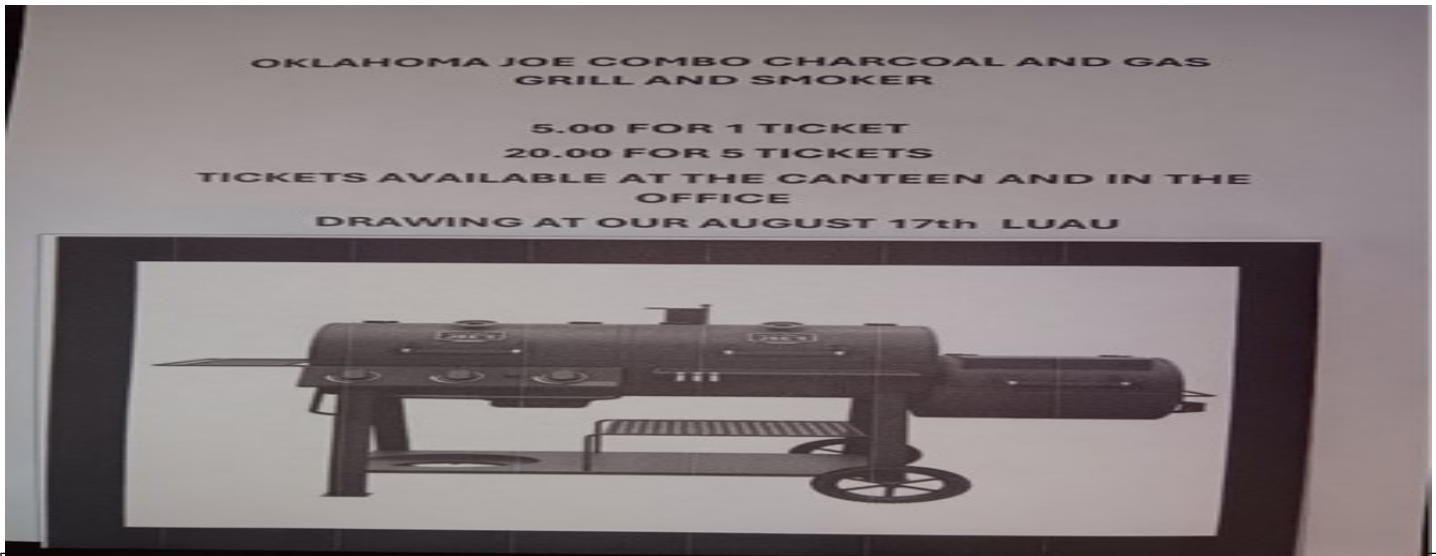
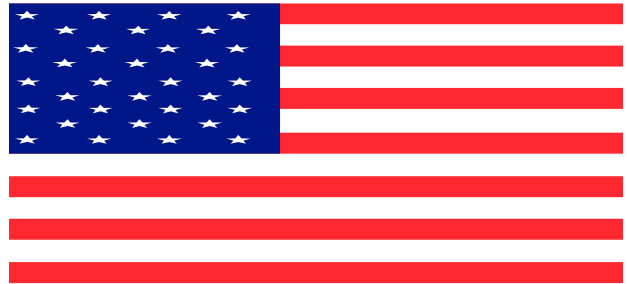


PLEASE DONATE TO THE POST BY SHARING THIS LINK WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY

[HTTPS://WWW.PAYPAL.COM/DONATE/?HOSTED_BUTTON_ID=R876A3VN2U2D8](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=R876A3VN2U2D8)

THANK YOU

LEE SWERCZEK, POST COMMANDER



PROOF OF SERVICE REQUIRED

The American Legion Membership Application

(Name) _____ (Date of Birth) _____

(Mailing Address) _____ (Phone Number) _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____ (Post #) **0166**

(E-mail) _____ Male Female **\$60.00** (Gender) (Dues)

I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably.
Please check appropriate service era and branch of service below

<input type="checkbox"/> Global War on Terror	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army
<input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy
<input type="checkbox"/> Panama	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force
<input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon/Grenada	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines
<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard
<input type="checkbox"/> Korea	<input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Marines (WWII only)
<input type="checkbox"/> WWII	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Conflicts	

30-009 Signature of applicant _____ Date _____ Name of recruiter _____

Receipt of Dues
(Please Print)

From _____ for 20 _____ Post # _____

Recruiter's Name _____

Recruiter's Signature _____

Recruiter's Phone # _____



COME DINE WITH US

GOOD FOOD

GREAT TIMES

FREE BIRTHDAY MEAL

This is a special invitation to all members of the Legion Family. On your birthday, if we are serving food, (6 days a week), your meal is free. Just show your waitress your current membership card and ID card when ordering.

A special birthday present from the Post.



TIN CAN SAILORS

Shipmates: Another POD. We are cruising swiftly through the year, and have down range plans for the crew and our commitment to keeping the crew stable and expanding. Plans are in final stages of storage shed completion, and long range plans do a bull session in the April, May, June time frame like we did Liberty Call back before the pandemic. This would be a one day all sailor event where all ship riders are invited no matter what platform they rode.

This could be a building block for us to increase our manning, and provide more input to the community and other Tin Can Riders. This could include doing a Navy Breakfast that morning, and get together to swap sea stories and other things we could offer. We need to discuss so we can forward to National to get in the Spring issue of the magazine so we can get the word out early, and get some National recognition and support.

Put in the back of your mind, plans for our next fundraiser, if we want to continue with doing BBQ or change up with another plan. Would like to possibly discuss at July or August meeting to allow planning time.

Please check out our website and provide any improvements, additions or corrections you would like to see. Would love to have more crew involvement to enhance our visibility.

Dean Skipper



ATTENTION

BLUE PLATE DINNER SPECIALS

LAST PAGE OF NEWSLETTER

FLYERS FOR ALL EVENTS

AVAILABLE ON LINE AND AT THE POST



AMERICAN
LEGION

4th of July

INDEPENDENCE DAY
PICNIC At The POST



3 pm \$ 5 Per person

Bring a dish, sign up sheet is at the bar
We will have games, prizes, and a dunk tank



Pickin at the Post will
start a 6pm

Bar opens at
1PM

Made with PosterMyWall.com



COME GET YOUR TICKETS FOR THE JULY 4TH BASKET!!! SO MUCH GOODNESS IN 1 BASKET.

HORSE SOLDIER BOURBON

PATRIOTIC DECANTER WITH SHOT GLASSES AND DISPLAY STAND

ALSO SPECIAL WOODEN CARRY CASE

USA SCENTSY WARMER WITH WAX
RED WINE WITH PATRIOTIC LABEL

4 DIFFERENT HOME DECO ITEMS ALL
DECORATED WITH OUR BEAUTIFUL
FLAG COLORS.

ALONG WITH SO MANY OTHER THINGS
IN THIS BASKET

TICKETS:

6 FOR 5.00

30 FOR 20.00



American Legion Riders **19th Annual**



Christmas in July Ride

When: Sunday July 21, 2024

Where: Meet at Post 166 for Breakfast (breakfast starts at 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 am
Kickstands Up at 11:00 a.m. for Ride to Patriot Villas
(all vehicles welcome)

What to Bring: Christmas Unwrapped Gifts (see List on Back)



American Legion

116 Howe Hall Road, Goose Creek, SC

Contact: JR Devarie, Director 843-377-6899 or Bruce Richburg 843-834-3193 for Any Questions

See Page 2 For List Of Needed Items

LISTED OF ITEMS NEEDED

*** AVAILABLE AT THE POST AND ON POST WEBSITE:
ALP166SC.COM***