

# AMERICAN LEGION POST 373 NEWSLETTER



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Web address: [www.alpost373orangepark.com](http://www.alpost373orangepark.com)  
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**Commander  
Robert "Bob" Brewster**

**Chartered 1996  
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## COMMANDER'S CORNER

### CONGRATULATIONS!!

To all of you in the Legion, the Auxiliary, and the Sons of the Legion who have renewed for 2018 so once again, our Post is a 100% American Legion Post. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> time in 10 years that we were able to do this. I also know that we have some Legion members who have not renewed yet. They must renew in the next 2 weeks so that their 2019 membership card will be printed out in full by National. Approximately the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March, National will start printing out the 2019 cards. Those who renew for 2018 after that date, their cards for 2019 will have to be hand printed. It takes a little time to print out over 2 million cards for the Legion and S.A.L. I also believe this could be true for the Auxiliary.

Our Post will receive the 100% Family Award Banner. When you come to our meetings, you will see these banners attached to the Legion, Auxiliary, Sons of the Legion flags. Again, I want to thank all of you for your support.

For the first time in our brief history (10 years), we are sending 2 boys to Boy Scouts State this year, and we are also sending 3 cadets to the Florida Highway Patrol/American Legion Program. In the first 2 months of this year, our Post has helped 5 vet families in our area with financial help. Not one of these families was in any way connected to The American Legion. We do not put any pressure on these vet families to join our Post. Over the last 14 years that I have been a Post Commander, first at Post 250 for 4 years, and now 10 years at Post 373, we have helped well over 200 vet families to stay in their homes and put food on the table. Without searching through my records, I don't think more than 6 or

**COMMANDER'S CORNER** (continued)

8 vets who we helped are members of the Legion today. It is a little frustrating, but remember our moto passed down from National headquarters is simple . %ets Helping Vets.+

In the next couple of weeks, you will find on our Post 373 face book page and on my personal face book page, complete information concerning the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Clay County Veterans Appreciation Day which will be held at the Thrasher Horne Center on April 14, 2018, from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. This event is free, and there will be a lot of entertainment for the adults and kids and a lot of useful information for our veterans as to what benefits they qualify for. Any questions on this event, please contact me at 904-272-1619. You should see posters about this event everywhere.

**For God and Country,  
Bob Brewster, Commander**



- ★ VA Representatives & Informational Booths
- ★ Legal Services
- ★ Clay County Cruzers Car & Legion Riders Motorcycle Display
- ★ Universities & Colleges
- ★ U.S. Small Business Administration
- ★ All Day Free Kids Activities
- ★ Vendors & Food Trucks
- ★ Employers
- ★ Community Booths
- ★ Home & Healthcare Booths
- ★ Guest Speakers
- ★ Military & Construction Vehicles on Display
- ★ Clay County High Schools NJROTC
- ★ Military Recruiters

Entertainment and Much More!

Special Appearance By:

**THE 501<sup>ST</sup> LEGION**



**Jacksonville Jaguars Cheerleaders**



View updates at:

[www.claycountygov.com/departments/veterans-services](http://www.claycountygov.com/departments/veterans-services)

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### **AMERICAN LEGION POST 373 ACTIVITIES**

1. We place flags on veterans graves during the Memorial Day weekend.
2. We help veteran families in need with financial help.
3. We transport veterans to the Jax Clinic, Gainesville VA, and many more locations.
4. Our Post members are active in the Clay County Veterans Council.
5. We award school medals for students at the elementary and middle schools in our area. We would also do this if high schools request it.
6. We take part in all veteran holiday festivities.
7. We retire worn and tattered American flags.
8. Our members attend all District meetings representing our Post.
9. Our Post members attend and work both the District and the Area Oratorical Contests.
10. Post members give blood in our Post name.
11. We have a certified veterans service officer at our Post to assist our members with their V.A. claims.
12. We are involved in many more Legion functions, which in turn helps our veterans and their families.

**For God and Country,  
Bob Brewster, Commander**

### **AUXILIARY NEWS**

The 5<sup>th</sup> District ABC School (Auxiliary Basic Concepts) will be held Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at Post 88, 3662 Spring Park Road, Jacksonville, FL 32207. Registration starts at 8:30 AM and the school begins at 9:00 AM.

We will begin the process of nominating officers for the 2018-2019 year at the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. If you are interested in holding a position please attend the meeting.

**For God and Country,  
Collette “Collie” Brewster, President**

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## IMPORTANT MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER

**Post/Unit 373 meetings** are held the **4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday** of each month (**except December**) at the Orange Park Lions Club, 423 McIntosh Avenue, Orange Park, FL 32073.

Our **March** meeting is scheduled for **March 27, 2018** at **7:00 PM**

Our **April** meeting is scheduled for **April 24, 2018** at **7:00 PM**

\* \* \* \* \*  
Sunday, **April 8, 2018** at **2:00 PM**, **5th District Legion & Auxiliary** meetings, will be held at **Post 54**, 626 S 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034.  
\* \* \* \* \*

Please e-mail your articles for Post 373's November/December newsletter to either Bob Brewster at [mr.bobbrewster@gmail.com](mailto:mr.bobbrewster@gmail.com) or Barb Jonte at [bjonte49@att.net](mailto:bjonte49@att.net) by **April 26, 2018**.

### American Legion Post 373 Legion Officers 2017-2018

Commander	Bob Brewster	904-272-1619
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	John Roberson	904-688-1387
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	Elmer Wine	904-705-4095
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander	Godson Obiagwu	904-343-5770
Financial Officer	Charlie Leister	904-272-8410
Adjutant	Frank W. Gianino	904-276-5921
Service Officer	Edgardo Silva	904-477-2761
Chaplain	Joe Wright	904-269-7676
Historian	Johnny Odom	904-215-2901
Sergeant at Arms	Matt Ruxton	904-272-4179
Sergeant at Arms	Steve Valliere	904-625-5930
Executive Committee	Wanda Ruxton	904-272-4179
Executive Committee	Al Jonte	904-213-1073
Executive Committee	Bill Walsh	904-657-8177

### American Legion Auxiliary Unit 373 Officers 2017-2018

President	Collette Brewster	904-272-1619
Vice President	Ramona Horn	904-318-0313
Secretary-Treasurer	Barbara Jonte	904-213-1073
Sgt. at Arms	Joyce Forsythe	904-272-5204
Chaplain	Shirley Wright	904-269-7676
Historian	Ramonita Silva	904-276-2378
Executive Committee	Elsie Fifer	904-272-2008
Executive Committee	Glenna Roberson	904-688-1387
Executive Committee	Sarah Davis	904-272-9046

**\*\*\*If you are receiving this newsletter by snail mail and have an e-mail address, please provide your e-mail address to Bob Brewster at [mr.bobbrewster@gmail.com](mailto:mr.bobbrewster@gmail.com)\*\*\***