

# AMERICAN LEGION POST 373

## NEWSLETTER



**P.O. Box 2212**  
**ORANGE PARK, FLORIDA 32067-2212**  
**Web address: [alpost373orangepark.com](http://alpost373orangepark.com)**

**Commander**  
**Robert "Bob" Brewster**

**Chartered 1996**  
**Volume 6 Issue 4**  
**July/August 2016**

### COMMANDER'S CORNER

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL 388 MEMBERS WHO ARE CARD-CARRYING MEMBERS FOR 2016. Because of you, our Post has hit our 8<sup>th</sup> straight all-time high in membership. Membership makes the Post, not the officers. At the State Convention June 15<sup>th</sup> through June 19<sup>th</sup>, our Post was recognized for the Programs we are involved in and for our consistently exceeding membership goals. On June 28, 2016, at our regularly scheduled meeting, we had our Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL officers officially installed for the 2016-2017 calendar year. We are now one of the largest membership Posts in the state of Florida without a home. I am constantly asked just how do we do it. My answer is: It's our members who renew every year and find new members to join our Post. We have a good slate of officers who really care about this Post and go all out to make it better. I am proud to serve another year as your Commander, but I am more than willing to train myself out of this position. You can help us with membership by getting your sons, daughters, all family members, friends, and associates to join. Our membership goal this year for the Legion is 390 members. I would like to see our total at 401 members. This will move us into Category 5. We are also planning another raffle to raise money for our Building Fund. Right now we are at 40% of the total we need to seriously move into a Post home of our own. The question is always asked . would your local community miss you if you closed up this Post? That goes for all Posts all over the country. I can honestly answer . YES, we would be missed. For each of the last 8 years, we have helped many of the veterans in this area by keeping a roof over their heads and food on their tables. As I sign off on all emails and other communications . VETS HELPING VETS! And that is not only our motto, but the main reason that this Post exists.

NOTE: I can't thank all the members individually who have helped this Post this past year, but I do want to thank the 20+ members and the Ridgeview High School NROTC members and their leadership who came together to place flags on veterans' graves for this past Memorial Day. We should have pictures in our history book for your viewing very soon. I also want to thank all of the officers and chairmen of the various Programs that were concluded June 14, 2016, for a job well done! As Commander, I want you to understand that you, the members, make this Post what it is. No way can one or two people do it all.

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

## MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP

We are back from the State Convention with our 2017 membership cards. In the very near future, you will be receiving from National, your first renewal notice for 2017. As of July 1, 2016, our Post will be issuing the 2017 cards. You can make our job much easier by renewing early. This goes for the Legion, Auxiliary, SAL, and Riders. Our membership team is anxious to get started, for we want to continue to lead District 5 as the #1 Post to hit and exceed all membership goals.

Two years ago National started a Post Excellence Program, which includes Membership, Americanism, Children & Youth Programs, and Community Service. In case you did not know, our Post made the Post Excellence List two years in a row. So with your help, we will be heading towards our 3<sup>rd</sup> year in Post Excellence. We are building a legacy for our future leaders to follow.

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

### AUXILIARY NEWS

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** This year we will continue to support the staff and students at W. E. Cherry Elementary School. The classrooms run out of three items each year: tissues, hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes. We have decided that our first donation for the 2016-2017 school year will be these three items. Please start bringing your donations to our July and August monthly meetings.

**MEMBERSHIP:** As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, you can start renewing your membership for the upcoming year. Dues are \$25.00 for senior members and \$5.00 for junior members. Please plan on paying your renewal dues at our next monthly meeting, which will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, at the Orange Park Lions Club, 423 McIntosh Avenue, Orange Park, FL 32073. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please mail your renewal check to American Legion Auxiliary Unit 373, P. O. Box 2212, Orange Park, FL 32067-2212. Thank you to the members who have already renewed.

**For God and Country,  
Ramona Horn, President**



Installation of Legion/SAL Officers 2016 . 2017



Special Olympics Certificate of Appreciation



5<sup>th</sup> District President Robbin Walker & Unit 373 Vice President Collette Brewster



Installation of Auxiliary Officers 2016 - 2017

**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 **July** meeting is scheduled for **July 26, 2016** at **7:00 PM**

Our **August** meeting is scheduled for **August 23, 2016** at **7:00 PM**

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Sunday, **August 14, 2016** at **2:00 PM**, **5th District Legion & Auxiliary** meetings, will be held at **Post 316**, 1127 Atlantic Blvd, Atlantic Beach, FL 32233-2516.

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Please e-mail your articles for Post 373's September/October newsletter to either Bob Brewster at [brewsterrobert@bellsouth.net](mailto:brewsterrobert@bellsouth.net) or Barb Jonte at [bjonte49@att.net](mailto:bjonte49@att.net) by **August 28, 2016**.

**American Legion Post 373 Legion Officers 2016-2017**

Commander	Bob Brewster	904-272-1619
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	Al Jonte	904-213-1073
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	Elmer Wine	904-705-4095
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander	Godson Obiagwu	904-343-5770
Finance Officer	Charlie Leister	904-272-8410
Adjutant	Frank W. Gianino	904-276-5921
Sgt. at Arms	Matt Ruxton	904-272-4179
Sgt. at Arms	John Odom	
Historian	Joanie Haff	904-444-0760
Chaplain	Joe Wright	904-269-7676
Executive Committee	Wanda Ruxton	904-272-4179
Executive Committee	Bob Forsythe	904-272-5204
Executive Committee	John Roberson	904-688-1387

**American Legion Auxiliary Unit 373 Officers 2016-2017**

President	Ramona Horn	904-318-0313
Vice President	Collette Brewster	904-272-1619
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 [brewsterrobert@bellsouth.net](mailto:brewsterrobert@bellsouth.net).\*\*\***