

AMERICAN LEGION POST 373 NEWSLETTER



**P.O. Box 2212
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**Commander
Robert "Bob" Brewster**

**Chartered 1996
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COMMANDER'S CORNER

By the time you are reading this, my wife and I will be attending the Department of Florida Convention in Orlando, Florida. Upon our return, we will be starting the early bird membership drive for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Our membership team has been working very hard during the last several months cleaning up our membership files, both the paper type and on the computer. At this time our Post has 309 Legion members, 13 members in the S.A.L., and 39 Auxiliary members (which puts them over 100% for another year). We have transferred in several new members who don't officially count this year, but will count when they renew for 2017-2018. Overall, with all your help, we will have another successful year. Those of you who renew any time between July 1, 2017, through Veterans Day in November will have the early bird stamp on your membership card.

Our Post is in very solid shape, and we are actually carrying over some money to the new fiscal year in our dues & reserve account. We operate our Post on the dues money that comes into us. Of your \$45.00 membership dues, \$16.00 stays with us, and the other \$29.00 goes on to the Department of Florida and to National Headquarters. All other money raised by our raffles and other means goes directly into our building fund. A financial report is given at every Post meeting and read into our files. Our books are open to any member for their review at our Post meetings.

Program wise . our Post has completed the best year ever. We have worked with and helped financially several veteran families in our area. We did not turn down anyone. Our Post Veteran Service Officer, Ed Silva, has again helped over 300 veterans this year. He is one of the best qualified V.S.O.s in the Department Florida. Our Post Adjutant, Frank Gianino, just completed a successful raffle, which brought in \$2,500 for our building fund. Every one of our officers has completed their job this year extremely well. We have also had an abundance of our members work with me on our various programs, such as Boy

COMMANDER'S CORNER (continued)

State, Law Cadet Program, school medals, Naval ROTC, baseball, blood drives, placing flags for our fallen veterans, flag retirement, and a host of other programs. Some of our members have been attending our District meetings representing our Post. A big thank you to our dual members who help us with our S.A.L. Last, but not least, we thank our fabulous ladies in our Auxiliary unit who do so much for our Post. They furnish refreshments at all of our Post meetings, and they are involved in so many projects of their own. Every Post in the Legion that is successful has a great Auxiliary unit.

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

BUILDING FUND RAFFLE WINNER

Congratulations to Sonya Gause, winner of Post 373's building fund raffle!!!



Presenting the rifle to Sonya is Legionnaire Susan Gianino.

HALLOWED GROUND

At all official Legion meetings and ceremonies, when the flags of our nation and the Legion flags are posted, no person is to reach between the flags for any reason. If you are presenting anything to the podium, you must approach the American flag, stop, and salute. Then proceed to the left side of the flag and do what is necessary. When your business is done, you will again walk around the left side of the flag, stop, and render a salute. It is the duty of the Sgt. at Arms to ensure that proper flag etiquette is rendered. It is also the duty of the Sgt. at Arms to guide all visitors and instruct them as to what they should do.

**For God and Country,
Matt Ruston, Sgt. at Arms**

AUXILIARY NEWS

Ladies please note, we will be having the 2017-2018 installation of officers at our July 25, 2017 monthly meeting. We encourage everyone to try and attend as many meetings as possible. We will also be starting our membership drive for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. I look forward to seeing you at this month's meeting.

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



Legionnaire and Auxiliary members, along with Ridgeview Naval ROTC, preparing to place flags on veteran's graves at Peoria Cemetery on May 26, 2017.

IMPORTANT MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER

Post/Unit 373 meetings are held the **4th 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 25, 2017** at **7:00 PM**

Our **August** meeting is scheduled for **August 22, 2017** at **7:00 PM**

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Sunday, **August 13, 2017** 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 July/August newsletter to either Bob Brewster at brewsterrobert@bellsouth.net or Barb Jonte at bjonte49@att.net by **August 25, 2017**.

American Legion Post 373 Legion Officers 2017-2018

Commander	Bob Brewster	904-272-1619
1 st Vice Commander	John Roberson	904-688-1387
2 nd Vice Commander	Elmer Wine	904-705-4095
3 rd 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	904-874-1718
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 brewsterrobert@bellsouth.net.*****