



Royal Canadian Legion Post 144 Pinellas County Florida Veterans Voice



February 2020

The next meeting will be on Monday 10 Feb. 7 p.m. at
American Legion Post 7 . 1760 Turner St. Clearwater FL.



Commander's Comments

Greetings all. We had a very good attendance at the KWVA International Meeting. Their remaining Members were pleased to have us there to help carry on their Ceremony of Honouring past Members. The Invasion of VFW Post 9272 was postponed, as many of us attended the Memorial Service for Mike O'Meara, a Post 144 Member, long-time President of the Pinellas County Veterans Council, a very strong proponent for Veteran's rights in this area, and a good friend to many of us. Well the elections are over for another two years. I appreciate your vote of confidence in having me as Commander again. Joe Dubuc is pleased to be our First Vice. After doing a great job for our Post, Nancy Hall declined to stand as Adjutant. Bill McDiarmid let his name stand, and is looking forward to being our Adjutant for the next term. We are looking for a Second Vice, preferably someone who lives in the area all year. Those who attended the Invasion on the 18th at VFW 9272 had a very good time. I missed it because I had flown up to Norfolk, VA to attend the Celebration of Life for the long-time Adjutant of RCL Post 180 Virginia Beach, one of the finest people I have ever met. Endearing, thankful words from others affirmed that he was extraordinary at seeing people's inner strengths, especially when they were down, and motivating them to excel beyond their dreams. "Voluntold" is a term they have for what Dean did with folks. Our presentation at the annual Canadian Snowbirds Extravaganza was very well received. Joe, Harry, Hart, Doug and I talked with hundreds of people about Post 144 and our growth goals in Pinellas County, Zephyrhills and Lakeland. We should have some new members as a result. Frosty Canuk, with his Canada flag and Legion badges on his vest, provided many photo ops for attendees. Our first Raid on AL Post 238 in Safety Harbor was a resounding success. We formed up outside and pounded on the door. When it was opened, guarded by three Post 238 Officers, we announced who we were

and demanded entrance so we could partake of a fine meal. On being admitted we followed our Post Banner around their bar and to our tables, to the applause and cheers of their full house. All who attended enjoyed a wonderful prime rib dinner served to our tables. We have been invited back. This year's AL District 16 Four Chaplains Memorial took place on Sunday the 2nd at AL Post 104. It was a beautiful Ceremony, and our attendance was acknowledged. On a sad note, we lost our beloved Barb Carey. We will miss her smiling cheerful presence at our meetings and events. Our Elvis shows for Friday, 7 February are drawing a lot of attention. The Friday night 7 pm show has been sold out for nearly two weeks. Ticket sales for the 2 pm show are better than the last two years, and will be available at the door. Come and enjoy Bruce Andrew Stewart's award winning performance as Elvis. You will remember his impersonation for a long time. Attend to our February General Meeting on the 10th and share Canadian Comradeship. Remember our National Flag of

Continued on page 7

Officers & Appointments

COMMANDER Dann Oliver CD
3128 59th St. S. #103 Gulfport FL.
33707 - 727-343-3843
dannoliver@galt.biz

PAST COMMANDER & Veterans Voice Editor

Gordon L. Bennett CD
727-440-6778
captglbcd@aol.com

1st VICE COMMANDER

Joe Dubuc CD
727-542-8314
dubucjoe@yahoo.com

Adjutant Finance

Bill McDiarmid 315-281-7794
wmcdiarmid@gmail.com

SGT-AT-ARMS

Doug Hall CD 727-474 3269

ASSISTANT SGT-AT-ARMS

Harry Hopps 727-525-0845

Ways & Means Bill McDiarmid ACTIVITIES & ENTERTAINMENT

Position Vacant

HISTORIAN

Joe Dubuc CD
dubucjoe@yahoo.com
QUARTERMASTER
Doug Hall -727-474-3269
dougell@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP Hart Watt

727-483-0835
hart.watt@gmail.com

Sick & Visiting

Call Joe Dubuc

Piper-

CHAPLAIN



ACTIVITIES & ENTERTAINMENT

A Post 144 Calendar of Events has been issued to all members ..

PLEASE KEEP IT IN A PROMINENT PLACE FOR REFERENCE!!



SATURDAY 15 Feb. Annual pot luck at Lorraine Davy's

In Here Dummy Tournament



Saturday 22 Feb. Ed Fletcher's Dinner Theatre 4 p.m.



Wednesday 4 March 11:30 a.m.



Lunch on the Patio/Tiki

Bar @ American Legion Post 252 Seminole

About 20 years ago, post 144 started the practice of visiting many of the other veterans clubs in the county. One of the first posts that we visited was Post 119 in Largo. They had a "Steak Night" on Friday. After considerable planning, we visited Post 119 for steaks, with over 40 of our members. Obviously, Post 119 was pleased, and it was the start of many years of great steaks, good entertainment, and the Flag Ceremony. Unfortunately, many of our members complained about the smoke, and attendance dropped off. **Good news!** Post 119 is now 'Smoke Free' I inquired about the steak night, and they would be very happy if we came to visit. I will make some more inquiries, and see if we can come up with an appropriate date.

Gord Bennett



Please gather any torn tattered or faded USA & Canadian flags, and bring them to our meeting. We will ensure that they are properly and ceremoniously disposed of.



If you know of

someone who is interested in joining our post, let Membership Chairman Hart Watt know, and he will provide them with a newsletter, and application forms.



Finding Kilroy Winners Circle

As it turned out, Kilroy wasn't as hard to find as we thought! Congratulations to Carol Styslo,

She picked the right card, and won the pot of \$150.00

Well, I was a bit disappointed that Find Kilroy was won at the last meeting, but congratulations to Carol on her win of \$150. With 45 cards still remaining, it was quite a surprise. Typically, these go down to the bitter end, and a large jackpot. I'd started this hoping that, as the season wore on, i could generate an interest in the pot, and a larger turnout of members. But now, it's too late to start another one, so we'll revert to "Share the Wealth" for the remainder of the season. Next year I'll look at it again.



Many Canadian Legion items, and Post 144 items are now available from your QM Stores, including Post 144 Coffee cups, Post 144 decals, baseball caps, and visors. All will be available at the next meeting. See me at the meeting. Take a look at our catalogue. If I haven't got what you need, I'll get it for you. . *Quartermaster*

Doug Hall 727-474-3269



Members !!! Please

make sure that your lady gets to read the newsletter. There are a lot of things going on that may be of interest to her. *The Editor*



Post 144 Colour Party

Colour Party

The "ceremony" of marching on the Colours, and playing of the Anthems at our

meetings is an important tradition that we need to maintain. **All that is required is a white shirt, and headdress.** We have five flags, USA - Canada - the Canadian Ensign, United Kingdom, and the Post Banner. Bring your headdress to the next meeting, just in case you're called upon.

We are always looking for volunteers.

We march on the Colours at our meetings at Post 7.

Doug Hall - Colour Party Commander.

727-542-8314



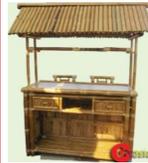
LUNCH ON THE PATIO/TIKI BAR

American Legion Post 252

11433 Park Blvd. Seminole, FL

On Park Blvd. just West of 113th. 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday 4 March. They are expecting us, so please don't disappoint.



They have a beautiful Tiki Bar outside, beside the pool The special on Wed. is meat loaf. Come and enjoy!!

Good friends are good for your health.



TORONTO BLUE JAYS

SATURDAY 14 MARCH

vs Tampa Bay Rays

This will be a premium game. Are you prepared to spend a little more?? We have 60 seats, at \$33.00 each.

We will be in our usual Section 203 1st. Base side.

See me for tickets!



As usual, we are planning to go to VFW post 2550 {360 Douglas Ave.

Dunedin Fl.} after the game for

Corned Beef and Cabbage!! You don't have to go to the game to Join us for the fun.

Gord Bennett 727-440-6778

captglbcd@aol.com



Post 144 Dues

Ordinary and Associate dues \$ 40.00

If you want to remain on our mailing list, please make sure your dues are current.

Remember! The American Legion, AMVETS, & VFW Posts will not accept 2019 Cards after 1 January 2020

If you are uncertain of your membership status, contact the Adjutant

Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.



Winter Comrades

Suggested Winter Comrade donations are only \$10.00, however, you must produce your current Membership card with the 2020 sticker from your Canadian Branch to qualify as a Winter Comrade.



Post 144 mailing address is

The Royal Canadian Legion
Post 144, Pinellas County Florida
1760 Turner St. Clearwater, FL. 33756



THIS IS WHERE YOU MAIL YOUR DUES



DINNER THEATRE

(The Canadian club has reserved for its members and guests the best 6 tables (ie 48 seats adjacent center stage) at Ed Flecher's Early Bird Dinner Theater(13355 49th. St. N. Clearwater) on Saturday, February 22nd, 2020 at 4pm. Everyone is welcome. We filled all 48 seats last year. The night out includes a delicious buffet and a live show and the cost is \$36.00 per person, which includes tax. The live theater play this year is **"The Wild Women of Winedale"**, a comedy that focuses on a feisty and fun loving trio of women at a crossroads in their lives who come up with delightful and surprisingly unorthodox ways to clear the clutter from their lives, their homes and their relationships so they can move their lives forward into a grand new adventure. To reserve your seat(s) you will need to give Neil MacArthur (727-474-6198) \$36.00 per seat on or before our luncheon on February 12th, 2020. Ed Flecher's requires the money at least a week before the event. Many thanks to Neil. He does a great job organizing this event. **Call Neil MacArthur 727-474-6198**

neilmacdent@hotmail.com.

GOOD NEWS !!

Don't miss out! We managed to get an extra table! There are still some seats available!

Call Neil MacArthur at (727) 474-6198 or neilmacdent@hotmail.com.



As you are probably aware, there is a reciprocity agreement with the **American Legion** and the **Royal Canadian Legion**. This allows our members to have 'Canteen Privileges' at most American Legion Posts. We have also been given the same privilege with **AMVETS**. It all started with **VFW Post 9272** in Seminole. Since then a number of other Veterans Clubs in the area have agreed to accept Canadian Legion cards at their posts. **Post 2550 VFW** in Dunedin will accept RCL cards, as well as **VFW Post 10304** (724 Tuskawilla St. at Myrtle) in Clearwater. (**Post 10304 and Post 2550 are 'Smoke Free', as well as Post 7)** **Post 119 Largo** is now smoke free!! We should all take advantage of these privileges, as they have been hard won. **Show your RCL card, and make some new friends.**

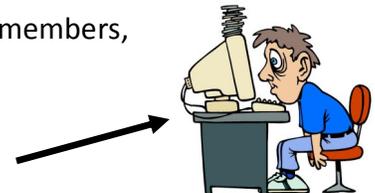


Editors Note:- Canteen privileges at any of the US veterans clubs is a **privilege, not a right**. They have the authority to refuse service to anyone they wish. We are fortunate in that we are welcome and accepted at most VSO Posts in Pinellas County.

Editor's Note

I requested that all Post 144 officers submit their reports to me with any info they would like included in the Veterans Voice. I can only print what has been provided. If you have something that you would like to pass on to the members, let me know.

Editor hard at work





So, Carol and I have a new combined phone plan, which i think is a great deal, but make up your own mind. I found this carrier through the Legion magazine. This is a Canada/US plan. Use seamlessly between the 2 countries. Monthly, We share 600 talk minutes, of which i will use 10 or so, unlimited texts, unlimited talk between us, which does not affect our 600 minutes, and voicemail. New phones included. Right now, its a motorola G7 (look it up on utube, good phone). Presently, talk time is doubled, which is why we have 600 minutes, and bill is -10%, so \$63 monthly. This is through Simply Connect, based in Vancouver. Carol has been using their service for 2 years, and I've found them excellent to deal with.

Bill McDiarimid



Sunshine State Chapter

Korean War Veterans Association

The annual “International Ceremony” was held at the Largo Moose Lodge on Thursday, 9 January. We marched on the Flags, to the rousing music from the Harmonica Band from Gulfport, and Dann Oliver played the anthems of the USA, Korea, Australia, Canada, and the UK. After the anthems had been played, the flag bearers read out the names of the “Departed” from the Chapter since it was formed. The names were all embroidered on the Chapter “Not Forgotten” flag. Carrying the flags from Post 144 were - Ben Infuso, Don Kennedy, Hart Watt, Doug Hall, & Joe Dubuc. The UN Flag was carried by Korea Veteran Frank Anderson and the Chapter Flag by Brenda Vollett, the widow of a Korea vet. The “Not Forgotten” Flag was displayed by Meredith Slavins, the wife of Bill Slavins. We had pizza, and more entertainment from the harmonica band.

I am overly proud of the way that Post 144 members stepped in to participate in this event. I don’t know how many more years we have left, but I hope we will be doing it again next year.

Gord Bennett



Post 144 Golf & Tee Shirts.

The wearing of post 144 Golf or Tee shirts, especially at our social functions, is a good way to show pride in the post. Whether it is lunch on the deck at Post 252, the Baseball game, the Invasion of 9272, or one of our picnics etc., members are encouraged to wear the shirts, to advertise the post. When people see how much fun we are having, they will want to join us. If you haven’t got yours yet, **see the QM.** *He has a new supply of Men’s and Ladies' shirts for sale.*

Doug Hall 727-474-3269

Wear your Post 144 Shirt !



Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity



Evelyn has been sick for over 3 weeks. She is steadily improving. Hopefully, she will be able to attend some of our upcoming events. If you know of any other members who are ill, please let Joe Dubuc know.

He will send a card .



Joe Dubuc 727-542-8314



I shall take you to bed and have my way with you.
I will make you ache, shake, and sweat until you moan and groan.

I will make you beg me to stop!
When I am finished you will be weak for days.
Sincerely,
the Flu.

What did you expect?



To help members find their way to some of our events, I am including the addresses, so you can use your GPS if you are not familiar with the location.

Elections for Royal Canadian Legion Post 144

Pinellas County, were held at the January meeting. The positions up for election were - Commander, 1st Vice Commander, 2nd Vice Commander, and Adjutant . Nominations were made to Nancy Hall.

Final Results (All Acclaimed) Commander Dann Oliver. 1st Vice, Joe Dubuc, 2nd Vice. vacant, Adjutant, Bill McDiarmid
Please be prepared to give them your full support.



Bruce Andrew Stewart, as Elvis is coming to Post 7!! Friday 7 Feb.2020. 2 shows on this day. Matinee at 2 p.m and evening at 7 p.m. Ticket sales are limited to 200 per show, so if you are planning to attend, get your tickets ASAP. Reserve a table for 8, or sit with others. Brian's Kitchen will be open for lunch and dinner. Contact Dann at - info@rclpost144.org or call 727-343-3843

**Commanders comments.
Continued from page 1**

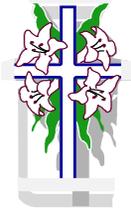
Canada Day Picnic Pot Luck and Games at Lorraine Davey's on the 15th. You may bring as many friends as you want to any of our meetings and events. Keep having a great time in the sunshine. Yours in Comradeship. Commander Dann.



**Honours
and
Awards**



Any member that is due to receive an award for service, e.g. 5-10-15-20 yrs etc., please make sure that Joe Dubuc has the details. Presentations will be made at the Memorials and Awards meeting. 9 March of 2020.



**In Memoriam
Barbara Joyce Carey**



The Canadian Club Canadien

will be meeting for lunch at

Banquet Masters on

Wednesday 12 February. 11:a.m. 13355 9th.St.N. Clearwater.
(SE corner of 49th & Ulmerton) For more information, call

Dann Oliver

727-343-3843



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS OF POST 144

A wise saying (as heard on TV)— The wealthiest camel has the biggest hump.