

Veterans serving
Veterans for God
and Country

American Legion Post 44



The Gulf Post

Since 1958 "Friendliest Post in America"

February 2010

Message from the Commander

Wayne Stacey

2010 has gotten off to a roaring start for Post 44!. Our New Year's Eve party seemed to set the tone for January – over 200 members and guests enjoyed bringing in the New Year in style. A special thanks to the volunteers who did such a great job with the decorations. I don't think the Post has ever looked better.

As you can tell from the crowded parking lot and limited inside seating, our Post activities are being enjoyed by many, and we are certainly appreciative. I am constantly told by our guests that Post 44 has a great Post facility, friendly members and fun activities. We have reason to be proud, but we must continue to work on being better. Let our local guests and Northern friends know how much we enjoy their spending some time with us and taking part in our Post activities. They, along with our great membership, enable Post 44 to have the reputation it does! Your continued support of and participation in Post activities is essential to our being able to support our veterans, their families and the community. We appreciate you!!

Monthly Newsletter

The cost to produce our newsletter continues to increase, but you can help reduce the cost in two ways. First, make sure we have your accurate address – returned mail fees are very high!! Second, give us your e-mail address and receive the newsletter electronically at no cost to either of us!

District 33 Happenings

The February District meeting is February 21st at Post 188 in Bay Minette at 2:30 PM. It's time for Post 44 to take the attendance trophy again, so let's all that can plan to meet at the Post at 1 PM to car pool or caravan. May even have a couple of RVs again!!

Post 44 Officers

Commander Wayne Stacey
1st Vice Jay Nieves
2nd Vice Derrick Schieper
Adjutant Sonja Bankston
Membership Willie Schuck
Finance Officer Lloyd Hayes
Chaplain Jim Jent
Sgt-at-Arms Nate Ross
Service Officer Paul Knoch
Judge Advocate..... Vacant
Exec Committee: Joe Porter, Bill Odom & Donna Stacey
Bob Rankin (Past Commander)



Post 44 Needs You!!!

Our membership continues to grow, but it seems we see the same faces performing the essential volunteer work that keeps our Post and its' activities going. This Post doesn't run by itself. It takes a team of volunteers to achieve success. Many are getting to the "burn out" stage. There are over 600 Post, Auxiliary and Sons members. Now is the time for you to step up and get involved with YOUR Post. Ask what you can do – just a couple of hours a month makes a big difference. There are fund-raising activities we would like to conduct, but need volunteer help to make them happen. Take the initiative this month to let someone on the Executive Committees know that you want to help

Bingo

Thanks to all the Bingo volunteers. Your time and suggestions are making a difference -- bingo is getting bigger and better every session!! More volunteers always needed. Let us know.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

POST 44

February 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 6:30 PM - BINGO	2 5-7 PM - Prime Rib 6 PM – AL Exec Mtg 7 PM – Lucky Dog Draw 6-8 PM – Live Music	3 5-7 PM - Spaghetti Plate \$5 5:30 PM - Euchre Card Game	4 10:00-2:00 BINGO 5:30 PM – Aux Exec Mtg 6:30-8:30 PM Line Dancing	5 5-7 PM Steak Night 7-11 PM -Music Musicman & Co	6 2 PM Baldwin County Oratorical Contest 7 PM – Shag & Bop Televised Sports
7 4 PM - SUPER BOWL PARTY Giant Screen Food Available NO MUSIC	8 6:30 PM - BINGO	9 5-7 PM - Prime Rib 6 PM – Post Mtg 7 PM – Lucky Dog Draw 6-8 PM – Live Music	10 5-7 PM - Spaghetti Plate \$5 5:30 PM - Euchre Card Game	11 10:00-2:00 BINGO 5:30 PM – Aux Mtg 6:30-8:30 PM Line Dancing	12 5-7 PM Steak Night 7-11 PM -Music Musicman & Co	13 2 PM – 33d District Oratorical Contest at Post 199 6PM- Music Talent Review Televised Sports
14 VALENTINE'S DAY Sweets for Sweethearts 4-8 PM - Music Musicman & Co.	15 6:30 PM - BINGO	16 Mardi Gras 10 AM Parade 12 noon – LA Lunch 1-5 PM – Live Music 5-7 PM - Prime Rib 7 PM – Lucky Dog Draw	17 5-7 PM - Spaghetti Plate \$5 5:30 PM - Euchre Card Game	18 10:00-2:00 BINGO 6:30-8:30 PM Line Dancing	19 5-7 PM Steak Night 7-11 PM -Music Musicman & Co	20 11 AM—SAL BBQ Televised Sports 7PM – Shag & Bop
21 2:30 PM – District Mtg @ Post 188 4-8 PM - Music Musicman & Co.	22 6:30 PM - BINGO	23 5-7 PM - Prime Rib 6 PM - SAL Meeting 7 PM – Lucky Dog Draw 6-8 PM – Live Music	24 5-7 PM - Spaghetti Plate \$5 5:30 PM - Euchre Card Game	25 10:00-2:00 BINGO 6:30-8:30 PM Line Dancing	26 5-7 PM Steak Night 7-11 PM -Music Musicman & Co	27 Televised Sports 6PM – Music Talent Review
28 4-8 PM - Music Musicman & Co. 6 PM – Potluck Birthday Bash	<p>at Post 44 Hot Lunch - Mon-Fri 11 AM - 2 PM Evening Specials Daily Mon-Thu 5 – 7 PM</p>					

CATERING AND HALL RENTAL AVAILABLE!!
Book your party or meeting at Post 44. See Gloria for Hall use and Steve for catering.



The American Legion

Post 44 – Gulf Shores
P.O. Box 40
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(251) 948-6119

www.gulfshoreslegionpost44.org

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO.103
GULF SHORES, AL
6542

Return Service Requested

Comments from the Auxiliary

Donna Stacey

February is PARTY TIME!! We start with the Super Bowl Party on FEB 7, Valentine’s Day Party on FEB 14 and Mardi Gras on FEB 16. We need auxiliary members to help with decorations for these events and with kitchen operations on the Sunday activities. Steve’s Place will handle the food service for the Mardi Gras Party.

For the Super Bowl party, come to the Post wearing the colors of your team; Indianapolis Colts or New Orleans Saints. The auxiliary will sell BBQ plates and sandwiches, pizza, and nachos to party participants.

The Valentine’s Day party will be a special treat for us ladies. The Legion members will sell and serve deserts for that Sunday. This is a fundraiser, so leave your server a big tip. Your sweetheart will be able to buy you a rose with your desert. Make sure you and your sweetheart come to the Post for this special activity.

Next it’s Mardi Gras time. The Post will participate in the Gulf Shores parade. Volunteers are needed to help decorate the float, ride on the float to throw beads and such and to walk around the float. Parade participants are asked to purchase their own beads and moon pies to throw. Sign up at the bar if you plan to participate. See Bob or Jane Rankin if you would like the Post to purchase the throws for you. This is a good way for us to let our community know a little more about us.

After the parade the party will continue at the Post. Steve’s Place will be serving a special lunch and the Music Man, Roger Beasley, will support the revelry with his music from 1 to 5 PM. Prime rib dinners follow at 5 PM.

The Auxiliary achieved over 75% of the membership goal before the end of the year and received certificate at the Mid-Winter Conference. We still need to get our members to renew, so remind your friends to get them submitted! Our membership is looked at by politicians to see how serious WE are about supporting veterans and veterans’ issues before they take action on them. This is a great way for us to increase support of our veterans.

The Auxiliary membership meeting this month will be Thursday, FEB 11 at 5:30 PM. Join us!

SAL BBQ

The annual SAL BBQ is February 20th starts at 11 AM at the Post. Offerings are pulled pork sandwich with chips, pulled pork plate or half-chicken plate with baked beans, cole slaw and bread. Support your SAL – BBQ is great!!

Auxiliary Officers

- PresidentDonna Stacey
- 1st ViceJane Rankin
- 2nd ViceFelicia Linkous
- SecretaryValarie McKoon
- TreasurerJan Ling
- ChaplainJean Scott
- HistorianVacant
- Sgt-at-ArmsDean Fazekas
- MembershipGayle White
- Members At Large: Karen Schuck, Pat Danvir & Jean Perry
- Finance Committee: Cecile Truss & Shari Stewart

Oratorical Speech Contest

Post 44 will host the 2010 Baldwin County Oratorical Scholarship competition on February 6th at 2 PM. The 33rd District competition (winners of Baldwin and Mobile counties) will be hosted by Post 199 in Fairhope on February 13th at 2 PM.

Each contestant must present an 8 to 10 minute speech about the U.S. Constitution. Then they’ll have five minutes to prepare and present a second speech of 3 to 5 minutes on one of four randomly selected Constitution Amendments topics.

The winner of each level of competition receives American Legion scholarship money, and the Department and National winners will receive additional scholarship money and other offerings from local colleges and universities.

These students are the future leaders of our nation in all areas of our society. Let’s come out and observe this competition, letting them know we support them. We’re proud to host these events for these students and their families.

Legion Membership

We have achieved over 95% in membership so far, and are less than 20 renewals or new members from 100%. If you have not renewed for this year, please do so soonest to help Post 44 reach 100%. Remind others who may not have yet renewed.

Mardi Gras

Don’t forget Post 44 will have a float in the Gulf Shores Mardi Gras parade on February 16th, starting at 10 AM. Please contact the Post if you want ride. You may walk as well. A “Louisiana” style lunch will be available at the Post after the parade, along with live music from 1 to 5 PM. Steve will also have his great \$10 prime rib starting a 5 PM that afternoon. Join us for a great time!!

Boys State Sponsorships

Start soliciting local business contacts to help sponsor a 2010 Boys State delegate. Registration time will be here before long. The fee went up to \$200.00 per student. We normally send 6 to 7 students per year. We need community support more than ever now.

Sons of the Legion Officers

- Commander.....Frank Bielicke
- 1st Vice.....Paul Barefield
- 2nd Vice.....Anthony Jones
- Secretary.....Tony Dalton
- Finance Officer.....Jimmy Eiland
- Sgt-at-Arms.....Richard Washburn
- SAL meetings are the 4th Tuesday monthly, at 6 PM. Renew your 2010 membership now.