May 2017 was a tremendous month in which our American Legion Post 233 showed our community, state and nation how very successful and active an American Legion Post can be.

When our National American Legion Commander, Charles Schmidt, visited our Post 233 on May 19, he was impressed with all the activities and charities that our Post supports on a regular basis. He saw firsthand that we live up to our American Legion Preamble by supporting our youth, our community, our veterans and our military service members. He heard from our Loganville Mayor, our head of the Georgia Department of Veterans Services and our Department Commander how much we do as a Legion Family. I believe he walked away with a better appreciation of what a successful Post we are.

On May 29, we had a very moving Memorial Day ceremony and probably the most successful Ride for America to date. This event was topped off with a great luncheon and one of the best Legion Rider programs ever. Our Department Commander, Carmen Streit-Smith, was overwhelmed with how great this event was and how much fun could be had as a participant. The national commander’s luncheon and the Ride for America would not have been successful had it not been for the efforts of our Post 233 family and our American Legion Riders who did a tremendous job in the preparation, planning and execution of these events.

In May, we completed the renovation of our Auxiliary Unit 233 meeting room, the meeting room in the pavilion, the soldiers’ connection room, and the Legion Riders room. We had new roofs installed on the pavilion and the main Legion building. We placed over 220 crosses in front of our Post to remember our lost comrades. We also completed an agreement to provide the Civil Air Patrol with a permanent location for their squadron on our Post 233 campus. And, we were able to remove over twenty dead or diseased trees from the south end of our campus.

Yes, May 2017 was one of the busiest months we have had here at our Post 233. However, none of these events/tasks would have been completed without the help of many dedicated Post, Auxiliary and SAL members jumping in to get the work completed. I wish I could list everyone who contributed their time and effort, but this column would go on for pages. I can only say that this was truly a Legion Family success story and I am very, very proud of everyone who helped. You are Post 233!

May God always bless our veterans, our military service members, our Post 233 Family and the United States of America.

James Carmona
Post Commander
Sr. Vice Commander's Report

By: Stan Mauldin

JUNE 2017
LEGION FAMILY

I would like to start my contribution to this month’s new letter by saying “Thank you for the opportunity you have entrusted in me for the last five years”. In year one I was on the executive committee, year two as Jr. vice commander and the last three years as Sr. vice commander. In all honesty, I joined the American Legion to become a Legion Rider and had lots of fun for seven years. But I soon found out how well recognized and respected our post was in those years and felt that I should do more for such a great post. It took a little time for me to understand there is more to making our Legion successful. Fast forward seven years after I joined I was asked by Jim and a few other officers would I accept the nomination to become an officer of this great post and it was at that time I started to understand. Little did I know that back then our post did not become great without some devotion by its officers and our membership’s support and hard work. Quite a few of these hardworking members stepped up a few months back while we were renovating the Auxiliary room and even more recently while restoring the meeting room. It just shows what we can accomplish by TEAMING UP. I pray that we can continue to work together as one big family in the future. If you haven’t taken a close look at our post in the last few weeks please do so. With all the updating I think you will be proud. We need your continued support to keep our Legion the best. If we all work together we can make a difference.

If you missed the National Commander’s visit, I’m sorry because after talking to the Department of Georgia Officers we know he was impressed but more than that I could see the expressions on you the members face and that expression was a big sign of pride.

MEMBERSHIP,

Please don’t give up on your recruiting efforts on membership. We are very close to meeting our goal. As of these few words we are at 90%. Thanks for your hard work on membership.

Stan Mauldin
SR. Vice Commander

SAL Squadron 233

By: Thom Williams

The Sons of the Legion held their elections on May 30th and the following are the officers-elect for the 2017/2018 term.

Commander: Kevin Willard
Sr. Vice: Jeff Ruda
Jr. Vice: Victor Blevons
Finance: Steven Smith
Adjutant/Seargeant-at-Arms: Bill Cohron

These officers will be installed as part of the broader installation of officers later this summer.

Thom Williams
Asst. Director Post 233 ALR
Webmaster, www.gapost233.com
Cell: 770-313-5348
twilliams@adittech.com / webmaster@gapost233.com
Greetings:
Post 233 hosted a luncheon for National Commander Charles Schmidt on May 19th. For those of you who could not attend, you missed a great gathering of members of the legion family, and a great program. This event was only one part of the National Commander’s visit to Georgia. Commander Carmona, and Post 233 family, you did a great job.
Unit 233 will be having its installation of officers at the June 7th meeting. All new officers’ names and titles will be listed in the July newsletter.
Department convention will be held June 16th through 18th at Sonesta Hotel, Duluth, Georgia. As of this time, we have twelve unit members who will be attending. Anyone else interested in attending, please contact me regarding registration, and looking forward to a great convention.
Our auxiliary room is finally complete with the remaining pictures/decorations being added. Thanks to all who helped make this happen. What would we do without our volunteers. It is beautiful and I, for one, am proud to show it off. Stop by and have a look if you haven’t already done so!
Hope all you veterans had a blessed Memorial Day. Thank you for your service and let us never forget the sacrifices of our service men and women.
This will be my last newsletter article and our new President will begin in July. I have enjoyed my tenure and will, of course, be around to help where needed.

For God and Country,

Barbara Wade
Unit 233 President

Post 233 Website

By Thom Williams

Website Highlight for June:
Be watching for a feature on Boys State and Girls State we take these programs very seriously and we will be providing background information on the programs as well as ways that you can help. New content was added to the Veterans Assistance Information / Service Officer’s Bulletin Board, keep an eye on that space for information pertaining to benefits changes etc.

Thom Williams
Asst. Director Post 233 ALR
Webmaster, www.gapost233.com
Cell: 770-313-5348
twilliams@adittech.com / webmaster@gapost233.com
Riders Report
By: Eddy Simpson

In the blink of an eye Ride for America was here and now is gone. Your riders have put in countless hours in preparation for our 19th Annual Ride for America this year. I have said on many occasions and I will say it again 19 years is no accident. For an event to sustain such a long tradition take lots of work. We could not do this alone. Without the support from our Post and our Legion family I have to wonder if these past 19 years would have been possible. We hope that for those that were able to attend and participate you were pleased. It is really one of the most Patriotic things you will ever be a part of. This year we had over 1230 Riders participate making that one of the largest rides to date. We keep growing so we know that what this day means to so many is not fading. We see so many young children now long the route we can only hope they are truly understanding or learning what this day means. When those motorcycles roar by the excitement in their faces is priceless as they waive those flags for us. We see thousands of people line the streets to cheer us on and is so very heartwarming. We all have a little special place in our hearts when we pass the churches and nursing homes and see those faces light up as we ride by. We know they understand what this day means.
The rain held out, although I will tell you most of us were nervous. If it did we were riding anyway. What’s a little rain anyway? We should have known better, the day was beautiful. Our riders were safe and we all had a memorable day. When we returned to the post after the Memorial Day Ceremony in Madison we had a tremendous lunch waiting for us and door prizes to give away. After lunch we had 5 awesome raffle prizes to raffle off and a huge 50/50 again with over $500.00 paid out to a lucky winner.
The funds raised this year will help so many veterans and Veteran causes. We will help families of Veterans and of course our Post. The hours put in, the long nights and sweat everyone worked up is nothing in comparison to the feeling we have knowing we are helping so many. I would like to thank everyone who had a part in the years Ride and those who came out to ride or even to watch. We are blessed to be able to keep this event going 19 years in a row. We are already thinking of how to make our 20th ride our biggest yet.
Stay Tuned......

Eddy Simpson
JR Vice Commander Post 233
ALR Director post 233
esimpson@transforce.com
404-719-9649 c

Boys State
BY: George Hinkle

Boys State starts on the 18th June with 12 young men attending. If you see Paul Williams or CY Wolverton, please thank them as they are providing transportation for these young men.
If you plan to support Boys State with a donation, please forward to the commander all donations for this event is tax deductible for 2017. Boys State is designed to help young men grow their future, and your donations are a huge contribution. We have had a man go to a military school every year so it is worth the donation in any amount.

God Bless All
George Hinkle
Blood Drive Report
By Jerry Mahaffey

Post 233 held their first blood drive on 03/15/2005 and through 5/25/2017, we have held 46 successful blood drives, by collecting, a total of 2183 units of blood. With each unit of blood collected we are saving up to three lives, with the blood drives we hold, it is possible that we have helped save approximately 6549 lives.

Red Cross collected only 36 units at our recent drive on 5/25/17. We had 61 appointments, but for some reason many didn't show. Our Records show that the numbers are significantly down from our previous blood drive of 74 units. Our next drives for 2017 will be held on 8/24/17 and 11/16/17.

We would like to encourage you, your family, neighbors and friends to come out and help save lives by donating blood. When you donate blood you are saving lives and who knows it could be your own life someday.

As always the Red Cross will be at Post 233 from 10:00 am till 3:00 pm on 8/24/2017 and 11/16/2017.

Make an appointment by calling Jerry or Violet at 770-963-1395

We are looking forward to collecting a record number of units at our August and November Blood Drives.

Thank you, for all you do for this country and your American Legion Post 233.

Jerry Mahaffey
jerrymahaffey@bellsouth.net
770-963-1395
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American Legion Post 233
Weekly Cruise-In
Friday 6-9 PM

Classics    Hot Rods
Sports Cars    Rat Rods
Customs    Motorcycles

New or old, if you are proud of it, we want to see it at the post!

Bring your pride and joy and receive a ticket for a free beverage or 10% off your food order.

The Patriots’ Grill opens every Friday night at 5:00 PM. Support your local veterans through your support of the American Legion.

4365 Atlanta Highway 78, Loganville
Sing your favorite summer song

ROCK the BOAT

KARAOKE

$2.00 Drink Special

Open to the public

Free Admission

June 2, 9, 23 & 30

American Legion Post 233

4635 Atlanta Hwy 78, Loganville GA

8:00 pm to 11:00 pm
American Legion Post 233

4635 Atlanta Highway 78, Loganville GA 30052 (Across from McDonalds)

ADULTS $6.00
KID’S $4.00
Under 3 Eat Free
Smoke Free

2nd Saturday In
Every Month
8:00 AM to
11:00 AM
Free Wifi

Country Breakfast
All You Can Eat Buffet