The American Legion Winter Park Memorial **Post 112 Family**







Winter Park Memorial Post 112 4490 North Goldenrod Road Winter Park, FL 32792 www.wpflpost112.org 407.671.6404

> Volume 9, Issue 5 Mar—Apr 2017

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Website http:// www.wpflpost112.org

COMMANDER'S MINUTE

Well the post is about to finish the first quarter of the year with excitement and anticipation of having a great 2017. As you read this newsletter, know that our POST is still active in maintaining the FOUR PILLARS with the help of the SAL members.

If you have tried to come by the POST or left a message you have noticed that Vice Commander Dress is still fighting the flu and has not been around as much. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers, he constantly asks how the members Inside this Issue: are doing and about the functions he has planned. I wish to thank members of the SAL for stepping up but we still need support from you the members.

The FOUR CHAPLAIN's service was great in all aspects and we wish to thank our key note speaker: Department of Florida Vice Commander Shuga for your inspirational words. Thank you to Past . Commander Costello for being the Master of Ceremonies. Our Auxiliary handled collecting a love offering to be sent to the FOUR CHAPLAIN's Chapel and the color guard along with representatives from the Centurion Battalion USNSCC did an excellent iob.

SAL members will be sharing the duties of being at the POST along with me during the week. We are going to be contacting Post 400 members to see if Page 8 they would like to join the Post or SAL units.

March brings spring showers and flowers but it is Page 9 also the American Legion 98th birthday which means our organization is still going strong because of YOU. If you have not paid your dues yet please do so as soon as possible. The American Legion does a lot of great things not only at the Post level but at the Department and National Headquarters levels, too. We are responsible for our comrades and ourselves, we need to have a . voice in both the State of Florida and in Washing. • ton, D.C. Both state and federal funds must be allocated for VA hospital Continued on Page 2

YAHOO! GROUPS

See Bob to sign up!

Do you



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From Jerry's Table

I first want to thank you for your thoughts and prayers. After attending my brother's funeral I came down with a terrible flu bug. I am on the way to recovery and I wish to thank each comrade in keeping the POST going.

Thank you to the SAL members who ran the last breakfast along with friends of the American Legion. I also wish to thank everyone who participated in the FOUR CHAPLAIN'S SERVICE. The Centurion Battalion Sea Cadets along with Post and Auxiliary members and members of the FRA did an excellent job. A big thank you goes to the VFW Post which did the 21-gun salute and of course our Adjutant for playing the TAPS.

While I am not at the post the SAL members along with Legion members will continue with the Last Saturday of the month breakfast. We are still planning on having our yard sale on March 11 if all goes well. I will have the Adjutant send out an e-mail of what needs to occur. March is important because we are CELEBRATING THE LEGION BIRTHDAY. We hope to have an open house that day from 10:00 to 2:00 so come by for coffee and a snack.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, Gerald Dress

Commander's Minute—Cont'd from Page 1

Continued from Page 1

and clinics so we must be present to show we need their support as much as they need ours during election time.

I regret to inform you of the death of fellow comrade Jimmy Thornton in Feb. Jimmy was not only active in our post but also the SAL and had been battling Cancer for quite some time. He was supported at the VA Clinics and Hospital with treatments but just as many of our fellow comrades this disease is hard to beat. Please keep Jimmy's family in your thoughts and prayers as many decisions still must be made.

I will be contacting the schools for our ANNUAL SCHOOL AWARDS presentations in April and May. This is great for children to see the great members you are and to meet an actual hero. Any member of the military should be proud to have served and should be considered a hero. These young lives have been and will remember you presenting them the award. I hope to have a list at the April meeting for times and dates of presentations.

May we keep each other in our thoughts and prayers daily that God bless our great Nation, our Leaders and those that make decisions local, state and nation. May we pray for our Post members, along with those serving us.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, Billy Dover Jr. Commander



Notes From the Adjutant's Desk

Ladies and Gentlemen, we are at 91% of our membership and still have four months to get the last 17 memberships in before the end of May so that our membership numbers will count for the 2017 Department of Florida Convention for voting. The number of votes that a Post has at the State level depends on the number of members who have paid. We did have an issue, this year, with membership dues being paid and still getting "late notices" from National. The process is slow and take several weeks from the time that your payment is sent until the word reaches the contractor who sends out the "late notices" and this had caused a little confusion. I am sending back "duplicate" payment checks to those members who accidentally received the "late notices" after they had already submitted their dues. There are multiple steps in the payment process as the check is received at the Post, notice is sent to Department who then sends it on to National and National send the information on to the contractor to "pull" the paid member's "late notice." I apologize for the duplication and the one way that it can be avoided completely is to "pay online" but I know that many members do not feel comfortable with that method.

As you have seen elsewhere in this newsletter, Gerry Dress has been under the weather for a while and unable to be our "gatekeeper" at the Post. Gerry has been at the Post from the wee small hours until mid-afternoon seven days a week for the last few years and we miss him! Gerry, like everyone else in the Post, is a VOLUNTEER! While Gerry is under the weather, both the Post and S A L members are trying to fill in as we can to keep the doors open during the daytime. Billy Dover, Charles Coleman and Jim Middlekauff are a few who have and are spending time at the Post during the day. The key is "If the gate is open, the Post is open!" Sometimes you will see cars parked outside but the gate is closed - that is because our Sea Cadets and/or parents are in their part of the building.

Elections are coming up! No, not National, State or Local (thank goodness!!), but Post elections. The Commander, Vice Commander(s), Historian, Finance (Treasurer), Sgt At Arms and Chaplain are elected positions. There are other positions, such as the Judge Advocate. If you are interested, please let me know. If you have any questions, the duties can be found in our Constitution and By Laws that are available on our WEB page (http://www.wpflpost112.org). Officers are expected to be able to attend both the Executive Board meetings and the General Meetings regularly.

VA Cemeteries Offering Pre-Enrollment

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently announced that it now provides eligibility determinations for interment in a VA national cemetery prior to the time of need. Through the Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility Program, upon request, individuals can learn if they are eligible for burial or memorialization in a VA national cemetery. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald said, "This new program reaffirms our commitment to providing a lifetime of benefits and services for veterans and their families." Now veterans and their families can plan for their burial needs which will alleviate some of the burden later.

Interested individuals may submit <u>VA Form 40-10007</u>, *Application for Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility for Burial in a VA National Cemetery*, and supporting documentation, such as a DD Form 214, if readily available, to the VA National Cemetery Scheduling Office by toll-free fax at 1-855-840-8299; email to <u>Eligibility.PreNeed@va.gov</u>; or mail to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office, P.O. Box 510543, St. Louis, MO 63151.

The American Legion



ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Would your business like to advertise in our Post newsletter? This newsletter, with distribution via email and USPS to over 200 members and organizations, is now accepting advertising for our monthly newsletters.

Advertising rates per issue are as follows:

Business card size - \$ 6.00 (3 3/4"w x 2 1/4"l)

1/4 page - \$ 10.00 (3 3/4"w x 4 3/4"l)

1/2 page - \$ 18.00 (7 3/4"w x 4 3/4"l or 3 3/4"w x 9 3/4"l)

Full page - \$ 30.00 (7 3/4"w x 9 3/4"l)

If paid in advance for FIVE ISSUES, THE SIXTH ISSUE IS FREE!

Copy MUST be emailed to the editor as a jpg or Publisher file but payment MUST be mailed to the Post's PO Box or hand delivered to the Post by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

COPY DEADLINES:

Jan-Feb issue—15December
Mar-April issue—15February
May-June issue—15April
July-August issue—15June
September-October issue—15August
November-December issue—15October

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Our Happenin' Auxiliary—Nell Colbert



In January, Nell, Debi, and Marge shopped for school supplies for our elementary schools to support their low income and homeless families. Nell and Bob delivered cases of paper, crayons, notebook paper, spiral notebooks, and much, much, more.





Eastbrook Elementary also has a food pantry that helps to supplement the evening meal needs of needy students. This food pantry is self funded and relies on donations from community organizations to help. Our unit membership voted to begin supporting the Eastbrook food pantry and we delivered our first donation in February. Since this is an ongoing project, we need items like Macaroni and Cheese dinners, peanut butter, jelly, canned tuna, canned pasta meals, along with canned fruits and vegetables.

Our Unit was honored to support the annual Four Chaplains Memorial Service held in early February. Congratulations and a







huge THANK YOU to Vice Commander Jerry Dress for all of his

hard work in planning this event.

We were thrilled to learn that we will again receive a grant from the Orange County East-Winter Park Rotary Club. Nell and Marge will be recognized in early March.

As we get ready for the 2017-2018 Auxiliary year, we will be forming our nominating committee at our April meeting. Nominations for next year's officers can be received until our May meeting where our proposed slate will be presented. If you would like to serve as an officer next year, please contact Nell as soon as possible. Please remember that your dues for 2017 must be paid current in order to run for office.



As always, we welcome new ladies who would like to actively support our military, our youth and our community through our community service projects. To become involved, please call us at 321.578.8612.

Check out our Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/ALA112FL or our website at: www.AmLegionAux112FL.com to see what we've been doing.



Sea Cadet Update: Billy Dover



The Centurion Battalion has once again started the 2017 in service to others while learning many aspects of what the U. S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard traditions include. During February drill we had part of the battalion at a field

centurion battalion training exercise (FTX) in Groveland, Florida leading leadership, land navigation, and activities of zip-line as well as working with three other units. It was a privilege to assist the Post 112 in the FOUR CHAPLAIN's Service which has a deep meaning to all, for the chaplain's willingness to sacrifice it all for their fellow comrades.

The battalion has now reduced it numbers in a good way, by establishing another unit in the Clermont area. While at one time we were one big unit we now have new units in Clermont, Sanford, Fruitland Park. This means we are reaching more cadets and teaching them the HONOR, COURAGE and COMMITMENT are the new standards in their lives.

An update of cadets who once trained with the Centurion Battalion, we have one who attended

the Naval Academy and now serving on a ship, a PO2 Hospital Corpsman who is in Japan, PO2 Diver in Guam, a PO3 Special Ops (SEAL), a PO3 Master of Arms in Washington state, a E-3 in EOD training. This does not include those who are in the U.S. Marines, U.S. Army or those attending college some who are in ROTC programs.

The Cyber-Patriot teams had stiff competition this year and unfortunately everyone stepped up their training. Our two high school age teams were number 4 and 10th sea cadets ranking unfortunately they only allow the top TWO to attend National Finals. The middle school team finished in the top 50% of their age group which was great.

The Winter Park Memorial Post 112 should be proud of your support to the battalion because whether they join the military or not they are better citizens both mentally and physically. We will have our annual end of the year ceremony and each you are invited to attend this celebration as we have six cadets who will be graduating this year.

Very Respectfully Submitted: The Centurion Battalion USNSCC.



The American Legion



S.A.L. Fall Conference Update—Charles Coleman

The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 112 was in attendance at the 13th Annual Fall Conference held on November 19th 2016 at the Walt Disney World Hilton in Orlando Florida. The guest speaker was National Commander Jeff Frain from Squadron 27 Apache Junction, Arizona.

The main topic was American Legion membership and ways to increase membership. Currently there are approximately 20.1 million veterans that are eligible to join the American Legion. Commander Frain encouraged each member of the American Legion to set a goal of signing up a minimum of 3 Veterans this year. Also, Awards were presented to the various Posts and Squadrons for Membership performance. Squadron 112 received an Award for Achieving

the goal of 60 % of membership quota.

The Sons of the American Legion Roundtable discussions focused on the importance of Public Relations, Membership and Donations to support our Family Programs. The platforms that are currently being used to advertise our events are social media, e-mail and our website, Sons Of The American Legion Detachment Florida and The Source Newsletter.

During our discussions we learned that Square, a Credit Card processing service, is being considered to expedite membership dues and the processing of donations to our programs.

I would like to encourage all SAL members to attend the next 6th District meeting on March 18th at Lady Lake Post 347.

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Son's of the Legion: Bob Colbert

The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 112 is off and running! Thanks to Charles Coleman and Bob Colbert, we had a presence at the Four Chaplains Ceremony in February and Charles is taking hold of the monthly Breakfasts while Gerry is indisposed. He will continue to assist Gerry upon his return to full "duty." **GET WELL SOON, GERRY!**

Squadron elections are coming up! If you have an interest in serving as Commander, Vice

Commander, Sgt At Arms, Chaplain or Finance Officer, please let me know. I would be happy to discuss any of the positions with you and get your name on the ballot.

Our Son's Squadron is becoming more and more visible around the Post and we are proud of it! We have passed our 100% membership renewal and are still looking for both "Dual" members (that is Legion members whose fathers or grandfathers served our coun-

try) or anyone whose father or grandfather served our country during wartime. If the "sponsoring adult" is living, he, too, much be a member of the Legion. If not, proof of service for the "sponsor" is all that is needed. We want to GROW and YOU CAN HELP! Giving a membership in the Sons is only \$18 per year and a terrific "extra" gift for a birthday or Christmas for a son or grand-son



Fleet Reserve Invitation—Jim Middlekauff

Fellow Legionnaires. I am sending out an open invitation to all members of the American Legion Post 112 to attend our monthly Fleet Reserve Association meeting. I am also the Sgt. at Arms at the Post. Our FRA meeting is on the third Saturday of each month. We represent the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard active, reserve and retired personnel in Washington. Our National Office is located in Alexandria, Virginia and lobby on the "hill" for many of our Veterans benefits that we earned. Our Branch is named after our first Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Delbert D. Black. His widow, Ima is living in Winter Park and we recently traveled to Pascagoula, Ms. where the DDG-119 will be named after her late husband (we have DDG-119 ball caps for sale also.) Come out and join us, we participate in many events and always have a good turn-out at our meetings.

My e-mail is: <u>racenut478@aol.com</u> or leave a message on my home phone @ 407/977-0521 if you have any questions.

Thank you. Jim Middlekauff, President, FRA Branch 117



The S.A.L. Chaplain's Prayer—Billy Dover

This past month I was reading the DAV National Chaplain's, Michael P. Dover comments on living with an open mind, heart. It was that many people misrepresent their faith have four common ways, 1. Take a literal view of their faith's teaching, 2. They gather under authoritarian religious leaders who dictate beliefs, 3. They harbor judgement attitudes and will not accept other faiths, 4. They have no interest in other beliefs.

This country was established by the early settlers who fled persecution for their among other issues. Many people have used the different faiths to promote false teachings and to gain power or wealth. We have the ability to read and decide for ourselves what faith if any to follow but you should never push your faith on someone else. Often we read of false prophets who lead others down the wrong path. This was even true in the Old Testament and the New Testament of the bible, we are to speak to God by praying and he responds to our prayers both through the Holy Spirit and his Living Word the Bible.

Isaiah 44: 25 I expose the false prophets as liars and make fools of fortune-tellers. I cause the wise to give bad advice, thus proving them to be fools.

Lamentations 2:14 Your prophets have said so many foolish things, false to the core. They did not save you from exile by pointing out your sins Instead, they painted false pictures, filling you with false hope.

2 Peter 2:1 But there were also false prophets in Israel, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will cleverly teach destructive heresies and even deny the Master who bought them. In this way, they will bring sudden destruction on themselves.

1John 4:1 Dear friends, do not believe everyone who

claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world.

God has given us the ability to determine right from wrong and you make decisions every day but with this ability it is UP TO YOU to educate yourself, find the truth and understand that GOD made all of us in HIS image.

PRAYER: God give us the wisdom to look for the truth to be a leader not a follower and that we educate ourselves in finding the TRUTH. God bless our comrades in the Armed Services serving both at home and abroad. Bless those who have served and keep them safe. Bless our law enforcement and first responders. Bless our leaders at all levels of government from local, state and federal branches and GOD bless my family and me. In the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, AMEN.

Have YOU Paid Your 2017 Dues Yet? Please send your \$38 check to PO Box 910, Goldenrod, FL 32733 TODAY!



Boys State—Ted Costello

Tuesday February 14, 2017 the post hosted the Boys State selection. Five young men from Winter Park High School and their families arrived at the post to compete for three delegate positions and represent Winter Park Memorial Post 112 in Boys State 2017 to be held in Tallahassee June 18 - 24. The following young men were selected as the post delegates:

Mitchel Thomas Matthew Kuczajda Haryshwa Murugappan

Alternates: Drew McMahan Michael Hochfelder

I also want to thank the post members for supporting the post and being part of the selection process.



National Problem Gambling Awareness Month

The month of March is National Problem Gambling Awareness Month where individuals and organizations come together to address problem gambling as a public health issue affecting hundreds of thousands of Floridians every day. The Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling, Inc. (FCCG) is seeking your support in this nationally recognized awareness month.

The FCCG is joining forces with individuals, municipalities, organizations and agencies across the state to raise public awareness about the effects of problem gambling and that

gambling addiction is treatable for those who seek help. The theme for this year's **PGAM** is "Shine the Light on Problem Gambling – the Impacts of Technology", with a focus on how the ever-changing landscape of technology continues to impact the problem gambling arena, making gambling more accessible, and possibly more addictive than ever before.

In this day and age, gambling is accessible from everywhere. There are thousands of websites that host many types of online gaming. A person who wants to gamble can do so an-

ywhere and at any time. They can access these sites from their computers while at home or at work, their laptops while traveling, and even their smartphones while waiting in line at the grocery store. This increase in accessibility and in ease of accessibility will directly impact and likely increase the prevalence rates of gambling addiction right here in the state of Florida.

For more information about problem gambling, call us anytime at 407-865-6200 or visit us online at:

www.gamblinghelp.org.



04/17

04/24

04/24

04/25

04/27

Happy Birthday to YOU!

Happy Birthday to YOU!		03/18	Braga, Cirilo
Happy Birthday to you!		03/25	Nazario, Rafael
Happy Birthday dear Happy Birthday to YOU!		03/26	Carden, James
• • •		03/27	Martin, Patricia
MARCH:		03/30	Horas, Thomas
03/04	DiMarino, Anthony	03/31	Bonilla, Felix
03/04	Miles, Milton	APRIL:	
03/06	Saffioti Jr, Gerald	AI INIL.	
03/06	Sears, Perry	04/01	Leonard III, George
03/08	Wade, Clyde	04/03	Sprague, Donald
03/10	Rosa, Juan	04/05	Reedy, Jerry
03/12	Massey Jr, Clayton	04/05	Squire Sr, Billy
03/12	Padgett, Aunita	04/06	Holcomb, Greg
03/14	Dover Jr, Billy	04/06	Rosado, Antonio
03/16	Coleman, Charles	04/08	Azurin, Chester

04/17

Briddell, William



Hanna, Leo

Kelly, Patrick

Ramos, Wilson

Sullivan-Cornett, Christina

Holloway, Leroy (Doc)



Henriquez Jr, Joseph

03/16

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CALENDAR

MARCH:

6 S.A.L. Meeting—6pm

6 Executive Board Meeting—7pm

11 Yard Sale

14 Monthly Post & Auxiliary Meeting

18 6th District Meeting at Post 347

25 Post Pancake Breakfast (8-11am)

APRIL:

3 S.A.L. Meeting—6pm

3 Executive Board Meeting—7pm

11 Monthly Post & Auxiliary Meeting

29 Post Pancake Breakfast (8-11am)

Please see our website for additional dates and more detailed info about each event.

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