

# 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](http://www.wpflpost112.org)  
407.671.6404

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## COMMANDER'S MINUTE

Greetings fellow Post 112 members:

First and foremost; I sincerely hope everyone is doing well and are not getting stressed out by our National situation. This is so much different than any of us are used to. This situation is difficult to deal with by being forced to learn how to adapt (Military training) and persevere. We are used to "hunkering down" but now there are no boards/shutters on our windows so it's playing tricks on our minds. Depression is another factor we may be facing or trying to deal with. There are numbers to call in this case, so please take advantage of them if needed - or call a friend just to chat. I have tried to reach out to some of our members, but if you have not heard from us it's not because we don't care. One way to prevent depression is to try have a regular schedule if you are not already doing so. It gives our brain the thought that nothing is disrupted even though we know a LOT has been. I am no professional, but if you feel like calling me please do so.

As you all should be aware of by now, the Post is closed sadly enough. I (we) was/were just getting things going well too, but at least your Post looks great. We WILL recover and get our meetings and programs active again, it will just take some time and I am more than ready to get back in the saddle as they say. Thanks to our awesome Adjutant, we were able to have an Executive Board meeting this past Tuesday (April 14<sup>th</sup>) that went really well using ZOOM technology. It is definitely a learning curve for me! We are planning to hold our May general meeting using Zoom. Watch for updates.

I was able to have an e-mail conversation with our Eagle Scout project boys and each are moving forward on the Four Chaplains Plaque and Flag Box to be placed on the front porch, so people have a place to put flags that are to be retired.

We were saddened to learn that 34 year Post 112

Volume 12, Issue 6

May—June 2020

**YAHOO!** GROUPS

**See Bob to  
sign up!**

**Do you**

**YAHOO!**

*Inside this Issue:*

Page 2

- Commander's Minute  
cont'd from Page 1

- Boys State

Page 3

- Notes From the Adjutant's Desk
- Sons of the Legion

Page 4

- Advertising Info

Page 5

- Our Happenin' Auxiliary

Page 6

- Notes from Our Service Officer

Page 7

- Notes from Our Service Officer—cont'd from P6

Page 8

- Volunteering Benefits  
You and the Community

Page 9

- Strive at Fern Park

Page 10

- Newcomer

Page 11

- Happy Birthday

- Terri Misk, Realtor

Page 12

- Calendar

- Officers Directory





## Commanders Minute cont'd from Page 1

member, Larry Train passed away on April 15th. Please keep Larry and his family in your prayers. Larry will be remembered and honored at our next Post Everlasting ceremony. Rest in Peace, Larry. You will be missed.

As with the remaining of months, stay tuned as to any progress towards re-opening the Post, etc. and mostly local news. I do not want to put anyone in harms way if this Virus is not totally under control. In the meantime, please stay safe, take care and if in need of assistance-please call any of the Board members.

For God and Country.  
Jim Middlekauff  
Commander, Post 112

Happy  
Mother's  
Day!

**2020 Legion Dues are now being accepted!**  
**Please send your \$38 check to**  
**PO Box 910, Goldenrod, FL 32733**  
**TODAY!**

## Boys State—Ted Costello

Boys State 2020 was cancelled this year, the first time since WWII. I have informed all of our young men and their parents that we took this serious step to protect the young men from unforeseen circumstances. Hopefully the program will continue next year baring any problems. I have left a message with the Programs Director at Department Headquarters to find out if the monies we have paid will be carried forward or will they be returned to the posts. I have also advised the young men that they can still state on their resumes and applications that they were selected to be delegates and alternates at the 2020 Boys State session. Will advise as soon as I know more.

I wish to thank the Commander and the Post for allowing me to serve as your Boys State Chairman for all these years. This is definitely my last year but I will be available to Bob, who has stepped up to take this job, to help him in any way I can. This program is very important and those of you who participated in the selection process and were at the post meetings to hear the boys debriefing of the success and experiences they had at Boys State can truly understand why we send these boys to Tallahassee each year. Get involved!!

Ted Costello, Boys State Chairman  
Winter Park Memorial Post 112





## Notes From the Adjutant's Desk

The last two months have truly been a challenge. We did not have a March General Meeting OR Executive Board meeting BUT we did have an April Executive Board meeting ONLINE. In fact, oddly enough, we had better attendance online than we have had at the face-to-face meetings. The ZOOM video conferencing has allowed some members who are "mobility challenged" to attend which accounts for the better attendance. It is impossible to guess when things will return to some kind of normal, but in the meantime, we are trying to use the best possible means of continuing our lives.

After using the ZOOM platform, we have decided to change our "call in" procedures to use it from now on. This means that we will be turning it on for both meetings in MAY. Members can use a smart phone, tablet, laptop or desktop computer to participate. I do need your email address or phone number to send the link to. If you are getting emails from the Post, then you will see the message when it comes out.

And, now down to business! In case you haven't heard, this year's Florida American Legion Convention as well as the 2020 American Legion National Convention have been canceled. There has been no decision on the Fall Conference so stay tuned for later news.

National has suggested that all Posts & Squadrons retain the current officers until July of 2021 as elections would be nearly impossible. Post and Squadron 112 will be following the National guidelines. The cur-

rent officers will remain in place unless they do not wish to. In that case, there may be a vacancy for a bit.

The Son's Breakfast has a GREAT January but had to be canceled for March and May. With any luck, we may be able to resume them in July but only time will tell.

Where can we go from here? The thought of having "online" meetings just to chat and visit has come up. We hope to be exploring this as a relief for what many of us call "cabin fever." Technology can allow us to do that but without the physical contact. We are already using this tool, called ZOOM, for our meetings. Now, let's extend it a bit and plan social visits. We could set up a time for the "visit" and all just come together. Do you want to give it a try? Send an email to the Post at [FLPost112@gmail.com](mailto:FLPost112@gmail.com) and let's see if it will work. I will compile a list of those who are interested and contact you all about a time and day when we could try our "visit." It may help break some of the boredom and it will definitely be a way to do "Buddy Check" for our members. We are all in this together and we can make it through this crisis. We may even make some new friends along the way.

Stay safe and well!

## Son's of the of the Legion: Jim Carten

Things with the SAL have been quiet of late as you might imagine. We have been planning for upcoming events and fundraiser for when our world reopens. We held a very successful Squadron meeting via the Zoom conference platform for our April meeting and we plan to use this platform until we can meet again in person.

During this quieter time, make room for our friends who may not be able to get around. Call your friends and call a VET. Remind them that we are all in this together and we will get through this together. One phone call can make a person's day brighter.

Unfortunately, I have some sad news to report. Our SAL Eastern Area Commandeer Richard Duncan entered Squadron Everlasting earlier in April. Richard was very active at his home Squadron 347 in Lady Lake before he moved up to 6th District Commander then Area Commander. He was good man who will be missed. Our deepest sympathy and prayers to his family and friends.

For God & Country, Jim Carten, Commander, Squadron 112

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## 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

**QUESTIONS**—Contact the editor at 407.401.8360 or email [nell.colbert@communimatics.com](mailto:nell.colbert@communimatics.com).

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## Our Happenin' Auxiliary—Nell Colbert

### Girls State

#### An Important Update -

The 2020 Girls State program has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our girls were very disappointed! The girls were notified that they can list on their resumes that they were selected to attend Girls State as a delegate or alternate. We have asked the Department to hold our 2020 deposit to be used for our 2021 delegate. We look forward to holding interviews for the 2021 Girls State in February 2021.

### Department Convention

#### An Important Update -

We were notified that the 2020 Department Convention as well as the National Auxiliary Convention have been cancelled, again, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was suggested by National that all Departments, Districts, and Units simply hold over their officers through the 2021 program year. Even though we could vote for new officers during our Zoom meeting in May, we have decided to follow the national recommendation.

### Americanism Essay Contest

We selected the winners from the entries we received from Cheney and Dommerich Elementary Schools and forwarded our winners

to the Department Americanism Chair for inclusion in the Department contest. Our winners this year were both 4th graders so they will receive their certificates and medals in the fall.

### School Medals

In that Gov. DeSantis has announced that schools will remain closed through the remainder of this school year, we have not contacted the schools about the Scholastic Achievement awards for this year. We will pick up this program again for the 2020-2021 school year.

### Upcoming Speakers

As we announced in the last newsletter, to make our meetings more interesting, we are going to begin having guest speakers at our meetings. Our first speaker will be Dyke Shannon, a representative for the American Legion insurance program (LIT) who will be telling us about the programs for which we, as Auxiliary members, are eligible. So please, mark your calendar for May 19th and plan to attend our meeting.

### We are ZOOMing Along

Our members have had the ability to participate in our meetings remotely for more than ten years; this was something written into our Constitution and By-Laws when our Unit was first

formed and our Unit was not only the first Unit in Florida but also the first Unit in the country to allow members to participate remotely. We have been using a phone-in conference bridge but with the new technology available, we are moving to the Zoom teleconference platform for anyone who wants to participate remotely. Our April meeting was very successful and we plan to meet in May using Zoom if the Stay-at-Home order has not been lifted. Watch your email for information on how to participate using Zoom.

Everything will be  
OKAY. Stay safe, stay  
home, remain calm  
and have faith. We will  
get through this.



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 Nell at 321.303.7445.

Check out our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/ALA112FL>

or our website at:

[www.AmLegionAux112FL.com](http://www.AmLegionAux112FL.com)  
to see what we've been doing.



## Notes from Our Service Officer

The Navy is requesting anyone – active duty, reservist, dependent or retiree – visiting a military installation to wear a face mask to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

If you're planning on shopping on base anytime soon, you'd better have a face cover at the ready.

Both the Defense Commissary Activity and Navy Exchange (NEX) have announced that all patrons must be wearing some form of face covering before they will be granted entry into any facility. The stores will not provide masks or face coverings to customers.

The new face covering order applies to visitors and employees at all NEX and [commissary](#) outlets, including mini-marts, gas stations and Navy Lodges.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) has said they expect shoppers to adhere to DoD and installation requirements regarding face coverings and has radio announcements and in-store signing to remind its guests of physical distancing standards and face mask guidance.

The new regulation takes effect April 10 and won't supersede any stricter local regulations that base commanders may have issued. The new rules fall in line with the April 5 Defense Department guidance mandating, "All individuals on DoD property, installations, and facilities will wear cloth face coverings when they cannot maintain 6 feet of social distance in public areas or work centers."

In response to the current environment with COVID-19, the VA Debt Management Center (DMC) is suspending all actions on Veteran debts under the jurisdiction of the Treasury Department for sixty days. This suspension covers institutions as well as Veterans. We will evaluate extension of this timeline should the situation with COVID-19 warrant. If the suspension is extended, we will update our website

([www.va.gov/debtman](http://www.va.gov/debtman)) to reflect the change and automatically extend suspensions for affected Veterans and institutions.

We are also suspending collection action or extending repayment terms on preexisting VA debts for Veterans, as the Veteran prefers. Please continue to encourage Veterans and family members affected by COVID-19 (Coronavirus) who have a VBA benefit debt and need temporary financial relief to contact the DMC at 1-800-827-0648 to request assistance.

### 2020 RTC Orlando Reunion

#### Status: Canceled

Given the current impact that COVID-19 could have on the safety of our shipmates, their families and our volunteers, we have made the difficult decision to cancel our land reunion in Kissimmee for October 2020.

- YOUR RAMADA GATEWAY ROOM RESERVATION: Unfortunately, the hotel is closed until at least June 30, however the reservations made in our room block are being canceled for you by the hotel as confirmed by email between the reunion and the hotel on Monday, April 13. If you made reservations outside our room block (you did not mention RTC Navy Reunion at the time of booking), you are responsible for canceling your reservation.
- Refunds for reunion fee & ticket purchases will be processed by check per our agreement with our website hosting organization. Very important: we are unable to process your refund back to the original card payment. Please do not request a chargeback to your card or we will be charged a \$25 fee which we will pass on to you.

If you paid for reunion fees and/or tickets, you may request a full refund or transfer all or part of your refund to either/both the 2021



## Notes from Our Service Officer

cruise or 2022 reunion registration. **The required survey regarding your refund can be found here:** <https://forms.gle/CsUVDAY2sBxi7xds6>

### • Beware of COVID-19 Testing Scams Targeting TRICARE Beneficiaries

The Defense Health Agency has issued a warning that while medical professionals in the U.S. and overseas are working hard to combat the novel coronavirus, some people are using this as an opportunity to take advantage of others. If you receive a call from someone offering to send you a COVID-19 testing kit, you could be the target of a scam. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, your medical provider is the only one who can determine if you need testing. Be sure you talk to your physician if you're experiencing symptoms. These symptoms include: A fever, A cough or Shortness of breath.

Other risk factors include:

- If you've come into contact with someone known to

have COVID-19.

- If you recently traveled to a CDC confirmed infected region.

The people involved in the COVID-19 testing scam are looking to steal personal information from beneficiaries. This could include your social security information, credit card or bank account numbers. Don't provide them the opportunity to do it. Anyone receiving a call about COVID-19 testing, should submit a fraud report online to the DHA [Program Integrity Office](https://www.tricare.mil/About/Regions). Also, report it to the TRICARE regional contractor. (<https://www.tricare.mil/About/Regions>)

For more information about TRICARE and COVID-19, visit the [TRICARE coronavirus page](https://www.cdc.gov). For the latest news on COVID-19, go to [www.cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).

**Emergency Assistance:**  
**The Office of Financial Readiness** **833-200-0035** (Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM-6:00 PM EST)  
[support@usalearning.net](mailto:support@usalearning.net)  
**Army Emergency Relief: Fi-**

**nancial Assistance** Army Emergency Relief is ready to serve. Visit for financial assistance information and resources.

**Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society** The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society has your back. Learn about its financial assistance and education programs.

**Air Force Aid Society** The Air Force Aid Society is here to help. Find relevant information on emergency assistance, education support and community programs.

**Coast Guard Mutual Assistance** The Coast Guard Mutual Assistance is here for you. Discover helpful resources when adverse life events happen.

**MIA Update:** The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced two new identifications and one burial update: 1 Army; Philippine Islands, 1 Marine Corps; Tarawa Atoll of the Gilbert Islands. **Army Cpl. Ralph L. Cale**, 19, of Covington, Virginia will be buried at Arlington on August 14, 2020.







## Volunteering Benefits YOU and Your Community

Let me tell you about George. George lived in Washington State and has recently retired. While working he could light up a room with his smile and enjoyed spending time with his girlfriend and friends on the weekend. George's hobby included serving as a foster for puppies and dogs. His home in Washington had a lot of space and he was able to foster the puppies and dogs until they could be adopted.

Like many new Floridians, George realized that he did not like the cold anymore, so he decided to retire in the Sunshine State. He did not have any friends or family in Florida, so it was just him and his girlfriend. Eventually, his girlfriend got a job and George was left to himself every day. George was renting so he was not able to foster anymore, and this left a void for him. He was feeling lonely and longed for the companionship fostering once gave him and the friends it introduced him to. Over time he found himself feeling depressed and wondered if any other seniors felt that way too.

Well, there are many seniors that feel the same way that George does; in the United States, Americans aged 65 and older are the fastest growing population. According to a 2019 article in the *Herald-Tribune* in Sarasota, Florida's senior population is growing at twice the rate of other age groups in the state (Wunderlich, E., 2019). Many Baby Boomers who are either partially or fully retiring, find that it is important for their both physical and mental health to keep active and one way of keeping active is volunteerism. Volunteering is not just good for your community and the people you help, but also a great way to keep physically fit and mentally sharp. Research has shown people who volunteer report fewer feelings of isolation (88%), stable or improved health (84%) and fewer symptoms of depression (78%) (Senior Corps & Health Benefits, n.d.).

So let's check back in with George. He came to a volunteer event and learned about Volunteers for Community Impact's (VCI) RSVP program. Retired & Senior Volunteer Program engages volunteers 55 and older to help local non-profit organizations. George was excited to learn that a local animal adoption center needed volunteers to work with their animals. George found a volunteer opportunity with us that allowed him to walk dogs at the adoption center. George told me he also met other volunteers there and after his shift he explores his new hometown a little more each day.

How can you be like George? If you're 55 or older, then give VCI a call! In Seminole County we have volunteer opportunities in areas such as: Veteran Services, Education, Health Care, Food Insecurities, Homelessness, Animal Services and Economic Services. For more information on our RSVP Program in Seminole County please contact Nicole Preston, Seminole County RSVP Volunteer Coordinator at 407-625-6010 or [npreston@vcifl.org](mailto:npreston@vcifl.org).

Senior Corps & Health Benefits. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/senior-corps/senior-corps-and-health-benefits>

Wunderlich, E. (2019, June 19). Seniors drive Florida population growth, study shows. *Herald-Tribune*. Retrieved from <https://www.heraldtribune.com/news/20190619/seniors-drive-florida-population-growth-study-shows>





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For immediate assistance, please call us anytime at 407-277-4227.





## Happy Birthday to YOU!

*Happy Birthday to YOU!*  
*Happy Birthday to you!*  
*Happy Birthday dear \_\_\_\_\_.*  
*Happy Birthday to YOU!*

5/28 Telson, Richard  
5/30 Finn, Paul Jr

### JUNE

### MAY

5/4 Newsome, Willie  
5/6 Shipman, Fred  
5/9 Piltz, Kerry  
5/13 Turner, N. James  
5/17 Muller, Charles  
5/21 Finch, Glenn  
5/22 Bonney, Benton  
5/23 Sprague, Arthur Jr  
5/24 Colon, Alfonso  
5/24 Jackson, Donnie

6/5 Fleming, John Jr  
6/6 Bruneau, George  
6/6 Cole, Leonard  
6/7 Gagne, Mark  
6/8 Colbert, Aurora  
6/13 Council, James Sr  
6/21 Reyes, Ramon  
6/23 Mishoe, Floyed  
6/25 Brown, Ronald  
6/29 Culver, Samuel



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At the end of the day,  
what really matters is that  
your loved ones are well,  
you've done your best and  
that you're thankful  
for all you have.



# THE AMERICAN LEGION



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## CALENDAR

### May

- 5 SAL Meeting - 7 PM - ZOOM only
- 12 Executive Board Meeting - 6 PM - ZOOM only
- 12 General Meeting - 7 PM - ZOOM only
- 19 Auxiliary Unit Meeting - 7 PM - ZOOM only

### June

- 2 SAL Meeting - 7 PM
- 9 Executive Board Meeting - 6 PM
- 9 Post General Meeting - 7 PM
- 16 Auxiliary Unit Meeting - 7 PM

Check the WEB page for updates especially during this emergency. Events may be added back once the crisis is over.

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

## OFFICER'S DIRECTORY

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