# 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 15, Issue 1

July-August 2022

#### 2022—2023 Officers

Commander

James Middlekauff

1st Vice Commander Billy Dover

2nd Vice Commander OPEN

Adjutant Bob Colbert

Finance Officer Bob Colbert

Sgt. at Arms Ron Gagne

Judge Advocate OPEN

Asst. Judge Adv. Terry Brown

Service Officer
Jim Middlekauff
Ted Costello

Chaplain Billy Dover Historian OPEN

Sons of the Legion Commander Jim Carten

Auxiliary
President
Marge Berrios

Newsletter Editor Nell Colbert

Website http:// www.wpflpost112.org

#### **COMMANDER'S MINUTE**

Greetings fellow Legionnaires of Post 112:

Summer is here! Along with hurricane season. Please have your plans ready and supplies stocked up, we never know what will happen. You can always count on your Post to help if needed. As I mentioned in my last note, we will continue with our "blended" meetings and hope for more members to feel comfortable enough to actually attend the meeting at the Post.

The Post is still getting improvements made, so stop by and check us out. Feel free to join us at anytime and give input as to what you may want to see happening at the Post. I would like to hear from you and would also love for you to help out when you have some time. You can reach me anytime on my cell and leave a message (407-739-4949). Thanks.

We conducted more school awards in June and they appreciate these so much. This is a very worthwhile educational program the American Legion has. Our awesome Auxiliary also presents awards and sponsors Girl State candidates.

I hope everyone had a memorable Memorial Day somewhere. It was unfortunate that we were not able to have a ceremony at the Post this year. Our elections have been completed for the next year and our installation will be at our July meeting. I thank those who have the confidence in me to continue as Commander (for one more year). We still have some vacancies, so if you are interested in lending a hand and contribute to the Post just let us know. Have a Great July 4<sup>th</sup>; we are 246 years old this year so celebrate our Independence.

Talk to other Veterans about us, the Legion is going strong. "Anyone who has served honorably in the US Armed Forces since December 7, 1941 are now eligible to join, including Active Duty" so bring them to a meeting and check out our awesome Post.

Until next time, take care and God Bless. For God and Country, Jim Middlekauff, Commander



#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

To continue
getting Post 112
family emails, please
send your correct
email address to
Bob Colbert
(bcolbert@usa.net)
ASAP

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# From Stephen's Korner—Stephen Miglionico

Fellow Post Members

I am sorry to say that this is my last article, I am stepping down from being the First Vice Commander. I have tried it before and stepped down then and was asked to try it again, I did but once again, I must leave that position. I am involved with many organizations, The Fleet Reserve Association Branch 117 here in Orlando where I am the Secretary/Treasurer; The Fleet Reserve Association Southeast Region where I am the Secretary/Treasurer covering 5 southern states with a membership of over 6000; The Florida Chief Petty Officers Association where I am the Secretary; I print and mail out 14 newsletters a year, ensuring that the association has the correct e-mail and postal addresses. In 1990 when I retired from the Navy, I started a Lawn and Landscape company where I ran it for 16 years and with medical problems, had to quit outdoor stuff and turned it over to my son along with the 102 customers. He has kept it going now for 32 years. I handle all the paperwork for the corporation, including, scheduling, banking, billing, tax forms both State and Federal.

So, as you could see I keep myself busy and want to slow down. The American Legion was the very last of my ventures and with all the involvement over the years with the other associations is the reason I left the position at the American Legion.

I will continue to be a member and attend meetings, in person or by zoom. I encourage all of you to come to a meeting. There is valuable information passed around and you have your right to vote on motions and other decisions to be made for our American Legion Post.

Thanks for allowing me to be the Post and your First Vice Commander over the past year.

Stephen Miglionico Chief Yeoman (YNC), USN (Ret)

Editor's Note—Thanks for your service to our Post, Stephen. Billy Dover has been elected 1st Vice Commander and will be handling Membership beginning with installation on July 12th. If you would like to get a jump on your 2023 dues, you can bring your check to the installation meeting.

2023 Legion Dues are now being accepted!
Please send your \$38 check to
PO Box 910, Goldenrod, FL 32733
TODAY!



# Notes From the Adjutant's Desk

We are starting a new fiscal year! I hope that everyone has a great Fourth of July.

We will be holding the Installation of Officers for the Post, Auxiliary and Son's at the Post on July 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. Members of the 6<sup>th</sup> District staff will be conducting the "swearing in" portion. If you are able, feel free to join us. The Son's meeting and the Auxiliary meeting have been moved to the 12<sup>th</sup> for the Installation. We will be streaming the installation on ZOOM so watch your email for the link. You can also request the link from the Adjutant by sending him an email or text message. I hope that you will be able to participate either in person or online.

As we install our officers for 2022-2023, we also must say so long to our outgoing Sargent at Arms, Russell Kraeger. Russell will be transferring to Post 243, which is closer to his home. Russell will still be active in the Fleet Reserve Association so will be stopping by the Post periodically. And, our outgoing Vice Commander, Stephen Miglionico, will be stepping down but he will remain active in the Post and Fleet Reserve. Thanks to both of these fine men for a job well done. And at the same time, we welcome our new Vice Commander, Billy Dover, who is also our Chaplain and Ron Gagne as the new Sargent at Arms, and also our Scouting Chair.

2022-2023 is going to be an interesting year for the Post. As we begin to "return to normal" (whatever that is) the Post will try to resume activities. Do you have an idea for something? Maybe a "Potluck" picnic or dinner? How about something else? Let your imagination run wild and let us know. And please be ready to help the Post to grow! If we are going to bring activities to the Post, each activity will need a "Champion" to help bring it off. The "Champion" can recruit anyone to assist in making the event happen.

To give you an idea, here are some of the previous events held at the Post over the years:

Four Chaplains Memorial

- \*Pancake Breakfast for Veterans
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Memorial Day Service
- Fourth of July Picnic
- Halloween Night
- Post Family "Early Bird" Picnic
- Veterans Day Service
- Post Family Christmas Dinner
- Morning Coffee at the Post

\* The Pancake Breakfast is subject to the availability of transportation for the Veterans to be brought from the VA Nursing Home.

Any or all of these activities can be resumed provided we can get a "Champion" to organize them. And REMEMBER – The "champion" can be anyone in the Post Family (Legion, Auxiliary or Sons).

See you at the Installation on July 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM either in person or ONLINE.



# Woodcarving of the Flag and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

At our May meeting, Ms Shari Lewis, Commemorative Event Chairman of the William P Duval Chapter of the National Society of the <u>Daughters</u> of the American Revolution along with the Chapter's Regent (and a Post Member), Leslie Beltz presented the Post with a wood carving of the American Flag with an inlay of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier with a descriptive plaque to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This Wood Carving now hangs on the wall in our Post.



## 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 - \$ 10.00 (3 3/4"w x 2 1/4"l) 1/4 page - \$ 15.00 (3 3/4"w x 4 3/4"l)

1/2 page - \$ 25.00 (7 3/4"w x 4 3/4"l or 3 3/4"w x 9 3/4"l)

Full page - \$ 40.00 (7 3/4"w x 9 3/4"l)

Copy MUST be emailed to the editor as a jpg or Publisher file but payment MUST be mailed to

the Post's PO Box 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.





www.communimatics.com

## The American Legion



## Our Happenin' Auxiliary—Nell Colbert

We did it, ladies! We made our 100% goal for 2022-24 paid members. And now our membership drive for 2023 kicks off July 1st and our goal will be 25 paid members so we need to add at least one new member over the coming months. Please look for your renewal letter from Unit 112 in the coming days; letters will be mailed via USPS about July 1st. National doesn't begin to email or snail mail invoices until after the national convention, so if you pay now, you can save national some money by not having them mail you an invoice. If you want to bring your check to the installation, we can give you your new 2023 membership card!

Please remember that Auxiliary and Legion eligibility requirements have changed—the male spouses of female Veterans are now able to join the Auxiliary as long as their living spouse is a Legion member. Also, Veterans can join the Legion if they served at any time after the beginning of World War II. If you have friends or relatives who are eligible for the Auxiliary, the Legion, or SAL, please encourage them to join our Winter Park family.

There was some information in the Department Convention packet that was emailed to everyone about a proposed national dues increase beginning in 2024 where 2024 national dues will be increased by \$6, 2026 will increase another dollar, 2028 will have another dollar increase, with the last one dollar increase coming in 2030. Naturally, we will need to increase our dues by an equal

amount to keep up with what we have to pay out to register everyone. This article is being written before the June Department convention so more information will be shared at our general meetings after convention.

Our Girls State delegates are attending the 2022 session as this article is being written. Our plan is to have our girls attend our August meeting to update us on their exciting experiences.

At the end of the school year, we presented certificates and medals





to one young lady and one young man at each of the seven elementary schools we serve during their





5th grade awards ceremonies. The students and their parents were excited and very appreciative of our efforts to recognize their students. This year, Nell and Marge handled all presentations.

The Department Convention was held June 16-19 and Debi, Marge, and Nell represented our Unit well.

We learned that Patti Holliday, the Department Secretary, resigned her position in mid-May so Department is looking for her replacement. The Department delegates also voted to increase the Department dues by \$2.50 for the 2023-2024 membership year as well. We won't know about the proposed National dues increase until after the National Convention in August. More information from the convention will be shared at future Unit meetings.

Hope to see you for our installation of officers at the Legion Family meeting on July 12th. Watch your email for the Zoom link to the installation meeting if you cannot attend in person.



We welcome all Veteran spouses along with the mothers, sisters, grandmothers and grand-daughters of Veterans 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



## Notes from Our Service Officer

The House amended and passed (256-174) the "Honoring Our PACT Act" (H.R.3967). The bill will be amended in the Senate to authorize the setup of 31 major medical clinics across America and hire thousands more claims processors and health care staff. The bill would allow for the first time all veterans who were at risk of toxic exposure, including 3.5 million Iraq and Afghanistan veterans, to obtain immediate and lifelong access to health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) - one of the largest expansions of health care eligibility in the VA's history.

The bill would establish a presumption of service connection for 23 respiratory illnesses and cancers related to the smoke from burn pits, used extensively in Afghanistan and Irag to dispose of various types of waste, many of them toxic. Further, the bill also provides for new benefits for veterans who faced radiation exposure during deployments throughout the Cold War, adds hypertension and monoclonal gammopathy to the list of illnesses linked to Agent Orange exposure in the Vietnam War, expands the timeline for Gulf War medical claims and requires new medical exams for all veterans with toxic exposure claims. Veterans who served in Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Guam during the Vietnam War era would be covered for the first time under the same Agent Orange presumptive policies as those who served in Vietnam itself.

On April 26, VA announced the addition of nine rare respiratory <u>cancers</u> to the list of presumed service-connected disabilities due to exposure to fine particulate matter for Veterans who served any amount of time in

- Afghanistan, Djibouti, Syria or Uzbekistan during the Persian Gulf War, from September 19, 2001, to the present, or
- The Southwest Asia theater of operations from August 2, 1990, to the present.

Veterans and survivors who had claims previously denied for any of the below respiratory cancers are encouraged to file a <u>supplemental claim</u> for benefits; Squamous cell carcinoma of the larynx; Squamous cell carcinoma of the trachea; Adenocarcinoma of the trachea; Salivary gland-type tumors of the trachea; Adenosquamous carcinoma of the lung; Large cell carcinoma of the lung; Salivary gland-type tumors of the lung; Sarcomatoid carcinoma of the lung and; Typical and atypical carcinoid of the lung.

New VA Insurance Program Coming In January 2023,

VA will launch a new program offering, Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife), which provides guaranteed acceptance whole-life insurance coverage to Veterans ages 80 and under with any level of service-connected disability. Although, some Veterans aged 81 and older may also be eligible.

**POW/MIA update:** As of June there are no new identifications or burials.





## Renew Online and Emblem Sales

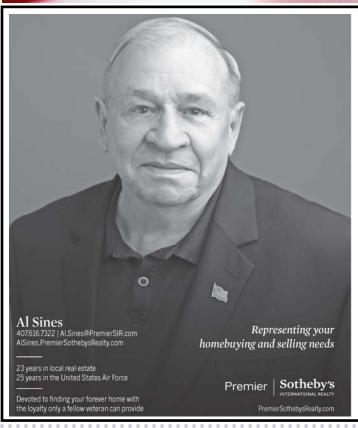
Did you know that you can renew your membership ONLINE?

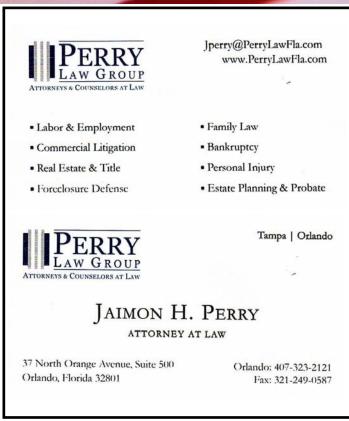
Every member can create a National Logon Account. This allows you to do several things and one of them is to renew your membership ONLINE without having to mail it. If you have not set up an account, go to <a href="https://mylegion.org">https://mylegion.org</a> and click on "Register" in the upper right corner. It will walk you through setting up your account.

Once your online account is set up, you can update your contact information, make purchases from Emblem Sales, pay your dues/print your new card, and even set up recurring membership payments, if you wish.

Take a look – it may surprise you. By the way, this works for both the Legion and Sons members. Call Bob Colbert if you need help with this.









## The Chaplain's Prayers: Billy Dover

"The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Psalm 18:2

We as human beings need help daily and we need someone who will listen and not judge. David in Psalm knew he needed the help. This past month I have lost three friends one who had surgery and never recovered one with lung cancer, and one with a brain tumor that returned with a vengeance.

Each of these individuals was Christians and each knew that once the body dies their souls would be with God in the blink of an eye. That being said it is still hard to see these individuals suffer and leave this world of ours suddenly. Their families are now without human contact but they know that it is possible to see them again. What a comfort to know that the Lord is my rock, fortress, and deliverer. We need God's strength and we can trust him with ALL things.

Today we are losing over 22 veterans and first responders daily due to the lack of comfort that they could find in The Lord. It is our duty to know that we need to be available to comfort these individuals and provide a sounding board for them. If God places someone on your mind, then why not call them and check on them. The American Legion has requested we do buddy checks can you be a buddy for someone. If you get a call and someone needs to talk then LISTEN do not try to solve their problems.

#### MY PRAYER:

Dear Lord, you are our rock, fortress, and savior, at this time we wish to be bold in our support of those who need your guidance. Let us be good LISTENERS to you and others. Let us comfort those who are going through challenging times and especially our military, first responders, and their families. For we ask this in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, AMEN.

For God and Country, Billy Dover Jr.

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

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE SON'S OF THE AMERICAN LEGION!** This is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sons of the American Legion. There was a celebration at the Detachment of Florida Sons of the American Legion convention last month! Check with Commander Carten about how it went. We may have information about it in the next newsletter.

At this time, our meetings are only on ZOOM but that may be able to change soon. Watch your emails for any updates. The meetings are still on the First Tuesday of the month and the ZOOM link is sent out with the meeting notices by email.

Our Pancake Breakfasts are still "on hold" due to the "lock down" at the Veterans Nursing Home. We are looking forward to later this summer or in the Fall when they will be able to return. We may need a couple of volunteers to assist with the breakfast, so watch for the notice as it will be on the WEB page as well as sent by EMAIL.

Our 2022-2023 Officers will be installed at the July 12<sup>th</sup> "Post Family Installation" and as such, the July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting will not be held. See you at the installation.



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Strive at Fern Park is proud to be a Veteran owned & operated senior living community! Offering homelike assisted living and memory care services, our goal is to provide extraordinary care and superior service.

Call today to schedule your tour of our brand new commuity!



Veterans receive 5% discount on monthly rent.



7255 Strive Place Fern Park, FL 32730



## School Medals—Bob Colbert

We presented both NJROTC medals and the Achievement Award at Lake Howell High School. We also presented ROTC medals at UCF.

The Achievement Award is open to any student recommended by the faculty so in addition to Lake Howell, we presented Achievement medals and certificates at Aloma, Cheney, Dommerich, Eastbrook, Lakemont, and Red Bug Elementary Schools. Some of the presentations were not done in person but dropped off at



the school as we did not have enough presenters to cover the schools since many awards programs are held on the same day and time and the travel time between schools does not allow for one person to make it to more than two schools on the same day. For next year, please consider helping with the presentations; it takes only a few minutes and most elementary ceremonies begin at 9 or 10 am. The kids and their parents really appreciate our presentations.





## 2023 Dues/Membership Renewal—Bob Colbert

Are you thinking "2023 dues already?"

By now, you may have received a reminder for 2023 dues and wondered why that is. Our membership (your card) runs for the calendar year. And, Posts are supposed to check your membership card when you come to the Post. This must be done at Posts that have lounges and restaurants on site as their state licenses require that only current members can purchase alcohol. Many of the smaller Posts already know if you are a current member because you are known. To ensure that the members have their NEW card before the start of the year, National begins the membership renewal campaign on July 1<sup>st</sup>. It is hoped that all Post members will have their new card before January 1<sup>st</sup> of the membership year. National even gives Posts some incentives to have all renewals in before the end of the year. So, when you get the renewal notice, I hope that it makes more sense for National to be asking for your 2023 dues in July of 2022.

#### Newsletters—Email or US Mail—Bob Colbert

As you know, the postage rates continue to rise. We have another raise coming before the next newsletter and yet another increase promised around the first of the year. Currently, it costs the Post about \$1.25 per newsletter to mail them including the cost of printing and postage. And, unfortunately, they are in black and white. We mail about 50 newsletters per printing or 300 per year. We know that there are members who do not have access to a computer, and we will always send their newsletters by US Mail. But, if you happen to have a computer and are still getting the newsletter by US Mail, please let us know your correct email address and we will send it to you that way.

The advantages of getting the newsletter by email are: 1. The newsletter by email is in color; 2. You will get it faster than by US Mail; and 3. You will be saving money for your Post. And, if you go to our website, you can view past newsletters over the last several years. The website is: <a href="http://wpflpost112.org">http://wpflpost112.org</a>. It has the latest information on events, too.



# Happy Birthday to YOU!

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

#### <u>July</u>

- 1 Beltz, Russell H
- 3 Yost, Thomas
- 5 Fonseca, David E
- 7 Mays, Deborah
- 8 Middlekauff, Byron J
- 10 Berry, Peter B
- 10 Garceau, John
- 12 Furbush, Alan R
- 14 McCollum, Bill
- 19 Velkavrh, Joseph
- 21 Settles, Ronald Dan

- 27 Evans, Douglas M
- 28 Brown, Terrance
- 28 Wartell, Lawrence
- 29 Colado, Guy D

#### <u>August</u>

- 4 Colbert, Ryan M
- 6 Kauffman, Russell W
- 8 Belcher, Charles R
- 17 Singleton, Leon
- 19 Knapp, John M
- 19 Leimer, Sharon
- 20 Knapp, Cheryl A
- 20 Shannon-Klinger, Staci
- 21 Kuhn, Charles W
- 21 Mings, Phillip L

- 24 Smith, Donald P
- 27 Matteson, Robert D
- 28 Colbert, Robert M
- 29 Middlekauff, James L
- 30 Lomax, Daniel W
- 31 Bryant, Frederic S







Looking for USN, USMC and USCG honorably discharged veterans to join the Fleet Reserve Association.

You do not have to be retired, just a veteran. Dues are \$40.00 per year, BUT Branch 117 will pay half your dues for the first year when you join. We meet at the American Legion Post 112 in Winter Park every 3rd Saturday of the month at 0930. Contact Steve Miglionico at 407-301-6256.



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Auxiliary meeting moved to 7-12

July Event
4 INDEPENDENCE DAY

SAL Meeting moved to 7-12
 Post Family Installation - 7 PM

19

August

2 SAL Meeting - 7 PM

**Event** 

9 Post General Meeting - 7 PM16 Auxiliary Meeting - 7 PM - ZOOM

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

#### OFFICER'S DIRECTORY

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407-383-9455 - bgdjr@hotmail.com

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Finance Officer: Bob Colbert

407-619-9611 - bcolbert@usa.net

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407-383-9455 - bgdjr@hotmail.com

Sgt. At Arms: Ron Gagne

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