

# 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

## 2023—2024 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  
Larry Middour

Sons of the Legion  
Commander  
Jim Carten

Auxiliary  
President  
Marge Berrios

Newsletter Editor  
Nell Colbert

Website  
[http://  
www.wpflpost112.org](http://www.wpflpost112.org)

## COMMANDER'S MINUTE

Greetings fellow Legionnaires of Post 112:

I hope everyone is doing well and staying healthy in this heat, please stay hydrated when being outside. If anyone is in need of assistance - please reach out to one of us, hurricane season is here.

As I mentioned in my last note, we will continue with our "blended" meetings and hope for more members to feel comfortable to actually attend the meeting at the Post (it is in great shape).

We had a successful Memorial Day Ceremony on the 29<sup>th</sup> and appreciate those that could make it. Thanks again to the Centurion Battalion Sea Cadets for the Color Guard and assistance with setup and tear down, as well as the Post Auxiliary assistance.

We are conducting our annual installation of Officers next month, so come out and see how this is completed. We still have some vacancies for Post positions, so if you are interested in lending a hand and contribute to the Post just let us know.

School awards are completed for this year, and I thank the members that helped with the presentation of the awards. This is a very worthwhile annual educational program the American Legion has. Our awesome Auxiliary also presents their own Scholastic Achievement awards and assists with our school award presentations.

Please have a Safe and Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July! We will not be having anything at the Post.

Our Post Adjutant and I will have attended the Annual Convention by the time you read this. This will be my last year of attending the Service Officer training since the time invested is not paying off with the amount of assistance being given.

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



Volume 16, Issue 1

July—August 2023

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

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

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## From Billy's Korner—Billy Dover

As of today, 23JUN23, we have 96 paid members out of 110 which sets us at 87.27%. Our goal is always to be our 110 plus ONE. There are 14 members who have yet to renew and we are requesting you send in your payment of \$38.00 to AMERICAN LEGION POST 112 or you can do it on the American Legion website.

Let us recruit and retain our members along with educating them on the four pillars of the American Legion. Your dues go to help us accomplish many of these four pillars.

Invite your neighbors to join us either in person or on a ZOOM call and get involved. As a final note, I want you to keep this number **988** which is the **Suicide HOTLINE**, and **protect yourself and your comrades**.

**For GOD and COUNTRY,**  
Billy Dover Jr., First Vice Commander, WP Post 112

**2024 Legion Dues are now being accepted!**  
**Please send your \$38 check to**  
**PO Box 910, Goldenrod, FL 32733**  
**TODAY!**

## Legion Department Convention Updates

The Department Convention was quite interesting. One of the things that was mentioned was that the National American Legion may have to discuss dues increase in 2025. It will be discussed at their National Convention in Charlotte, NC, in August, so we may be hearing more about it after their convention and at our 6th District meeting in September.

Another item discussed was the ability of the members to pay 3 years of dues at one time. This may become effective in January, but we will keep you posted. If this happens, you will be able to pay the current dues rate for 2024, 2025 and 2026 regardless of any dues increase. That could save you some money in the short term. Of course, the dues are non-refundable. You will only be able to renew one year at a time by mail.

Did you know that you have a National American Legion account online? If you have not registered your account, go to <https://mylegion.org> and "click on" "register" in the upper right corner. You will be asked for your email address, and it must be the one that you have given the Adjutant to send to National. If you don't remember what it is, send Bob a note to [FLPost112@gmail.com](mailto:FLPost112@gmail.com) and he will send what is in our records have back to you. If you did register an email with National, send Bob a note with which email address you want to use, and he will notify National and let you know when it is ready. And, if you want to change your email address at National, let Bob know. Once you have your account registered, you can change it yourself, just remember to notify the Adjutant so the Post records stay up to date.

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## Notes From the Adjutant's Desk

We are starting the new fiscal year with the installation of officers at the Post on July 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. Since we have the Auxiliary and Son's, we will have the entire Post Family installed at the same time. The new District staff will be on hand to receive the acceptances. There will be some "munchies" after the installation.

In August, we plan to have our Boy's State and Girl's State delegates attend the general meeting and give us a report on what they thought of Boy's State and Girl's State. We also plan to have some "munchies" after the meeting, too.

Our meetings will continue to be streamed on ZOOM for those who are not able to get to the Post. If you have a "smart" phone, you can actually see the meeting online through your phone. If you don't have a "smart" phone, you can DIAL in and listen to the meeting. If you need personal instructions on how to attend the meeting, let me know. **Remember, your vote counts!**

The year is just beginning! Don't you want to be a part of it?

Just to review a few things from the past year, we have taken on the sponsorship (chartered partners) for two Boy Scouts of America Scout Troops. The troops are Troop 613 (a boy troop) and Troop 4613 (a girl troop). Since we have become associated with them, two girls have earned their EAGLE rank and one boy has almost finished his EAGLE. You may see them at the Post from time to time. To remind you, the Four Chaplain's Memorial in front of the pavilion and the flag collection box outside our front door were EAGLE projects of two of the boys from Troop 613.

We have had some changes at the Post, too. With the addition of the Scout Troops comes the usual "camping trailers" that most troops have. We have added parking spaces for them in the back. We placed "pavers" so that the trailers would not be sitting in the dirt and the grass growing up around them. The pavers will keep the grass away and give the trailers a solid place to be stored. We also added some dehumidifiers to end the "musty" odor that had permeated the Post for years. You can tell im-

mediately when you come into the Post.

Over the next couple of months, we will be improving the building and premise security. We need to be able to have a better view of the premise and we will be adding "inside" cameras so that we can check on the entire Post. The improvements to the security system are actually overdue.

I would like the amateur radio operators (hams) to identify themselves. National American Legion has an Amateur Radio Club. There are no dues, but you do need to be a member of the Legion Family (Legion, Sons or Auxiliary). We can form a local "club" if we have enough interest. From there, who knows what can develop.

Don't forget to check the Post Family WEB site. The Legion and Son's are on one site and the Auxiliary has its own, but we all share the same calendar. You can go to the WEB site at <https://wpflpost112.org> or directly to the calendar at <https://wpflpost112.org/events>. You can find all of the old newsletters, dating back to 2017 and as I get time, they will go even farther back.

If you are receiving this newsletter by email, you already know that it is in color! Unfortunately, we cannot afford to print the hard copy in color. So, if you have an email address and we aren't sending the newsletter to it, send an email to the Post at [flpost112@gmail.com](mailto:flpost112@gmail.com) and let us know what it is. Postage is going to continue to go up and we would much rather spend that money on you and the Post than give it to the Post Office. **But, if you do not have computer access, we will continue to mail your copy of the newsletter. No one will be left behind!**

Finally, if you call the Post and get the voicemail, please leave a message. We have changed to using a newer system and I get notified each time someone leaves a message so that we can return calls much faster.

See you at the Post Installation in July or the August meeting with the Boy's and Girl's State delegates.





## 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:

- 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 PDF file and payment MUST be mailed to Post 112 at PO Box 910, Goldenrod, FL 32733-0910

and received 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 321.303.7445 or email [necolbert@usa.net](mailto:necolbert@usa.net)



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## Our Happenin' Auxiliary—Nell Colbert

Our Unit was saddened to learn that long-time member Staci Shannon-Klinger passed away on May 27th. Staci had been an Auxiliary member since she was about 4 years old and transferred into Unit 112 in 2011. Staci's eligibility for the Auxiliary came through her father, Post 112 member, Dyke Shannon. Staci was only 48 years old and leaves behind a 10 year-old son. Please keep Debi, Dyke and the entire Shannon and Klinger families in your prayers as they deal with this tragic loss.

Our Unit was well represented at the recent Department of Florida annual convention held 6/14-6/17. Marge, Nell, and Laurel attended several classes as well as the general sessions to vote for the 2023-2024 Department Officers and vote on proposed amendments to the Department's Constitution and By-Laws/Standing Rules. The major change at the Department level was that of making the Department Secretary an unpaid, volunteer position appointed by the newly elected Department President. There are now three full-time paid staff at Department—the Office Manager, Treasurer, and Membership Processing.

Another change announced was the discontinuation of membership credits to process memberships from the Units. When members pay their dues on-line using the National Auxiliary portal, a membership credit is generated for the Unit. As a benefit to the Units, membership credits will be paid to Units monthly via

ACH deposit rather than being paid annually on July 1st for the preceding year.

Our Membership Drive for 2023-2024 kicks off July 1st. Because of the dues increase approved at the Auxiliary National Convention and the Department of Florida Convention in 2022, our Unit approved a dues increase in November 2022 to accommodate these increases. Our Unit portion of the dues did not increase—just that portion of what we collect that we pass on to Department and National. Our 2024 dues will be \$45 for each Senior member and \$12 for each Junior member. You will receive our annual dues renewal letter from our Unit Secretary-Treasurer that will arrive in your mailbox around July 1st. Please do not wait for the renewal invoice from National as they are not mailed until October; if you pay for 2024 now, we can save National some postage (remember stamps go up July 1st and we could help to avoid another National dues increase for next year.) We need to be at 100% before the end of November so we can apply for an over-quota Girls State delegate for 2024. Thanks for paying your 2024 dues before the deadline.

Since our last newsletter, we've been busy presenting Americanism Essay contest certificates and medals to two elementary school winners and four high school winners. We also presented Scholastic Achievement certificates and medals at eight elementary school graduating 5th

graders. Pictures can be found on our Unit Facebook page at: [facebook.com/ALA112FL](https://facebook.com/ALA112FL)

We also assisted the Post with the Memorial Day program. Auxiliary members provided side dishes to go along with the awesome meal from Dustin's BBQ. Again, lots of pictures from the event can be found on our Facebook page and on Page 10.

By the time you read this, our Girls State delegates will be home from Tallahassee. We were thrilled to learn that both of our alternates were picked up by other Units around the state who could not select girls from their areas to represent them. Our delegates will be giving their updates in person at Post 112 on August 8th beginning at 7pm.

Our installation of officers will be held in-person at Post 112 on July 11th, beginning at 7pm.

Please join us on 7/11 and 8/8. Zoom will also be available for those unable to travel to the Post—watch your email.

**We welcome all Veteran spouses along with the mothers, sisters, grandmothers and granddaughters 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](http://www.AmLegionAux112FL.com)



## Notes from Our Service Officer

### Navy Revamping Living Conditions on Aircraft Carriers

Based on a quality-of-service investigation, the Navy is revamping manning requirements, living conditions and mental health access for sailors assigned to aircraft carriers undergoing maintenance in the shipyards. These improvements come after a separate investigation into the rash of suicides among sailors assigned to the carrier George Washington revealed how the challenging work environment at a Newport News, Virginia, shipyard had negatively affected their quality of life.

### D-Day 79 Years Ago

This month (Tuesday, June 6) marks the 79th anniversary of the World War II invasion of Normandy, France, by Allied troops. Commonly referred to as D-Day, it was the largest naval invasion in history and eventually led to the end of the war in Europe. Salutes go to all WWII veterans on this special anniversary, particularly those who fought on June 6, 1944.

### New technologies to enhance Veteran access

In July 2022, Veterans had a new way to reach the Veterans Crisis Line by dialing 988 and pressing 1. This new number addressed the need for ease-of-access and clarity in times of crisis for both Veterans and their families. In FY 2022 over 717,000 calls were answered by the hotline. The Veterans Crisis Line can also be reached by text ([838255](tel:838255)) or [chat](#).

Deploying updated phone system technology and software tools to increase the efficiency of contact centers remains a core priority for contact center modernization efforts. But telephone isn't the only way to reach VA.

Two new methods were introduced last year: [AskVA](#) and VA [Chatbot](#). Both were designed to provide Veterans with quick and easy access to VA customer service and information-

al resources. AskVA consolidates previous online inquiry services into one system that makes it easier for Veterans to submit questions, concerns and recommendations. The submissions are routed to the appropriate VA service and users can receive secure messages and track their issue from submission to resolution. Last year, 356,000 inquiries were received through AskVA, with 98% successfully resolved.

### About the Caregiver Support Program

The Caregiver Support Program (CSP) promotes the health and well-being of Veterans' caregivers through education, resources, support and services. Every VA facility has a CSP team that provides valuable information about resources to help caregivers stay informed and supported as they support Veterans. Contact your [CSP team](#) to learn about the resources available. Caregivers of Veterans can learn about CPR training opportunities offered through VA by contacting their local [CSP team](#).

**Veterans** can electronically access their VA decision letters online. The Decision Letter Download Tool allows Veterans to download their decision letters using [VA.gov](http://VA.gov).

Any Veteran with a [VA.gov](http://VA.gov) login can use this tool, which provides instant access to decision letters. Veterans no longer have to speak with VA or wait for a paper letter in the mail to know the decisions made on their claim.

# FOURTH *of* JULY



# THE AMERICAN LEGION



School medals presentations by Legion and Auxiliary members at 3 high schools and 8 elementary schools. Thanks to everyone who made these presentations possible.



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

Having just returned from our Annual State Convention, it is always gratifying to see our fellow SAL comrades as well as the good work that we are doing together. From the amount of time that is volunteered to the monies raised for Special Olympics, Fisher House, etc., the Sons are making a difference in so many people's lives. We are always looking to grow our ranks. If you know anyone whose father or grandfather has served, we would love to speak with them on how we together can make a difference.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Installation Ceremony on 7/11.

For God and Country,  
Jim Carten  
Commander, Squadron 112



## The Chaplain's Prayers : Billy Dover

### Proverbs 1:5-7

*A wise man will hear and will increase learning, and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels: 6 To understand a proverb and the interpretation; the words of the wise and their dark sayings. 7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

Proverbs of Solomon the son of David the King of Israel, wrote these great words of wisdom. Just as wise men, we should all heed the words and listen along with increasing our knowledge of not only the past but also the future. We must fear the LORD and listen to what he is trying to tell us.

How many times have you said to yourself that I wish I had listened to my parents when they had the wisdom and knowledge

of past experiences? I admit that I have often not listened to or followed the rules which always created problems for me. Just as God has opened and closed doors and we being humans think we know best,

I heard the other day that the Bible was too harsh to place in a school and yes anything to see on TV or other media is a lot worse without wisdom.

Let us now commit to listening to God and the wisdom which comes from his WORD the BIBLE. Instead of turning on the media, get out your Bible in a quiet room and LISTEN to God speak to YOU through his word.

God alone is holy, awesome, and able to do wonders, however, we continue to idolize others. We idolize those who are

unworthy of our attention. The only one whom we should idolize, and worship is God.

Let us pray:

Dear God, you have prepared the way and the light for my life so that I will not stumble. I ask you to now direct me in times of good and trouble and keep me focused on you dear LORD. May the idols that are in my life need to be replaced with your wisdom. Protect our Nation, and our leaders in this great county and we pray they follow the way in which you have directed. Be with our service personnel and first responders along with their families.

For this we ask in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.







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# THE AMERICAN LEGION







## Happy Birthday to YOU!

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

### JULY


- 1 Beltz, Russell H
- 2 Ross, E Scott
- 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
- 21 Settles, Ronald Dan
- 27 Evans, Douglas M

- 28 Brown, Terrance
- 28 Wartell, Lawrence
- 29 Colado, Guy D
- 29 Ross, Laurel

### AUGUST

- 4 Colbert, Ryan M
- 8 Belcher, Charles R
- 17 Singleton, Leon
- 19 Knapp, John M
- 19 Leimer, Sharon
- 20 Knapp, Cheryl A
- 21 Kuhn, Charles W
- 24 Smith, Donald P
- 27 Matteson, Robert D
- 28 Colbert, Robert M
- 29 Middlekauff, James L

- 29 Middlekauff, James L
- 30 Lomax, Daniel W
- 31 Bryant, Frederic S

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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.



# THE AMERICAN LEGION



Winter Park Memorial Post 112  
4490 North Goldenrod Road  
Winter Park, FL 32792  
[www.wpflpost112.org](http://www.wpflpost112.org)

## CALENDAR

### JULY

- 3 SAL Meeting moved to 7/11
- 4 Independence Day
- 11 Post Family Officer Installation - 7 PM - at Post & ZOOM
- 18 Auxiliary Meeting moved to 7/11

### AUGUST

- 7 SONS Meeting - 7 PM At Post & ZOOM
- 8 Post General Meeting - 7 PM at Post & ZOOM
- 8 Boy's State & Girls State Updates - 7PM at Post & Zoom (**Legion & Auxiliary**)
- 15 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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