

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

2023—2024 Officers

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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 think fall may finally be here! Covid is still showing it's ugly face since I just got over it (again). Let us know if anyone needs help with medical or anything else we can do for you. Hurricane season is still here, so be ready.

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). Speaking of shape, Home Depot has offered to do some "improvements" above and beyond what we have already done to improve the looks. By the time we have our next meeting, the work will be done, so stop in on a meeting night and see what else has been done. As the note suggests in the newsletter, we will have some type of a light dinner for our meeting nights. October's dinner meeting was a great success. November's meal will feature pasta. Let us know if you would like to attend. We need to know before November 6th so our Auxiliary member who does the shopping and cooking can get everything needed to feed our crowd.

Hope you all had a safe and Happy Halloween! Remember Veterans Day and thank you for serving! At our November meeting we will be conducting our Post Everlasting ceremony, so if you have not attended one of these maybe now is the time. We will also be having our Annual Christmas Party/Dinner at Perkins again. Always a good night to be together and it will be on December 8th starting at 6:30 PM. The Post and Auxiliary support will be doing the VA Giving Tree program where we supply items for a Veteran family in need.

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

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Nov.-Dec. 2023

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 Billy's Korner—Billy Dover

As of today, 13OCT23, we have 71 paid members out of 101 which sets us at 70.30%. Our goal is always to be our 101 plus ONE. There are 30 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.

With all the events occurring in the world people are experiencing depression and anxiety and need companionship so I am asking you to pick up the phone and call a family member or friend who is alone and just talk or better yet LISTEN to them. Keep in prayer those who are involved in the Israel War and keep our service personnel safe.

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

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

IT'S PARTY TIME!!

Save the date! Christmas Holiday Dinner

The Christmas Holiday Dinner is now set for December 8th at Perkins Restaurant on University Blvd by Forsyth Rd starting at 6:30 PM. As usual, please call, text or email the Post if you plan to attend. We are ordering off the menu. You can call (leave a message) or text at 321-300-6765 or email at FLPost112@gmail.com. If you call the Post, please be sure to leave a message. When you call, give your name and how many people will be attending. **Spouses are always welcome!** We will also be having an optional gift exchange (\$15—\$20 max, please) and everyone who brings a gift will receive one. **We must have a head count by 11:59 PM on December 5th.** We really want to see everyone who can attend! It has been quite a while since we have seen each other in person. By the way, **this will also be held IN PLACE OF THE REGULAR MEETINGS FOR THE ENTIRE LEGION FAMILY (LEGION, AUXILIARY AND SONS).**





Notes From the Adjutant's Desk

The end of 2023 is in site! When you see this newsletter, we will be in (or close to) November. Christmas shopping will be in full swing and plans for the holidays are being made. **I hope that you will include the Legion Family's Christmas Holiday Dinner on December 8th in your list of things to attend. There is a detailed article on page 2 of this newsletter.**

Our October meeting was delicious! We had hot dogs and beans with chips and chocolate chunk cookies. We also saw some old friends at the meeting. Since this one was so successful, we'll do it again in November! Pasta is on the menu. The meal is being prepared by an Auxiliary Unit volunteer, so we need to know if you are coming in advance. Please call Nell at 321-303-7445 or email necolbert@usa.net to let her know you'll be coming. Deadline to respond is 5pm, November 6th (Monday.)

The Home Depot project has begun. The Commander has outlined this in his article.

With the cost of everything going up, it would not be a surprise if National announces dues increase for 2025 or 2026 after their Fall meeting. No official word has come out as yet. We will keep you informed. **There is a shortcut to savings, should there be an increase.** You can now renew online for more than one year. In fact, you can renew for dues years 2024, 2025, and 2026. The savings here is that you pay the CURRENT dues for all three years, regardless of any dues increases over those years. You have a chance to "lock in" your dues through the end of 2026. We expect to hear about any potential increases later this month and will let you know. Until there is official word, we cannot be sure how it will affect membership dues at the Post. The Post absorbed the last increase, but we will not be able to absorb another increase. Of your \$38 per year, the Post currently receives only \$9 per member.

Have you set up your Legion ONLINE account? This allows you to pay dues online or update/correct your information. Changes of address and birthdays (see below) can be made here without risking sending them by email. It is a secure system and is not available to the outside world. As of the last newsletter, we are only sending 31 newsletters by US Mail, which has helped to cut our operating costs. If you do not have email or access to a computer, you will not be left out! We will continue to mail newsletters to ANY member that does not have email or access to a computer!

Have you had a birthday, but it was not listed on the newsletter's birthday list? That would be because we don't have your birthdate. We are not certain how this happened, but we want to celebrate with you. You can email us the correct date or send it by US Mail if you prefer to the Post's PO Box 910, Goldenrod, FL 32733. Please do not send mail to 4490 N Goldenrod Rd as we don't feel that the box is secure.

If you were able to attend the October meeting ONLINE, then you missed out on the hotdogs and beans, but you were able to see the level of the new computer's quality. The computer is small enough to be brought out to the table and it has two cameras available so that you can get a better feel of being there. This is just a small sample of the changes to come to your Legion Family's Post. The Commander has been hard at work getting improvements made at the Post and there are more to follow. Don't forget to thank him for all of the hard work that he has been doing.

Until January, be safe and see you at the dinner.





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—10December
- 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



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Our Happenin' Auxiliary—Nell Colbert

We are making great progress in our 2024 membership drive. 21 of our members already renewed for 2024, putting us at 81% of our goal. Thanks to everyone who has already renewed.

If you have not received your 2024 membership card, that means that your 2024 dues have not yet been paid. Please mail your \$45 check to:

ALA Unit 112
PO Box 2246
Goldenrod, FL 32793-2246

Or you can pay on-line by credit or debit card by logging in to your account at the national Auxiliary site:

www.members.legion-aux.org

At our September meeting, guests from MOAA shared their vision about the "Veterans Healing Through Expression" project and our members voted to partner with MOAA to help them obtain a grant from the Auxiliary national organization. All the paperwork has been submitted and we are waiting to hear back from MOAA to see if their grant request is going to be funded by national.

This month we will be presenting our *Give Ten to Education* check to one teacher at Eastbrook Elementary who uses Scholastic Books in her classroom. Our \$250 check will provide each of her students one book per month for the entire school year to have for their own to keep. What a great way

to encourage young students to become avid readers!

In November we have three major shopping projects: the Eastbrook food pantry weekend backpack project, the VA's Giving Tree project with several Post members, and our annual holiday food baskets for the military families requesting assistance through the VA's Giving Tree program. If you would like to help with any of our shopping trips to help Veterans and their families along with the Eastbrook students, please let Nell or Marge know. The Eastbrook project will be done on 11/6 at 1pm (meet at Publix on University & Goldenrod) and the VA shopping will be done on 11/28 at 2pm (meet at Costco on University & Forsyth.) No date yet for the Post's Angel Tree shopping.

After such a busy November, we all need a little party time! And, of course, it wouldn't be December without our **Legion Family's annual Holiday party**. This year, the party will be held on **December 8th** at the Perkins restaurant on University Blvd. at Forsyth Road. Our traditional gift exchange will also take place. Of course, the Legion needs to know how many people will attend. The holiday party will take the place of our regular december meeting. **Please see the "It's Party Time" article on page 2 for information on how to RSVP.**

Before you know it, 2024 will be here and it will be time to kick off Girls State interviews and our Americanism Essay Contest in our schools. Our Girls State interviews will be conducted on Sunday, February 25th, beginning at 1pm. Please plan to join us as we select our 2024 delegates.

We are going to try something new in 2024. At our October meeting, we voted to begin quarterly in-person meetings at the Post where we will also serve a light meal. We have a few new members who we've not been able to meet in person and we thought this would give us a chance to not only renew old friendships but get to know all our new members. Watch the January Legion Family newsletter for when our quarterly meetings will kick off.

Hope to see everyone in-person for our projects and on Zoom for our meetings.

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



Notes from Our Service Officer

The [PACT Act](#), passed in August 2022, expands Veterans' eligibility to benefits based on the addition of new presumptive conditions and toxic exposure locations. Presumptive conditions are ones VA assumes are related to military service, therefore making it easier for Veterans to connect certain conditions to their military service. As a result, more survivors are eligible for benefits than ever before. Veterans and survivors who think they might be eligible should apply for PACT Act benefits right now. Go to www.va.gov/PACT.

Monthly survivor payments

Qualifying family members may be eligible to receive Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC). DIC is a monthly payment provided to the surviving spouse, dependent child or parent of a Veteran who died from a service-connected disability.

To be eligible as a surviving spouse, the survivor must have lived with the Veteran without a break until the Veteran's death, or if they were

separated, the survivor was not at fault for the separation. Additionally, the survivor must have been married to the Veteran within 15 years of discharge from the period of military service during which the qualifying illness or injury started or worsened or were married to the Veteran for at least one year, or had a child with the Veteran. Surviving spouses who have re-married may also be eligible.

Senate Confirms New VA Deputy Secretary:

The Senate voted to confirm Tanya Bradsher to be the VA deputy secretary. Bradsher is a 20-year Army Veteran, and she will be the first woman to serve in this role. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs Chairman Jon Tester released a statement in which he commended her record of serving. In this role, she will also be tasked with overseeing other challenges facing VA—including the roll-out of the Electronic Health Record Modernization program and strengthening VA's collaboration with the Department of Defense (DoD) on the VA-DoD Joint Executive Committee.

Son's of the of the Legion: Jim Carten

I had the awesome opportunity of assisting our District leadership with some installation ceremonies around the District. We are part of an amazing organization that does so much for so many. Our squadron may be small but we have some great opportunities to make a difference in so many lives. We need to seek those out and help our brothers and our families.

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, November 18, at the Caribe Royale for the annual Fall Conference Meetings. Registration is at 9:30 with the meetings starting at 10am. Reservations are needed so let our Adjutant know that you will be attending and join your fellow Sons for some fellowship and an awesome exchange of ideas.

Lastly, we will be breaking bread at our monthly meetings. Please let us know if you will attending and a light dinner will be available for free. Have a bite and have some fellowship.

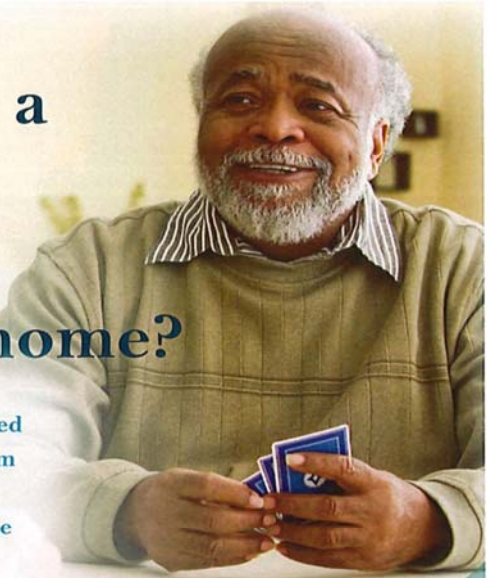
And don't forget to RSVP for our Legion family Holiday Party! See Page 2's "It's Party Time" article for details.





Does your loved one have a hard time asking for help or admitting that they sometimes feel lonely at home?

If they've been independent their whole life, telling their family they need help can be a difficult conversation to have. Be supportive and allow them to express their concerns. Caregivers also find it hard to admit they're getting tired. Remember that one person can't do it alone. Without some extra support, you may get burnt out. Admitting you need help doesn't mean you're not providing excellent care. To provide the best care, you also need to look after your own health and well-being.



It's always a good idea to know what services are available before you need them. If you're an older adult, or a caregiver, the best time to consider adult day services is now.

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The Chaplain's Prayers : Billy Dover

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the American Legion Family,

We are all concerned about the events over the last couple of weeks. The war between Israel and Hamas is not the first or the last. We must always go to the Bible to see what God has written on this subject. In Mark 13 Jesus was trying to explain the Past, Present, and Future to Peter, James, John, and Andrew. I highly recommend you spend time reading this chapter of Mark and compare the facts with the events of today. Today we are going to look at Mark 13:4-10:

Mark 13:4 Tell us, when will all this happen? What sign will show us that these things are about to be fulfilled? 13: 5 Jesus replied: Don't let anyone mislead you. 13: 6 for many will come in my name, claiming, "I am the Messiah. They will deceive many. 13: 7 And you will hear of wars and threats of wars, but don't panic. Yes, these things must take place, but the end won't follow immediately. 13:8 Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes, in many parts of the world, as well as famines. But this is only the first of the birth pains, with more to come. 13: 9 When these things begin to happen, watch out! You will be handed over to local councils and beaten in the synagogues. You will stand trial before governors and kings because you are my followers. But this will be your opportunity to tell them about me. 13: 10 For the Good News must first be preached to all nations.

The disciples were asking questions to Jesus and he made sure to protect yourself from being misled with the false prophets claiming to be the Messiah. We must look at everything from the news media, and do our research. Know that Jesus predicted in 13:7 we hear of wars and threats of war. 13:8 Nations will go to war against nations and kingdoms, along with earthquakes, volcanic explosions, fires, and famines. Even in vs 9, Jesus made this comment WATCH OUT, and that our commandment is to tell others of the Good News. Do NOT worry for it is a waste of time when your time can be constructive. Let your light shine and help another legionnaire or just a neighbor.

I would suggest you get the book **Nineteen Eighty-Four** by George Orwell which was written in 1949.

Let US pray:

Dear God thank you for your gifts of knowledge and our ability to learn from your word (the BIBLE). Right now, we ask you to be with Israel and guide them through this war. Be with the families and friends of those who lost members during the attack of the Hamas. We know that you are in charge and you will guide us if we ask. Please keep us safe and heal those members who are battling injury and disease along with mental illness. Give us the strength to be bold in our faith during times of struggle. Protect our Service personnel and their families as well as the first responders and their families. This we ask in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, AMEN.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY,
Billy Dover Jr., Chaplain





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BOYS STATE—Bob Colbert


Boys State is coming

Our Boys State candidate selection will be coming at the end of February. We do generally select our candidates from a couple of schools, but a member can recommend any youth who will be a rising Senior for the 2024-2025 school year. I can send him the application to submit for consideration.

Once the application is received, I will do a pre-interview with the youth and his parent(s) by phone to ensure that there are no questions from the parents. Also, we must be sure that the boy can attend the session from June 16 to June 22 in Tallahassee.

Selection will be made on Saturday, February 24, 2024, at the Post starting at 2 PM. Only those who have pre-qualified will be eligible to participate. There will be no walk-ins.

There is one other date that the candidate must attend and that is the Boys State Orientation which is usually in late April or May and there is more than one date. Once the dates are set, the candidates will be informed and may choose which date they will attend.



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Happy Birthday to YOU!

*Happy Birthday to YOU!
Happy Birthday to you!
Happy Birthday dear*

Happy Birthday to YOU!

NOVEMBER

- 2 Kuhn, Scott C
- 4 Camerer, Christopher D
- 12 Brizendine, Linda J
- 16 Doyle, Mary
- 16 Middour, Larry T
- 17 Chagnon, Armand H
- 19 Shannon, Dyke E
- 26 Day, Robert J
- 30 Brooks, Christian J

DECEMBER

- 7 Gagne, Ronald S
- 8 Brown, Sharon
- 9 Berrios, Marge
- 11 Bettis, Earl W
- 12 Long, Donald E Sr
- 16 Lord, John S
- 19 Carten, James E III
- 29 Simmons, Debbie
- 30 Berrios, Theresa



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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
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CALENDAR

- NOV** Event
- 6 SAL Meeting at Post & ZOOM
 - 11 Veteran's Day
 - 14 Post General Meeting & dinner
 - 17-19 Fall Conference
 - 18 Fleet Reserve Meeting
 - 21 Auxiliary Meeting on ZOOM
 - 23 Thanksgiving Day
- DEC**
- 8 Christmas Holiday Dinner
 - 15 Newsletter articles due
 - 16 Fleet Reserve Meeting
 - 25 Christmas Day
 - 31 New Year's Eve

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

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