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

CommanderJames Middlekauff

1st Vice Commander Billy Dover

2nd Vice Commander OPEN

> **Adjutant** Bob Colbert

Finance Officer
Bob Colbert

Sgt. at ArmsRon Gagne

Judge Advocate
OPEN

Asst. Judge Adv.Terry Brown

Service Officer
Jim Middlekauff
Ted Costello

ChaplainBilly Dover

HistorianLarry Middour

Sons of the Legion Commander Jim Carten

> Auxiliary President Marge Berrios

Newsletter Editor
Nell Colbert

Website https://wpflpost112.org

COMMANDER'S MINUTE

Greetings fellow Legionnaires of Post 112:

I hope everyone is doing well, it looks like summer is quickly approaching with heat. 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 since we have made many good changes. As the note suggests in the newsletter, we will have some type of light meal for our meeting nights each month. Let us know if this is something that would interest you and you have the desire to participate.

Our next meeting in May will be a Post Everlasting ceremony, so please try to attend and pay tribute to those who we have lost. This is a meaningful ceremony. Don't forget Mothers Day on the 12th of May! We will discuss the program for our Memorial Day ceremony at our next meeting, so stand by for email updates. Election of Officers will also be at our May meeting with installation in July.

Perhaps we will be holding a Flag Retirement Ceremony by the end of Summer, so stand by for updates on this. Our Scout Troop is doing an Eagle Scout project to help us get it all setup.

June is the annual American Legion Convention, so try to attend at least one day. There is plenty of learning to be had with the different classes available.

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, Post 112

Volume 16, Issue 6

May-June 2024

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 11APR24, we have 92 paid members out of 101 which sets us at 91.09%. Our goal is always to be our 101 plus ONE. Nine members have yet paid 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. Next year the dues will increase to \$45.00 per year.

Last couple of months we talked **about** buddy checks and how suicides increase during the year. People are lonely 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.

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.

On a side note, thank each of you for you thoughts and prayers with the sudden passing of my wife.

For GOD and COUNTRY, Billy Dover Jr. First Vice Commander

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

Meeting Dinners Require Your RSVP

As Jim mentioned in his Commanders Minute on Page 1, we began having dinners at each Post meeting beginning at about 6:30pm back in October 2023. Because our meals are cooked on site by one of our Auxiliary members, she needs to know at least a week before each month's meeting if you plan to attend so that she can have enough food on hand to feed everyone but not have left overs that would go to waste.

We've had meals like lasagna, hot dogs and beans, and cold cut subs. For May, we're planning on Pizza! We'll have plain cheese pizza along with the "garbage can" pizza with all the toppings. If you have ideas for other meal options, please let Nell know!

If you would like to join us for dinner before the May meeting, please email Nell at necolbert@usa.net or call or text Nell at 321-303-7445 BEFORE MAY 7th to let her know that you'll be joining the members for dinner. Remember, the May meeting is the Post elections so you'll want to be present.

For June's meeting, please RSVP by June 4th.



Notes From the Adjutant's Desk

The May meeting will be our annual Election of Officers for 2024-2025. The meeting will be at the Post on May 14th at 7 PM. The slate of officers is Jim Middlekauff – Commander, Ted Costello – 1st Vice Commander, Billy Dover – Chaplain, Bob Colbert – Finance, Larry Middour – Historian and Ron Gagne – Sgt at Arms. The installation of officers is tentatively scheduled for July 9th at the Post. The installation will include SAL and Auxiliary Officers as well. The June meeting is too close to the Convention which is why the election is held in May.

We will be having a Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 27th at 11 AM! Please mark your calendar and plan to attend! Billy Dover, our Vice Commander and Chaplain, is the Point of Contact for this event, and I know that he is looking for people to help with the event as well as set up and tear down. We are trying to resume the events at the Post, and this is a good starting point.

The Commander mentioned the Legion Convention in June and there are classes in almost all aspects of the Legion programs. Other than paying for parking, there is no cost to the members. If you are coming out, you may want to bring your own lunch as the food is sold at resort prices. And the general sessions are often impressive. The speakers can range from the Governor to members of the State and Federal Legislatures. I will say that if you plan to attend the General Ses-

sions, bring a jacket.

If you are driving by the Post over the weekends, you may see either the Sea Cadets or one of the Scout Troops around the grounds. We are trying to pick up activities at the Post, but it is a slow process.

For your information, National has raised its portion of the annual dues to the membership. To cover their increase, the Post's dues for 2025 will go to \$45 per year. We were able to absorb the last increase without affecting the members but that isn't possible this year. If you go ONLINE and pay your dues, you can pay them at the current rate (\$38/year) for 2024, 2025 and 2026. This can only be done ONLINE and sending the Post a check will not work. The increase was discussed and voted upon at the March meeting. Multi-year payments are now possible for members who pay ONLINE only. National will mail your cards to you for the FUTURE years.

Lose your membership card? You can always log into https://mylegion.org and print a replacement card. If you don't have a log-on, you can register yourself. This registration will allow you to pay your dues online as well. Be sure to use the same email address that you have provided to me when registering your MyLegion account.

Boys State—Bob Colbert

All four of our delegates are registered to attend and all their paperwork has been completed. By the time the newsletter is mailed and posted, they will have completed their



orientation at Pine Castle Post 286. We hope to hear good things from them at the August meeting when they come to the Post Meeting for a review of their experience.



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





The American Legion



Our Happenin' Auxiliary—Nell Colbert

CONGRATULATIONS! To our very own Laurel Ross who was awarded the Ed Burford Veteran Lifetime Achievement Award at the April 18th Seminole County Veterans Appreciation Luncheon. Congratulations, Laurel and thank you for all your hard work supporting the veterans in our community.

Our May 21st meeting will be on Zoom only and we will be electing our officers for the 2024-2025 program year. The proposed slate was presented at our April meeting by our Nominating Committee. The slate is:

President—Marge Berrios
Vice President—Terry Berrios
Secretary/Treasurer—Nell Colbert
Chaplain—Debi Shannon
Sgt at Arms—Laurel Ross
Historian—Madelda Thompson

We will also be electing our delegates and alternates to the Department Convention at our May meeting. Everyone is encouraged to attend Convention <u>BUT</u> we must know that you want to come so that we can register and pay for you as a guest. If you would like to attend, please contact Nell. Email, phone, and text work great.

Installation is targeted for July and will be held in conjunction with the Legion and SAL installations on July 9th. This is an in-person event at the Post so please plan to attend and show your support for our officers. Zoom will also be available for those who cannot attend in person.

The eight elementary schools in Orange and Seminole Counties that we support have been con-

tacted about our Scholastic Achievement Awards that are presented to their 5th grade students and the schools have begun to send in their information. We have several schools with presentations on May 23rd at 9am and we know that there will be more on either 5/21, 5/22, or 5/23. Because all the graduation ceremonies are held within the last few days of the school year at the exact same times, we will need extra help to make sure our schools are all covered. If you would like to help make these presentations, please let Nell know. There is a script already prepared and the schools always try to put us first on their programs so we can scoot out to cover the next school if needed.

The 6th District Constitutional Conference will be held at Post 35, Mount Dora, on Saturday, May 11th. Registration begins at 9:30am and the meeting begins at 10am. We'll be electing our 6th District President for next year along with our delegates to the National Convention later this summer. District meetings are where we get updates on things happening within our District and the Department of Florida.

Poppies are also coming in May. If you would like to help with a Poppy booth, please contact Marge as she will be setting the schedule.

And don't forget Memorial Day! Our Post will be holding a program for the whole Legion Family on May 27th. See the article on Page 9 of this newsletter.

As you can imagine, May will be a very busy month for our Unit!

Things slow down a bit in June. We will be attending the Department of Florida Annual Convention June 13-16 at the Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista located in the Disney Springs area. Thursday always features different classes to help us learn more about the Auxiliary programs, and our General Sessions happen on Friday and Saturday. Saturday's highlight is the election of our Department Officers for 2024-2025. 6th District's Past President, Charlotte Bass, is the leading candidate for Department President. The Installation of Officers for the Department is always held on Sunday morning immediately following the Church service.

Our June meeting will focus on our budget for 2024-2025. If you have ideas for activities we could do, please share your thoughts at our June meeting.

Our condolences go out to Department President, Dee Bell, whose husband John passed away in March.

Until the next newsletter—Be the One!

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

https://www.facebook.com/ALA112FL or our website at:

www.AmLegionAux112FL.com



Notes from Our Service Officer

Happy 124th Birthday Enlisted Submarine Service. Pride Runs Deep! This week (April 11), the U.S. Navy celebrates the creation of the Navy submarine force. On April 11, 1900, the Navy commissioned its first modern submarine. The submarine force has played a vital role in shaping naval tactics and establishing the U.S. Navy as the most powerful naval force in the world. This day the nation recognizes the brave men and women who serve and have served on these underwater vessels.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) testified before the Senate Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee (SASC-P) last year on reducing the Department of Defense compensation costs. In its written testimony, CBO urged Congress to enact a new TRICARE for Life (TFL) annual enrollment fee of \$575 for individual coverage or \$1,150 for family coverage. TFL beneficiaries would also be required to pay the first \$850 and 50 percent of the next \$7,650 in cost annually. Currently, TFL beneficiaries do not pay an annual enrollment fee. Further, CBO recommends increasing retirees' TRICARE Prime annual enrollment fee from the current \$352 for the individual and \$704 for the family to \$650 and \$1,300, respectively. TRICARE Select beneficiaries would pay an annual enrollment fee of \$485 for individual coverage and

\$970 for a family. Although no legislation has been introduced, Veterans are urged to tell their legislators to oppose these CBO proposals.

On May 31, 2024, VA will launch the Veterans Affairs Servicing Purchase (VASP) program to help more than 40,000 veterans facing foreclosure on their homes. Through VASP, VA will purchase defaulted VA loans from mortgage servicers, modify the loans, and then place them in the VA-owned portfolio as direct loans. This will empower VA to work directly with eligible veterans to adjust their loans and monthly payments so they can keep their homes. Veterans with questions about avoiding foreclosure can contact a VA loan technician by calling 877-827-3702.

USS Arizona survivor <u>Lou Conter</u> passed away Monday at the age of 102. The sole survivor serving aboard the USS Arizona during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

The Defense **POW/MIA** Accounting Agency has announced 4 new burial updates: Navy Electrician's Mate 3rd Class Charles D. Brown, USS West Virginia, Seaman 2nd Class George T. George, USS Oklahoma, Army Pvt. 1st Class Anthony J. Lopa (2nd Infantry), Army Private 1st Class Harold D. Wilder (24th Infantry).





We're here to help you get every benefit you deserve. **Veterans** join us now to get SPECIAL INCENTIVES!

Imagine having everything you need under one roof and all in the comfort of your private apartment home. All your needs tended to 24 hours a day. Our team working together and providing professional care with a personal touch.

At Windsor Place at Orlando Lutheran Towers, our beautiful Assisted Living, enjoy private apartment homes. Your benefits include assistance with care needs, meals, medications, doctor appointments and a wide array of daily activities both on and off campus. Come join us and become part of our amazing family.







Son's of the of the Legion: Jim Carten

Mark your calendars for two important dates.

- First on May 11, plan on attending the 6th District Constitutional Conference at Post 35 in Mt. Dora. Go time is 0930. Gather with our fellow Sons and choose our leadership for the upcoming year.
- June 13-16 our annual Detachment Convention will be held at the Hilton Lake Buena Vista Resort. Attendance is free but

we need to know you are attending so we can issue your credentials.

Both opportunities allow us to exchange ideas and share our vision of serving our veterans and serving our fellow Americans. Please join us.

I almost forgot to mention that at our May meeting, we will be conducting elections. We do have a few openings and nominations are accepted from the floor. Please join us at the Post.

See you on May 6th for our meeting beginning at 7pm. Watch your email for the Zoom link if you cannot attend in person.



The Chaplain's Thoughts: Billy Dover



CHAPLAIN'S THOUGHTS

Buy the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. James 3:17

As we continue to live, we are challenged with a task or medical issue that requires you to make decisions. God has given us character and wisdom to further his purpose in our lives. Unfortunately, many of us rely on the wisdom of the world through its selfishness and envy which will ultimately ruin us. True wisdom is shown by God's mercy and kindness which, if we allow them, we can have peace totally every day. We are to further God's kingdom by unselfish acts of kindness.

Praver

Dear Lord let us follow you and not the world to gain knowledge and success. Let us continue to grow and have personal gain, power and wealth to be used for your glory. Let me know and seek Your knowledge and wisdom to provide mercy and kindness to others. Lord protect our Country, our service personnel and first responders along with their

families. This we ask in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, AMEN.

On a personal note: I wish to thank the post and each member for your thoughts and prayers since my wife's death. I am sorry I have not been available but know I have felt your thoughts and prayers. May God bless Post 112 and its family.

Billy Dover Jr., Chaplain WPM Post 112.





MEMORIAL DAY AT THE POST

This year we will have a short ceremony on May 27, 2024, at the Post 112 to Remember and Honor those who have died for OUR country. This is to honor those members of the military who were killed in service. This includes those on deployments overseas or in training and service in the United States.

This service will be our way as veterans to remember those who served with us. On a personal note, I lost two cousins and eight hospital corpsman in Vietnam. Many of you know I wear my dog tags to remember them. On this day we will meet at the American Legion Post 112 at 1100 hours for a service that will not last longer than 30 minutes. We would be honored if you came and helped us REMEMBER our service members who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

In Flanders Fields

by John McCrae

In Flanders fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below. We are the Dead. Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.



SAVE THE DATE Memorial Day Ceremony May 27th - 11am at Post 112



SCOUTING AT POST 112—Bob Colbert

You may have noticed the trailers at the back of the Post. We took on two Scout Troops and are now their Chartered Organization and have been for almost 18 months.

Troop 613 is a conventional boy troop that almost all of us are familiar with. Troop 4613 is a relatively new girl troop program allowing girls to participate (separately) in the Scouting Program and earn the Eagle rank.

The troops were originally chartered to Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church where they meet but the Church found that they could no longer Charter the troops and we were asked to take them on. The troops still work on several service projects for the Church during the year as a way of saying "thank you" to the church for allowing them to use the church facilities.

Troop 613 has completed two Eagle Projects at the Post that were done before we became their sponsor. More service projects are coming. The "Flag Box" by the East door (facing Goldenrod Rd) was one of them and the Four Chaplain's Memorial beside the Flagpole is the other one. There is another Eagle Project in process and when it is completed, we will have a place for Flag Retirements.

Troop 4613 has had two Eagles since we became their Chartered Organization and are also quite active. The picture to the right was their first Eagle Court of Honor after we became their sponsor.

And a special thanks goes to our Sergeant at Arms, Ron Gagne, who is the Scouting Unit Commissioner for both Troops and attends many of their functions.



GOOD DEED AND YOUNG HERO AWARDS

The American Legion Auxiliary wants to recognize our youth who demonstrate good citizenship through an act of bravery or who demonstrate good citizenship by performing a good deed. The Young Hero and the Good Deed awards are for young people under the age of 18. **Our Auxiliary Unit needs your help to identify worthy candidates!**

The Young Hero Award can be presented to a girl or boy who performs any heroic activity from administering CPR to save a life, to administering emergency first aid, to rescuing someone from a drowning situation or performing the Heimlich maneuver to save a choking person. There are many acts of bravery that can qualify!

The Good Deed Award is one that recognizes youth for doing something nice for someone else or their community —perhaps helping an elderly neighbor with yard work, doing a neighborhood trash clean-up, running a lemonade stand to raise money for a local charity or a family in need, or volunteering at the local animal shelter. There are many, many examples of Good Deeds!

If you know of someone who deserves a Good Deed or a Young Hero award, please contact Nell at necolbert@usa.net or call or text 321-303-7445. Our Unit will complete the application and will present the National Auxiliary certificate to the young person at an upcoming Auxiliary meeting or Legion Family event.



Happy Birthday to YOU!

Happy Birthday to YOU!
Happy Birthday to you!
Happy Birthday dear _____
Happy Birthday to YOU!

<u>MAY</u>

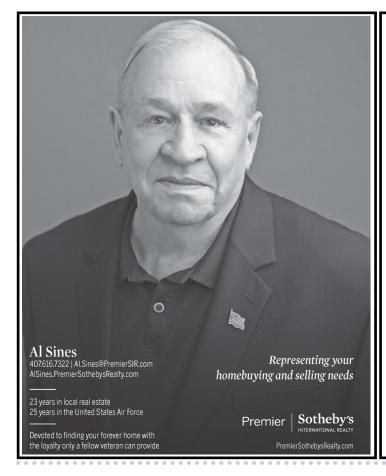
- 6 Caruso, Claudia D
- 6 Colbert, Landon B
- 6 Squires, Mark S
- 9 Piltz, Kerry
- 15 Sexton, Caleb R
- 15 Sexton, Chase M
- 17 Muller, Charles J
- 21 Finch, Glenn H
- 23 Sprague, Arthur R Jr
- 24 Colon, Alfonso
- 30 Finn, Paul T Jr

<u>JUNE</u>

- 6 Bruneau, George J
- 7 Gagne, Mark T
- 8 Colbert, Aurora
- 13 Council, James M Sr
- 23 Mishoe, Floyd E
- 29 Culver, Samuel E
- 5 Fleming, John F Jr









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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www.wpflpost112.org

CALENDAR

MAY **Event** SAL Meeting - 7 PM - ZOOM & Post - Elections 6 12 Mother's Day Legion General Meeting - 7 PM - ZOOM & Post -14 **Elections** 21 Auxiliary Unit Meeting - 7 PM - ZOOM - Elections 27 Memorial Day Program - 11 AM JUNE Event 3 SAL Meeting - 7 PM - ZOOM & Post 11 Legion General Meeting - 7 PM - ZOOM & Post Legion Convention 13-15 Flag Day 14 Newsletter articles due 15 Father's Day 16 Auxiliary Unit Meeting - 7 PM - ZOOM 18 Visit our website for additional dates and more detailed

info about each event.

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