

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

**2025—2026
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Billy Dover

Historian
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**Sons of the Legion
Commander**
Jim Carten

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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, considering the weather that we have experienced lately and that we are all done with these hurricanes now. If you need assistance with anything, do not hesitate to ask for help.

Our hybrid meetings are going well – many of our members who cannot drive at night or who live too far away to drive over for a short meeting are able to still be a part of our meeting via Zoom. Daylight savings time will end November 2nd so once again it will be getting dark sooner than what we have been used to. You can still attend a meeting via zoom or if you wish to have a ride, let us know and we will try to accommodate you.

The Flag Retirement project is completed. We plan to have a Flag Retirement Ceremony by the end of the year and will send out a notification of the event.

As of our last meeting (Oct. 14th) discussion, we will have our Christmas Dinner at the Perkins Restaurant on University Blvd. on Dec. 5 at 6:30 PM. Please RSVP. See the flyer later in this newsletter.

At our November meeting we will be holding the Post Everlasting Ceremony for our Legion Family members that have gone to the supreme commander, please attend if you can.

Remember all that served on Veterans Day, especially those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Thank You to all that have served our Country.

Remember December 7th and those that were lost on that horrible day. I hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving and a Very Merry Christmas. Best wishes for the New Year as well.

Talk to other Veterans about us, the Legion is going strong Nationally. *"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 to all.

For God and Country, Jim Middlekauff
Commander, Post 112

Volume 18, Issue 3

Nov.—Dec. 2025

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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THE AMERICAN LEGION



Page 2



Christmas Party

Legion Family Holiday Party

Friday, December 5, 2025

6:30pm—9pm

Perkins Restaurant

6425 University Blvd.

Winter Park, FL 32792

RSVP BEFORE 1 DECEMBER

by phone or text to 407-212-7262 OR

Email FLPost112@gmail.com

Optional Gift Exchange (\$20 maximum)





From Ted's Table—Ted Costello

As of 10/21/2025, the Post has 67 paid members for a 66.3%. This is excellent as of this date. I also had 5 telephone calls from people interested in the post. I talked to all of them and gave them information of the post and what we do, I also gave them meeting information (including ZOOM) so that they could join in the meeting. I also followed-up with a text to remind them of the meeting. Unfortunately, only one signed in on ZOOM and I have continued to keep in contact with him. As I ask is that each member that is physically capable, when you are out and about just ask if they are veterans and if they belong to a Veterans Organization and invite them to the post. I appreciate your help!

Ted Costello, First Vice Commander

**2026 Legion Dues are now DUE!
Please send your \$45 check to
PO Box 910, Goldenrod, FL 32733
TODAY!**

AMERICANISM—Ted Costello

Each month Americanism celebrates and reflects our military heritage. The Navy is 250 years old and has been celebrated with many observances throughout the United States last month. The US Marine Corps will be 250 years old in November. The US Space Force and the US National Guard have December birthdays. The American Legion also paid tribute to the birthdays of all the services, honoring their military service, supporting those that continue to serve, and fostering unity within our communities. And our Auxiliary Unit provides a birthday cake for our Post meetings every month in which the birthday of one of our branches falls. November and December are not simply another month, but a time of solemn remembrance and patriotic commitment.

Ted





Notes From the Adjutant's Desk

2025 was the first year that we held the Four Chaplain's Ceremony at another location. Chaplain Dover did an excellent job in organizing both the location and the program and the result set a new standard for the Four Chaplain's Ceremony for our Post. Thank you, Chaplain Dover! And we are set to do it again on February 1st, 2026, at 2 PM and the First Baptist Church of Winter Park! You don't want to miss this. In fact, I still have a copy of the video from last year's Ceremony if you would like to see it. SAVE THE DATE – 01 FEB 2026 at 2 PM.

In February, we also held our Boy's State Delegate interviews. We had four delegates and one alternate this year, and the alternate also got a chance to go as a delegate for a Post who was short of delegates. We recruit from Winter Park High School, Lake Howell High School and Trinity Prep. We have also had candidates from other schools in the area, including Bishop Moore. BUT, if you have a son or grandson in his Junior Year this year, he can also apply to be a candidate by letting me know that he is interested. We can send four delegates and up to three alternates if they pass the interviews. A candidate can only apply to ONE Post, however. Boy's State will be from June 21 to June 27 this year.

The Department of Florida's Fall Conference will be held on November 21 & 22. It will be held at the Caribe Royale at SR 535 & SR 536. As of this writing, the agenda has not been posted, however, you can check for it at <https://floridalegion.org/news-events> and go to the Fall Conference. There is no cost to attend other than the parking fee that the meeting facility charges. There are usually courses about the various offices within a Post and information about recruiting and retention. There is also a Service Officer's School that lasts for both days and will certify you to become a Post Service Officer. Again, there is no charge for any of the courses or sessions. This is an annual event.

Our annual Post Family Christmas Dinner will be held on December 5th at Perkins Restaurant at University Blvd near Forsyth Rd at 6:30 PM. Since we need to give the restaurant a head-count beforehand, please text or call and leave word with your

name and how many people in your party. Call or text me at 407-212-7262 any time. We look forward to seeing as many of the Post's Family as possible and [bring](#) your spouse or significant other.

Eastbrook Elementary School, one of the schools that the Post Family supports, will be having a Veterans' Day Program on November 11th at 10 AM. All veterans are welcome, and we could use your help in visiting with the other veterans and perhaps do a little recruiting. If you have the time between 9 AM and 11 AM on that day, please let me know so that we can get your name on the school's visiting veterans list. There will be coffee and snacks before the actual presentation where we can meet other veterans. See you there!

While we are talking about Eastbrook Elementary School, the Auxiliary has just delivered socks and underwear to the school's clinic to help in the event of a student's need. And they will be delivering food for their pantry for students in need after we participate in the Veteran's Day program.

The Post Family also supports the Veterans Administration's Giving Tree event. The Post provides for one or more families of veterans in need with Christmas gifts and a holiday dinner. This dinner is a basket of holiday food for a family of four. The Post Family also provides two or three more baskets to the VA to distribute as needed. Our Auxiliary handles the food selections and assembling the baskets. Both the Post and the Son's provide some of the money to pay for them, as does our Auxiliary.

This is just some of what the Post could accomplish if we had more help. If you think of a program that the Post could get involved in, please let the Commander or me know about it. All a program needs is someone to "champion" it and it can be done.

If I don't see you at the Family Christmas Dinner, have a safe and happy holiday season and see you next year.





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"h)
 1/2 page - \$ 25.00 (7 3/4"w x 4 3/4"h or 3 3/4"w x 9 3/4"h)
 Full page - \$ 40.00 (7 3/4"w x 9 3/4"h)

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



Dear Valued Customers, Thank you for your support over the last 29yrs, and as the new owners we value that loyalty. We want to reassure you that our dedication to quality and customer service is our #1 Priority. Our business hours are still 9am-4pm Mon-Fri.

We have a new email address that we will be using moving forward.
orders@perfectprintingfl.com

Thank You from Scott & Tawny Saunders.
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Please also review our other pages.
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Our REDDY Auxiliary—Nell Colbert

Our Unit welcomed a new member, Candace Fish, in mid-October—welcome to Unit 112, Candace, we're happy to have you as part of our awesome Auxiliary! Candace makes our 30th paid member for 2026. **We have 3 members from last year who still need to renew and we need to add two NEW members to reach our 100% goal.**



We concluded our very successful *Tushies and Toes* Children and Youth service project in mid-October and delivered our collection of socks and underwear to Eastbrook Elementary. Thanks to the NJROTC Unit at Winter Park High School for donating more than 50 pairs of socks and our Junior member, Karen, for spear-heading the sock drive at the school. In total, we provided more than 175 pairs of underwear and more than 120 pairs of socks to the clinic at the school.



October saw our Unit deliver our annual Give Ten to Education project to one of our teachers

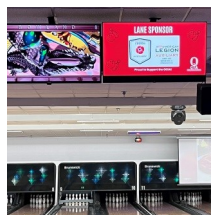
who uses Scholastic Books in her classroom. For \$10 per student, Scholastic Books provides one book per month for the school year.



And, of course, it wouldn't be a Post 112 meeting without a birthday cake to celebrate the birthday of our military branches. In September and October we enjoyed marking the birthdays of the Air Force and the US Navy. November will feature the Marine Corps and December we will honor the US National Guard and the US Space Force.



The Oviedo Citizens in Action recently held a bowling tournament to raise funds for their many projects. Unit 112 had the opportunity to be a lane sponsor at their event, helping us to promote the American Legion Auxiliary. One of our members who is also a member of the OCIA, graciously donated the funds so that we could be a lane sponsor—thanks



Laurel!

We have contacted our schools for the Americanism Essay contest and have gotten great responses from each one. We should see a lot more entries this year that in years past.

For Veterans Day, we will have our meet and greet table at Eastbrook Elementary's Veterans Day breakfast and program where we will distribute Poppies and American flags to all the Veterans in attendance. We will also be delivering the Thanksgiving food items for the school's Food Pantry's Friday Backpack program.

In December, we will be supporting the Lake Baldwin Giving Tree program by delivering three huge baskets of Christmas dinner non-perishables plus some much needed staples for our veteran families participating.

Hope to see everyone on our monthly Zoom calls and at the Legion Family Holiday Party on 12/5—see flyer on page 2.

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

Several veterans service organizations (VSOs) are signing a joint letter responding to a recent *Washington Post* article that highlighted the rise in veterans receiving 100% disability ratings. The article noted that “more than 1.5 million veterans held a 100 percent rating last year, double the figure from 2019 and nearly nine times as many as in 2001.” In their response, the organizations expressed concern that the article lacked context, noting that the referenced data sets are based on pre-9/11 numbers and fail to account for nearly 24 years of continuous combat and high-intensity operations that have significantly impacted service members’ health. The letter emphasized that similar increases in disability claims occurred after major conflicts such as World War II and the Vietnam War. In addition to signing onto the letter, they announced plans to send a formal inquiry to the Administration seeking clarification on whether any reform plans are underway for the veteran disability compensation program. The inquiry will specifically ask *Whether the Administration is considering reforms to the VA’s disability compensation system; What the target areas of such reforms would be; and whether veterans service organizations (VSOs) will be included in the process to ensure transparency and fairness.*

H.R. 2137 and S. 1657, the Review Every Veterans Claim Act of 2025, would prohibit the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) from denying a veteran's claim solely because the veteran did not attend a scheduled compensation and pension medical examination. Under this legislation, VA would be required to consider the full scope of evidence—including service medical records, private treatment records and lay statements—before rendering a decision. This ensures the VA upholds its duty to assist veterans and prevent unjust claims denials. No veteran should ever lose access to the benefits they earned due to bureaucratic hurdles, scheduling mistakes or unavoidable conflicts. Contact your Representative and Senators and urge them to support and cosponsor H.R. 2137/S. 1657, the Review Every Veterans Claim Act of 2025.

The House Passed 14 Veterans’ Bills to Enhance Benefits Outreach, Modernize and Expand Healthcare Delivery to Reach All Veterans, Safeguard VA Supply Chain and Deployed Servicemembers Homes

POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced six identifications from WWII and one from Korean War with four burial updates.





The Chaplain's Prayers : Billy Dover



Romans 12: 2 And be conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of GOD. vs 3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. vs 4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office; vs 5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

Our bodies are referred to as the "temple of the Holy Spirit" because God gave us the Holy Spirit to be with us after Jesus returned to Heaven to be with the Father. We must treat our bodies with the love and respect they deserve in all things. Whatever we do, we must be honorable. The things we do with our bodies shall glorify God and not counter His ways. We are not to conform to the world, but we are to let our minds be transformed so that we are in line with Christ.

Let us pray:

Dear God, we pray that we always consider what we do and how it affects our bodies, and that we allow the Holy Spirit to guide us in all things. Keep me in YOUR will and know that our bodies are the vessels for your good. Let us do things in a good, acceptable, and perfect way in your will. Protect us in all things we do that we may live as a witness of your goodness. Protect all our leaders, local, state, and federal members, as well as all our service personnel and first responders, and especially their families. This we ask in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit., Amen.



Son's of the of the Legion: Jim Carten

Veterans Day is a day for people to honor and show gratitude to all those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, both living and deceased. For many, it is a time to reflect on the courage, sacrifice, and dedication of veterans, while recognizing the importance of their service to the nation. The holiday is meant to be a broad celebration of all who served, distinguishing it from Memorial Day, which is specifically for those who died in service. For the Sons, this day is very special remembrance of our forefathers who served and sacrificed for freedom.

As we close out 2025, I am grateful for all of you and the support of our Squadron. Wishing all of you good health and happiness throughout the holidays and the new year!

For God and Country,
Commander Jimbo



Scouting at Post 112—Bob Colbert

Our troops have been quite active. Both troops have held Courts of Honor for the advancement of the Scouts.

Scouts are preparing for the annual Scouting for Food (Food Drive) where the Scouts will place bags on the door handles (where possible) of homes within their areas on Saturday, November 1st, and then pick up the bags with the donations on Saturday, November 8th. These bags will then be taken to the Second Harvest Food Bank collection points around the district to be turned in. Each year, the Scouts in Central Florida make a significant contribution to the Food Bank for the less fortunate. Should you find one of these bags at your door on the 1st, I hope that you will be able to help with their goal.

The Girl Troop (Troop 4613) has had three scouts who completed their Eagle rank over the last 15 months. One of the Eagle projects was assembled here at the Post and taken to the Audubon Society.



The Boy Troop (Troop 613) has had two scouts who have completed their Eagle ranks over the last 15 months. One of the Eagle Projects was the Flag Retirement area at the Post.



We also have two other Eagles who are now in the Military.



Timothy Crumbly earned his Eagle Scout rank on June 30, 2020. His project was to build flag donation boxes for flags that needed to be retired. He built three boxes, and one was installed at Post 112. Timothy enlisted in the United States Air Force in May 2025 as a 2A6X1 Aerospace Propulsion specialist (jet engine mechanic). He graduated from Basic Military Training in July 2025 at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, and is currently attending Technical School at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas. Upon graduation, he will be stationed at Misawa Air Base, Japan, where he will support the 35th Fighter Wing by maintaining F-16 Fighting Falcon engines.



Ethan Swanson earned his Eagle Scout rank on December 29, 2023. His project was to revitalize a Prayer Garden with a new landscape and mulch at Hope Lutheran Church on Dean Road. Ethan enlisted in the United States Navy and started Basic Military Training on June 10, 2025. He graduated on August 14, 2025, at Naval Station Great Lakes and is currently doing the BECC module BECC = Basic Engineering Common Core at Great Lakes in Chicago, Illinois as an Electricians Mate (EM). His training will take about a year. Upon graduating, he will be deployed to one of three bases he selected. Ethan's dream is to serve in Japan and hopes that is where he will be placed.

Congratulations to all of the Eagles.

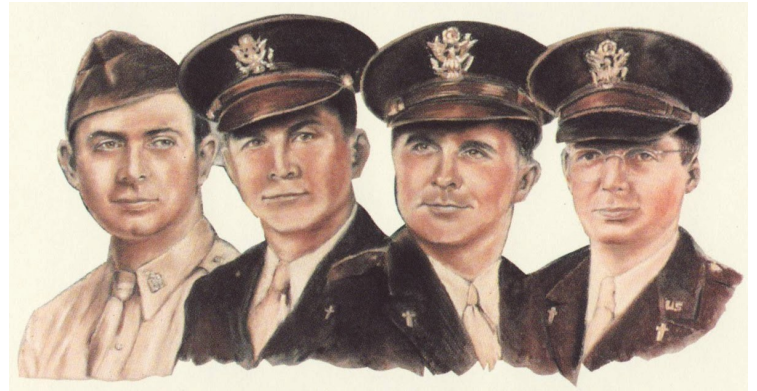


FOUR CHAPLAIN'S SERVICE

The Winter Park Memorial Post 112 is conducting a Four Chaplain's service, and we are inviting everyone to attend.

The service is being held at:

**First Baptist Church of Winter Park
1021 N. New York Avenue
Winter Park Florida 32789
Sunday, February 1, 2026
2:00 PM.**



WHO WERE THE FOUR CHAPLAINS?

The Four Chaplains, also referred to as the Immortal Chaplains or the Dorchester Chaplains, were four chaplains who died rescuing civilian and military personnel as the American troop ship SS Dorchester sank on February 3, 1943, in what has been referred to as one of the worst sea disasters of World War II.

Through the night of February 2, 1943, the S.S. *Dorchester* was traveling from New York to Great Britain. Once a luxury coastal liner, the 5,649-ton vessel had been converted into an Army transport ship, and was crowded to capacity, carrying 902 servicemen, merchant seamen, and civilian workers.

That evening, the captain ordered the men to sleep in their clothing and keep life jackets on. Many soldiers, deep in the ship's hold, disregarded the order because of the engine's heat. Others ignored it because the life jackets were uncomfortable.

On Feb. 3, at 12:55 a.m., a German submarine U-223 spotted the ship and its convoy. They fired a torpedo that would sink the boat in under 30 minutes.

Aboard the *Dorchester*, panic and chaos had set in. The blast had killed scores of men, and many more were seriously wounded. Loss of power from the blast prevented the crew from sending a radio distress signal, and no rockets or flares were launched to alert the escorts. Many passengers were disoriented in the darkness.

Passengers quickly began to overcrowd lifeboats to the point of capsizing, according to eyewitnesses. Other rafts, tossed into the Atlantic, drifted away before soldiers could get in them.

In the midst of this pandemonium, four Army chaplains joined together to bring faith, and hope to a desperate situation. Those chaplains were Methodist Minister Lt. George L. Fox, Rabbi Lt. Alexander D. Goode, Catholic Priest Lt. John P. Washington, and Dutch Reformed Church Minister Lt. Clark V. Poling.

Quickly and quietly, the four men spread out among the soldiers, working to calm the frightened, tend the wounded and guide the disoriented toward safety.

Today, 78 years after the *Dorchester* sunk beneath the ocean surface, the story of these four men inspire people to serve and support one another regardless of their faith or religious affiliation.

PLEASE JOIN US ON FEBRUARY 1ST TO HONOR THESE BRAVE MEN.

.....



Happy Birthday to YOU!

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

November

2 Hedge, Paula
3 Stanich, Bonnie
4 Camerer, Christopher D
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
7 Gagne, Ronald S
8 Brown, Sharon
9 Berrios, Marge
10 Martin, William
11 Bettis, Earl W
12 Long, Donald E Sr
16 Lord, John S
19 Carten, James E III
29 Simmons, Debbie
30 Berrios-Guariglia, Theresa
30 Hoefler, Sara

- Orange = Auxiliary
- Green = SAL





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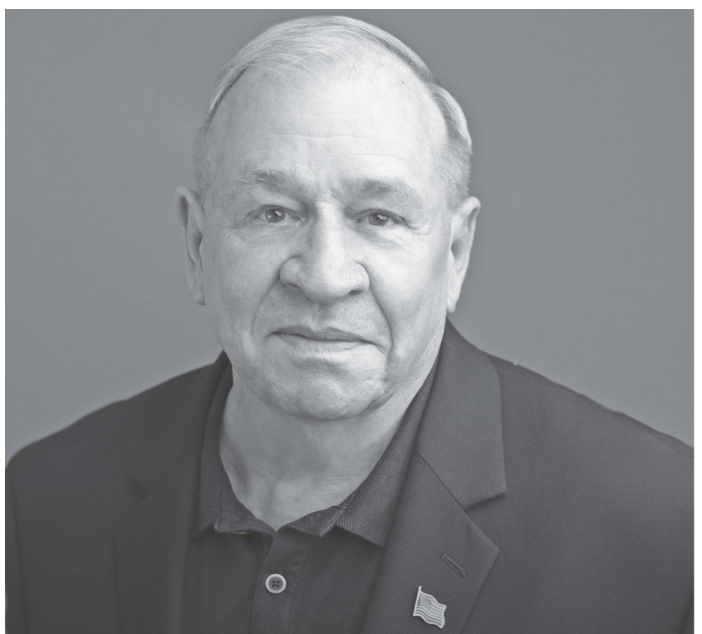
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CALENDAR

NOV	Event
2	Daylight time ENDS
3	SAL Meeting - 7PM - ZOOM
11	General Meeting - 7PM - ZOOM & Post
18	Auxiliary Unit Meeting - 7 PM - ZOOM
21-23	Fall Conference - Caribe Royale
27	Thanksgiving
DEC	
5	Post Family Christmas Dinner - 6:30 PM
*	The Christmas Dinner replaces meetings
6	6th District Meeting - Mount Dora
25	Merry Christmas
10-Nov	US Marines Birthday
13-Dec	US National Guard Birthday
20-Dec	US Space Force Birthday

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