

# THE LEGION LINK

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA PUBLICATION

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### Submit Articles at

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## A Message from the Department Commander

### Jerry Brandt, Commander

[commander@floridalegion.org](mailto:commander@floridalegion.org)



Comrades, what a National Convention! I want to congratulate the Department of Florida.

#### We won the following:

*Culture of Growth Award, Garland D. Murphy JR. Award, and the U.S. Udie Grant Legacy Award.* With

a Special Thanks to Kurt Gies, an exciting win, was the *Daniel J O'Connor Americanism Trophy*. Kurt independently completed the write-up and put in the work to win this award. Well done to the Department Membership and Americanism Chair for 2021.

Once we got back from warm weather in Arizona, we started our Area Training. We had a great turnout, over 200 Legionnaires, Auxiliary and SAL members, attended the training. The best part, most everyone stayed through the end of training. I want to thank the District and Area Commanders, the Department Vice Commanders, and Membership Chairmen who worked hard to complete this needed training.

The District Membership Challenge is underway with all four of our Departments to the north, a race we will win. I made a 'BET'; 'IF' Florida loses, a bushel of Oranges goes to the winner. Georgia, not to be

outdone, 'BET' a bushel of Peaches. Alabama, indicated they are known for Moon Pies, and Louisiana will provide the 'fixings' for Gumbo in their 'BET'. Mississippi will let us know what they will 'BET'. I hope our Districts will get involved as well.

**Why are we doing this:** 1. Our District Commanders will be reaching out monthly to help and learn with their competition. Department and their districts will grow from the knowledge they share. 2. We are one of the leaders in new ideals within the American Legion. We bring forward our ideas to other departments, which will help the American Legion in the long run. 3. It is fun, and maybe our district officers can travel to another department and enjoy the friendship between us. And because of the monthly communication, we will get to know each other and grow together. Maybe even meet each other at our Next National Convention.

### The Department is working on several items:

1. Constitution and By-Laws and Communications. As discussed in our Round Table Discussion on September 28th, we are serious about working on the Constitution and By-Laws. The first draft of the suggested changes will be mailed soon to the Department Executive Committee for the initial review. I am

*Department Commander continued on page 2 >>*





<< Department Commander continued from page 1  
 sure we will have a lively Executive Committee Meeting on November 7th. But this is a step we must face and overcome. Please remember, we are comrades, before and afterward, so let us keep everything civil.

2. Communications. A virtual DEC round table discussion is planned for February 15th to keep everyone up to date on what is going on in Department, Areas, and Districts, an update from the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, and the Area's Commander's report.
3. You may have already received or given out, to our mentors, a new pin. The pin indicated that they are a "Florida Family Mentor." How do YOU get this pin? 1. You have to have someone whom you have mentored step up to indicate you are their mentor. 2. You and the person who nominated you must be at a District meeting in which a Zone Commanders, Detachment Commander, Auxiliary

Department President, or myself is in attendance. We will NOT give the pin to the mentor. The person who indicated you are their mentor will give you the pin as a way to say thank you. Again, this is just at District Meetings. This pin is a way to say "Thank You" to those who help you become who you are.

October is here, and the Florida American Legion Riders will be traveling on a 5 State Ride, a fun ride. The Florida riders will share their stories of fundraising ideas concerning PROJECT: VetRelief, Children and Youth programs, COTA, and for those who have fallen, to the other Departments, as well as making new friends on the trip. The states involved are Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Florida. The Department Commanders of Florida, Georgia, Alabama and Louisiana, and hopefully Mississippi will join the ride. Riders, sign up. It will be fun.

I hope to see all of you on my travels. After all, we are brothers and sisters in War and Peace.

**Blessings for a Prosperous Year**

**Eunice Butts, 1st Vice Commander**  
[1stvice@legionmail.org](mailto:1stvice@legionmail.org)



Greetings Legionnaires. First, I want to solicit your prayers for Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and SAL members who have COVID-19. To those at home or the hospital, I pray that you have a successful and speedy recovery. Stay positive and follow the directives of your medical team.

To the Posts I visited in the 12th District, thank you for your awesome hospitality. I visited Posts 171, 358, 181, 355, 39, 140, and 189.

Special thanks to District Commander Dennis Mallon for your assistance during my visitation to your District.

I would like to recognize and thank the

Southern Area Commander Johnny Castro for a whole house for the Department Commanders Officers Training Course.

To the District Commanders of the Southern Area, keep up the good work and encouragement to your prospective Post for the superb breakfast and hospitality shown to us for the Eastern Area Training administered by the Department Commander and training staff.

Please feel free to invite your District, Area, and Zone Commanders to your Post, District, Area, and Zone activities and fundraisers. As your Zone I Commander, I will always be here for you. That means membership, post officers, district officers, and area officers. Together we stand, and divided, we fall. Let us work together as one family. I wish you and your Post a prosperous year in membership and programs. I admire the things you do in and for the community.

OCTOBER 2021	
1-31	Disability/Employment Awareness Month
1-31	Breast Cancer Awareness Month
1-31	ALR: Merry-Go-Round
2	Chapter 62: Ride-In and Poker run
2	Challenge 22 Event
2-3	Committee on Youth Education ★
2	District 12: Picnic
3	Firefighters Memorial Day
3	Flag Half Staff
3	Childwelfare Foundation BOD Meeting ★
4-5	National Fall Meetings ★ ☆
4	Child Health Day
6	Membership Goal 55%
6	FL Boys State: Accepting Registration Fees
6-7	NEC Meetings ★
6	Gold Star Families Memorial Dedication
7	Start of Operation Enduring Freedom (2001)
8	Membership Renewal Date
8-10	Legion College Instructor Training
9	District 15: Meeting
9	ALR: Ride-In Post 92
10-16	ALR: Five State Fun Run
10	Ms. Veteran America
11	Columbus Day
12	Area Commander Visit: Post 305
12	Area Commander Visit: Post 238
13	U.S. Navy Birthday
14	Membership Renewal Cut-Off
14	Area Commander Visit: Post 95
15	Legion Link Articles Due
15	Boss's Day
16	District 3 Meeting
19-25	Employ Older Workers Week
19	Area Commander Visit: Post 7
19	Area Commander Visit: Post 167
19	Area Commander Visit: Post 339
22-23	Operation Stand Down
23	Pig Competition Cook-Off
23	Beirut Bombing (1983)
23	District 11: Meeting
23	District 11: Annual Roast ☆
25	Grenada Invasion (1983)
25	CWF: Recipients Notified ★
26	National Day of the Deployed
26	Area Commander Visit: Post 8
29	Area Commander Visit: Post 246
31	Halloween

★ Commander Jerry Brandt's Attendance Tentative.

★ National Event

Events are subject to change. Additional details can be found at [www.floridalegion.org](http://www.floridalegion.org). We share the information we are provided.





**We're back!**

**Michael Raymond, 2nd Vice Commander**  
[2ndvice@legionmail.org](mailto:2ndvice@legionmail.org)



Happy October, everyone! September was a month to remember for so many reasons. Beginning with a very successful but exhausting Legacy ride in which I realized I'm not as young as I used to be! With the average temperatures in the 110-degree range, most of us made it safely to Phoenix and back. This year the Legacy ride generated donations above one million one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Not too shabby for a covid year. It was a great

effort by all who participated. I want to give a special thanks to Wayne Schorr and his wife for following us from Florida to Phoenix in his pick-up and trailer, making sure we made it safely. Although we had several new folks handling the details of the Florida delegation at the National Convention, everything went very smoothly. Great job by Bruce, Brianna, and the rest of the team for a successful Convention. We brought home many National awards, including the coveted "Americanism" award, which came as a big surprise to all of us. It was an excellent sight to see our past Department Commander Rick Johnson on stage to receive these awards. Special thanks to our Americanism Chairman Kurt Gies, who stepped up and

made our program the best in the Country.

So now it's time to get back to work. Area training sessions are in full swing, and many of our folks are taking advantage of them. The Zone Commanders, Membership Chairman, and Area and District Commanders are giving their all to ensure this is a banner year. Please take advantage of this training and bring it back to your Posts' so everyone can benefit. To be successful, we must all be on the same page. So please, if you have any questions or concerns about anything American Legion, don't hesitate to contact me. If I don't know, I will find out. See you soon.

**Great Work All-Around**

**Chris Hamrick, 3rd Vice Commander**  
[3rdvice@legionmail.org](mailto:3rdvice@legionmail.org)



Hello fellow Legionnaires. It's been a busy month. Installations should be complete by now, and the Districts in Zone 3 are rocking!

While many of us attended the National Convention, Hurricane Ida struck a severe blow to the Southern Gulf Coast. I spoke to our 1st District Commander before landfall occurred, and they were already gathering relief supplies. Big shout out to 1st District Commander Sonny Decker and Company. Helping each other is the name of the game. Keep up the great work. Thank you.

17th District held a great District Training event at Post 120 that I was able to attend. Jim Bowers and his District is staying busy and doing great things. Very involved with the community and setting a standard there. Thank you. Stuart Scott held the 3rd District meeting in Macclenny, and it was a great meeting. I'm learning things about the different demographics of our great state as you get into the more rural areas as it presents a different set of challenges as to membership growth, post activities, and other aspects. Keep up the excellent work. Thank you.

meetings already, which I attended. Great work. Thank you.

Currently, through the middle of October, we are visiting every Area of the Department every day of every weekend conducting Training for Officers. I agree with this concept as it's a way to provide continuity in our training. Everyone receives the same training and learns the same information. By the time this article comes out, the training will be over, so I hope you've taken the opportunity to attend one of the sessions.

In closing, I want to say once again thank you for doing what you do. I can't wait to get back to visiting my Zone as there's still much work to be done.  
"KEEP IT REAL."

Jack Bennet over in the 4th District and Lena Perez in the 5th District have their District training coming up and have been active on the road working their Districts in the meantime. Both have held great District



2nd prize  
**\$2,500**  
CASH

3rd prize  
**\$1,000**  
CASH

GRAND PRIZE  
**\$10,000**  
CASH

4th-5th prizes  
**\$500/EA**  
CASH

6th-10th prizes  
**\$100/EA**  
CASH

Live drawing during Fall Conference.

**GET YOUR TICKETS AT**  
[floridalegion.org/enter](http://floridalegion.org/enter)







**Fiduciary/Crime Bond Insurance**

**Dennis Boland, NEC**

[nec@legionmail.org](mailto:nec@legionmail.org)



Under Article VI, Section I in The American Legion National Constitution & By-laws, states "All national employees and volunteers handling all American Legion monies and negotiable instruments shall be

covered by fidelity/crime insurance in an adequate amount as desired by the Finance Commission and said fidelity/crime insurance policy (s) shall be approved by the National Treasurer, National Judge Advocate

and Finance Commission."

To help meet this requirement, The American Legion has a relationship with NFP Insurance Agency to assist each department and post with a fiduciary/crime bond insurance to protect individuals and members against financial loss. This insurance program through NFP Insurance Agency is recommended, not required, to allow American Legion members to purchase fiduciary/crime bond insurance through a purchasing group provided by NFP Insurance Agency using Chubb Insurance Paper. The program was developed to assist domestic and international locations.

Download the required American Legion Scheduled Position Crime Policy application at [legion.org/documents/pdf/Crime-American\\_Legion\\_Questionnaire.pdf](http://legion.org/documents/pdf/Crime-American_Legion_Questionnaire.pdf). This is needed to bind coverage and the cost associated with the levels of insurance needed. All information needed to obtain this coverage through our group purchasing program is provided on the application.

To speak with a representative at NFP Insurance Agency, please get in touch with Vice President Chris Phillips at 317-808-7262 or [chris.phillips@NFP.com](mailto:chris.phillips@NFP.com)

**Southern Area News**

**Johnny Castro, Southern Area Commander**

[southernarea@legionmail.org](mailto:southernarea@legionmail.org)



During the National Convention in Phoenix, I was honored to stand beside Central Area Commander Bruce Carl, both representing the Department of Florida set to receive our "Race To The Top"

awards from National Commander James Oxford. While standing there waiting to be called up to center stage, it dawned on me the impact we created not only with the Department, but with the American Legion, overall. I also acknowledged that if not for the hard work from every Post Commander and Adjutant in the 11th District along with my District and Post Officers in the last two years, I would not have been able to achieve this award. Along with the incredible support from the Department Membership Team of Ray Perez and Jim Ramos, I just want to say, Thank-You too all.

Because of my incredible experience, I'm challenging the Southern Area District Commanders and the other 13 District

Commanders around the State to via to for the District Commander "Race to The Top". Competition is divided into five categories based on the membership numbers in the district. The Department of Florida has districts who meets the criteria in all five categories.

***This year's Membership Chairs Bruce Thurber-East and Randy Holeyfield-West have shared the membership goals as follows for each Post, District, and Area:***

- 50% by September 1st, 2021
- 75% by October 15th, 2021. All Posts receiving this goal will receive a "Quick Draw Award."
- 100% by December 31st, 2021
- "Race To The Top" deadline by March 31st, 2022. Note: 11th District was at 114.9% and my Post was at 157%. Every Post and District can achieve this. Good luck everyone.

On September 11th, Department Commander Jerry Brandt, Vice Commanders

Eunice Butts, Michael "Gambler" Raymond, and Chris Hamrick along with Membership Chairman Bruce Thurber provided training in the Southern Area at Post 142 in Pompano Beach. This training was much needed to say the least and acknowledged by all in attendance. The information provided gave many a better understanding of how a Post should run, the importance of the Legion programs in the community and the impact of Post Membership within their communities, State and Nation reminding all in attendance why the American Legion exist. To support our Veterans, Active-Duty personnel, their families and the communities they live in.

Post 142's Commander Dave Sweeney and Squadron Commander Rob McCarten were the hosts of the training and did a phenomenal job. We began the morning with a 9/11 Ceremony honoring those whose lives were lose on that day and for our military who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our great nation.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Department Fall Conference.

Find us on: **facebook**

**facebook.com/floridalegion**







Western Area News

John Edens, Western Area Commander  
westernarea@legionmail.org



I started not to write an article this month; to take a break and catch up on next month's article, but then, I thought about all that our Western Area has been going through over the past few months with the hurricane season. I need to keep pushing forward, just as I ask of our members, and encouraging all our members to continue

their dedicated efforts for our veterans and our communities.

The hurricanes and the tropical storms have kept us extremely busy the past few months here in the Western Area (even as I write this article, we have a four-day tropical storm hitting our northwest gulf coast with 8 – 12 inches of constant rain and flooding). However, we still have our **1st District and several Posts collecting and delivering supplies for Texas and Louisiana Posts that have been hit hard by storms and hurricanes** the past two months. **That is what I call**

**dedication and a strong will to help out your fellow veterans**, no matter where they live. I want to give special recognition and praise to all the Posts in the 1st District for a job well done.

Keep up the hard work and dedication. Together, we can reach our goals, help our fellow veterans, and get our membership back where it should be. Everyone stay safe, keep healthy from this ugly virus, and by all means, find some way to have fun while doing this. Hope to see you all soon. **Thanks again for your hard work and dedication.**

Membership Retention

Bruce Thurber, Eastern Membership  
membership@legionmail.org



As we enter the Holiday Season, we need to go Full Steam Ahead with membership. Every American Legion post should have a plan in place to coordinate and direct membership development. The post

commander, ultimately, is responsible for the success or failure of the post to meet its membership goals for the year. Often, the post membership chairman assists the commander by selecting membership team members, planning membership rallies or events, and assisting the commander and adjutant with processing new and renewed members.

Commanders often follow a formula for success by assigning an energetic and motivated Legionnaire to be the Post Membership Officer (or chairman) to supervise the following post membership teams:

1. Retention
2. Recruiting
3. Revitalization

We need to begin with 90% retention. **Membership retention Month begins November 1st.** The **Retention team**

specializes in persuading current and former Legionnaires to renew membership in the post. They use post membership rosters and historical data to identify non-renewed members and contact each member personally to address concerns and get a favorable renewal decision.

Next, we need to recruit new members. Recruiting is an ongoing team effort led by the Post Membership Chairman. **The New Member recruiting team** specializes in convincing eligible prospects to join the post. Team members should be persuasive speakers who are comfortable talking with people, especially strangers, and proven "go-getters" with good working knowledge of the Legion, its organization, purpose, history, and services. This team also compiles names, addresses, and telephone numbers for eligible prospects who would not join the post.

Our third team is the Revitalization Team. The **Revitalization team** should restrict itself to building a list of areas and neighborhoods where potential members might be. The membership chairman coordinates specific events to host in these local communities throughout the year with post leaders. Post leaders might also prepare plans and make necessary arrangements for post-sponsored events scheduled on the post calendar. Such events could include an Americanism rally,

fireworks, a post membership breakfast or dinner, a post open house, an American Legion birthday party, a dance, a children's day, a Halloween carnival, a fun-run marathon competition, a tractor-pull competition, Legion Rider fun runs, and a talking Christmas Tree or Santa Claus hotline for children.

District Team efforts are building membership in the district's weak posts or newly chartered posts in need of growth to develop and sustain its programs and the American Legion home.

District officers select the district membership chairman and members for the three district teams. This role is vital, so it's essential to choose the best workers from across the district.

District leaders and district membership chairman choose the posts needing help and, with the help of the Department Post Development Chairperson, the contact method to employ and the calendar of events, as well as planning and organizing the events themselves.

Ron Neff said Every Legionnaire a Recruiter, "By my example, and through passion and conviction, I will inspire all veterans to continue their noble service to this great

*Eastern Membership continued on page 6 >>*





<< Eastern Membership continued from page 5

nation by membership in The American Legion." There are **1,525,400 veterans in the State of Florida**. There are 1,381,170

male veterans and 144,229 female veterans. Commander Dillard asked us to get 105,363. I truly believe in focusing on Family. We can far surpass his expectation

for Florida.

Lastly, congratulations to the over 53 Posts that made a 50 % goal.

**MyLegion**

**Randy Holeyfield, Western Membership**  
[membershipfal@legionmail.org](mailto:membershipfal@legionmail.org)



Here we are; National is still working hard to get MyLegion Weekly Membership reports out. At the national convention in Phoenix, I spoke to Livvy and Jeremy, our two technical experts

to the Go Live program we are now using for everything. MyLegion has every piece of information for the entire American Legion. It does membership, sure, but it has all American Legion data like Emblem sales, all programs, personal/individual information, etc. If you think American Legion, it is wrapped up in this program, so the data size is massive. With that, let us have patience, and over time the wrinkles will be ironed out. If you are having issues, call Bruce Thurber or me (depending on your location), sometimes it is an easy resolution, and if not,

divert it to Department (Rachael Castleberry, Administration Assistant to our Adjutant, Bruce Comer). If it needs further review or adjustment, it will be forwarded to National, where Livvy and Jeremy are burning the midnight oil, and they are. I know this program will be praised one day. Just allow time for the quirks to be worked out.

With that, how are you working the **DMS**? Let's get these members in the Department's Post (Post 400) injected into your Post. I know we can not be sure of our posts percentage to Goal, but that does not mean not work it even harder. These **DMS** members are the key to reaching your goals. These members are already in The American Legion. All you need to do is check their character of discharge, something you would do to any other veteran you sign up for, so what's the hold-up? Get them onboard. Did you know that there are over 14,000 Legionnaires in Post 400? Yes, 14,000+ members are already active and ready to

have a home post. Are you going to keep them out from fear of not knowing them? They deserve to have a warm embrace and a handshake. Seek them out and invite them into your posts family.

Has your Post submitted at least one report to their up-level leadership? Your District Commander, Area Commander, Zone Commander, then to your respective membership Chair (East or West) that would forward it to our Department Commander (Jerry Brandt). It is much like your CPR gathering the data to finally arrive at the Department Commander. You will find it at [Floridalegion.org](http://Floridalegion.org) under the Resources Column. Go to forms & documents, then to Membership Resources, then to DMS Activity Report. It is in a PDF, so you can fill out all the sections and then send it on its way to your next level up.

I am here, as well as Bruce Thurber. For any Post that needs help, contact us today.

**ALR Bulletin**

**Jim Wineland, American Legion Riders**  
[legionriders@legionmail.org](mailto:legionriders@legionmail.org)



The Five State Ride is just weeks away. I hope you have all booked your rooms by now. During the process of setting up the Ride, the rooms were a real issue. The pandemic has driven the prices up. The pricing issue is also bleeding over to the Summit and In-State-Rally. We will do our best to keep the pricing in line with last year.

I had an opportunity to attend the National Convention, a lot of conversation over the

Ride. All the states were very interested and excited about the Ride going through their state. A lot of discussion about feeding us and how many riders will be on the Ride. I am looking forward to a great ride.

Our ALR Chief Road Captain, Joe Marcheggiani, is still working hard putting the In-State-Unity ride together, many challenges along the way. Jeff Hawk is also working with Joe on the Ride. He is also taking care of his position as Event Coordinator for the Rally and Summit. I believe he has a few resorts on his list to choose from. We are looking for more volunteers!

As the ALR Department of Florida, we have surrounded ourselves with a group of true

Champions that stay focused on the tasks at hand and have a passion for the program. Now, of course, what are we going to do this year? Wait and see.

If you have any ideas, please share!

Beverly & I have already started putting together next year's schedule. The Summit Meet & Greet will be on February 2, followed by classes on 3rd, 4th & 5th. I am still working on the In-State Rally. More to come.

Again, Thank You for all your Efforts! Here is our tentative schedule for the upcoming year.

*American Legion Riders continued on page 7 >>*





<< American Legion Riders continued from page 6

- **MGR**  
October 2021
- **5 State Fun Run**  
October 10-16, 2021
- **Fall Conference**  
November 5-7, 2021
- **Summit 2022**  
February 2-6, 2022  
Meet & Greet, 2nd

- Classes, 3rd – 5th  
Safety Class, 6th
- **Round Robin**  
April 2022
- **Children & Youth Picnic**  
April 9, 2022, Post 1
- **In-State Unity Ride**  
April 24-30, 2022  
Meet & Greet, 24th  
Ride 25th – 29th

- **Rally**  
April 30, 2022

Beverly and I would like to thank each of you for the support we received this last year! Thank You for what you do, and we are proud to be part of your Leadership Team of such a great group!

**Upcoming Events**

**Les Martin, Children & Youth**  
[cy@legionmail.org](mailto:cy@legionmail.org)



It's been a busy summer so far. I hope all of you have been having fun and staying healthy. I know myself and my family have. I had a great time with many great Legionnaires at the 102 National Convention

in Phoenix, Arizona. I was very proud to be sitting in Florida's seating area during the days when Florida won so many awards for its achievements. It was great to see Florida win the National Americanism Award, which has been won by the Department of Virginia so many years. Great job, Florida Americanism Chairman Kurt Gies.

It's that time of year to start looking at the programs and events of our Children & Youth Committee. School is back in session, and each Post should be looking throughout the year for their Teacher of the Year candidate. Maybe we should be trying to meet with

the school's PTA instead of the Guidance Department or Administrators. I understand that many of you have been having trouble negotiating the procedure through these avenues. Getting the PTA involved may be a better way to get through the process. I spoke with Veteran's Entitlements Chairman Larry Roberts, and he told me that since the start of this Corona Virus, the suicide rates in our Country have doubled. Remember, child suicides are also on the increase. Look for the signs, and don't let the kids keep going without some help. If you have seen some of the warning signs, let the proper people know. Who knows, you might save a child's life.

I will be visiting all of our Districts over the next ten months and look forward to seeing all of you. I will always have some material on hand regarding our Children & Youth.

We have several things scheduled this year. As I said in a recent Link Article, we have a Legion Family Cruise coming up in November. Commander Brandt is looking to

have many Legion Family members on the cruise. It should be a great time. As of this writing, we only have three cabins booked. Come on, folks, let's have some fun. Book a cabin soon.

This year, we combined the Children & Youth Golf Tournament and the Children & Youth Picnic into the same day. The Tournament and Picnic will be held on April 9, 2022, at Post 1 in Titusville. The Golf Tournament will be at the Indian River Preserve Golf Club in Mims, Florida, just a few miles up from Post 1. Bring your entire family, and have a fun day. Now is the time for our Posts, Units, Squadrons, and Chapters to start thinking about collecting or providing baskets for the picnic. Last year we had over 50 baskets donated, and I would like to see us double that this year. Remember, these events are fundraisers to help support our Florida kids.



**BOOK NOW**

The American Legion  
DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

**FALL CONFERENCE**

Renaissance Orlando at Seaworld

**1-407-351-5555 or 1-800-266-9432**







## //GOLF TOURNAMENT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS! //



The 8th Annual PROJECT: VetRelief Golf Tournament was held on Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at the beautiful Bella Collina Golf Course in Monteverde, FL. At approximately 8:30AM, after attendees stood at attention for the national anthem, roughly 124 golfers were on their way as they listened to Bruce Springsteen's "Born in the USA".

PVR Board President, Bob James, hosted corporate partners, vendors and friends to a fun filled day of golf. Participants were able to compete in the Wheatley Realty fastest hole contest and had an opportunity to take away \$10,000 cash for the hole-in-one prize. But, the most amazing part was that everyone came together for *one sole purpose*... to support Florida's veterans and their families.



Mr. James was able to meet his fundraising goal, and revealed the 'BIG CHECK' written for \$65,000 to PROJECT: VetRelief during the awards banquet! This is a record setting donation, and is ALL net proceeds that directly benefits our mission.

We are grateful for Mr. James and his wife, Rita, and the entire RL James, Inc. team for their continued support of our organization, as they have been a tremendous part of our program's overall success! Additionally, we are thankful to all the sponsors and players for their contributions to our mission. From the amazing volunteers who pitched in to the awesome Bella Collina staff, it sure was one successful event!!

## WELCOME TO THE TEAM, LENORA!

Please help us welcome Lenora James to the PVR Team! She started mid-September as our Veterans Case Worker and has already made an impact on our veteran community.

Lenora has always loved working with people and helping others in her daily and professional life. When the opportunity came for Lenora to consider our program, it felt like a natural fit. As a Navy wife and Coast Guard mother, Lenora recognizes the importance of support programs for military servicemembers as they make lifestyle transitions throughout their life. Her family has had to experience many transitions and had to move several times.



## FALL CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES!

Fall Conference is coming up, and there will be plenty of opportunities for you to join us to learn about the program or introduce yourself to our newest Team Member, Lenora!

There will be two Introductory Advocate Trainings this year. We are so excited that we have the opportunity to hold a special class for Auxiliary members on Friday afternoon. Details on both classes will be shared through the Legion and Auxiliary agendas.

For the first time ever, we will be presenting during all Legion Family General Sessions. Be sure to attend those meetings to hear our successes and goals for the year!

Please stop by our table in the vendor area to say hello and pick up materials to take back with you to the Post.

*We are looking forward to seeing each and every one of you there!*

**SUPPORT CASES**

JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

\*Reflect PVR Cases ONLY



**19** FAMILIES ASSISTED



**\$18,817.78**

AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED



**The Nurse Sacrifices**

**Daryl Bass, Law & Order**  
[laworder@legionmail.org](mailto:laworder@legionmail.org)



Amanda Bass Brown is my niece. She is an ICU RN down in South Florida. I am very proud of her and all of our first responders. They have been through Heart Ache in the last two years during the

Covid-19 Pandemic. Therefore I felt that it was appropriate to post what these Angels of Mercy have to look forward to during their shift.

- Time: The sedative was given.
- Time: The paralytic was given.
- Time: The patient was intubated.
- Time: Their Central line was placed.
- Time: Their arterial line was placed.
- Time: Their Vas Cath was placed.
- Time: CRRT initiated.
- Time: The patient is brought to prone position.
- Time: The ABG was drawn.
- Time: The family is notified.
- Time: The Zoom meeting is set up.
- Time: The family is allowed to say their goodbyes.
- Time: Time of death.

That was someone’s mother, father, spouse, brother, sister, aunt or uncle, or good friend.

I’ve stood outside a patient’s room with clasp hands, giving a thumbs up to a patient through a window as they were being extubated. Moments before.

“Stay calm,” the respiratory therapist is going to take this breathing tube out,” Okay?” “I need you to nod your head if you understand me. I know, don’t try to talk, Your doing great”.

I’ve taught patients to call when they were ready to be intubated. Days of being on BiPAP on long. 100% Oxygen can only be adequate for so long. They get tired.

- “I can’t breath.”
- “Okay, let me get the Doctor and get everything ready.”
- “Tell my kids I love them.”
- “Tell them yourself we are calling them in before this happens.”
- “Please make sure I come off the ventilator.”
- “Listen to me, you fight like heck, Okay?”
- “How am I supposed to fight when I am fighting falling asleep?”
- “You just have to go into this knowing you want to fight. You will never be alone. We will fight this with you”.

“They pass away, and there is nothing more in our power that can help them.”

To: Nurses, Doctors, Nurse Practitioners, Respiratory Therapist, Pharmacist, CNAs, PCTs, Phlebotomist, RAD, CT Techs, and anyone else that I’ve missed.

How many times do we go home holding on to any bit of hope that what we are doing is making a difference for these patients?

Go home, and come back only to find out the patient didn’t make it.

All those times we felt like we weren’t doing anything for these patients-you chance is here.

If you have even the SLIGHTEST bit of opportunity to prevent contracting this virus and giving it to others-take it.

Do it for the patients you’ve lost. For some, you were the last person they spoke with, the last hand they held.

Written by: Jenifer RN. Stormont Vail Health Legionnaires, If you haven’t gotten your Covid-19 Vaccination do so.

**Florida American Legion College**

**Jim Ramos, Florida Legion College**  
[deptlegioncollege@legionmail.org](mailto:deptlegioncollege@legionmail.org)



We all want to learn, but how can we do this? By Coming to the Florida American Legion College on Dec 16-19, 2021, applications are online at [floridalegion.org](http://floridalegion.org) and go to NEWS & Events;

next, go down to Florida Legion College (enter or click to Learn More) and scroll down to application. Please fill it out and follow all instructions on each page, and once finished, send it in with your \$200.00

check. More information is available on the application.

You can help by learning more. You can help your Post, District, and Department move forward by being educated and understanding how to do things the right way. You will get all the Books and resources you need to help your Post, District, and Department. You want to be the best legionnaires, come to the Florida American Legion College (FALC) to learn more.

**More on Description:** The Florida American Legion College teaches the principles and techniques necessary for effective leadership at the following levels within

the Department of Florida. The successful graduate will possess the education and skills required to provide program and leadership at the district level and higher.

**Some of the Topics:**

- Leadership and mentoring,
- Communicate using face to face, and social media, and written,
- Critical thinking and problem solving,
- Team building to set and accomplish goals,
- Develop, instruct, and support the Post, District, and Department level training platform,
- Salesmanship and marketing

*Florida Legion College continued on page 10 >>*





<< Florida Legion College continued from page 9

- (Community networking strategies),
- Be one more resource within your Post, District, and Department level,
- And helpfully some training tips to aid your Post members,

Course materials supplied by the Legion. You can use your laptop for assignments

and other work for the group and class assignment as a student. We recommend you bring your laptop or computer to the FALC.

**Please complete the following:**

- Be ready to work hard and work long hours,
- Follow the dress code.

If you have a question, please get in touch with me Jim Ramos by Phone 352-226-4370 or email at [deptlegioncollege@floridalegion.org](mailto:deptlegioncollege@floridalegion.org)

**Falling Into October**  
**Richard Smith, SAL Advisor**

[sal@legionmail.org](mailto:sal@legionmail.org)



Can anyone believe we are in October?  
I hope you and your Squadron bought your Halloween coloring books. The holiday season is coming up quickly.

Now is the time to discuss Thanksgiving dinner at the Post and having the Squadron help out. Ask the Squadron how many will be going to Mid-Winter.

Every year that conference gets better and better. Make that push for 100% in membership.

**Suicide Awareness Month**

**Deb Wheeler, Women Veterans**  
[womenveterans@legionmail.org](mailto:womenveterans@legionmail.org)



Suicide Awareness Month! This is has been a month to help us all realize 22 a month is so far than ideal. Statistics show that the number of female veterans is increasing. Our sisters do not ask for help and

are unaware of the available assistance, which is very concerning. How do we reach those that need our assistance to increase awareness? We need to look at ways to improve the overall public understanding of this issue. Such things might be billboards, posters at social security offices, public assistance associations, churches, etc. As veterans, we are more informed than most. Many aren't asking for help because they are unaware of assistance. Take the extra

effort to deliver brochures to those on the front lines like homeless shelters, food pantries, halfway houses, etc. We need to put ourselves out there and think outside the box.

If you didn't know, there would be a Women Veterans Summit held up Post 69 Avon Park put together by Tony Williams of Veteran Counseling Veterans and Larry Robert's Va Entitlements Chair and Southern Va Chair. Numerous female dignitaries will be in in this zoom meeting held from 10 to 2. Will report next month on the results will be overwhelming.

Lastly, don't forget our women's Veterans in our prayers. The recently discharged veterans are like lost souls trying to adjust to life after active duty.

Thank you so much for being so supportive!

**Women Veterans**

**Larry Roberts, VA Entitlements**  
[veteransbenefits@legionmail.org](mailto:veteransbenefits@legionmail.org)



I want to thank Tony Williams from (VCV) Veterans Counseling Veterans, INS, for hosting a Women Veterans Virtual Town Hall.

Florida Women Veterans Population as of November 22, 2019  
**145,649**  
Events like this are needed.

**The Total Women Veterans Population**

The total Women Veteran population in the United States, Puerto Rico, and Territories/ Foreign, as of September 30, 2019, was 19,209,704. The population of women Veterans numbered 1,920,965. States with the largest number of women Veterans were Texas 185,154, Florida 145,649, California 142,805, Virginia 107,533, and Georgia 92,057.

Information from the Department of Veteran Affairs Office of Public Affairs Media Relations Washington, DC 20420 (202)461-7600 [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

**WOMEN VETERANS TODAY**

Woman Veterans have achieved tremendous successes in the military. They've become four-star generals, commanded ships, earned medals of honor, and piloted space shuttles. They've served our country with courage, loyalty, and pride. After taking off their uniforms, they continue to serve as non-profits leaders, government leaders in their community, and business leaders. Today's women Veterans are shaping the future. VA is committed to providing women Veterans the access to gender-specific care they have earned and deserve.

VA Entitlements continued on page 11 >>







<< VA Entitlements continued from page 10

**WHO IS A WOMAN VETERAN?**

A woman is a Veteran if she served in the active military, naval, or air service and separated under any conditions other than dishonorable. There are more than 2-million-woman Veterans living in the U.S. today. Women are the fastest-growing group in the Veteran population. In 2000, women were only 4% of the Veteran population. By 2040, women will be 18% of the Veteran population. Today's women Veterans are the best-educated and most diverse generation. They are generally younger than male Veterans and will have many opportunities to receive VA care.

**WHAT SERVICES DOES VA OFFER?**

VA provides comprehensive care that includes services for acute and chronic illnesses, preventive services, gender-specific care, and other services. VA's medical staff are experts in providing medical care and services beyond primary care, including:

- Mammography
- Gynecology
- Military Sexual trauma-related care
- Counseling
- Military and environmental exposure

Women Veterans can apply for VA health care enrollment and other Veterans benefits by completing VA Form 10-10EZ. To complete the form:

- Apply online at [www.1010ez.med.va.gov](http://www.1010ez.med.va.gov)
- Visit, call or write to any VA health care

- facility or Veteran's benefits office
- Call the VA Health Benefits Call Center free at 877-222-VETS(8387)

- Get more information online about VA benefits ([www.vba.va.gov](http://www.vba.va.gov)) and eligibility ([www.va.gov/healtheligibility/](http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/))

<b>Total Veterans</b>		<b>Success Resulting from Military Services</b> 67.1% Women Vets vs. 54.6% non-Women Vets enrolled in higher education (17-34 yrs. Old)
2,051,484	22,000,000	
Female	Male	
<b>Median Veterans Age</b>		49.5% of Women Vets work in professional/management positions
49.2 yrs	64.2 yrs	
<b>Age of Women Veterans</b>		75.6% Women Vets hired by Department of Defense & VA worked in Executive Branches
20 - 49 yrs old	50 - 85+ yrs old	
996,734	1,130,257	

**MyVA Resources**

Women Veterans Healthcare:	womenhealth.va.gov
Explore VA:	explore.va.gov
VA Vets:	vets.gov
eBenefits:	ebenefits.va.gov
Claims Status:	ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/manage/status
MST info:	mentalhealth.va.gov/msthome.asp
Locate the nearest VA facility:	va.gov/directory

**SHE SERVED. SHE DESERVES THE BEST CARE ANYWHERE**

Women Veterans Call Center: 855-VA WOMEN  
 Center for Homeless Vets: 877-424-3838  
 Veteran Crisis Hotline: 800-273-8255, press 1  
 Caregiver Support Line: 855-260-3274

**Commemorating 9/11**

**Jesse Figueroa, Post 346**

I'm in New York commemorating twenty years since the terrorist attacks on America. The ceremony at the 9/11 memorial was sad but commemorative. There were first responders here as far away as Los Angeles and Mexico who commemorated as well. Florida's first responders greeted me from Clearwater, Martin County, Fort Lauderdale, Lauderdale, Plantation, and Miramar.





**American Legion Scouters**

**Chris Ragusa, Scouting**  
[scouting@legionmail.org](mailto:scouting@legionmail.org)



**Scouts BSA Troop 254 Flag Dedication and Presentation Ceremony at Post 254, North Port, FL.** American Legion Post 254, led by Post Commander Paul Orsino and Post Scouting

Chair Sam Taylor, hosted a Flag Dedication and Presentation Ceremony to welcome and include the flag of their Post-chartered Scouts BSA Troop 254 flag into their family of colors. Troop 254 Scoutmaster Ron Westrom and the Scouts of Troop 254 proudly saluted as their flag joined the ranks of those of the Legion, Sons of the American Legion, and the American Legion Auxiliary.



I had the distinct honor of witnessing this ceremony, which symbolically united the Post and Troop in thought and purpose

related to youth leadership development with a focus on patriotism and citizenship.



Many community members, including North Port Mayor Jill Luke, North Port City Commissioners Peter Emrich, Barbara Langdon, Debbie McDowell, and Gary Young, an Assistant District Commissioner from the Boy Scouts of America's Central Florida Council, attended the ceremony. Legionnaires in attendance included PDC Joe Magee, Southwest Area Commander Jessica Moore, Past Southwest Area Commander Dennis Walsh, District 8 Commander Angelo 'Skip' Felicita, District 8 Officers Tom Walls, John Rau, Leann Brandolini, Less Martin, District 8 Auxiliary President Harriet Martin, and Past District 8 Auxiliary President



Theresa Walls. This unique ceremony should be considered and encouraged as a best practice for posts, and the script will be available

under the Scouting Resources tab.

**Change Notice: American Legion and SAL-chartered Cub Scout Camporee at MacDill AFB now scheduled for Friday, December 3 – Sunday, December 5, 2021:** Because I (inadvertently) planned this event over Veterans Day weekend, the various MacDill AFB missions that we want to visit will be minimally staffed and thus unable to support. So, we have shifted this event to the first weekend in December. At Lewis Lake Scout Camp on MacDill AFB in Tampa, FL, this campout is reserved for an overnight Cub Scout Camporee specifically for American Legion Post, Auxiliary unit, and Sons of the American Legion Squadron-chartered Cub Scout packs. This primitive camping weekend will be jam-packed with tours of the Air Traffic Control Tower and Flight Simulator, the base's Flightline Fire and Rescue station, Maritime Coastal Patrol hanger and dock, an Armory weapons orientation, and a 6th Security Forces Squadron Military Dog Handling unit demo. The event will include a cookout on the bay in a marina beach pavilion, a catered BBQ dinner, and campfires and s'mores to finish off the night. Please email me at the address below for an information packet about this event.



**Blind Kayak Angler in SWFL**



George Tice joined the Army in October 1986 as an Army Reserve. He was called to active duty in 1990 for Operation Desert Shield

then Desert Storm. On March 1, 1991, just as the war was ending, he was involved in a helicopter crash that went down near the unit compound. Tice pulled the only survivor from inside the fiery wreckage

amongst explosive ordinances and got the young PFC to safety to render first aid. The young soldier told Tice that it was a five-person crew. Tice left the soldier with another person from his unit and started searching. At this time, other soldiers began showing up to help. The Pilot was deceased, but the Co-Pilot was in bad shape. Tice came across another soldier laying down face first in the sand. He turned him over to find him deceased. He recovered his body and moved it back to the crash site. After the fire was put out, the Saudi Arabia Fire Department recovered the last body.

Tice got out in May of 1991 and was having issues with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder from the crash. Tice was given the Army Achievement Medal with the letter V attached for Valor.

Tice needed something to release the stress, so he took up fishing, but living in Pennsylvania, he was two hours from the New Jersey Shore. After moving his family to Fort Myers in 1991, he started a veterans fishing group called Vets Luv Fishing. He would find local captains to donate their

*Blind Kayak Angler Article continued on page 13 >>*







<< *Blind Kayak Angler Article continued from page 12*

time and gas to take veterans out fishing. In 1994 he had the first stroke that left him with PinPoint Vision loose in one eye. In December of 2016, he had a couple of powerful strokes and was in a coma. Then in January 2017, he had some more strokes and went in for Open Heart Surgery. The doctor told Tice that he had never worked on someone with so much brain damage that he might wake up blind. After the surgery, he was in another coma, and his family said that that was the best he might

be. After three days, he woke up blind. In 2018 he joined a veteran group called Heroes on the Water of Southwest Florida. Only one thing was they fished from kayaks. So after spending the day with them, he went out and purchased his kayak. Tice hasn't looked back from fishing in tournaments when he can find someone to fish with him.

Tice has been part of Post 38 and has been the Second Vice and now the First Vice for the last two years. Tice's short-term goal is to

become the first Blind Post Commander in American Legion history.



*"If they are remembered, they are not gone truly, they simply change duty assignments and are amongst the best."*

### POST EVERLASTING



#### **Anthony R. Rizzo**

With deep regret, we report the passing of Bay Pines VAVS Deputy Rep. Anthony R. Rizzo of Inverness, Florida, who passed away on Friday, September 17, 2021, at the age of 74. Anthony is survived by his wife, Kim; sons: Anthony Rizzo, Jr. and Allan Hernandez; and daughter, Nicey Rizzo. A Funeral Service of Remembrance will be held at 11:30 AM on Friday, September 24, 2021, at Chas E. Davis Funeral Home, 3075 S. Florida Ave., Inverness, FL. Following the service, full military honors will be rendered by Inverness VFW Post #4337 Honor Guard.

Anthony was a member of Madeira Beach Post 273 with 27 continuous years of membership. He proudly served his country as a member of the 173rd Airborne Division of the United States Army and was a Veteran of the Vietnam War. In 1970, following his military service, he began a career in law enforcement working at Lake County Sherriff's Office in Lake County, IN and most recently was a Deputy for the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department. Anthony dedicated much of his life to serving his community and his fellow veterans. He is the former Vice President-Director of the Pinellas County Veterans Liaison Council VAVS Deputy Representative for the Bay Pines Veterans Administration. He also served as Council Representative for the Veterans Congressional Advisory Council with Gus Bilirakis.

If you would like to send your condolences, you may do so through his wife, Kim Rizzo, at 975 N. Man O War Dr., Inverness, FL 34453.







September 24, 2021 Membership Target Report (55%)		
14	Thomas Frank	53.89%
4	John Bennett	53.72%
7	Burl Thomas	52.72%
1	Sonny Decker	51.64%
6	Joe Marcheggiani	51.20%
9	George Bograkos	50.55%
12	Dennis Mallon	48.09%
8	Skip Felicita	48.09%
16	Robert Matheson	47.43%
17	Jim Bowers	47.13%
5	Lena Heredia-Perez	46.22%
13	Harold Boyer	44.88%
15	Stephen Tyler	44.02%
11	Harry Malecki	41.46%
2	Steve Mears	41.36%
3	Stuart Scott	40.05%
Western	John Edens	50.03%
Eastern	Daryl Bass	49.78%
Northern	Troy Horsley	47.50%
Southern	Johnny Castro	47.29%
Central	Bruce Carl	47.20%
Southwestern		48.89%
Post 400		47.86%
Post 208		47.86%



Call Now: 1-800-235-6943  
Monday - Friday 8AM - 7PM (EST)

**DEPARTMENT TRUSTED.  
LEGIONNAIRE APPROVED.**

We provide a wide range of benefits designed to protect you, your family and your health.



From Your American Legion Department

**We are committed to serving the unique insurance needs of LIT members and their families.**



**Emergency and Accident**

A crisis can strike at any moment. Learn how we can help you prepare for the unexpected and get assistance when you need it most.



**Insurance Coverage**

From health to auto, we offer valuable insurance products designed to fit the specific needs of Legionnaires.




**No Cost Protection**

Your valued status as a Legionnaire makes you eligible for LegionCare, up to \$5,000.00 in NO COST to you benefits.

**Cancer Care Insurance Plan**

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust products and services are there when you them most. Listen to how others have benefited from services like our Cancer Care Insurance Plan.

- Cash benefits sent to Legionnaire members diagnosed with cancer
- We send you money – even if you don't have cancer



Next Membership Goal:  
October 6, 2021

**55%**

[www.thelit.com](http://www.thelit.com)



**DEPARTMENT  
OF FLORIDA**

**DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA  
SOUTHERN AREA BALL!!  
DATE: SATURDAY JANUARY 29, 2022**

**Where: American Legion Post 142**

**Please join us in celebrating the American  
Legion Department of Florida's Southern Area.**



**4 Chaplains, Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> 1pm**

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 222**

**4250 NE 5<sup>th</sup> Ave Oakland Park, FL**

**Featuring Sounds by  
(Don't Stop the Music)**

**Program ad forms: \$120  
for inside front & back  
cover and back cover. Full  
pg. \$100 half pg. \$50.  
Contact: Rob McCarten at  
[njirish11@gmail.com](mailto:njirish11@gmail.com)**

**Cocktail hour 5pm  
with Hors d'oeuvres**

**Dinner served at  
6pm**

**Chicken Marsala or  
Salmon entrée options**

**Admission Ticket \$30  
Zelle payment option @  
[Guamwarrior60@outlook.com](mailto:Guamwarrior60@outlook.com)**

**STERLING MCCLELLAN**

**American Legion Post 142**

**171 SW 2nd St  
Pompano Beach, FL 33060  
954-942-2448**

**Contact : Rob McCarten  
[njirish116466@gmail.com](mailto:njirish116466@gmail.com)  
[njirish11@gmail.com](mailto:njirish11@gmail.com)**





Music By:  
**Silver  
Wings**



# 9TH DISTRICT BALL

Saturday, November 20, 2021

American Legion Post 321  
9081 SW 51st St  
Cooper City, FL 33328

Cocktails: 6:00-7:00 (Cash Bar)  
Dinner: 7:00 - 8:00 • Dancing: 8:00 - 11:00

Tickets: \$25. / Table of 8: \$175.  
See Any Post 321 or District 9 Officer for Tickets  
Or Call (954) 868-2990 or (954) 559-3202



# CHILDREN & YOUTH GOLF TOURNAMENT



## PICNIC

Sat. April 9, 2022

Golf - Shotgun Start at 8:00am, Indian River Preserve Golf Club

3950 Clubhouse Drive, Mims, Fl

Picnic at Noon, Post 1

1281 N Washington Ave. Titusville, Fl

- FOOD
- FUN
- ENTERTAINMENT
- FUN
- AUCTION
- FUN
- LEGION RIDERS RIDE-IN
- FUN
- GOLF AWARDS
- FUN



Silent Auction



Golfers, dinner is available on Friday the 8th, at Post 1. Call ahead at least one week to let them know you are going to dinner, so they can have enough food for the night. (321) 269-9959

Hotel reservations for the 8th and/or 9th, Best Western Space Shuttle Inn, \$59 per night - (321) 269-9100

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA  
CHILDREN & YOUTH GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022  
**Team Registration Form**

**GOLFERS**

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

**SPONSORSHIPS & FEES**

GOLD SPONSOR (4 GOLFERS & HOLE SPONSOR SIGN) \$325 \_\_\_\_\_

SILVER SPONSOR (HOLE SPONSORSHIP ONLY) \$100 \_\_\_\_\_

GOLFERS ONLY (\$70 PER GOLFER) \$280 \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSORSHIP CUT-OFF DATE: MARCH 25, 2022

TOTAL SUBMITTED \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

CONTACT PERSON FOR THE TEAM \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: S.A.L. Squadron 325. Put "C&Y Golf" in memo  
and mail to Squadron 325, 3412 HWY 301N - Unit 103, Ellenton, FL 34222

ANY QUESTIONS - CALL LES MARTIN (941) 201-7293

# American Legion Department of Florida 11th District Annual Roast



**OCTOBER 23, 2021**

6:30p : Reception

7:00P: Dinner

7:45P: Program

American Legion

Rood-Williams

Post 271

*775 US Hwy One*

*Tequesta, FL 33469*

RSVP NLT

October 10, 2021



**DIANNE BOLAND**  
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER 2018-2019

**Guest Of Honor— Past Department Commander  
Dianne Boland**

**Dinner and Entertainment to be Announced.**

**Tickets: \$35.00**

**Payment by Zelle using # 410-610-9263, Cash,  
or Check**

**Make Checks Payable to: SAL SQ 47 (in notes put District Roast)**

**Mail to: 1309 Crestwood Blvd. Lake Worth Beach, FL  
33460**







2021  
Cruise

November  
13 - 18



**Group Name - American Legion, Children & Youth \*\* Booking # P77QR7**

**Elation - Exotic Eastern Carib 11/13/2021**

Embarkation Information						Debarcation Information	
City	Port Canaveral					City	Port Canaveral (Orlando), FL
Port	Port Canaveral						
Pier	Cruise Terminals						
Begin time	12:30 PM				End time	2:30 PM	
Date	Day	Port of Call	Arrive	Depart	Info	<b>Questions?</b> Ernesto Romeo Vacation Planner Carnival Cruise Line  800-819-3902 ex 83026 Office 305-439-3325 FAX	
11/13/2021	SAT	Port Canaveral (Orlando), FL		3:30 PM			
11/14/2021	SUN	Fun Day At Sea					
11/15/2021	MON	Amber Cove, Dominican Republic	10:30 AM	6:30 PM			
11/16/2021	TUE	Grand Turk	8:00 AM	4:00 PM			
11/17/2021	WED	Fun Day At Sea					
11/18/2021	THU	Port Canaveral (Orlando), FL	8:00 AM				

**Florida American Legion Family  
Children & Youth Cruise**

A Cruise has been set up for our Legion Family for November 13 - 18, 2021. Cabins are on a first come first served basis, so make your reservations soon.

**Please call Ernesto Romeo**, who is filling in for Maureen Williams (Past Department Commander Rick Johnson's wife), as soon as possible. **Prices can change at any time.** Deposits can be made until August 30th, at which time the full payment will be due.

Booking after August 30, 2021 will require full payment. **Go to Carnival.com to see current prices.**

Also, when on the website join the VIFP club prior to calling Ernesto to book your cabin. VIFP members receive discounts and other benefits.

**I will have hotel information for the night before the cruise as we get closer to the cruise date.**

**Les Martin**  
 Children & Youth  
 Chairman  
 941-201-7293  
 Captmarty48@gmail.com



**Student Application  
December 16-19, 2021**  
*Department Headquarters, Orlando*

**Section One – Personal Information**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

**Section Two - Military and American Legion Service**

Branch(es) of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Dates of Service \_\_\_\_\_  
Year Joined Legion \_\_\_\_\_ American Legion Post # \_\_\_\_\_ Membership ID \_\_\_\_\_  
List American Legion Offices previously/currently held and when:  
  
Date Completed The American Legion Extension Institute (Required) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**Section Three – Education and Career Information**

Educational Background (Check highest level achieved)  
\_\_\_\_\_ High School Diploma      \_\_\_\_\_ Technical/Trade Degree      \_\_\_\_\_ Some College  
\_\_\_\_\_ Associate Degree      \_\_\_\_\_ Bachelor's Degree      \_\_\_\_\_ Postgraduate Degree  
Professional Background (Briefly describe your job and how long you have been in that position)  
  
List other groups you are associated with and offices held: (Circle those you are actively involve in or with)

**Section Four – Written or typed essay (required – must be included with this application)**

***FLALC Selection Committee Letter***

**The FLALC Selection Committee will review applications and make the final selection by December 1, 2021. In 300 words or less, tell them why you want to attend the Florida American Legion College and how you would apply the knowledge you will acquire and will help your District and the Department of Florida. This is an important part of the selection process and it is an opportunity for you to present yourself in your own words. Your comments must be typewritten (use pages 3 & 4).**

*Section Five – Lodging and Accommodation Information*

Hotel is Hilton Orlando-Altamonte Springs located at 350 S. Northlake Blvd, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701, located near Department Headquarters. Lodging is provided to the students during the authorized dates. Students are recommended to share a room with another Legion College Student. **If student would like their own room, an additional charge of \$150 will be necessary.** Each student will be responsible for additional charges (such as phone calls, internet service or room service) during the week. All telephone calls, including local or toll-free calls, may have access fees and will be charged to the student’s account.

Check with Department Headquarters for hotel special accommodations, such as handicap accessibility or special dietary needs (please list on a separate page what those restrictions or special needs might be). Any outstanding charges must be cleared at checkout with the hotel. **A \$200 Registration Fee is required for rooms, coffee, and lunches. The Fee MUST accompany the application.** Changes to hotel location will be communicated by email. For those students that don't require a hotel room, your registration fee will be \$100.

Preferred Hotel Roommate \_\_\_\_\_

*I have read the prerequisite requirements and desire to attend The Department of Florida American Legion College.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Section Six – Area Commander Recommendation (at least one signature required)*

1. Provide six words that best describe this candidate (i.e. forceful, energetic, dedicated, etc)
2. What are the candidate’s goals for advancement in The American Legion?
3. Why do you believe this candidate should attend the Department of Florida American Legion College?
4. What might this candidate be doing for the American Legion in:
 

One year:

Five years:
5. Within the next five years, might you comfortably elect this candidate as your (Check all that apply):
 

Department Membership Chair   
  District/Area Commander   
  Department Commander

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Past Department Commander / Zone, Area, or District Commander Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**HOW TO SUBMIT:**

Send application, essay, and registration fee to:  
American Legion, Department of Florida, Attn: FLALC  
PO Box 547859, Orlando, FL 32854

No later than November 19, 2021. Registration fee **MUST** accompany the application and essay.  
***This institution does not discriminate with regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.***



Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Membership ID \_\_\_\_\_

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# POST SERVICE OFFICER TRAINING SCHOOL

## Dept. Fall Conference Registration Form 2021

This course is filled based off first come, first served interest. Slots are limited!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: FL Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (required): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Post number: \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID number: \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this document, you are stating that you have been appointed as the Post Service Officer by the Post Commander to attend this course as stated in the Department Constitution and By-Laws Article X, Section

**\*\* A Post can only send ONE PERSON - their certified Service Officer - to attend the course due to the limited seating! \*\***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Service Officer Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commander Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Return this form to:**

Florida American Legion, ATTN: Programs, PO BOX 547859, Orlando, FL, 32854-7859

**OR**

**Email:** btibbs@floridalegion.org

**OR**

**Fax:** 407-299-0901

This Form **MUST** be submitted and received by Department in order for a reservation to be made

**\*\*Phone reservations will NOT be accepted\*\***



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Class Name:** FL American Legion Post Service Officer Course, Dept. Fall Conference 2021

**Dates (Must Attend Both Days):** Friday, 05 November; 8AM – 4PM  
Saturday, 06 November; 8AM – 1PM

**Note:** Training by The American Legion is **valid for one year**

**Room Name:** Palani, Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld

**Hotel Reservations:** Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld – (855) 516-1090  
6677 Sea Harbor Dr, Orlando, FL 32821

**\*\*Be sure to tell them you are with The American Legion to receive our special rate\*\***





## EARN MONEY FOR YOUR POST WINNERS DRAWN DAILY IN DECEMBER

*We are excited to share with you an ambitious fundraising program designed to help the Department of Florida and our Posts to raise money to better serve Veterans across the state.*

This December, The American Legion, Department of Florida Holiday Raffle will award a cash prize to 31 winners, one on each day of the month.

Every ticket sold not only increases the prize pool for the 31 winners, but the Department and the Posts will share the proceeds, strengthening our programs across the state and directly impacting our Posts who are making a difference locally for Veterans and their families.

To maximize the success of this program, we truly need every District and Post's support.

### Here's what you need to know.

- ❄️ The requested donation for each **raffle ticket is \$5**. To simplify the accounting of money, we suggest for Posts to purchase tickets for **\$3 from Department Headquarters**. **The remaining revenue is your Post's to keep.**
- ❄️ We encourage everyone to reach outside of the membership to patriotic non-members as part of the effort to sell tickets. This will increase the total amount of money raised and relieve pressure on our members. *If every member sold just 4 raffle tickets, there would be more than \$400,000 of prizes and \$800,000 raised for Legion programs and our Posts!*
- ❄️ The Department will handle promotions through the website and social media. We will also be providing **marketing posters for the Posts** to highlight the program.
- ❄️ Tickets will be **available online** for those who prefer that as an option
- ❄️ Posts can purchase tickets early October

If you have questions... or you want to get out to an early start, contact Jennifer Cooper, Department Fundraising Director. **Remember, the more tickets you buy, the more everyone wins!!!**

 **31 DAYS OF WINNERS!** 

# Halloween SAFETY



**COLORING BOOKS**



## Newly Designed Halloween Coloring Books for posts.

*These coloring books are great for kids of all ages. We're please to offer this newly designed book with even more pages of fun!*

The book contains Halloween Season safety tips for parents and children to consider. Also included is a message describing many facets of The American Legion, what we stand for and what we do. A membership application has been included on the back cover next to the space reserved for your individual post number and address. **BE SURE TO PUT YOUR POST INFORMATION IN THE SPACE PROVIDED SO THE PARENTS ARE AWARE OF WHICH POST HAS THEIR CHILDREN'S SAFETY IN MIND.**

We strongly urge your post to contact schools and daycare centers for their participation. **We are asking that your order be received at Department Headquarters by October 15th.** We will ship your coloring book orders as we receive them but payment must be included. We sincerely hope your Auxiliary will also participate in this program.



ORDER ONLINE [WWW.FLORIDALEGIONSTORE.ORG](http://WWW.FLORIDALEGIONSTORE.ORG)

**\$25**  
100 PACK

*\* plus shipping*

Post # \_\_\_\_\_ Attention To \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping Address (NO P.O. Boxes) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT**  Cash  Check # \_\_\_\_\_  Credit Card

Card Type:  Visa  Mastercard  Discover  American Express

Card Holder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**SHIPPING FEES**

(Qty: 1) - \$7.95 (Qty: 2) - \$8.95 (Qty: 3-5) - \$9.95 (Qty: 6-8) - \$15.95 (Qty: 9-12) - \$21.95 (Qty: 13-16) - \$24.95 (Qty: 17-20) - \$33.95 (Qty: 21+) - \$39.95

*If you are tax exempt, please ensure we have a tax exempt form on file.*

How many packs would you like? _____	
Subtotal \$	\$ 0.00
Sales Tax (6.5%) \$	\$ 0.00
Shipping \$	_____
<b>Total \$</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>

Expiration MM/YY \_\_\_\_\_

Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



**Mail to: The American Legion, Dept of Florida; Attn: Emblem Sales; P.O. Box 547859; Orlando, FL 32854-7859**

You may also fax completed from with credit card information to **407-299-0901.**