

1919 – 2022



Flagler ALR
Chapter 115



Flagler American
Legion
Auxiliary Unit 115



Flagler American Legion Post 115
Serving Flagler's Veterans since 1937

103 years of
service



Flagler Sons of the
American Legion Squadron 115

Legion Krier

Aug - Sep 2021

Editor: Gary M Owens

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

Here we are again, it is a wonderful time for American Legion Flagler Post 115, Palm Coast, Fl., we have just finished our installation of officers and a whole new year is about to unfold. We have some very exciting plans for our Post. 3rd Vice Joe Leahy and his committee have completed another very successful year with the Boys State Program.

We are having our very first Golf Outing this October, please you Duffers get out, check the Web site, sign up, get your friends to sign up, it promises to be an exciting time.

The weekend of October 9th and 10th we will be out raising funds for Special Olympics, please contact 1st Vice Bryant Thorpe or myself to give us your name as a volunteer to help in the fundraising.

In November the County Public Library hosts the White Table Ceremony put on by the Embry Riddle JROTC, Wonderful Ceremony. The Post Officers and

I will be working on dinner events, which will be posted on our website, which, I may add is now being handled by Tanya Whitaker.

I will keep you informed on future events in my next column.
FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
Joseph L. Pepin, Commander

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Look a NEW Thing!
Most of us think of things as good or bad. If today was bad – probably tomorrow will be bad as well. However, if today was good then our perspective is different. We tend to look at things in a positive light. Well, it is a NEW year here in the Post. It does not matter how you feel about what happened in the past – or even today. God says He is doing a NEW thing. Let us look at that. In Isaiah 43:16-19 God tells us: "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland."

A way in the desert and streams in the wasteland. Now that would be something NEW! That would be something quite different. God is telling them to quit looking back – look forward look to the future. When we are in battle we do not look back – we look forward. That is how we achieve our goals or complete the mission. First, it will be good to remember Israel sees scripture through the lens of Exodus. It is their key to remembering to their past and the key to remembering the power of God. Every year most Jewish families reenact the Passover. This has remained the same for over 5,700 years. Now that is a long-term commitment. Forget the former things – forget them. How much time do we spend dwelling on the past? Would'a – Should'a – Could'a. This will drive you crazy. 'What if' I had done this or 'What if' I had done that. We cannot go back and relive the past. It is over, it is done. It is the past! We can only impact today and hopefully tomorrow. Now that is possible. So, forget the past and

focus on today – the now – the present.

God's word tells us He is doing something new here. Do you perceive it, I do! During our last meeting, the district officers installed our new officers for the coming year. The district staff drove to Palm Coast and swore them in at a special ceremony. Something NEW is happening! Now each of us has a choice.

We can be involved in the something new going on here or not. We can volunteer to help or not.

Streams in the desert wastelands. Unheard of that is impossible. Maybe for your god - but not my God. Nothing is impossible for my God. He is doing something new. Do you perceive it? Well, maybe you are still living in the past? Maybe you are not involved? Maybe you are just too busy?

Every meeting we have the opportunity to "volunteer" for something. I know what you were told in the service, I was too. However, the services had ways to make sure all the work was done we do not. Our Post depends upon us - you and me to volunteer to help. Will you take a chance and volunteer? I hope you will – I did.

For God and Country, Frank



Chaplain Frank Boone being installed for 2021-2022

FROM AUXILIARY

UNIT #115



Our Auxiliary has had a busy July starting off with the State Convention in Orlando with myself, Karen Smith, and Dagmar Lockwitch attending. Our Unit had installation of officers on July 7th. We extend our appreciation for the many years of service provided by our Past President, Karen Smith. Hers will be a hard act to follow, but hopefully we will continue to stay strong!

Karen Smith and I had the opportunity to meet with the activities director of the VA Wellness Center, Toshya Beckman, who gave us a lovely tour of their facility. We sponsored a birthday celebration luncheon for the Veterans and Staff on July 21st, and had the opportunity to meet some of the veterans. We extended an invitation to anyone who would like to attend a Legion meeting at Post 115, providing them the meeting day and time. Also, if they feel the need to share their experience and progress gained at the VA Wellness Center we encouraged them to come speak to our Post.

My goal as the newly elected President will be to focus on Community and Veteran projects, increasing membership, expansion of our fundraising options, as well as visiting other

area ALA Units for inspiration and ideas.

Take time to check out our updated website listed under Auxiliary portion of flaglerpost115.org for our list of current officers and meeting day and time. A huge thanks to Tanya Whitaker, the Post member @ large for her help getting this accomplished. Our dues have been raised this year to \$35.

Brenda Thorpe, President Unit 115

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY



ALA @ VA Wellness Center l-r Toshya Backman, Karen Smith, Dagmar Lockwitch, Brenda Thorpe



POW/MIA Update

July 8, 2021: Soldier Accounted For From Korea War (Crosby, L)
July 8, 2021: USS Oklahoma Sailor Accounted For From World War II (Battles, R.)
July 7, 2021: Soldier Accounted For From Korea War (Conley, P.)

July 7, 2021: Marine Accounted For From World War II (White, G.)

July 7, 2021: Marine Accounted For From Korean War (Ellis, H.)

July 6, 2021: Soldier Accounted For From World War II (Swackhammer, m.)

July 6, 2021: USS Oklahoma Sailor Accounted For From World War II (Walker, H.)

July 6, 2021: USS Oklahoma Sailor Accounted For From World War II (Thinnes, A.)

July 1, 2021: USS Oklahoma Sailor Accounted For From World War II (Harr, R.)

July 1, 2021: USS Oklahoma Sailor Accounted For From World War II (Skaggs, E.)

July 1, 2021: Solider Accounted For From Korean War (Henderson, R.)

July 1, 2021: Airman Accounted For From World War II (Shay, A.)

3rd VICE COMMANDER

By JOE LEAHY
FUNDRAISING



David Hammond, Mike Greene, Joe Pepin

SPECIAL NOTE

Please plan on 9 & 10 OCT for the next drive dedicated to Flagler County Special Olympics. Two years ago, we were able to raise \$3800 so let's surpass that this year! Please offer to spend 2 hours of your

time either of those days for this worthwhile campaign.

Fundraising:

•Special Olympics: October 9&10 Bryant Thorpe Captain, Flagler Beach Publix

Joe Pepin Captain, Hammock Beach Publix

•Lollipop Drive: Jim Boyd, Captain October 16/17: Publix Island Walk & October 23/24: Publix BelleTerre

•Golf Tournament: October 11th, Grand Haven Country Club

2021-2022

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2021 Post 115 Officer Installation



Be sure to listen to VETERANS ON POINT radio broadcasts on WNZF 94.9 FM aired Sunday mornings 0930hrs.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION S.A.L



SAL Squadron 115
Cdr. Peter Young

Squadron 115 will see changes this coming year. Cdr. Young will be retiring from the FSP and will be more active in the SAL's activities. Incoming Adjutant RJ Card has many ideas and an enthusiasm to see the Squadron grow.

ONLINE BASIC TRAINING COURSE

If you have not yet taken The American Legion's free online Basic Training Course, it is highly encouraged you do so. The course covers five topics: history and organization; Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation; National Security; Americanism; and Children & Youth. See www.legion.org/training for the course.

FELLOW VETERANS NEED TRANSPORT

There are Post 115 members that are unable to drive at night as well as those in residence at home or various assisted living facilities here in Flagler County that are in need of transport to/from meetings. Hopefully you would be able to stop by and pick up a member on your way

to a meeting? It would definitely be appreciated!

There are members in the Bunnell area and western parts of the county that are in need as well as right in Palm Coast! **Please contact Adjutant Owens @ 386-585-5302 or adjutant@flaglerpost115.org if you are able to help out, or are in need of a ride.**

POST EVERLASTING

Fred G Galloway
9/26/30 – 7/13/21

SICK CALL

Mike Gyorkos, Lenora Dean, Sandy Ausbrooks, Dino Perez, Paul Mager, Charlie Hayes, Joe Licata, Ophelia Beier

FROM YOUR COLOR GUARD



Post 115 Color Guard

Color Guard is in need to 2 or 3 new members

Please contact Sgt. @ Arms Ed Beier if you are interested in joining.

Color Guard is available for veteran's funeral and memorial services as well as the ALR Flag Line and motorcycle escort.

POST HISTORIAN

Post Historian Jim Boyd is continuing collection of memorabilia for this year's Post Scrapbook to be submitted to dept. in July. Please be sure to share any photos or articles

pertaining to our Post and local veterans with Jim.

POST 115 MEDIA

Many thanks to member Tanya Whitaker for stepping up and taking over as our "webmaster"! Great job Tanya

LEGION INFO

Here's info regarding American Legion History and Story!

Please look to:

www.youtube.com/americanlegionhq. for the – "To Strengthen a Nation Series.

Please renew your membership

@ www.flaglerpost115.org

This link goes directly to our Post saving much time and effort. Many Thanks!

Adj. Owens

CALENDAR

- Flagler County VAC 2 Aug.
- Post 115 meeting 9 Aug.
- TEXAS ROADHOUSE DINNER NIGHT 10 Aug.
- 17th Dist. training Post 120 14 Aug.
- Post 115 Exec. Mtg. 23 Aug.
- Post 115 meeting 13 Sept. recognizing Boys & Girls State
- ALSO – POTLUCK DINNERS RESUMES
- REMEMBER 1ST & 3RD Saturdays Veterans' Breakfast
- 28 Sept. Post 115 Exec. Mtg.
- **11 OCT. – POST 115 CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT @ GRAND HAVEN GOLF CLUB**



OUR WWII STORY

A collection of OUR WWII STORY articles and photos about The American Legion's place in the Second World War can be found at www.legion.org/centennial. They are available to share or reprint in post, district or department media.

The American Legion PREAMBLE

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purpose:

- To uphold and defend the constitution of the United States of America;
- To maintain law and order;
- To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;
 - To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars;
- To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;
- To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;
- To make right the master of might;
- To promote peace and goodwill on earth;
 - To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;
 - To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

FLAG FACTS

The first singing of the "Star Spangled Banner" at a baseball game occurred in Brooklyn, NY,

on May 15, 1862, according to MLB.com

A 1967 Flag study manual explained that the red in the U.S. flag stands for courage, valor, strength; the blue represents truth, loyalty, and fidelity; and white conveys purity, light, and peace.

In 1942, Congress established the practice of placing your right hand over your heart when reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

To see more Flag information go to

www.woodwing.legion.org:8080/app/#/s/1PN9TEHdNM

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND TRANSFERS

David DiVito Jr,
Mary German,
John Kairns,
Dennis Lydon,
Phil Jones,
Dennis Dixon,
Randy Souza,
Bradley Johnson,
Mike Gonzales

GI BILL BENEFITS PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Use your GI Bill benefits to start a business? Lawmakers push pilot program

Leo Shane III
Members of the Massachusetts Air National Guard's 102nd Intelligence Wing attended the Business, Engineering & Technologies Job and Internship Fair at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth on Oct. 23, 2019. (Tech. Sgt. Thomas Swanson/Air Force)

A bipartisan group of House lawmakers are again pushing to

allow some recently separated service members to use their GI Bill benefits to start a new business instead of attending college classes. The proposal, which has failed to gain legislative traction in recent years, would establish a three-year pilot program for up to 250 veterans to pursue "educational entrepreneurial training" and receive their education payouts in the form of start-up capital instead of the traditional tuition payments.

"Higher education is essential for many [veterans], but some have a different calling," said Rep Ben Cline, R-Va. and a sponsor of the measure. "Veterans are seeking more options and want the choice to use their GI Bill benefit to start their own business. "It's common sense to offer veterans a choice in accessing resources, training, and support to pursue the American dream to start a small business, create jobs, and generate growth in our economy."



ALR CHAPTER 115 MEMBERS READY FOR FREEDOMFEST
l-r: John Pascucci, David & Donna Gregory, RJ & Donna Card, Tod Rothenberger, Lew Geurin

**NOTES FROM HONOR
FLIGHT NETWORK
MEETING VFW Post 3282,
Port Orange, FL
15 July 2021 at 1700 hours
Attended by: Post 115
Assistant Judge Advocate Guy
Middleton**

There are ten (10) Honor Flight Hubs in Florida.

Three chapter representatives made presentations at the meeting:

Space Coast Honor Flight (Rockledge)-

www.spacecoasthonorflight.org

Honor Flight Central Florida (Orlando)-

www.honorflightcentralflorida.org

First Coast Honor Flight (St. Johns)-

www.firstcoasthonorflight.org

(established March 2020)

Honor Flights is a nationwide 501(c) 3 charitable organization, which operates by using volunteers and collecting charitable contributions. Their mission is to transport critically ill and senior military veterans to Washington, DC at no cost to the vet. Since 2005, more than 245,000 vets have been transported to Washington, DC on Honor Flights. Funding is contributed by individuals and various veterans' organizations.

The veterans are prioritized for these flights in the following order: World War II vets, Korean War vets, Viet Nam War vets. Veterans from other conflicts will be included in future Honor Flights. Each Honor Flight transports 25 vets and 25 guardians. There are

approximately 167,000 military veterans in Northeast Florida.

The Honor Flights all take place on one day. First Coast Flights depart from Jacksonville, while the Space Coast and Central Florida Flights depart from Orlando. All First Coast flights arrive at, and return, from Baltimore Washington International (BWI) airport and are escorted by U.S. Park Police to the DC area, where stops will be made at the WWII Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, the Viet Nam War Memorial, the Iwo Jima Marine Memorial, the Women Veteran's Memorial, the Air Force Memorial and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The costs for each flight total approximately thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000).

Each Honor Flight Chapter has individually unique fundraising events and anonymous individual donors to raise funds for these flights.

During the flight, each veteran is escorted by a Guardian, who must be age 18-70 and be physically fit. A friend or family member may volunteer to be a Guardian, but a donation of \$400-500 is requested to help defray the cost of air travel and meals. All vets and Guardians are provided breakfast, lunch and dinner on the day of the Honor Flight. The only thing the vet needs to travel is a driver's license or passport (for TSA) and 2-3 days of prescribed medications.

Honor Flight wants to locate and encourage as many war veterans as possible to sign up for these flights. They reiterated that sick,

infirm and elderly veterans are given priority for the flights. They are also seeking donations to support these flights.

**WREATHS ACROSS
AMERICA**



**Wreaths Across America –
REMEMBER-HONOR-TEACH**

As we head into the second half of 2021, the push is on to get 100% sponsorship for both Espanola Cemetery in Bunnell, and the Masonic Cemetery in Palm Coast. Wreath sponsorships are \$15 each and when purchased through American Legion Post 115, we get a 3 for 2 deal.

Sponsorships can be made by visiting the website @ www.wreathscrossamerica.org/f10824, or by cash / check payment at a general membership meeting. The link is also on the Post 115 website. Thank you for your support!

Tanya Whitaker



The American Legion's National Emergency Fund (NEF)

After a record Atlantic hurricane season in 2020, another above-normal season is predicted in 2021. On the other side of the country, a drought has left much of the western U.S. facing a potentially dangerous wildfire season.

Should natural disasters strike, there is help available through The American Legion's National Emergency Fund (NEF).

The NEF provides financial assistance grants to American Legion posts, and American Legion and Sons of The American Legion members, who have been impacted by declared natural disasters. The NEF provides up to \$3,000 for American Legion and Sons members with an active membership who have been displaced due to damages to their primary residence, and up to \$10,000 for posts that have been damaged by a natural disaster and whose programs and activities within the community are impacted.

TODAY IN AMERICAN LEGION HISTORY

July 23, 1962: Pitching phenomenon Bob Feller of Iowa – known as the “heater from Van Meter” – is the first alumnus of American Legion Baseball inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown. A teen prodigy, he was a farm boy who could throw a curve ball at the age of 8 and was playing

American Legion Baseball at 10. At 17, he would skip the minor leagues altogether, and sign with the Cleveland Indians in the majors. He took four years away from baseball after enlisting in the U.S. Navy during World War II – the first professional athlete to do so – and quickly returned to form after his tour of duty. He would ultimately pitch 3,827 innings over 18 seasons and hold the record for most strikeouts in a game, 18, at the time of his retirement. He threw three no-hitters and 12 one-hitters. Some of the game's greatest hitters described him at the best pitcher in baseball history. Later in life, Feller was a frequent speaker at American Legion Baseball World Series events and in 2009, at the age of 91, he threw out the first pitch in the annual championship tournament in Fargo, N.D

NATIONAL GUARD NEWS

(INDIANAPOLIS—July 19, 2021) –The head of the nation's largest veterans organization warned Congress that the American people will “be furious,” if partisan gridlock causes a shutdown of the National Guard and delayed paychecks for its soldiers.

“Congress and the White House need to act immediately to ensure that our National Guard is fully funded and its members compensated for all of their drills, missions and deployments. Have they already forgotten the thousands of National Guard

members who protected the Capitol during civil unrest just a few months ago? Or the crucial role of our National Guard members in America's response to COVID-19?” American Legion National Commander James W. “Bill” Oxford asked. “The American Legion spoke loudly two years ago when partisan bickering led to an interruption of the Coast Guard being paid. We stepped up and provided more than \$1 million of grants to help hundreds of Coast Guard families, but Congress still has failed to pass the Pay Our Coast Guard Act. Moreover, it isn't the job of private nonprofit organizations to pay the military. As Americans, we should all demand that Congress never repeats that mistake.

“We are not simply talking about bureaucracies,” Oxford continued. “We are talking about families. The men and women of the National Guard have living expenses, bills due and other financial obligations that cannot be put on hold while politicians argue. The volunteers who defend America deserve better.”



ALR CHAPTER 115 visits Interlachen Post 293 12 June 2021
l-r; Lew Geurin, Frank Boone, Tod Rothenberger, Bryant Thorpe, David Gregory, Ron Dean, Jim Muskopf, kneeling Gary Owens

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- 08/21 08/23 Gary & Kathy Owens
- 10/19 10/21 Ron & Beverly Kecskes
- 01/16 12/22 Deidre Jean Wright
- 01/18 01/23 Phyllis M Wright
- 08/18 07/23 John & Margaret Russell
- 10/18 10/23 Joe & Di Pepin
- 10/19 10/24 John C Clark
- 10/19 10/21 Ron & Lenora Dean
- 02/20 02/22 Ronald & Beverly Kecskes
- 02/20 02/25 Joe & Bina Leahy
- 04/20 04/22 Mary Beck
- 08/20 08/22 Glenn French
- 08/20 08/22 Michael Sikora
- 10/20 10/22 R Sandy Ausbrooks
- 11/20 11/23 Charles & Claire Saarela
- 12/20 12/22 Ken & Dorothy Wall
- 12/20 12/22 Lois Andrs

**YOU'D GET A COLOR VERSION RATHER
THAN THE PRINTED BLACK & WHITE
Please email adjutant@FlaglerPost115.org to be
added to the email list**

- 02/21 02/31 Frank & Helena Boone
- 06/21 06/23 Omer E Smith
- 06/21 06/23 Karen J Smith
- 06/21 06/24 JimBradley/Beverly McGowan
- 06/21 06/22 Shirley Bump
- 06/21 06/26 Bryant& Brenda Thorpe
- 08/21 08/23 Tony & Joan Libasci

Krier Booster Donation Form

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