

1919 – 2020



ALR Chapter 115



Flagler American Legion Auxiliary Unit 115



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

102 years of service



Flagler Sons of the American Legion Squadron 115

# Legion Krier

Feb - Mar 2021

Editor: Gary M Owens

## COMMANDER'S COLUMN

Greetings fellow Legionnaires!

We had a great General Membership Meeting in January for which I am grateful. I thank all the Officers that setup the hall and made it safe for all of us to attend.

We had interesting speakers from the City of Palm Coast. If anyone has a suggestion for a future speaker please contact 2nd Vice Commander Thorpe with your suggestion.

The Fundraising Committee had a Zoom meeting to discuss different ideas for raising money. 3rd Vice Commander Leahy, the Chair, will be providing information on the results at the next meeting. You can also get up to date information on our many social media sites.

At the District 17 meeting it was decided that the annual Chili Cookoff at the Emory L. Bennett nursing home will be Sat 27 Feb from 12 to 3 PM. Last year our Post had five members all vying for honors by raising the most money for the ELB Activity

Fund. It is a great day so please come out and join us even if you aren't cooking.

It was also decided that the District 17 Picnic would be held at Post 361, in S. Daytona, on Mar 13 starting at 1100. As we get the tickets, we will be offering them to Post members. These are fun times so please join in the festivities.

If you have not yet paid your dues please do so.

As I said in other editions, and will say again, may this Krier find you and yours healthy and prepared to stay well during this continuing period of social unrest and pandemic sheltering.

FOR GOD & COUNTRY  
David S. Hammond  
Commander

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

“What is My first Priority?”

As I was preparing this teaching, I really wanted to call it ‘The Avengers’. Years ago, some of us followed the adventures of this mighty group of Superhero’s thru the Comics. Apparently, they also appeal to today’s

young people now they have a new movie series. I believe we like them because they always defeated the evil villains. We like heroes, we like winners. I have friends who pay thousands of dollars to go the World Series or Super Bowl so they are close to the winners. However, what the world sees as a winner: fame, fortune, popularity, or a reality TV show is not exactly what scripture teaches as winning. Today’s teaching in Romans gives us some insight into real winners! You can read more scripture if you read St Paul in Romans 12.

Our love must be sincere. Paul is speaking about Christian love not “lust”. Lust is what I consider counterfeit love. It is what many today know as love. In this world we may have some enemies, but Jesus had enemies. Paul and the other Disciples had many who opposed their work and teaching. We often find this today with the division we see in our nation politically. I think we need to consider that first we chose to be Christian.

Second, we are American. “God and Country” that is what the Legion stands for and how we live our lives. The Bible says we do not have a right to be an offensive Christian! I have learned some people just need a little more ‘Grace’. If you know what I mean. We need to remember we are not of this ‘world’. Verse 2 says “Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind”. In old Greek the word used is: SKHAY-mah. It means habits, bearing, actions or manner of life. That tells me Christians MUST be different! Which says to me the Christian church MUST be different. The church should not be a Christian Club, it is not a place for us to find free entertainment. Therefore, the Christian church cannot compete with the world. No one must pay for those great front row seats. The attraction the Church has for the world is “love”, Agape Love. Agape love is unconditional love. It does not matter what you say or do not say; what you do or don’t do – you cannot change my love. This is a love we learn and then live it out daily. To most of us the first inclination when provoked is to fight back. This rule says “Do it to others before they do it to you!” That is the way of the world, not God’s way. God’s rule says: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.”

When we become our own “Avenger” we deny God the opportunity to take care of us. We also deny ourselves the opportunity to see God at work. We must trust God and make His ‘will’ our will. Oswald Chambers calls this: Godly abandonment when we abandon our will and seek God’s will. Then we can see His miraculous hand at work. Most of us find this difficult to practice. Will others take advantage of us? Only the Lord knows. Our task is to Love others and be Obedient servants. Most of us know how to do that. Jesus said anyone can return evil for evil. That is not Christian it creates a ‘cycle of conflict’. The Christian Way is different from the way of the world. We live in a fallen world full of anger and hate and evil. We Christian’s are peculiar people. When we want to fit into the habits, actions, and manner of the world then we are being disobedient.

For God and Country –  
Frank (The Rev)

### **FROM AUXILIARY** **UNIT #115**

Happy New Year Auxiliary members! I hope you have had a lovely most likely quiet holiday and are all healthy. Our December meeting was a gathering to enjoy each other’s company, enjoy lunch and the bringing of non-perishable food items for those in need in our community. I want to thank everyone for your donation. Donations were given to church

care groups and other agencies for distribution to families in need in Flagler County. Our thoughts and prayers are with our Legion Post Commander Dave Hammond and his family. Commander Hammond’s wife Catherine passed away recently. Catherine was member of Unit 115 and such a delightful gal. We always keep in our thoughts those of you who are not able to attend our meetings due to health reasons or concerns about the horrible virus. We want you to know you are not alone nor forgotten. Unit membership is currently at 80.49%. Two new members have joined our Unit and we were able to welcome them at our December meeting. Dagmar Lockwitch and Ruth Muller, welcome to Flagler Unit 115. I am sure they will be a terrific help for our Auxiliary projects. Currently, we are reviewing our Unit Constitution and By-Laws and will discuss the changes at our February meeting. In checking with Department, the Girls State program is moving forward. A lot “ifs” are there. The program’s “go” depends on whether Florida State University will allow summer camps, Florida Statehouse is available, and of course, the status of the Pandemic. The word is we will move forward until advised otherwise. Our Unit Girls State Selection Committee will coordinate with the Flagler County High Schools for possible interviews before the end of January or the beginning of February.

The Unit's Poppy program is on hold for now and will be rescheduled as soon as possible. We have the poppies on hand and can use when the program resumes.

Our next meeting is scheduled Wednesday, February 3, 2021, at noon at the VFW Post Home, 47 hyg67Old Kings Road North, Palm coast. I am asking each member to bring a non-perishable food item for local distribution. Unit Vice President Brenda will collect the items and distribute to the homeless in our community.

If you have not paid your 2021 dues and would like to do so, the membership fee is \$30.00.

*Make check payable to American Legion Auxiliary Unit 115 and mail to P. O. Box 351147, Palm Coast, Florida 32135-1147.*

If the Pandemic has created financial hardship for you, please contact me, we may be able to assist you with dues. If you have any questions you are welcome to call Karen Smith, Unit President, (386) 445-5346.

“Kindness in words creates confidence, Kindness in thinking creates profoundness, Kindness in giving creates Love” Lao-Tzu  
For God and Country  
Karen Smith, President  
Auxiliary Unit 115



### POW/MIA Update

December 17, 2020: Soldier Accounted for From Korean War (Rodgers, B.)

December 17, 2020: Soldier Accounted for From World War II (Soileau, H.)

January 15, 2021:

This week, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency released the following announcements. 4 Things to Know About POW/MIA Recognition Day You Are Not Forgotten – that's the central phrase behind the POW/MIA remembrance movement which honors America's prisoners of war, those who are still missing in action and their families. Many of our service members suffered as prisoners of war during several decades of varying conflicts. While some of them made it home, tens of thousands more never did. Here are four things to know about how this important movement got started, what it means and how you can help recognize it. POW/MIA Recognition Day is commemorated on the third Friday of every September, a date that's not associated with any particular war. In 1979, Congress and the president passed resolutions making it

official after the families of the more than 2,500 Vietnam War POW/MIAs pushed for full accountability. •  
130,201 World War II service members were imprisoned; 14,072 them died •  
7,140 Korean War service members were imprisoned; 2,701 of them died •  
725 Vietnam War service members were imprisoned; 64 of them died •  
37 service members were imprisoned during conflicts since 1991, including both Gulf wars; none are still in captivity.

### 3rd VICE COMMANDER

#### POST EVERLASTING: 2020 - 2021

Salvatore Rutigliano	6/23/45	8/22/20
Augustine I Campbell	6/16/38	9/20/20
Donald M Hoskins	1/5/37	10/20/20
Charles E Whitney	10/12/44	10/26/20
Sherman “Butch” Moody	04/04/43	12/05/20

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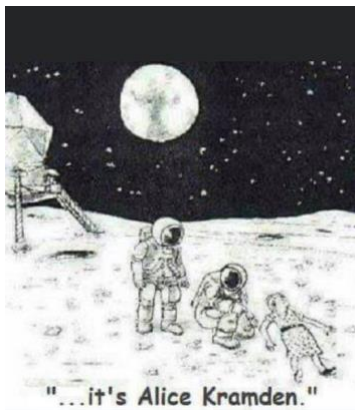
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## **SOCIAL MEDIA: IT'S OK TO POST POLITICAL OPINIONS**

BY: Hank Mangels  
Social Media Chair  
Flagler Post 115  
Member, Media &  
Communications Council  
The American Legion  
Member, The American Legion  
Media Alliance

What behavior on social media is endorsed by the Legion? Is it OK to post my opinion if I also identify as a member of The American Legion?

The answer: It is OK. Your right to free speech cannot be infringed upon by The American Legion. I received this opinion in an email from Henry Howard, Deputy Director, Media and Communications, The American Legion.

Henry said: "There is no official policy on the use of an individual's Facebook page.

Overall, we encourage all members to follow all federal, state and local laws.

"Each member has the constitutional right to their freedom of speech, which includes publishing on Facebook."

Behaviors to avoid:

Do not infringe upon trademark laws by using official American Legion emblems to endorse any candidate in your post.

Do not represent your opinion as that of The American Legion.

Note: Photos in your profile of you identifying as a member of The American Legion does not

constitute a violation of either of the above guidelines.

Furthermore, a reasonable person would not be led to believe your opinion to represent an official American Legion endorsement simply because you identify as a member in your profile.

Hope this helps!

## **AL RIDERS CHAPT. 115**

Several members of the Post 115 ALR Chapter will be attending the upcoming 2021 Dept. of FL. Legion Riders summit to be held at Avanti Palms Resort 3-6 FEB.

Chapter 115 members will be involved with the upcoming Bike Week in early March with various fundraisers to benefit both the Post and the Chapter.

## **ADOPT-A-ROAD**



ALR Chapter 115 has "adopted" Belle Terre Pkwy from Cypress Point Pkwy south to Parkview Dr. (Wadsworth Elementary School) with the first event held

16 JAN 2021



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

**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](http://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](mailto:adjutant@flaglerpost115.org) if you are able to help out, or are in need of a ride.

**SICK CALL**

Sandy Ausbrooks, Vinnie Raffaele

**POST EVERLASTING: 2020 - 2021**

- Salvatore Rutigliano 6/23/45 8/22/20
- Augustine I Campbell 6/16/38 9/20/20
- Donald M Hoskins 1/5/37 10/20/20
- Charles E Whitney 10/12/44 10/26/20
- Sherman “Butch” Moody 04/04/43 12/05/20
- Catherine Hammond

**FROM YOUR COLOR GUARD**

13 FEB 2021 Xfinity Presentation of Colors @ ISB Race in Daytona has been due to Covid. Color Guard invited instead to AUG 2021 Coke Zero race. More to come. *Color Guard is in need to 2 or 3 new members.* Please contact Sgt. @ Arms Ed Beier if you are interested in joining.

**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.

Here’s info regarding American Legion History and Story!

Please look to: [www.youtube.com/americanlegionhq](http://www.youtube.com/americanlegionhq). for the – “To Strengthen a Nation Series.

**WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**



The 19 DEC. 2020 WA @ Espanola cemetery was a success with 220 wreaths placed by over 100 people in attendance.

This was the Inaugural WAA event sponsored by Post 115. Post 115 Color Guard, ALR Chap. 115, and many members were in attendance as well as the local JRROTC, Boy, Cub, Girl Scouts, DAR and SAR.

**Many thanks to Member Tanya Whitaker and her husband Jeremy for their tireless efforts!**



**MEMBERSHIP YEAR IS 7/1 - 6/30 EACH YEAR**

No matter what time of year you remit your dues, JULY 1<sup>st</sup> starts the new membership year.

Whether you pay in July or in

February it is for year 7/1/20 – 6/30/21. Hope this helps.

**Please renew your membership**  
@ [www.flaglerpost115.org](http://www.flaglerpost115.org)

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

## **Stars & Stripes: Army to review thousands of discharges of veterans who suffered from traumas**

By CAITLIN M. KENNEY | STARS AND STRIPES |

Published: January 12, 2021  
WASHINGTON — The Army will review thousands of discharge records of veterans affected by military sexual trauma, post-traumatic stress disorder and other behavioral health conditions following a class-action lawsuit, the service announced Tuesday.

The review is part of a settlement reached in the lawsuit Kennedy v. McCarthy, which was preliminarily approved Dec. 28, according to the Army. The service will look at discharges of veterans affected by PTSD, traumatic brain injury, military sexual trauma or other behavioral health conditions. “Under the agreement, the Army will automatically reconsider certain discharge-status-upgrade decisions made by the Army Discharge Review Board between April 17, 2011, and the effective date of settlement that partially or fully denied relief to Iraq- and Afghanistan-era veterans with less-than-fully-honorable discharges,” the statement reads.

Veterans who were discharged and did not receive an upgrade to honorable from the review board

between Oct. 7, 2001, to April 16, 2011, will also be able to reapply due to the settlement. The lawsuit was filed April 2017 in the U.S. District Court of Connecticut by Army combat veterans Steve Kennedy and Alicia Carson, both of whom suffered from PTSD and other health conditions, but were given a general discharge despite their medical issues, according to the complaint. Their case was handled by the Veterans Legal Services Clinic at Yale Law School.

Kennedy served in the Army from 2006 to 2009, including a deployment to Iraq in 2007 and 2008. He returned home from the deployment with PTSD and major depression but was not properly diagnosed or treated by the Army, according to the court document.

“Mr. Kennedy continued to lead his team to top performance marks but began abusing alcohol, self-isolating, and self-injuring, which ultimately led to him going absent without leave for two weeks,” the document states.

His commander ordered a psychiatric evaluation and he was diagnosed with major depressive disorder but not PTSD, despite his symptoms. Kennedy was then discharged due to his two-week absence, according to the document. Carson deployed to Afghanistan in 2010 and served with a Special Forces unit as a gunner, taking part in more than 100 missions, according to the court document. She was diagnosed with PTSD and a TBI by Defense Department and Department of Veterans Affairs doctors after returning from her

deployment. Despite receiving a doctor’s note to excuse her from National Guard drills, the Guard discharged her due to her absences, according to the document.

Their appeals to the review board to have their discharges upgraded to honorable were both denied, according to the court document.

Now due to the settlement, Army, National Guard, and Reserve veterans who received a discharge that was downgraded from honorable while having a diagnosis or showing symptoms of military sexual trauma, PTSD, TBI or other behavioral health conditions, might be eligible for relief, according to the Army. Upgrades to a discharge are not guaranteed and will be decided on a case-by-case basis, the service said.

The Army has also agreed to change the procedures for how veterans apply to have their discharge status upgraded in the future and how the review board addresses these cases, according to the statement. Some of these changes include allowing veterans to appear via telephone to their review board hearings, more training for review board members and “updated protocols for decision making in cases involving symptoms or diagnoses of PTSD, TBI, MST or other behavioral health conditions.”

A hearing to give final approval on the settlement will occur March 24 at 10 a.m. EST. For more information on the settlement, veterans can go to <http://www.kennedysettlement.com> and <https://arba.army.pentagon.mil/arba-arb-overview.html>.

Dec. 23, 1929: The American Legion-supported “Rogers hospital bill” (so-called due to tireless advocacy from Rep. Edith Nourse-Rogers, R-Mass.) commits \$16 million to construct federal veterans’ hospitals nationwide. At this time, frustrated veterans are waiting for health care throughout the country, including a list of 14,000 patients at one hospital alone. With only 53 designated veterans’ hospitals nationwide, tuberculosis and mental illness are widespread among veterans who are relegated to insane asylums, jails and tuberculosis colonies in deserts.

**Our next *Post Dinner Night Out* event is THURSDAY, 11 FEB, 2021 @ The Texas Road House. Get your coupon!**

**CALENDAR**

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays Metro Diner  
Veterans Breakfast 0800hrs

03 – 06 FEB 2020  
DEPT. OF FL. ALR SUMMIT  
AVANTI PALMS RESORT,  
ORLANDO  
8 FEB 2021  
Post 115 General Meeting  
1830hrs.

11 FEB 2021  
AMERICAN LEGION NIGHT  
@ TEXAS ROADHOUSE  
1700 – 2000hrs

HIGH SCHOOLS HONOR  
CORD CEREMONY  
Tentatively April 2021

FLAGLER COUNTY  
MEMORIAL CEREMONY to  
tentatively May 24 2021

**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/](http://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.

FPC High School JROTC Military Excellence Award was presented to Cadet Ashley Baccus 22 DEC 2020 at her home with family present.



FPC JROTC Military Excellence Award Recipient Cadet Ashley Baccus with Adjutant Owens

**19 DEC WAA**



JROTC Presenting branch of service flags.



Post 115 Color Guard in attendance accompanied by Boys Scouts

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND TRANSFERS**

Timothy Moore  
William M Pierson

Legion Krier  
Flagler American Legion Post 115, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1731  
Bunnell, FL 32110 – 1731

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KRIER COSTS BY SUBSCRIBING VIA  
EMAIL?**

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

**KRIER BOOSTERS**

- 6/20 6/25 James Canfield
- 12/20 12/25 David & Catherine Hammond
- 2/19 2/21 Ruby Saffell
- 6/19 6/21 Bryant & Brenda Thorpe
- 6/17 5/22 John & Chris Mendez
- 8/19 8/21 Gary & Kathy Owens
- 10/19 10/21 Ron & Beverly Kecskes
- 1/16 12/22 Deidre Jean Wright
- 1/18 1/23 Phyllis M Wright
- 8/18 7/23 John & Margaret Russell
- 10/18 9/23 Joe & Di Pepin
- 10/19 10/24 John C Clark
- 10/19 10/21 Ron & Lenora Dean
- 02/20 02/21 Anthony & Joan Libaci
- 02/20 02/22 Ronald & Bevery Kecskes
- 02/20 02/25 Joe & Bina Leahy

**KRIER BOOSTERS cont'd**

- 02/20 02/21 Rev. Ross A Licata
- 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
- 02/21 02/31 Frank & Helena Boone

**Krier Booster Donation Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Start Date of Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Period Covered (1 or more years) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Contributed (min \$10/yr) \$ \_\_\_\_\_