

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

OCT - NOV 2021

Editor: Gary M Owens

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

On September 11, 2021 I and several Legion Members from Post 115 had the greatest of pleasure to attend a ceremony at Heroes Park in Palm Coast

honoring those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on the Twin Towers in New York City, the crash into the Pentagon Building and the heroic actions of those people who perished in a field in Pennsylvania. One of the guest speakers was our own Finance Officer Ophelia Beier, she gave her personal accounting of the horrific terror of the Pentagon situation.

Ophelia is a survivor, her story was told again at our Post meeting on Monday September 13, 2021.

At our meeting we honored the young men and women that Post 115 sent to the State Capitol for Boys State and Girls State. It was a very warming evening.

I want to let all of our members know about the White Table ceremony to be held at the County Library on Palm Coast Parkway. The date and time is

Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 12:00pm. The ceremony will be performed by the Cadets from Embry Riddle JROTC.

Also in November will be the Festival of Trees held at the County Library which will take place on Friday, November 19, 2021 at 6:30pm. American Legion Flagler Post 115 will have a tree on display.

Our Golf Outing is shaping up to be one of the best events of the year. Come out you duffers, we promise you will have a great time. We also need volunteers please contact Joe Pepin 386-225-4182 or Gary Owens 386-585-5302

For GOD AND COUNTRY
Joseph L. Pepin
COMMANDER



Chaplain Frank Boone being installed for 2021-2022

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

On Vacation –

We have been out west for the past two weeks on a family vacation. I'm not sure if after you retire you still go on vacation – but habits are difficult to break. We had a great time wandering through the mountains of Yellowstone. It is really an amazing place to visit.

The history of the area is also very interesting. The volcano that created the area was so big it reduced the distance to the molten rock beneath the surface. Therefore, all the hot water springs and hot mud pits and geysers.

Then we met Helena's family and we ran around Montana and Washington. We had a great time being together and seeing where their father was a young boy and met some of the people who knew him when he was younger. As our journey was ending and we knew it soon would be time to come back home, and I began thinking.

It does not matter where you go, how much you enjoy the company, or how beautiful the

scenery – it is always good to come home. We were about as far as you can get from Palm Coast, almost 3,200 miles. Well, I think it will be that way when we leave our ‘vacation’ home and go to our permanent home. I believe it was Saint Paul that said we are not made for this world we are just passing through on a little vacation here. We are born here and live for a time. Whether it be a short time or a long time we all ultimately go home. Now I know it was

Jesus that told us He was departing this world to prepare a place for us, a permanent place. Now this place is called many things. Most of us think of it as heaven or paradise.

Now God did not tell us too much about heaven or paradise in the Bible. We know we will have a new body. Some that have been there and returned explain we will have bodies like back when we were in our 20’s. WOW!! Just imagine having a body like that forever and it never wears out or gets old or sick or breaks down. You see I think we know a little more about heaven than we think we do. God created Eden. It was His perfect place. Yes, it has animals and beautiful scenery and since Adam worked, I think we will all have jobs too. I have been working on my application to join the Heavenly choir. I never had any musical ability here on earth so I think God may consider giving me a voice to sing. I hope He leaves out the snake this time. We do not need any more problems.

I am not sure if you think about home when you are on vacation, but I bet you do too. I really love living here in sunny Florida. I love serving as your Chaplain. However someday our vacation here will be over, and we must go to our permanent home.

Many of us have had our perceptions contaminated by the thinking of this world. Some of us may have a fear of death.

Some Preacher once said - I know everyone wants to go to heaven however no one wants to die to get there. I sincerely believe when they say we die we don’t really die. We step over the threshold of this world and into a permanent reality. Why because Jesus tells us He is going to make places for us. I don’t know about you, but I know it is going to be a great place to live forever.

For God and Country

Frank

Rev William F Boone, II
Chaplain

FROM AUXILIARY
UNIT #115



AUX Pres. Brenda Thorpe, Girls State Attendee Jenna Robinson, AUX Bina Leahy



AUX Unit 115 Pres. Brenda Thorpe, Girls State Attendee Haley Bovino, AUX unit 115 Bina Leahy

Happy Fall!

Though Autumn is traditionally a season to let things go, it can also be a season of renewal and rebirth. It can be a time to adopt a fresh new outlook on life. The Auxiliary honored our three young ladies who attended Girls State with a Good Citizen Certificate at the Post 115 meeting on September 13th. Hailey Bovino represented Flagler Palm Coast High School, and Tori Lynn Phillips and Jenna Robinson represented Matanzas High School. They are a bright group of young ladies who enjoyed their experience.

We have been in full swing starting our fall fundraising! We are getting ready for the VFW rummage sale on Saturday, October 2nd from 8 to 2 at the pavilion. We will also host a Snap-on Jewelry sale on Wednesday, October 6th from 11 to 1. Come by and get a head start on your Christmas shopping! This will be held inside the VFW where we hold our monthly meetings. As well, Bina Leahy and myself will be selling raffle tickets for a \$500 Coach gift certificate. The drawing will be held on Wednesday, January 5th at our

scheduled meeting. If you are in need of any please contact either Bina or myself. The proceeds from the raffle will support our Girls State expenses for 2022.

Also, the Auxiliary will be volunteering to help the Post with their Golf Tournament on, Monday, October 11th at Grand Haven Golf Club starting at 0700

The Auxiliary was notified by the Post adjutant Gary Owens that on Sunday, September 26th at 6:00 p.m. there will be a Gold Star Family Luminary Service at Westside Baptist Church in Bunnell to honor fallen heroes. They have 100 luminaries and candles, and if you know of a fallen hero you may add a name to one. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Our next monthly meeting will be held at the VFW on Wednesday, October 6th at 12:00 noon.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
Brenda Thorpe, President



AUX Unit 115 Pres. Brenda Thorpe,
Girls State Attendee Tori Phillips, AUX
Unit 115 Bina Leahy



3rd VICE COMMANDER

By JOE LEAHY



3rd VC Joe Leahy and 2021 Boys State
Attendee Corbin Payne

BOYS STATE

During our Post 115 general meeting 13 Sept. we were able to recognize two of our 2021 Boys State delegates,



Cdr. Pepin, 3rd VC Leahy, 2021 Boys
State Attendee Sam LaGassa

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!

•**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 Belleerre

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

2021-2022

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A white paper commissioned by the Ruderman Family Foundation revealed that first responders (police officers and firefighters) are more likely to die by suicide than in the line of duty. In 2017 there were at least 103 firefighter suicides and 140 police officer suicides. In contrast, 93 firefighters and 129 police officers died in the line of duty. Suicide is a result of mental illness, including depression and PTSD, which stems from constant exposure to death and destruction. The white paper study, the Ruderman White Paper on Mental Health and Suicide of First Responders examines several factors contributing to mental health issues among first responders and what leads to their elevated rate of suicide. One study included in the white paper found that on average police officers witness 188 critical incidents during their careers. This exposure to trauma can lead to several forms of mental illness. For example, PTSD and depression rates among firefighters and police officers have been found to be as

much as 5 times higher than the rates within the civilian population, which cause these first responders to commit suicide at a considerably higher rate (firefighters 18/100,000, police officers 17/100,000 and the general population 13/100,000). Even when suicide does not occur untreated mental illness can lead to poor physical health and impaired decision making. In addition, the Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance (FBHA) estimates that approximately 40% of firefighter suicides are reported. If these estimates are accurate, the actual number of 2017 suicides would be approximately equal to 257, which is more than twice the number of firefighters who died in the line of duty. First Responders are the heroes who run toward danger every day to save the lives of others. “They are also human beings, and their work exerts a toll on their mental health”, said Jay Ruderman, President of the Ruderman Family Foundation. “It is our obligation to support them in every way possible to make sure that they feel welcome and able to access life-saving mental health care. This white paper should serve as a critical call to action to all who care about our heroes in red and blue.” Study: Police Officers and Firefighters Are More Likely to Die by Suicide than in Line of Duty, Daryl Bass, Law & Order laworder@legionmail.org The white paper also goes on to lay out several barriers that prevent first responders from accessing

necessary mental health services to help them cope with trauma. Experts describe the shame and stigma surrounding mental health within professions that prioritize bravery and toughness, and the public remains largely unaware of these issues, since the vast majority of first responder suicides are not covered by the mainstream media. Additionally, of the 18,000 Law Enforcement Agencies across the United States approximately 3-5% have suicide prevention training programs. We need to end the silence that surrounds the issue of first responders’ mental health. We should celebrate the lives of those lost to suicide- at National monuments such as the National Law Enforcement Memorial, in the media, and within police and fire departments around the Country. Ruderman added,” Departments should encourage and require first responders to access mental health services annually. This will enable our heroes to identify issues early and get the help that they need. It will save lives.” Source: The White Papers, publication by the Ruderman Family Foundation.

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

S.A.L. SQUADRON 115



SAL Squadron 115 Adjutant RJ Card has been very active in the last month already adding seven (7) new members to Squadron 115!!

In association with the ALR Chapter 115 we are holding a raffle for a Savage Model 110 Precision Rifle package in .308 caliber. Drawing to be held 30 May 2022. Suggested ticket donation is \$20 ea. or six (6) for \$100. Contact RJ Card or Gary Owens for tickets – see officer listing.

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

PAUL B MAGER
2/12/25 – 8/15/21
WWII MERCHANT MARINE



Paul Mager and my Yamaha
30 MAY 2021

SICK CALL

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

FROM YOUR COLOR GUARD

Welcome back members Ken Wall and Mike Gyorkos! Your Post 115 Color Guard and Rifle Squad will be representing the Post at various functions over the next several months. In November will be representing Post 115 at Santa

Maria Del Mar Catholic Church in Flagler Beach, Christ Lutheran Church in Bunnell, Veterans Day Ceremonies in Palm Coast and Flagler County Admin. Bldg. Bunnell



Closing POW/MIA Ceremony and Flag Retrieval 13 SEP 2021 meeting

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. Prior years' scrapbooks are available for review at our monthly meetings!

CALENDAR

- REMEMBER 1ST & 3RD
Saturdays Veterans' Breakfast

- 9 & 10 OCT SPECIAL
OLYMPICS LOLLIPOP /
POPPY DRIVE

- 11 OCT. – POST 115
CHARITY GOLF
TOURNAMENT @ GRAND
HAVEN GOLF CLUB
REGISTRATION OPENS 0700



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.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND TRANSFERS

CHRIS GABRIEL
FRANK A "PACO" ARCE
ROBERT EBERT
DAVID R BARRETT
PAT FARLEY
WILLIAM PERSON

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



**2021 WAA THEME
REMEMBER-HONOR-TEACH**

We are gearing up for National Wreaths across America day on 18 December. Espanola Cemetery in Bunnell is currently at 77% coverage and the Masonic Cemetery in Palm Coast is at 29% coverage. Wreath sponsorships can be made through our page @ www.wreathscrossamerica.org/f10824. Or visit www.flaglerpost115.org and click on the Wreaths across America link.

REMEMBER the Fallen. . .
HONOR those who Serve. . .
TEACH our children the value of Freedom.

Follow us on Facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionPost115Flagler>

Thank You,
Tanya Whitaker
Member @ Large



TODAY IN AMERICAN LEGION HISTORY

Sept. 23, 1943: With more than 600 unpassed bills languishing in Congress that aim to address the needs of disabled World War II veterans coming home to a lack of support at a rate of about 75,000 per month, newly elected American Legion National Commander Warren Atherton of California makes the correction of this problem the organization's No. 1 priority. The Legion soon determines that one omnibus bill is needed to tackle the various educational and economic needs of transitioning war veterans, disabled or not. This was the birth of the Original GI Bill!!

Aug. 26, 1982: The American Legion, at its national convention in Chicago, presents a check for \$1 million to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, making it the single largest contributor to the monument on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The road to its dedication is rough and complicated.

Following congressional authorization to raise funds for the memorial on two acres of National Park property in Washington, D.C., the design of Yale architecture student Maya Ying Lin, 23, is chosen twice by two separate

panels of judges. Her design, announced as the winner on May 6, 1981, however, had been met with vocal and influential criticism, followed by an initial refusal by the Department of Interior to break ground. The stalled project led The American Legion to call a meeting with Secretary of the Interior James Watt and launch a letter-writing campaign seeking President Reagan's intervention. The Legion is ultimately credited for ending the government impasse over the design, which finally leads to groundbreaking.

MYLEGION.ORG

EVERY MEMBER should get or be registered on MyLegion.org!!

Go to the website and REGISTER!

WWW.MYLEGION.ORG

Use your email address – stay in touch – print your membership card – check out Member Benefits. See what is available to you as a American Legion Member!!

ALR CHAPTER 115

- Merry Go Round - October
- Fall Conference November 5th-7th
- 2022 Summit
- Meet & Greet, February 2nd
- Classes, February 3rd – 5th
- Safety Class on February 6th
- Round Robin - April 2022
- In-State Ride - Meet & Greet April 24th
- In-State Ride, April 25th –29th
- STATE RALLY APRIL 30TH



ALR CHAPTER 115 OFFICER INDUCTION



ALR CHAPTER 115 FLAG LINE

AMERICANISM COMMISSION

The Americanism Commission consists of the following: Committee on Children and Youth, Committee on Youth Education, American Legion Baseball Committee, Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Committee, and the Citizen Flag Alliance Committee.

The Americanism Commission also includes various subcommittees, such as the Youth Activity Subcommittee.

This subcommittee includes, but is not limited to: Junior Shooting Sports, Oratorical, and Boys State. As you can see, everything that defines who we are as The American Legion can be classified as Americanism. All separate programs, working together to achieve great Americanism. That's what we do!

JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS PROGRAM

Thanks to a grant from the NRA, Post 115 is now in possession of the equipment needed to begin our own Olympic-style Youth Shooting Sports Program.

Post 115 is in need of an individual to chair this program. Members Ed Reese and Patrick Hartnett are ready to help as coaches / instructors but someone to handle the supervisory duties is needed. If you would be willing to help out our local youth please contact one of the Post Officers.



MATANZAS H.S. ROTC
MILITARY EXCELLENCE AWARD
AURORA DENNIS



FPC H.S. ROTC MILITARY
EXCELLENCE AWARD
NICHOLAS CIRILLO

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Palm Coast FL
Permit NO 140



FLAGLER POST 115, INC
PO BOX 1731
BUNNELL, FL 32110

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO HELP LESSEN

KRIER COSTS BY SUBSCRIBING VIA

EMAIL?

KRIER BOOSTERS

06/20	06/25	James Canfield
12/20	12/25	David & Catherine Hammond
06/17	05/22	John & Chris Mendez
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

**YOU'D GET A COLOR VERSION RATHER
THAN THE PRINTED BLACK & WHITE**

**Please email adjutant@FlaglerPost115.org to be
added to the email list**

12/20	12/22	Ken & Dorothy Wall
12/20	12/22	Lois Andrs
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	Jim Bradley
06/21	06/22	Shirley Bump
06/21	06/26	Bryant& Brenda Thorpe
08/21	08/23	Tony & Joan Libasci
10/21	10/26	Carl & Era Bertoch

Krier Booster Donation Form

Name _____

Address _____

Start Date of Donation _____

Period Covered (1 or more years) _____

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