



**American Legion Flagler Post 115
General Meeting Minutes
12 JUN 2023**

Cdr. Pepin: - Opens Meeting 1800 HRS
- 52 attendees.

Presentation of Colors: – Honor Guard

Prayer: – Chaplain Johnson

POW / MIA Empty Chair Ceremony: – Sgt. At Arms Beier

Pledge: – Cdr. Pepin

Dinner Prayer: - Chaplain Johnson

Pot-Luck Dinner Break:

Membership meeting called to order: - Cdr. Pepin

Officer Roll Call: – Adj. Owens
Excused – Hammond

Minutes of previous meetings: – Adj. Owens

Minutes of 8 May general meeting and 22 May 2023 executive meetings have been posted on-line @ www.flaglerpost115.org and printed and available @ general meeting per By-Laws. Motion and 2nd to approve, no discussion, unanimous approval.

Cdr. Joseph Pepin Report:

- Proud to have Post 115 members involved as officers at the 17th District level
- Bryant Thorpe 1st VC, Ophelia Beier Chaplain, Omer Smith Judge Advocate
- Heroes Park Bricks – 28 installed, 10 awaiting delivery, ordering another 10 soon.
- Many thanks to those that have participated so far.

1st VC Thorpe Report:

- Membership Report – 421 to date 93% – 451 is 2023 goal.
- Thanks everyone for the pot-luck contributions every month.
- Thanks Post 115 officers and members for the efforts and support these past years.

2nd VC Werner Report:

- New Post 115 Blood Drive Chair will be Bill Goss, thanks Bill for stepping up!
- 14 AUG meeting speaker to be from Halifax Health.

3rd VC Leahy Report:

- 2 OCT GOLF TOURNAMENT
 - o Next Golf Committee meeting Thur. 22 JUN @ Grand Haven GC 1430 hrs.
 - o Committee members needed.
 - o Please help to distribute flyers to get players and sponsors.
- Queen sized quilt has been made and donated by Di Pepin as a Post raffle item to be drawn on Veterans Day 11/11.

Finance Officer Ophelia Beier Report:

- Request for motion and second to accept 2023 May finance report as reported for audit, motion and 2nd, no discussion, unanimous approval.
- 2023-2024 Post 115 Budget presented for review and acceptance. Motion and 2nd to approve, a few questions answered, unanimously approved.

Chaplain Johnson Report:

- Sick Call – Bina Leahy, Bev Gyorkos, Bill Haseltine, Armand Dupuis, Helen Johnson, Karen Smith.

VAC Thorpe Report:

- Gratitude America and Vettes for Vets spoke at the VAC meeting 5 Jun. with both offering help to veterans and active-duty families in various ways. Gratitude America offers weekend retreats for vets, Vettes for Vets offers home repairs to a selected veteran.
- 23 JUN @ FL Guard Armory – Finn Way – Project Rebirth Program training provided to help with veteran and 1st responder suicide prevention. 9:30am – 4pm EDT with lunch included.

Service Officer Flores Report:

- As always encouraging all members to inquire about possible VA benefits and/or other help.
- Next VAC meeting will be 10 JUL 1600hrs.
- Taking recommendations for a Veterans Day Speaker.
- Taking nominations for Flagler Veteran of the Year.

Sgt. At Arms Ed Beier Report:

- Color Guard will attend service at Flagler Beach 1st Baptist Church 2 JUL.
- Color Guard and Post 115 will lead Flagler Beach 4th of July parade 1000 hrs.
- Introduced new member George “Kaz” Kazmerski.

Judge Advocate Middleton Report: n/r**Historian Boyd Report:**

- Gathering photos/articles as always
- Will be handing over the camera to Joe Holt for the next year and will help where/as needed.

Past Cdr. Hammond: By Cdr. Pepin

- OFFICER INSTALLATIONS @ 10 JUL MEETING –
-NO POTLUCK DINNER 10 JULY MEETING – RESUME POTLUCK
ON 14 AUG.

ALR Chap. 115 Report:

- 2023-2024 elections held 5/13/23 meeting –
 - o Dir. Tod Rothenberger
 - o Asst. Dir. Paul Werner
 - o Chaplain Jim Muskopf
 - o Fin. Off. John Pascucci
 - o Sgt @ Arms Willy Ledoux
 - o Adj. Gary Owens
 - o Road Cpt. OPEN

- 2022-2023 ALR Chapter 115 logged 24,254 miles and \$2,950 in contributions to the Dept. of FL Project VetRelief and Children & Youth Program.
- ALR Membership is open to all Legion, SAL, and AUX members!
- Will be starting a “Riders’ Night” last Sat. – 1st 29 July VFW 8696 Pavilion.

Member @ Large McNamara Report:

- Metro Diner Island Walk Veterans Breakfasts 0800 1st & 3rd Saturdays.
- Dinner @ Mezzaluna European Village Thu. 6/22 1700hrs.
- VA Daytona Clinic visits are the 3rd Thursday monthly – 0700 – 1100 and all are welcome to come and help.

Member @ Large Work Report:

- Friday coffee & donuts @ 1st Baptist Church Palm Coast Parkway NW 0700-0900

SAL Report:

- Post 115 SAL Advisor and Post Adj. Owens requests a deviation from standards due to the present lack of CDR. for Squadron 115. Current SAL 115 Adj. RJ Card has offered to assume the position of Squadron Cdr. for the 2023-2024 year, with new SAL member David Campbell offering to assume the position of Squadron Adj.
 - o Requesting motion to accept Richard J (RJ) Card as 2023-2024 Squadron 115 Cdr. and David Campbell as Squadron 115 Adj. – motion and 2nd to accept, no discussion, unanimous approval.

AUX. Unit 115 Report:

- 1st VC Thorpe reporting – Thanks for all the help with the successful Poppy drive and please be sure to patronize the Beach Front Grille – A1A Flagler Beach – a great supporter of Post 115 and Aux. Unit 115!
- Aux. thanks for all the help from members this year.
- Brenda Thorpe will return as Aux. Unit 115 President for the 2023-2024 year.

Past Cdr. & Dept. Cdr. Omer Smith:

- As a close to 40-year member, Post everything officer, Dept. of FL Cdr., and candidate as National VC he offered many congratulations to Post 115 for all that we do. He also offered help and support to incoming officers. He will also serve as 17th Dist. Judge Advocate, and Dept. of FL. Asst. Judge Advocate for 2023-2024. Omer stated that Post 115 SHINES at the Dept. of FL level with our Post being used as an example of how to run a Post.
- Spouse Karen will be undergoing knee replacement – both knees simultaneously on 21 Jun. so please keep her in your prayers.

Old Business:

- 29 May Memorial Day Picnic hosted by Post 115, VFW 8696, and Marine Corps League 876 was a huge success with close to 500 people in attendance. Plans are to host the event again in 2024.

New Business:

- none

Initiations:

- Bob McErlane

For The Good of The Order:

- Member John Kairis recently attended a reunion of the USS Farragut in Jax. And bid on and won a postcard regarding the 4 Chaplains and is donating this to the Post to be hung on our wall at the VFW.
- Member Allen Poff recommended celebrating members' birthdays.

Closing Ceremony / Retirement of Colors – Post 115 Color Guard

Commander's Charge

Chaplain's Prayer

Meeting Adjournment – 1937hrs

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary M Owens, Post 115 Adjutant