

American Veterans Memorial POST #412

10524 Moss Park Rd, #204-190
Orlando FL 32832
407-693-1233

www.legionpost412.org
americanlegionlakenona@gmail.com

William Musto, Commander
William Musto, Adjutant



Post meetings held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>
APR 11	Post Fundraiser (Building Fund)	5-8 p.m.	Culver's Lake Nona
APR 11	Post Executive Committee Meeting	7:30 p.m.	Culver's Lake Nona
APR 15	Chapter 412 Meeting	10:00 a.m.	Panera Bread Lake Nona
APR 18	*Post General Meeting	7:30 p.m.	Virtual via Zoom
APR 25	Unit 412 General Meeting	7:00 p.m.	TBD

*Meetings to be held virtually will use the ZOOM app. (<https://zoom.us/>)

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Last month I introduced you to the 4 Pillars that guide everything we do here at Post 412. Let's now take a deeper look into each.

For the next four months, we will be looking into each of the 4 Pillars to see how we can bring these to life in our own communities.

Pillar 1: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

For more than 90 years, the Legion has been the nation's leading advocate for proper health care and earned benefits for America's veterans. The Legion was instrumental in creating the Veterans Administration in 1930, and an ardent supporter of its rise to Cabinet status when it became the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in 1989. As the relationship between VA and veterans evolves, the Legion will help VA meet its critical mission.

As it has for decades, the Legion continues to aggressively lobby for adequate funding of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), to provide timely access to quality health care. Additionally, the Legion seeks to ensure fair rulings on claims and other earned veterans benefits for those who have service-connected injuries and illnesses. A nationwide network of more than 2,500 American Legion accredited service officers and other professional staff works diligently to assist veterans in obtaining the benefits and care

they have earned and deserve through VHA, the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and the National Cemetery Administration.

Today, as the number of discharged veterans from operations Iraqi Freedom (OIF), Enduring Freedom(OEF) and New Dawn (OND) surpasses 1.2 million, the Legion's congressionally chartered role to support them could not be more relevant. However, the Legion also strongly believes that a veteran is a veteran, regardless of war era or location of service. In this way, the Legion is the only organization that works on behalf of about 23 million U.S. veterans alive today.

The Legion has tens of thousands of members who volunteer nearly a million hours annually in VA facilities to help their fellow veterans navigate the VA system (saving the department about \$20 million per year).

The Legion stands on the front line of change for veterans through its pillar of service called Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R). VA&R's top priorities are to:

Protect VA from Budget Reductions

Last year's failure of the congressional "supercommittee" means that automatic spending cuts, known as sequestration, are scheduled to take effect in January 2013, unless Congress finds other options for federal budget reductions. Although the Obama administration has said all programs administered by VA(including veterans' medical care) are exempt from sequestration, the Legion is concerned that VA's federal

administrative expenses are not covered. This lapse has the potential to affect the care that our veterans need and deserve. Hundreds of thousands of our men and women who served in Iraq and Afghanistan are now relying on VA for their health care, as are our older veterans. The administration and members of Congress must make sure that VA's entire budget is protected from the effects of sequestration.

Boost VA Construction Projects

The Legion is profoundly disappointed that VA construction, both major and minor, is woefully underfunded. This failure to provide adequate, safe and up-to-date medical treatment facilities affects thousands of veterans. VA's Strategic Capital Investment Planning (SCIP) program has identified gaps in space, access, workload, safety, security, and other areas that can be fixed with construction projects, maintenance, enhanced-use leasing (EUL) or other methods.

When SCIP was launched, it identified 4,808 capital projects to be corrected over a 10-year period, costing between \$53 billion and \$65 billion. In its first year, the program was not adequately funded to correct deficiencies within the time allotted. Now - using estimates for current construction needs and maintenance - the Legion expects it will take VA 60 years to close construction gaps at current funding rates.

Additionally, VA is not able to engage in EULs because Congress did not reauthorize such privileges in November 2011. Without EULs, VA is unable to meet its construction needs or the Building Utilization Review and Repurposing (BURR) initiative. The BURR initiative was developed to meet the needs of homeless veterans. More than 100 properties were identified as potential locations for transitional housing.

The Legion backs a fully funded SCIP program, and reauthorization of the VA to engage in EULs, provided it follows a priority list set by Congress. This list can include homelessness, women veterans, mental health, geriatric care and adaptive sports.

Stop Denying VA Health Care

Veterans with certain demographic characteristics are now denied VA health care. The continued budget-driven suspension of Priority Group 8 veterans from new enrollment in the VA health-care system defies the spirit and intention of the Veterans Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996. The Legion believes that any eligible veteran should be able to enroll in the VA health-care system.

Speed Up Delivery of Electronic Health Records

DoD and VA have multiple programs designed to help servicemembers transition to veteran status and receive their earned benefits. Of 1.2 million OEF/OIF/OND veterans who are eligible for VA health care, only about half are enrolled.

The Legion urges our nation's leadership to speed up implementation of the Integrated Electronic Health Record (iEHR), currently scheduled for completion by 2017. Failure to implement iEHR has caused significant delays in veterans' transition because VA treatment teams do not have full access to DoD health records. The Legion also advocates for the dissemination of VA benefits information at all military transition and access points, including Transition Assistance Program (TAP) briefings.

Reduce Delays in Integrated Disability Evaluation System

The Legion has a Medical Evaluation Board/Physical Evaluation Board (MEB/PEB) coordinator on staff, responsible for assisting servicemembers at Washington, D.C., military installations. The Legion also has MEB/PEB representatives at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., who are supervised by the MEB/PEB coordinator.

As of January 2012, about 24,000 servicemembers were participating in the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) across all branches of service, including National Guard and reserve units. The Legion provides appeal assistance to servicemembers through all phases of the IDES process, including representation at formal hearing boards.

Currently, it takes servicemembers an average of 374 days to process through the IDES program. The Legion recommends that:

DoD adheres to VA ratings, rather than using them only as guidelines.

The program is implemented uniformly across services and geographic regions.

A clear and concise explanation of the IDES program is provided to the servicemember and immediate family upon consideration of a medical evaluation board.

The Physical Evaluation Board Liaison strictly adheres to the scope of responsibilities.

Caregivers of seriously ill or injured servicemembers/veterans are provided single points of contact for any assistance regarding the patient's health and welfare.

Improve Access to Health Care in Rural Areas

From October 2011 to March 2012, The American Legion's System Worth Saving (SWS) Task Force conducted a series of visits to VA medical centers, to evaluate the challenges veterans living in rural areas face with their VA health care. Two major concerns are VA's definition of "rural veteran,"

and its transportation network, which assists veterans traveling to and from medical appointments.

First, VA currently uses the Census Bureau's definition of "rural", which means, for instance, that if a veteran lives in a rural area but also lives close to a VA medical facility, then he or she is not considered a rural veteran. VA's current definition does not take travel time and distance into consideration. This is problematic because many veterans are incapable of driving long distances; nor do they have proper transportation to navigate the rough terrain in rural areas.

The Legion recommends that VA broaden the Census Bureau's definition to incorporate access and driving times to its facilities. Using this new definition would assist in understanding the needs of a newly structured Veterans Transportation Network.

Secondly, in highly rural areas, many veterans live hours away from their local VA facilities; therefore, voluntary transportation has been a key component in rural health care. Currently, most VA medical centers offer volunteer transportation services, which can be unreliable.

The Legion recommends that VA medical centers implement a Veterans Transportation Department. Under this plan, drivers would be paid employees (in addition to volunteers). Such a program could ensure not only reliable transportation, but also create incentives and jobs for drivers.

Address Environmental Exposure Issues

Servicemembers have often been afflicted with illnesses related to environmental exposure, which may be caused by direct contact, testing, storage, or transportation of toxic materials, such as dioxins located in herbicides or the burn pits in Afghanistan, Iraq and even stateside. These hazards lead to lifelong complications and can even be passed on to future generations. (For example, spina bifida has been linked to Agent Orange exposure.) The American Legion urges VA to include the C-123K Provider military transport used in the Vietnam War on its presumptive list for Agent Orange locations. Additionally, the Legion wants DoD to disclose all locations of environmental hazards so that research can be conducted on the effects to servicemembers. These sites would also include stateside facilities that eliminate, test or store contaminants. The Legion also wants to extend indefinitely the presumptive period for Gulf War illnesses due to the unknown effects of service in current conflicts.

Increase Staffing Levels to Reduce VA Claims Backlog

One of VA's most difficult challenges is providing quality decisions in a timely manner as the number of cases increases. The veteran population in fiscal year 2011 was about 22.7 million, with more than 3.3million receiving disability compensation benefits. In the majority of those cases, the

claims processed by VBA's 56 regional offices involve multiple issues that are legally and medically complex, and time-consuming to adjudicate.

As of May 25, 2012, there were 904,624 claims pending in VBA; of those, 869,083 were claims pending for compensation and pension, and 563,457 (64.8 percent) were in backlog, pending for more than 125days. There were also 255,925 appeals pending at VA regional offices. As of March 2012, the average number of days to complete a claim from date of receipt was 240.7 days (in contrast, VA's goal is 80days).

There has been a steady increase in VA's pending claims backlog since FY 2008, when there were 397,000. At the end of FY 2009, there were more than 563,000 rating cases pending, which increased to about 849,000 in FY 2011.

As of March 2012, VA's accuracy of rating claims averaged 86.1 percent. The reported accuracy for rating claims in a three-month period averaged 87 percent but falls to 65.8 percent accuracy for claims pending more than 125 days. Inadequate staffing levels, lack of continuing education and increased pressure to make quick decisions result in an overall decrease in the quality of work. These are among the most common complaints raised by VA employees interviewed by Legion staff during regional office quality checks.

It is an extreme disservice to veterans, not to mention unrealistic, to expect VA to continue to process an ever-increasing workload, yet still maintain quality and timeliness with current staff levels. VA has an excellent opportunity to seek returning veterans, especially those with service-connected disabilities, for employment opportunities within VBA. Despite recent hiring initiatives, regional offices will need more personnel, given current and projected workload demands.

Expand Veterans Treatment Courts

Some veterans are not accessing quality health care after combat and are at risk of entering the criminal justice system, where they could face charges stemming from medical issues. Veterans treatment courts, similar to drug and mental-health courts, were developed in 2008 to help veterans avoid incarceration or establishing a criminal record. They ensure that veterans who have entered the criminal justice system receive specific federal, state and county benefits to help in their rehabilitation. However, if a veteran fails to comply with the treatment plan, the original sentence is reinstated.

Today, there are more than 90 veteran treatment courts established across the country, with more added every month. The Legion urges Congress to continue to fund the establishment and expansion of these courts. The Legion also urges VHA and VBA to participate in these courts. VA representatives would be working alongside more than 2,500

American Legion service officers to help veterans gain access to health care and file for their benefits.

Increase Funding for National Cemetery Administration

The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is currently made up of 131 cemeteries. According to an independent survey, NCA ranked first for performance among government and private entities four consecutive times in the last 10 years. NCA's best practices should be replicated across other federal agencies.

NCA has a plan to address the decreasing space available at current cemeteries due to the number of World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War veterans who are passing away. NCA also intends to expand into new locations, so that families will not have to drive more than 75 miles to visit their loved ones. To do so, the Legion urges Congress to fully fund NCA at \$250 million for major and minor construction at the national and state cemetery levels. This amount would give NCA the financial support necessary to make all adjustments and meet future demands.

Also, the Legion is concerned with the eligibility and monetary awards for the burial plot allowance. The Legion urges Congress to support a bill to return the burial plot allowance to all veterans who served during a time of war or conflict.

System Worth Saving

The American Legion's primary health-care evaluation tool is the System Worth Saving (SWS) program. The mission of SWS is to assess the quality and timeliness of veterans health care, and to collect feedback from veterans on their level of care. Every six months, the SWS task force conducts 20 to 30 site visits to VA medical centers, focusing on one primary health-care issue, such as the quality of healthcare for veterans in rural areas. The Legion believes the program clearly identifies unique demands facing the VA health care system, as it continues to meet the obligations that President Abraham Lincoln spoke of in his second inaugural address: "To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan."

Traumatic Brain Injury and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

American servicemembers are returning home in unprecedented numbers with varying levels of traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Within the military and veterans communities, there is a growing concern about the best practices and types of treatment that are being used. In response, The American Legion approved Resolution 13 in October 2010 for the creation of an ad hoc committee on TBI and PTSD.

The ad hoc committee was created "to investigate the existing science and procedures, as well as alternative methods, for treating TBI and PTSD not currently being employed by the Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs, for the purpose of determining if such alternative treatments are practical and efficacious." The committee has held six meetings since its inception, receiving several presentations from leading DoD and VA clinicians on research and treatments, and hearing from veterans about their own personal experiences with TBI and PTSD. The ad hoc committee's final report should be available this fall; its findings and recommendations will be presented to the administration, members of Congress and DoD/VA senior leadership.

Regional Office Action Review

The American Legion's Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R) Division operates the Regional Office Action Review (ROAR) program, conducting about eight site visits per year to VA regional offices. The purpose of the ROAR visits is to evaluate the quality of disability claims processing at each office, identify strengths and challenges, brief VA staff on findings, and recommend specific strategies for improvement. This is a key initiative, stemming from the incredible backlog of cases - more than 900,000- that frequently delays treatment.

During the visits, ROAR teams review about 50 disability claims, meet with key staff members and interview random VA employees about staffing, training and workload. The ROAR teams look specifically at claims to see how they were handled and whether the information was accurately recorded.

The ROAR team provides a brief synopsis for each claim that is reviewed, indicating which areas the regional office is excelling in, and identifying areas for improvement.

The Legion's Network of Service Officers

The American Legion maintains an extensive network of more than 2,500 professionally accredited department service officers, who are officially recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide representation and assistance to veterans and their dependents. Their services are provided free of charge, regardless of whether a veteran belongs to the Legion. Service officers are located in all 56 VA Regional Offices and in many counties across the country.

The Legion also maintains fully staffed offices of professional appeals representatives at VA's Board of Veterans' Appeals and at the Appeals Management Center. National appeals representatives at these offices provide direct representation to veterans and survivors whose claims are initially denied by regional offices.

The Legion also works with the National Veterans Legal Services Program, a non-profit law firm and consultant to the

Legion, and the Veterans Consortium to ensure that Legion-represented claims denied by the BVA have access to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

The American Legion National Headquarters conducts a rigorous schedule of training and accreditation for service officers, including two training schools a year, the distribution of numerous bulletins and other documents, along with other forms of direct training and support at the state and local levels.

For God and Country.

William A. Musto

MEMBERSHIP

We currently have 80 members paid up for the membership year 2023. This is 69% of our goal from National.

Post 412 would like to welcome the following NEW members to the Post:

Ieaka Olmsted an Air Force Veteran.

We here at Post 412 have always strived to be at 100% by December 31. Unfortunately, this year we did not make this goal. We still have until May 31, 2023, to make goal. Please encourage your friends to renew or join our group.

The Following are Department Membership Goal Dates and our Post targeted membership totals:

Target Date	Member Goal/Actual	Required %/Actual %
Sep 8	57/35	50%/30.4%
Oct 5	63/36	55%/31.3%
Nov 2	74/42	65%/36.5%
Dec 7	86/45	75%/39.1%
Jan 11	92/60	80%/52%
Feb 8	97/75	85%/65%
Mar 8	103/75	90%/65%
Apr 12	109/80	95%/69%
May 10	115/	100%/
May 31	116/	100%+1/

All members need to sign up for a mylegion account by going to <https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Register-Customer> and filling out the information requested. Please be sure to use the email that you used to sign up

with the Legion. Each member must have a specific email for their account. **You cannot share emails.**

This is a good way to stay connected to the American Legion as well as the Post in general. Once signed up, you will be able to view all your information online, renew your membership, view the Post newsletter, print your membership card, and receive information from National about the goings on of the Legion. Please sign up soon.

WHAT’S HAPPENING AT POST 412

Post Officer Elections for 2023-2024

We are entering into the Election cycle for next Legion Year beginning on July 1, 2023. It is now time to begin the process of electing the Officers who will guide this Post into the coming year.

In accordance with Department of Florida Constitution and By-Laws, Article X Section 12 and 13:

“12. The local Post shall be officered by the following officers who shall be elected annually by the Post:

Post Commander

Post Vice-Commanders-as many as may be required.

Post Finance Officer

Post Sergeant-At-Arms

Post Historian

Post Chaplain

And Post Adjutant, Post Service Officer, and Post Judge Advocate-who shall be appointed by the Post Commander-elect and whose names shall be placed before the Post or the Post Executive Committee as the Post Constitution and By-Laws shall provide, at the first meeting following their appointment, for confirmation by a majority of the members present.

13. All officers of Posts, except the Post Adjutant, Post Service Officer, and Post Judge Advocate, shall be elected and certified to the Department Adjutant, not more than ninety (90) days, nor less than ten (10) days prior to the Annual Department Convention, certification to

be made on forms furnished or prescribed by the Department Adjutant. Post Officers shall be installed by the District Commander or his/her designated representative. Post Officers shall take office and enter upon their duties at a date to be fixed by the Post, which date shall be subsequent to, but not later than sixty (60) days after the adjournment of the Annual Department Convention, unless waived in writing by the incoming District Commander. In the event of a vacancy caused by the death, resignation or removal from office, the name and address of the successor shall be reported to the Department Adjutant within one (1) week after such vacancy has been filled. No Post officer shall assume office prior to providing the Post Adjutant with proof of eligibility.”

3. 2nd Vice Commander
4. Finance Officer
5. Chaplain
6. Historian
7. Sergeant-At-Arms
8. Executive Committee Member at-Large (3)

If you have any questions or concerns, please let the Adjutant know as soon as possible by emailing him at americanlegionlakenona@gmail.com. or by calling (407) 325-2205.

Culver's Fundraiser



The next Dining Fundraiser at the Culver's in Lake Nona will be on April 11, 2023, from 5-8 pm. These fundraiser events will take place Quarterly on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Upcoming dates are: 04/11/23, 07/11/23, and 10/10/23. Please come out and support you post building fund. You must mention POST412 when you order. See attached flyer.

Central Florida Ride for Our Troops – 2023

The 2023 Central Florida Ride for Our Troops was held on March 25th at Gator Harley-Davidson in Leesburg. This annual fundraiser supports the Post's Care Package Program. This year proceeds from the Ride will be donated to J.O.S.H. and K.I.S.S to help them provide care packages for our deployed troops. We want to thank the following groups for their generous donations:



- Fran Haasch Law Group
- American Legion Auxiliary Unit 412
- Orlando Predators
- The Green Swamp Assistance Foundation (Nam Knights)
- American Legion Riders Chapter 259 (Debary)

We would also like to thank all the members of Post 412, Unit 412, and Chapter 412 for their hard work and dedication to this project. Next year's event is tentatively scheduled for March 30, 2024.

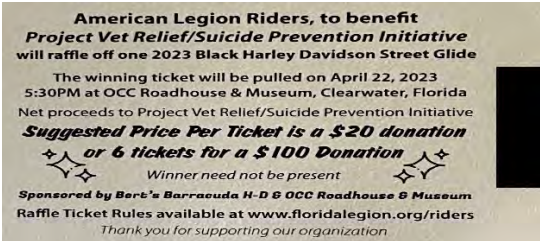
American Legion Riders Motorcycle Raffle

We will be holding our annual election of officers beginning with nominations at our General Meeting on March 21 and April 18, 2023 and ending with the election at our General Meeting on May 16, 2023. The following guidelines will be followed during nominations and the election:

1. Any member of Post 412 in good standing will be eligible for nomination to any of the elected positions of the Post
2. All nominations will take place from the floor at each subsequent meeting for the months of March and April
3. The nominator must be in attendance at said meeting
4. Members can self-nominate
5. Nominations will close at the end of the General Meeting on April 18, 2023
6. All members who have been nominated and accepted their nomination will be placed on the ballot for the General Election
7. Elections will be held during our General Meeting on May16, 2023 by ballot
8. All elected officers MUST provide a copy of their DD Form 214 as proof of eligibility prior to being installed
9. Installation of Officers will take place after Annual Conference at a date, time, and place To Be Determined
10. New officers will take their positions after said Installation Ceremony

The officer positions that will be up for election are:

1. Commander
2. 1st Vice Commander



The Department of Florida American Legion Riders are raffling off a 2023 Black Harley-Davidson Street Glide. Proceeds will go to Project Vet Relief/Suicide Prevention Initiative. Suggested Ticket price is a \$20 donation per ticket or 6 tickets for \$100. Winning ticket will be pulled on April 22, 2023, 5:30 pm at OCC Roadhouse and Museum, Clearwater Florida at the Florida ALR Annual Rally. Winner need not be present. For official rules go to: www.floridalegion.org/riders. This raffle is sponsored by Bert's Barracuda H-D & OCC Roadhouse & Museum. For tickets, contact the Commander at 407-325-2205.

Department Annual Convention



The Department will be hosting its 104th statewide convention June 15-18, 2023, at the Hilton Orlando in Lake Buena Vista, 1751 Hotel Plaza Blvd Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

Approximately 3,000 American Legion members will be in attendance to include spouses and family members. There is something for everyone to be enjoyed at this large event, from vendors, banquets, activities, classes and more. This is a great time for posts to gather and exchange ideas and reunite as a family.

The Department convention also conducts its annual business during this event, electing new leadership, celebrating successes, and recognizing outstanding individuals and posts.

Please review this year's tentative convention agenda to see all the exciting events planned and unique learning opportunities offered by going to <https://www.floridalegion.org/news-events/department-convention/welcome/>

National Convention



The 104th National Convention will take place in Charlotte, NC, August 25 - 31, 2023.

The American Legion's largest annual meeting is the national convention. Each of the Legion's 55 departments – the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the

Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, France, Mexico, and Philippines – is entitled to a minimum of five voting delegates to the national convention. A department is granted one extra delegate, a member in good standing, for each 1,000 members (or major fraction thereof) 30 days before the convention. The five annually elected vice commanders round out the group of delegates present. The national convention delegates alone have the authority to approve changes to the Legion's constitution and bylaws. The group is also responsible for passing programs that determine the course of the Legion, setting membership dues for the upcoming year, and electing a national commander and five national vice commanders to serve until the next convention.

Department Fall Conference



Please join us for Fall Conference November 17-19, 2023, at the Caribe Royale Orlando, 8101 World Center Drive Orlando, Florida 32821

Fall Conferences are a great experience for first time attendees as well as seasoned officers. It is the Department's goal to make Conference a successful and enjoyable experience for all. Fall conference has been designed to serve as an all-inclusive training opportunity through dynamic lecture series and distinguished guest speakers.

Each year the Fall Conference is geared toward the needs of our members and officers. We look forward to your participation and insight into making each aspect of conference a value for you and the members of local posts you are representing.

Calling All Members



We need your help. Are you a business owner? Do you own property in the South Orlando Area? Do you have access to a suitable location for us to hold our General Meetings? If so, please let us know. This location would be a space suitable for holding up to 40 people. We would like everyone to contact anyone who might have such a place and get them in contact with the Commander, 1st Vice Commander, or Adjutant. Please consider helping us out.

Local Girl Scout needs Our Help



One of our Junior Auxiliary members, **Carolina Rodriguez**, is also a member of a local Cadet Girl Scout Troop here in **GIRL SCOUTS** Lake Nona. She is currently working on her Girl Scout Silver Award. Her project is to design and

build Flag Retirement Boxes and place them throughout the community and to bring awareness to Flag Etiquette. She has gotten authorization from Orlando Parks and Recreation to place a box at Veteran's Park in Lake Nona. Post 412 will then retire the discarded flags in the proper manner. She needs veterans who are willing and able to help her as she completes her mission. If you are willing and able to help, please let the Commander know as soon as possible by calling (407) 325-2205.

UNIT AND CHAPTER NEWS



The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 412 will holding its monthly meeting on April 25th. All current Auxiliary members are asked to renew their membership as soon as possible.

Auxiliary Unit 412 would like to welcome the following NEW Members who have joined the Unit in the past couple of months:

- Nancy Hughes
- Pamela Costa
- Margie Albarracin
- Laura Keen
- Mary Nardini

We Need Members! Consider asking your spouse (male or female), mother, daughter, granddaughter, or sister to join this group. Please contact Chris Musto, Auxiliary President, at 407-222-9499 for more information and to sign-up.



American Legion Riders Chapter 412 will be having a meeting on Saturday, April 15th at Panera Bread on Narcoossee Rd. in Lake Nona. We will be discussing rider's business at this important meeting.

Please plan to attend.

American Legion Riders Chapter 412 is looking for members to join our group. Initial registration is \$50 (this purchases the Patches and first year membership) then membership is \$15 annually after that. Lifetime membership is available for \$150. If you rider a motorcycle and are interested in being a member of the Riders, please contact the Commander or 1st Vice Commander for more information. Visit us on Facebook @LegionRiders412 There are some flyers attached for upcoming rides and events sponsored by different Chapters within the District. Please check them out.



Please check out our website: www.legionpost412.org for all the information about our post. Visit us on Facebook @AmericanLegionPost412 and

the 6th District Florida @6thDistFl



TAPS

None for March.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- April 6 – Steven Starry
- April 7 – Raymond Fenell
Lisa Zacher
- April 9 – Tom Keen
- April 13 – Julian Rodriguez
- April 16 – Kirsten O'Driscoll
- April 17 – Joe Fontanez
- April 18 – Stanley Northcutt
- April 19 – Jimmie Barlaan
- April 25 – Carl Clarke

If your birthday is not listed that is because I do not have it.

<i>American Legion Post 412 Officers 22-23</i>	
<i>William A. Musto</i>	<i>Commander</i>
<i>Ralph Sanchez</i>	<i>1st Vice Commander</i>
<i>Open</i>	<i>2nd Vice Commander</i>
<i>William A. Musto</i>	<i>Adjutant*</i>
<i>Claudia Tanner</i>	<i>Finance Officer</i>
<i>William Kilmer</i>	<i>Chaplain</i>
<i>Steven Starry</i>	<i>Sgt-at-Arms</i>
<i>James Licata</i>	<i>Service Officer*</i>
<i>Terie Garcia-Amill</i>	<i>Judge Advocate*</i>
<i>Luis Albarracin</i>	<i>Historian</i>
<i>Jorge Berrios</i>	<i>Public Relations*</i>
<i>Mike Hendrix</i>	<i>Executive Committee</i>
<i>Paul Oettinger</i>	<i>Executive Committee</i>
<i>Open</i>	<i>Executive Committee</i>
<i>*=Appointed by commander</i>	

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Basic Training



The American Legion's official training program for officers, members, Legion College applicants and those who simply want to expand their knowledge of the nation's largest veterans service organization is now available online. The Course is arranged into 5 major topic areas and 1 concluding section. Each section will present information about the topic via text, images, and video. Visit: <https://www.legion.org/alei> and sign up to take the course.

Department of Florida Training

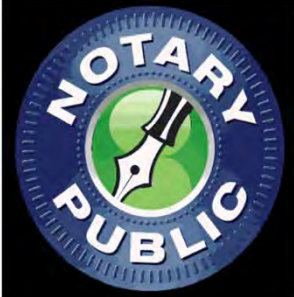
The Department of Florida has training videos available to all members on topics such as MyLegion, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Training Webinars. Visit <https://www.floridalegion.org/resources/training-videos/> to take any of these training opportunities.

If you have anything you want posted in this newsletter, please let the Commander know by the 15th of the month. The Post Newsletter is published the last week of each month and distributed through email, posted to the MyLegion page for our Post, and posted on the Post Website www.legionpost412.org Any member who has a MyLegion.org account is able to access the newsletter from the MyLegion.org site.

American Veterans Memorial Post 412 is a 501(c)(19) nonprofit Veteran's Service Organization (VSO). All donations are tax deductible in accordance with IRS code. Please consider donating to help support your American Legion Post.



Free Notary Services to any Veteran.



First, Contact Bill Musto @ 407-325-2205 or by email at billmusto@msn.com to set up an appointment.

Second, Bring your papers to be notarized, your ID, and any witnesses you may need to the agreed upon location.

Third, Service is free to ANY veteran.

DONATE While You DINE

Give LOCAL
FOOD. FAMILY. FUTURE.
Culver's



Come Support the American Legion Post 412!
Dine in or go through the Drive Thru and mention the American Legion Post. Tuesday
April 11, 2023 5pm-8pm

Come on in to your local Culver's restaurant:

Culver's of Lake Nona
11978 Narcoossee Rd, Orlando, FL, 34769
(407) 420-7140

Culver's

CULVERS.COM
©2018 Culver's Franchising System, LLC
Printed here - the #1 restaurant. Great tomorrow too.

DEPT OF FLORIDA
COMMANDER
Eynice Butts
HOMECOMING

ENTERTAINMENT BY:
Tony Knight and Friends

BENEFITTING:
PROJECT: VetRelief &
Jackson In Action 83

TICKETS
\$50

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2023

6:00 PM SOCIAL
7:00 PM DINNER

JOIN US
For dinner, entertainment and
lots of fun! Space is limited.
Dress casual, or in your best
50s/60s sockhop style.

AMERICAN LEGION Post 8
Winter Haven, FL
300 AVE M NW | WINTER HAVEN, FL 33881

AMERICAN
LEGION
RIDERS

BERT'S
RIDING TO END
VETERAN SUICIDE

ENTER TO WIN A
NEW 2023
H-D® STREET GLIDE®!

STATE RALLY
SATURDAY, APRIL 22ND

RAFFLE TICKET SUGGESTED PRICE: \$20 DONATION
OR 6 TICKETS FOR \$100 DONATION

THE WINNING TICKET WILL BE PULLED ON 4/22/23 AT 5:30PM
AT OCC ROAD HOUSE & MUSEUM IN CLEARWATER, FL.
WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT!
NET PROCEEDS TO PROJECT VET RELIEF/
SUICIDE PREVENTION INITIATIVE.

LIVE MUSIC BY

RUSTY WRIGHT at 7PM
BRIGETTE KELLY at 2:30PM
ALEX LOPEZ XPRESS at 4PM

PROJECT VETRELIEF
ROAD HOUSE & MUSEUM
BARRACUDA
HARLEY DAVIDSON
FRAN HAASCH
SALUTE TO AMERICA FOUNDATION

10525 49TH ST. N | PINELLAS PARK, FL 33762 | 727.527.9672 | WWW.BERTSBARRACUDA.COM

SATURDAY APRIL 1ST 2023
7PM **\$15**

Surrealist
ENTERTAINMENT

APRIL FOOLS

PATRICK **DEANN** **GEORGE** **ITALYA** **HAL HAL**

American Legion Post 53
2544 Park Dr. Sanford, FL 32773

PROJECT: VETRELIEF
A PROGRAM OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES

- ★ **Veteran, Active Duty Military, or Immediate Family Member** (spouse, legal guardian, or child)
- ★ **Accepted Type of Discharge:** Honorable or General Under Honorable Conditions
- ★ **Must be a Florida Resident for 120 days**
- ★ **Show sustainability** - must have worked within the last 90 days, have some other source of income, or have excellent prospects of a job within 30 days
- ★ **Provided for necessities** - shelter, food, utilities, and some emergency transportation and/or critical medical expenses within the family
- ★ **Application / Interview does NOT guarantee funding**
- ★ **Awarded on a case by case basis**
- ★ **Funded one time annually**

For more information on PROJECT: VetRelief:
WWW.PROJECTVETRELIEF.ORG

