



### American Veterans Memorial POST #412

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

 $\frac{www.legionpost412.org}{americanlegionlakenona@gmail.com}$ 



William Musto, Commander William Musto, Adjutant

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS				
Date	Event	Time	Location	
MAR 4	6 <sup>th</sup> District Picnic	12-5 p.m.	Post 183, Fern Park	
MAR 14	Post Executive Committee Meeting	7:30 p.m.	Culver's Lake Nona	
MAR 21	*Post General Meeting	7:30 p.m.	Virtual via Zoom	
MAR 25	Central Florida Ride for Our Troops	9 a.m3 p.m.	Gator Harley, Leesburg	
MAR 28	Unit 412 General Meeting	7:00 p.m.	TBD	

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

#### **COMMANDER'S MESSAGE**

Dear Friends and Comrades,

As we continue to move forward with making this the best American Legion Post in the State of Florida (if not the country), let us take a look at what drives us to do what we do. As Legionaries, we have a long tradition of putting politics aside and doing what is right for our fellow veterans. We are fairly new in our community. We need to let the citizens of this community know who we are and what we collectively stand for.

The American Legion was founded upon four pillars of service in 1919:

#### Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation...

- Access to VA Care
- Improved Claims Processing
- Better Funding Formula
- Support for Veterans with Special Needs
- Civilian Opportunities
- Education Benefits
- Employment and Business Eradication of Veteran Homelessness
- Proper Veteran Cemeteries

#### National Security...

- The Global War on Terrorism
- Strong National Defense
- Protection of Defense Budget
- Military Quality of Life
- Homeland Security
- Foreign Affairs
- Full Accounting of POW/MIAs
- Illegal Immigration Enforcement
- Heroes to Hometowns

#### Americanism...

- Flag Protection
- Citizenship
- Boy Scouts
- The Pledge of Allegiance
- Patriotic Holidays and Observances

#### Children & Youth...

- Child Pornography
- Catastrophic Illness
- Family Integrity
- Media Violence

- Drug Abuse
- Child Advocacy in Legal Issues

These four pillars shape our work and what we do for America. Let us continue to promote the business of the American Legion throughout our community.

For God and Country.



#### **MEMBERSHIP**

We currently have 75 members paid up for the membership year 2023. This is 65% of our goal from National.

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	Required
	Goal/Actual	%/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/	95%/
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 fill 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 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."

We will be holding our annual election of officers beginning with nominations at our General Meeting on March 21, 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
- 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
- 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
- 3. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

#### 6th District Gun Raffle



The 6<sup>th</sup> District is having a Gun Raffle to help pay for Boy's and Girl's State transportation. Two rifles will be raffled off. Tickets are \$10 each. Drawing will be at the 6<sup>th</sup> District picnic. Call Commander Musto to purchase your ticket. (407) 325-2205.

#### 6<sup>th</sup> District Picnic

The Department of Florida 6<sup>th</sup> District will be holding its annual Picnic on March 4<sup>th</sup> from 12-5 at Post 183 in Fern Park, 2706 Wells Aver, Fern Park. Proceeds from the Picnic will go to support Boy's and Girl's State Transportation needs. This is where the raffle for the above-mentioned rifles will take place. See flyer attached.

#### Central Florida Ride for Our Troops – 2023

The 2023 Central Florida Ride for Our Troops will be



held on March 25<sup>th</sup> at Gator Harley-Davidson in Leesburg. This is an annual fundraiser to support the Posts <u>Care Package Program</u>. 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 need

Sponsors for this event. Contact the commander for more information. See flyers attached.

#### **American Legion Riders Motorcycle Raffle**



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/departmentconvention/welcome/

#### **National Convention**

MERICAN August 25 - 31, 2023.

The 104th National Convention **LEGION** will take place in Charlotte, NC,

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. As a Department staff 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**

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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 March 28<sup>th</sup>. All current Auxiliary members are asked to renew their membership as soon as possible.

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 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 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander for more information. Visit us on Facebook <u>@LegionRiders412</u> 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: <a href="https://www.legionpost412.org">www.legionpost412.org</a> for all the information about our post. Visit us on Facebook

@ AmericanLegionPost412 and

the 6<sup>th</sup> District Florida @6thDistFl



#### **TAPS**

None for February.

#### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 8 – Carlos Rivera Sr.

March 9 – Robert Fernandez

March 17 – Luis Lopez Jr.

March 19 – Robert Schank

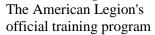
March 25 – Paul Oettinger

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

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

#### TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

#### **Basic Training**





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: <a href="https://www.legion.org/alei">https://www.legion.org/alei</a> 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

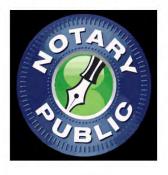
<u>https://www.floridalegion.org/resources/training-videos/</u> to take any of these training opportunities.

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 <a href="https://www.legionpost412.org">www.legionpost412.org</a> 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 <a href="mailto:billmusto@msn.com">billmusto@msn.com</a> 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  $\underline{ANY}$  veteran.















