



**American Legion
Fallen Heroes Mandarin Post
#372
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Fallen Heroes 372 American Legion Family, rejoice! On Thursday, 24 September, Governor Ron DeSantis moved our great state into Phase III of the COVID-19 re-opening plan. This is not to say that the virus is cured, or that the risk of an infection spike is impossible. It means that we are on the way to establishing some semblance of normalcy.

With this in mind, I encourage everyone to get their creative juices flowing and discover how we as a Post Family can return to the important work we, as The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, The Sons of The American Legion, and the American Legion Riders, must do to ensure our veterans, our children and our communities are taken care of. We've already had some *interesting* suggestions, not the least of which was a Legion Family Tricycle Race to raise money for our post home. Please get your ideas to any Legion Family officer or board member and we will consider them all.

Our Post continues to be among the leaders in membership and renewals among the other 5th District Posts. A salute and a Bravo Zulu to all that have renewed on time and who have been tireless in bringing new members into our post. Remember, even without a permanent home, our post is one of the friendliest and most active posts in the district. So tell our story to anyone who will listen. Maybe they will join us, or maybe they will tell someone else about us, or maybe they will see the good in the Legion and want to support us financially. It is amazing how many Mandarin/St. Johns veterans out there don't know Mandarin has a Post 372.

There are many upcoming events. Please see our district calendars and try to participate whenever you are able. This will encourage participation from other district posts when our Post has an event. One event to which I would like to call everyone's attention, is the Wreath laying at Jacksonville National Cemetery on December 19th. There are over 14,000 of our veterans interred there that deserve a wreath placed upon their graves. This past Saturday, our Riders participated in a fundraiser ride for Wreaths Across America to help fund this endeavor. Nice job and thank you ALR Chapter 372!

Finally, I wish to thank all of our members and our leaders for their constant support of our post. You ARE Mandarin Fallen Heroes Post 372. I hope to see you all at our next General meeting on October the 8th, featuring our **entire Legion Family**. Also present will be our City Councilman, Mike Boylan, to learn about why the Legion is important in his District 6.

For God and Country,

Joe

Joe Maltese

Post #372 Legionnaire's General Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 1900 hours, with a social hour held at 1800. Meetings are held at the Elks Lodge at 4280 Oldfield Crossing Drive, Jacksonville, FL.