



## American Legion Mandarin Post 372 "Fallen Heroes"

Mail: 11250-15 Old St. Augustine Rd-PMB138, Jacksonville, FL 32257  
Located: 4280 Oldfield Crossing Dr, Jacksonville, FL 32223  
904-297-8344 [www.alpost372fl.org](http://www.alpost372fl.org)



March 2022

Facebook page: American Legion Post 372, Mandarin, FL

Vol. 22 No. 03



### Blood Drive News

We will be sponsoring a Blood Drive on Saturday March 19th from 10 am until 3 pm. The bloodmobile will be at the Winn Dixie parking lot, located at 11101 Old St Augustine Road (location updated). Sandwiches and chips will be provided.

### Call To Arms

We are now in a new year and our Post 372 continues to grow. We have 220 members on our rolls. Of our members we have people with all types of experience and skills. It is now that we have to think about our future. Elections of officers is coming mid-year and we are looking for our experienced members to carry us forward by filling these positions. The current leadership has been in their post for several years and time for them to move on and turn the leadership over to YOU. If you are interested in making our post better and getting involved please let our Commander or 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander know. Hope to see you at the next General Assembly.

### Membership News

American Legion Membership is based on the calendar year – January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Eligibility Changes – The July 2019 LEGION Act expands eligibility to all Veteran's honorably discharged from December 7, 1941 to a future date to be determined by the Federal Government. All memberships now require us to verify your service with a DD-214.

If you have friends, relatives or neighbors who served and are not members, please encourage them to join. Come up to the Elks Lodge during the posted Office Hours or the monthly General Assembly meetings. If this time is not convenient, please email the Membership Officer at [Membership@alpost372fl.org](mailto:Membership@alpost372fl.org).

2022 Membership – Please renew for your 2022 membership. We are at 90% with 197 members of our 220 goal! Any questions, reach out to our membership officer at [Membership@alpost372fl.org](mailto:Membership@alpost372fl.org).

### Annual Membership Dues:

Legion - \$45  
Auxiliary - \$35  
Auxiliary 17 & under - \$10  
Legion Riders - \$15  
SAL - \$30 (21 and over)  
\$11 (under 21 and dual Legionnaires members)

### Sons of The American Legion

We have a great Sons of the American Legion Program as well. If you are a son of a veteran who served, you qualify to join our SAL. Our Junior Shooters Program is moving ahead! If you are interested in having your son or grandson participate, please contact and Commander Carl Zuber at: [salcdr@alpost372fl.org](mailto:salcdr@alpost372fl.org), any Post or Squadron Office, or call 904-434-2901. 2022 membership is at 19 so far, and due to issues with mylegion.org they must be paid to the SAL Membership Chairman. The most recent newsletter is available on our page on the website – come check it out!

### Legion Riders

The current newsletter and minutes are posted on the website. The application to join is available from the Legion Riders page on the Post website. Our Riders recently participated in a Motorcycle Safety Foundation Advanced Riders course to hone our safe riding skills. We will be traveling to Orlando this month for the Florida ALR Summit. Eligibility requirements to become a member are:

- Members must hold membership in, and be in good standing with, The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of The American Legion.
- Members must be legally registered motorcycle owners or be the legally registered owner's spouse within the state of registration.
- All operators must be properly licensed and insured per state laws.
- All members must obey motor-vehicle laws in the state in which they are operating a motorcycle or riding as a passenger.

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Post Officers</i></p> <p>Commander: Joe Maltese  1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander: Barry Litsky  2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander: JD Gurley  Finance Officer: Craig Bernat  Adjutant: Barry Litsky  Chaplain: Alan Painter  Service Officers: Barry Litsky, Pat Patrick,  Chuck Benham  Judge Advocate: Vacant  Historian: Pat Patrick  Sergeant-at-Arms: Mathias Parker</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Executive Committee</i></p> <p>Karen Tracy, Paul Arambula, Steve  Sullivan, Alan Painter, Patricia Patrick</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Auxiliary Executive Committee</i></p> <p>Kathy Helmly, Marilyn Painter, Judy  Bernat, Robin Maltese, Reed Bailey</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>SAL Officers</i></p> <p>Commander: Carl Zuber  Adjutant: Chuck Benham  1<sup>st</sup> Vice: Vacant  2<sup>nd</sup> Vice: Vacant  Finance Officer: Craig Bernat  Chaplain: Chuck Benham  Historian: Vacant  Sergeant-at-Arms: Don Crawford  Asst Sergeant-at-Arms: Jeffrey Haley</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Auxiliary Officers</i></p> <p>President: Reed Bailey  1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Michelle Maze  2<sup>nd</sup> vice President: June Crawford  Secretary: Marilyn Painter  Treasurer: Judy Bernat  Chaplain: Robin Maltese  Historian: Vacant  Sergeant-at-Arms: Danielle Fix  Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms: June Crawford  Membership: Michelle Maze</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>American Legion Riders</i></p> <p>Director: Chuck Benham  Asst. Director: June Crawford  Finance Officer: Jim Hansen  Chaplain: Patricia Patrick  Adjutant: Robin Maltese  Sergeant-at-Arms: Don Crawford  Asst Sergeant-at-Arms: Carl Zuber  Road Captain: Don Crawford  Safety Officer: Tim Bailey  Membership: Michelle Maze  Quartermaster: Paul Arambula</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>ALR Committee Members</i></p> <p>June Crawford, Don Crawford, Reed  Bailey, Tim Bailey</p>
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### Auxiliary News

The current Unit 372 Newsletter is on the Auxiliary page of the website. Please read for important information for this month's events. Our movie night will be March 19<sup>th</sup>. Collections for the box for the local food pantry at FSCJ – H.O.P.E will continue through March 24<sup>th</sup>. Nomination process for officers are underway. If you are not already a member and qualify, please consider joining. The application can be found on our Auxiliary page on the Post's website. Our membership is now at 26. Any questions, please contact us at [auxunit372@alpost372fl.org](mailto:auxunit372@alpost372fl.org).

### Service Officer Information

The VA added presumptive conditions for Vietnam Veterans exposed to Agent Orange. The full list and information can be found on our home page of [alpost372fl.org](http://alpost372fl.org). Contact our Service officer at [adjutant@alpost372fl.org](mailto:adjutant@alpost372fl.org) for information and to file a claim.

#### \*\*Check Your Email\*\*

You might want to check your SPAM or JUNK folder in your email application to see if any American legion emails were misdirected there. If so, move them to your Inbox and follow the instructions for your applications to verify/validate the email address.

### General Information

Enjoy an issue of Bugle Blasts, a newsletter that provides information to current or former Armed Forces member and their family, by following the link on the Important Links page of the website.

The Patriot Guard Riders of Florida will sponsor a Snowball Express Dice Run on April 2, 2022. This event will support

children of fallen military heroes. The flyer and additional ride information can be found on both our home page and ALR main page on our website.

Youth Elks Camp - During the 7<sup>th</sup> week, active duty military children can attend for free.

### Career Opportunities for Veterans

Recent events have caused a lot of people, many who are veterans, to scramble to learn to work from home, deal with losing a job or re-entering the workforce after shutdown. Deploycare has put together a short article for three ideas to help veterans in any economy. The article can be found on our website under Important Links. Check it out to see if any of the ideas work for you or a veteran you know!

AND - to help Veterans create the perfect Military to Civilian resume, check out this link <https://www.resumebuilder.com/military-to-civilian-resume-examples/>, also available on our website.

### Financial Resource Links for Veteran Families

See below for links to 17 Resources for our Beloved Veterans & Their Families:

#### [Career Resources for our Veterans](#)

[The HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing](#)

[Moving Costs | Moving Cost Calculator | Moving Estimate](#)

[Step-by-Step Guide to the VA Loan Process](#)

[VA Loan Calculator](#)

[Moving Companies with Military Discounts](#)

[What Documents Are Needed to Sell Your House?](#)

[Find Family Services and Resources Near You](#)

[Military Buddy Finder \(VetFriends.com\)](#)  
[Veteran Healthcare Resources](#)  
[The Differences between Medicare, Medicaid & VA Military Benefits](#)  
[Mental Health Resources for our Veterans Families](#)  
[Ways to Keep a Relationship Strong During Deployment and Separation](#)  
[Crucial Components to Highly Effective Deployment Communication](#)  
[Military Care Package Ideas: What To Put In A Care Package](#)  
[Post-Deployment Adjustments Military Couples Face](#)  
[Creating a Peaceful At-Home Atmosphere Upon Returning Home](#)

***Project:Vetrelief***

Mission is to provide a Legion of support for our service men and women as they transition into civilian lives. Backed by the American Legion of Florida, VetRelief ensures that our service men and women have the backing necessary to live successful and thriving civilian lives.

(<https://www.projectvetrelief.org/>) The Jacksonville Icemen have partnered with the American Legion to donate a portion of ticket sales during Veterans Appreciation Night to VetRelief. <https://allevents.in/arena/icemen-hockey-game/200019047449626>

**??? Where Are We ???**


American Legion Mandarin Post 372 shares a location with the Mandarin/St. Johns Elks Lodge by Lowe’s on Oldfield Crossing Drive. Entrance to the shopping center that the Elks Lodge is located behind is across from Walgreens.



**Our Post is diligently looking for a permanent home. If anyone has contacts or knows of a location in the Mandarin area where the site could be donated or leased at a reasonable cost, please contact the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander or Adjutant from the email on our website.**



March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 4:30-6:00pm Office Hours Mardi Gras	2 Ash Wednesday	3	4	5
6	7	8 4:30-6:00pm Office Hours 6:30-8:00pm Executive Committee mtg	9	10 6-7pm General Assembly Social 7-8:30pm Gen Assembly mtg	11	12 5 <sup>th</sup> District Picnic Post 129 12-4pm
13 Daylight Savings starts	14	15 4:30-6:00pm Office Hours	16	17 St Patrick's Day 	18	19 Blood Drive Fireside Chat Movie Night
20 10-11am ALR meeting First Day of Spring 	21	22 4:30-6:00pm Office Hours	23	24 7-8:30pm Auxiliary mtg 7-8:30pm SAL mtg	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
** ALR meeting TBD due to Easter					1	2
3	4	5 4:30-6:00pm Office Hours	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 4:30-6:00pm Office Hours 6:30-8:00pm Executive Committee mtg	13	14 6-7pm General Assembly Social 7-8:30pm Gen Assembly mtg	15	16 Fireside Chat
17 Easter Sunday 	18 Tax Day	19 4:30-6:00pm Office Hours	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 4:30-6:00pm Office Hours	27	28 7-8:30pm Auxiliary mtg 7-8:30pm SAL mtg	29	30