



**American Legion
Fallen Heroes Mandarin Post #372
(904) 297-8344
www.MandarinPost372.org**



Joseph Maltese
Commander
(904)434-2901



Barry Litsky
Adjutant
(904)635-2693

2 June 2021

Greetings Legion Family:

Spring has been very busy for our post. Each part of our Legion Family has nominated and elected their new officers for the upcoming 2021-2022 fiscal year which begins July 1st. Thank you to all who stepped up and agreed to lead our Family through another year.

Spring is also the time for our Police Officer and Firefighter of the Year awards. This year's ceremony was held on a Saturday afternoon instead of during our regular Thursday General Assembly. This format and time was well received by the award recipients and the audience. Being separate from our General Assembly seemed to give the ceremony greater stature and also allowed for our Legion Family to cook and serve food to our local heroes and the audience. A great big thank you for all who cooked, served, setup and cleaned up, and especially to our 1st Vice-commander, Barry Litsky who spearheaded the effort to put on a first-rate ceremony. Barry is our Post's Law and Order Chair, and is also the Law and Order Chair for the entire 5th District. In attendance for the ceremony were Fire Chief, Police Captain, members of the recipient's Station 1, Jacksonville City Councilman Mike Boylan, and many members of our Legion Family.

Our Legion Riders participated in the In-State Unity Ride that began in Key West and Pensacola and terminated in Orlando at the In-State Rally. As usual, our Riders from Chapter 372 were well represented. Our Riders are busy planning their D-Day Ride on June 6th to benefit PROJECT: Vet Relief.

Our Sons of the Legion completed another step in getting the Junior Shooters team up and running with a group of the Sons working to build a backstop for the Shooters' targets. The Sons completed their year by meeting and exceeding the Detachment membership goal and finishing among the best in the District.

Our Auxiliary has been hard at work filling boxes for our deployed men and women. Additionally, the Auxiliary ran a successful Poppy campaign, giving out Poppies and collecting donations at our Mandarin Winn Dixie. For the fun and enjoyment of our Legion Family, the Auxiliary created and hosted a movie night, complete with a concession stand for popcorn, movie candies, and drinks. The feature was Independence Day with Will Smith. The weather cooperated perfectly for the outdoor showing on the "Big Screen". There were wonderful baskets of goodies raffled off, and a great time was had by all.

As our fiscal year closes, I am thankful for all the members and especially our Family Leaders for making 372 an active and friendly Post. I am thankful that we all weathered the pandemic and that we are slowly returning to normal. I am thankful for our membership, and especially our Membership Chair for keeping membership top-of-mind and allowing us to meet and exceed our Department Membership goal. And I am thankful our Media Chair has successfully created our new website and transitioned our Post Family to a new internet platform.

I encourage all of our Family members to reach out to your organization's leadership to discover how you can help create another successful year for the 372 Family. Remember to visit www.alpost372fl.org and check our calendar regularly to stay abreast of all events.

For God and Country,

Joe

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.