



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.mandarinpost372.org

Facebook page: American Legion Post 372, Mandarin, FL



Jan 2020

Vol. 20 No. 1



HAPPY NEW YEAR!
2020

Happy New Year! Hope everyone's holidays were festive and fun. As we welcome 2020, there are changes in some of our programs and fundraisers with new ones introduced.

**Executive Committee and General Assembly
No December General Assembly or Executive
Committee meeting held.**

Membership News

Eligibility Changes – Congress passed and the President has signed a bill on July 30, 2019 declaring the US has been in a state of war since Dec 7, 1941. The LEGION Act (Let Everyone Get Involved In Opportunities for National Service) expands eligibility to all Veteran's Honorable discharged from December 7, 1941 to a future date to be determined by the Federal Government.

2020 Membership – We surpassed our goal of 75% of our quota and are at 76.01% as of 12/18/19. Our next goal is 80% by 1/8/20. If you have not paid your 2020 dues or you have let it lapse, it's never too late to reconnect! We want you at our Post! Come up to the Elks Lodge (map later in newsletter) during office hours, our monthly General Assembly meetings or our monthly dinners. If those times are not convenient, please email our Adjutant at Adjutant@MandarinPost372.org for assistance in paying your dues.

Annual Membership Dues:

Legion - \$45

Auxiliary - \$35

Auxiliary 17 & under - \$10

Legion Riders - \$15

SAL - \$30 (21 and over)

\$8 (under 21)

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 2nd Vice Commander or Adjutant from the email on our website.

Legion Riders

Riders newsletter has been resurrected and is available on the Post website under our Legion Riders link. Some notable notes from the newsletter:

* Members of our Chapter will attend the 4th Annual ALR Summit February 6-9, 2020 in Cocoa Beach. Refer to the newsletter for additional information.

* Our Riders will host the "Hearts for Home" fun run event on February 16 starting at Applebee's on Old St. Augustine Rd by Baptist South. The run will start after the Flapjack Fundraiser held at the same location previously mentioned.

* We are always ready to welcome new members.

Eligibility requirements 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.

Sons of The American Legion

Check out our newsletter on the website. The Squadron is currently in the process of establishing a Junior Shooters team. If you are interested in having your son or grandson participate, please contact Squadron Adjutant and Vice-Commander Carl Zuber. Anyone interested in joining SAL please contact Commander Joe Maltese at: sonsofthelegionsquadron372@gmail.com.

<i>Post Officers</i>	<i>SAL Officers</i>	<i>Auxiliary Officers</i>
Commander: Alan Painter 1 st Vice Commander: Barry Litsky 2 nd Vice Commander: Craig Bernat Finance Officer: Craig Bernat Adjutant: Barry Litsky Chaplain: Wayne Lee Service Officer: Barry Litsky Judge Advocate: Dan Hemsall Historian: Vacant Sergeant-at-Arms: Paul Arambula	Commander: Joe Maltese Adjutant: Carl Zuber 1 st Vice: Carl Zuber 2 nd Vice: Vacant Finance Officer: Vacant Chaplain: Chuck Benham Historian: Vacant Sergeant-at-Arms: Don Crawford Asst Sergeant-at-Arms: Jeffrey Haley	President: Kathy Helmly 1 st Vice President: Vacant 2 nd vice President: Vacant Secretary: Marilyn Painter Treasurer: Christie Easton Chaplain: Sandy Smith Historian: Janelle Hemsall Sergeant-at-Arms: Judy Bernat Membership: Vacant
<i>Executive Board</i> Dan Hemsall, Franklin Hunt, Jim Hughes, Joe Maltese, Steve Sullivan, Frank Nichols	<i>American Legion Riders</i> Director: Joe Maltese Asst. Director: Chuck Benham Finance Officer: Jim Davis Chaplain: Reed Bailey Adjutant: Robin Maltese Sergeant-at-Arms: Paul Arambula Road Captain: June Crawford Safety Officer: Don Crawford Quartermaster: Paul Arambula	<i>Auxiliary Executive Committee</i> Christie Easton, Robin Maltese, Sandy Smith
<i>ALR Committee Members</i> June Crawford, Don Crawford, Reed Bailey, Tim Bailey		

General Information

American Forces Travel: The Department of Defense has teamed up with Priceline to create a travel booking site exclusively for U.S. Military members. **American Forces Travel** is a new Morale, Welfare and Recreation program providing service members, veterans and their families a one-stop shop. For more info, visit: <https://americanforcetravel.com>.

The American Legion Preamble was changed at the August 2019 National Convention. The new preamble can be read at the 5th District website <http://al5thdistrictfl.org/>.

Honeybee Quilters Guild donated a Patriotic quilt to raffle as a fundraiser. Raffle tickets are \$1 each and the raffle will continue until 1,000 tickets are sold.

Fundraising News

Monthly Fundraising Dinners

Italian night dinners is now our Monthly Dinners starting this month! Menus will be new and different each month for a variety of dishes. The 50/50 raffle will continue to be a fundraiser during the evening, rotating the recipient of the funds raised among the Post's organizations. Dinners will be held on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 5-7 PM at the Elks Lodge. Cost is \$10 per person. The next 3 months will feature:

January: Comfort food featuring Chicken, Biscuits, Gravy veggie mix, and Dessert

February: Chicken Parmesan, Spaghetti, Salad with choice of dressing, garlic bread stick, and dessert

March: Country Fried Steak, potatoes, vegetables, salad and dessert.

Flapjack Fundraiser

When: Sunday February 16

Where: Applebee's on Old St. Augustine Rd by Baptist South

Time: 8-10 am

Cost: \$10 per person (ticket purchases)

Menu: Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs and a beverage

This event is to raise additional \$\$\$ for our building fund.

For every breakfast actually sold, our Post will earn \$6.

Volunteer servers are needed and need to be at Applebee's no later than 7:30 am. Our goal is to raise \$1,800 from this event. We will have a membership table set up also.



??? 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.







January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>New Years</i> 	2 Boys State Registration packets mailed out 6-7:30pm Executive Committee mtg	3	4
5	6	7 4:30-6pm Office Hours	8	9 6-7pm General Assembly Social 8-8:30p Gen Assembly mtg	10	11
12	13	14 4:30-6pm Office Hours	15	16	17	18 5-7pm Monthly Dinner Elks Lodge – Comfort Food
19 10-11am ALR meeting	20 Martin Luther King holiday 	21 4:30-6pm Office Hours	22	23 7-8pm Auxiliary mtg 7-8pm SAL mtg	24	25
26	27	28 4:30-6pm Office Hours	29	30	31	

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 4:30-6pm Office Hours	5	6 ALR Summit 6-7:30pm Executive Committee mtg	7 ALR Summit	8 ALR Summit
9 ALR Summit	10	11 4:30-6pm Office Hours	12	13 6-7pm General Assembly Social 8-8:30p Gen Assembly mtg	14 Valentine's Day 	15 5-7pm Monthly Dinner Elks Lodge – Chicken Parmesan
16 10-11am ALR meeting 8-10am Applebee's Breakfast 10 am ALR Fun Run	17 President's Day 	18 4:30-6pm Office Hours	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 4:30-6pm Office Hours	26	27 7-8pm Auxiliary mtg 7-8pm SAL mtg	28	29