



American Legion Mandarin Post 372 "Fallen Heroes"

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904-297-8344 www.alpost372fl.org



November 2022

Facebook page: American Legion Post 372, Mandarin, FL

Vol. 22 No. 11



UPDATED NEWSLETTER AS OF 11-9-22

Meeting location has changed going forward – see the end of the newsletter for the new location. Also – no meeting in December.

Membership News

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

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. Please email the Membership Officer for assistance at Membership@alpost372fl.org.

2023 Membership – Membership is at 140, which is 61.40% of the 2023 quota of 228. Welcome to our new members! Members who renewed by 9/30 will be eligible for a free Early Bird dinner that will be held at the Mandarin Garden Club on December 2nd. Any questions, reach out to our membership officer at Membership@alpost372fl.org.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: 11/12, 9:30am – 2pm, Williams YMCA in Mandarin

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 with mentor/shooter training! If you are interested in

having your son or grandson participate, please contact and Commander Carl Zuber at: salcdr@alpost372fl.org, any Post or Squadron Office, or call 904-434-2901. 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. 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.

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. 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. Any questions, please contact us at auxunit372@alpost372fl.org.

Post Visit to Discovery Village

Members of our Auxiliary, Riders and Post visited Discovery Village at Deerwood for Biketoberfest on 10/23. We visited with the residents during their Halloween event. Our Auxiliary made gift bags and gave out Christmas trinkets. Lots of fun with good bratz, beer and pretzels! Check out the website's Auxiliary page for photos!

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Post Officers</i></p> <p>Commander: Joe Maltese 1st Vice Commander: Barry Litsky 2nd Vice Commander: JD Gurley Finance Officer: Craig Bernat Adjutant: Barry Litsky Chaplain: Mike Montonera Service Officers: Barry Litsky, Chuck Benham Judge Advocate: Paul Arambula Historian: Frank Nichols Sergeant-at-Arms: Franklin Hunt</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Executive Committee</i></p> <p>Steve Sullivan, Alan Painter, Bob Sussan, Frank Nichols</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 1st Vice: Vacant 2nd 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 1st Vice President: Michelle Maze 2nd vice President: Vacant Secretary: Caitlin Bailey Treasurer: Judy Bernat Chaplain: Robin Maltese Historian: Vacant Sergeant-at-Arms: Janelle Hemsell Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms: Vacant Membership: Sandra Smith Member at Large: 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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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. Contact our Service officer at adjutant@alpost372fl.org for information and to file a claim.

Retired Military Information

Retired Activities Office on NAS Jax provides assistance to the military retiree community regarding many programs and resources. Examples include VA, DFAS/pay questions, Tricare and Survivor Benefit program, as well as many others. Office hours are Tuesday – Friday from 1000-1400. Call 904-542-5790 to speak with staff or leave a message.

If you or your dependents have the current blue/orange ID cards with no expiration date, those IDs are no longer valid after 2026. Contact your local ID office or make an appointment at <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/> to obtain the new ID card format.

General Information

We will have our Post Family meeting on 11/10 at 1900. We look forward to seeing everyone!

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.

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

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.

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 several 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](#)

THANK YOU - THANK YOU!!!!

Many thanks to Posts 283 and 129 for their donations of \$5,000 and \$10,000 respectively to our building fund.

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 ???



Beginning with our November meetings, American Legion Mandarin Post 372 will be meet at the Mandarin Garden Club, 2892 Loretto Road. The Garden Club is located behind the Winn Dixie Shopping Center. All Legion families will begin meeting at this location on the second Thursday of the month. General Assembly meeting will still be at 7 pm. Auxiliary, SAL and ALR will send out separate communication for their meeting times.




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.



November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Yard Sale drop off ends	5 Yard Sale 0800 - 1300
6	7	8 6:30-8:00pm Executive Committee mtg	9	10 6-7pm SAL/Auxiliary mtg 7-8:30pm Family/Gen Assembly mtg	11 Veteran's Day 	12 Membership Drive, Williams YMCA 0930-1400
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 10-11am ALR meeting CANCELED	21	22	23	24 	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Early Bird Dinner Mandarin Garden Club	3 ALR Comedy night Mandarin Garden Club
4	5	6 6:30-8:00pm Executive Committee mtg	7	8 No General Meeting	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 10-11am ALR meeting	19	20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas 	26	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 