LEGION KRIER

FINALLY - NEXT POST 115 MEETING MONDAY 10 AUG 2020 1830hrs!
Early-Bird membership table opens @ 1730hrs.

Commander’s Column
Greetings fellow Legionnaires. I would like to say that my opening statement is different than my last opening however, “This not at all what I expected when I prepared my last column”. As former members of the military we are used to change, but this is really stretching the point!

The big change is that we have scheduled a General Membership Meeting for August. This will be a bare bones meeting with masks required and social distancing. If at all possible, your attendance will be greatly appreciated. The meeting will not include a meal and will start at 6:30PM. We will use our time to update everyone on what your Executive Committee has been doing. The membership needs to approve the budget for this year, approve the new Service Officer and the new 3rd Vice Commander.

There have been many messages back and forth about posts opening and closing. All Legion Posts are open. Our meeting location, VFW Post 8696, is open so we can hold a meeting in the AC with plenty of space to practice social distancing.

If you have not yet paid your dues come early so you can take care of renewing before the meeting starts.

As I said in the last edition, and will say again, may this Krier find you and yours healthy and prepared to stay well during this continuing period of social unrest pandemic sheltering.

FOR GOD & COUNTRY
David S. Hammond
Commander

Lunch with member Paul Magar – WWII veteran

CHAPLAIN’S MESSAGE
Do You Know God’s Voice?
During a recent trip each time we checked our bags we were asked the same question: ‘Has anyone put anything in your bags “without your knowledge?”’. (Duh??) How can we know what we do not know? In today’s scripture John 10:1-10 Jesus is teaching his disciples something new, something they did not understand something, something that did not make any sense to them.

John 10:1-11 NLT “I tell you the truth, anyone who sneaks over the wall of a sheepfold, rather than going through the gate, must surely be a thief and a robber! 2 But the one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep recognize his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them, and they follow him because they know his voice. 5 They won’t follow a stranger; they will run from him because they don’t know his voice.”

pg. 1 Flagler American Legion Post 115 meets second Monday of each month, 6 p.m., in VFW 8696 Hall, Palm Coast
6 Those who heard Jesus use this illustration didn’t understand what he meant, 7 so he explained it to them: “I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. 8 All who came before me were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them. 9 Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved. They will come and go freely and will find good pastures. 10 The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep.”

Christians from the earliest days have understood Jesus as the Good Shepherd. However, that is not our focus today. I would like for us to focus on v: 4. It states: “After He has gathered His own flock, He walks ahead of them, and they follow Him because they know His voice.” If we restate this teaching personally it says: He goes before me (or He sees my future) - I will follow Him (if you are Christian) - because I know His voice. Let us read that again. WOW! That begs the question – How do we know His voice? If not, how can we follow Him? How can we learn to hear God’s voice? Good questions! Let us look for some of those answers.

I think the first thing we need to settle is: Do we want to hear His voice?

I know some husbands & some teenagers ‘tune out’ what they don’t want to hear. Of course, none of us would do that! Other people might, but not one of us. However, I am sure we can intentionally or unintentionally ‘tune God’ out. Is there a time you set aside to talk and listen to God each day? Do you have a quiet time with God? Do you ‘listen’?

The second thing we need to work out is we must learn to listen!

For many years, my prayer time consisted of me doing all the talking. However, I never stopped to listen. We were having what you might call a “one way” conversation. Perhaps you have prayed that way as well. Experts tell us when we are speaking it is safe to assume – no one is listening. You see our audience is busy preparing a response. They are busy getting ready to speak – not listening. This is because most of us are more interested in what we are going to say than what we are hearing. We know “not listening” is a major breakdown in both personal and spiritual communications. That is why we teach ‘Active Listening’. Active listening teaches us to clear our mind and focus on the speaker and the speaker’s words. We do this so we can restate ‘exactly’ what we have heard. Unfortunately, this takes a lot of practice. I teach Active Listening – however I do not always listen. You see we live in a very noisy world. We often buy our children noise makers you know rattles, shakers, and toys that make sounds. Well adults also have noise makers: radios, CD players, IPods, MP-3 players, telephones & TV’s to name a few. Some people need constant noise even when lying down to go to sleep they listen to noise makers or televisions. I know not listening can be a big problem with not hearing God’s voice.

Another part of hearing God speak to us is knowing the different ways God speaks. You see sometimes I hear His voice in my spirit, sometimes in my head. Only once I heard Him speak in an ‘audible’ voice. My wife says we all do not hear God speak this way. She says God only speaks audibly to the hardheaded! I know from years of teaching Bible studies many people hear God speak to them though reading His Word, the Bible. As His sheep we MUST take time to listen for His voice. We also must understand God speaks to us in many ways: angels, visions, dreams, whispers, miracles, prayer, but most of all when we make time to read - the Bible.

During a Bible study class, we discussed the many ways God speaks to us. One shared it was like when we are children. We can hear our Mom call us home because we know Mom’s voice. His sheep (we) know His voice! John 8:47 tells us: “Those who belong to God hear what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God.” I believe our God is the same God scripture teaches came in the cool of the evening and walked and talked with Adam and Eve in the garden. He has not changed. He still wants to talk to us every day.
My father died about sixteen years ago. Following Dad’s death Mom shared that her mornings were the worst part of the day. You see after Dad retired, he and Mom would share a pot of coffee and talk each morning. So, my brother and I agreed to help fill that time by calling her every morning. I have always loved my mother however, I left home over 52 years ago. We loved each other but we only spoke about once a week. After we started talking each morning – we established an updated new relationship. Because we spoke daily, we are much closer. Now when we do not get to talk - I miss her. Perhaps you are at a place in your life where you love the Lord however you just do not communicate much. I am here to say He is willing to renew the relationship if you are ready. He is a good listener but remember; He likes to talk too, and we need to listen!

For God and Country
Frank

Matanzas High School JROTC Awards 10 June 2020

Post 115 members Joe Pepin and Gary Owens recently met with Matanzas High School JROTC Advisor MSgt. (R) Troy Caraballo awarding the 2020 Military Excellence and Scholastic Excellence awards to two (2) Cadets Angela Suffardo and Ahdaan Muhammad, respectively.

Matanzas HS JROTC Military Excellence Award presented to Cadet Angela Suffardo by Adj. Owens

Matanzas HS JROTC Scholastic Excellence award presented to Cadet Adhaan Muhammad by 1st VC Pepin

FPC H.S. Awards coming soon

Greetings to all our Auxiliary:

I hope you are all staying safe and healthy in this very difficult time. We were able to have our regular business meeting on July 1st at the VFW. We had several items of business to discuss. Our July birthday party for the veteran treatment facility has been postponed until further notice. They are only doing E-mail with their clients. Annie Barreiro, facility co-ordinator, is leaving the facility to take a new position in Chicago and we will miss her very much. She has done a super job coordinating with all the Units in our 17th District Auxiliary.

Our Poppy Drive has been postponed until next year.

The 2020 Unit Girls State delegates and alternates will each receive a check for $150.00. We are so sorry the girls were not able to attend the program in June because of COVID-19. Our Unit will purchase coloring books for elementary school students. Shawn McLauglin will distribute them when possible after the school year begins. We are reviewing our Unit Constitution and By-Laws to bring them up to date. Our new fiscal year has begun—July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 and that means membership renewal. Our yearly membership dues are $30.00—so, ladies, please send in your dues for the new year.

Our address for the Auxiliary is:
Flagler American Legion Auxiliary Unit 115
P.O. Box 351147
Palm Coast, Florida 32135-1147

or you may call Karen at (386) 445-5346 or E-mail her at “kjcolours@me.com”.

Our beloved member Rosemarie Del Bene has moved to Port St. Lucie to be with her daughter. We wish her the very best and appreciate all she has done for our Unit. Thinking of all the ladies who are not able to get “out and about” this summer—please stay in touch. You may call, write, or E-mail. We care about you! Our next business meeting will be August 5th at the VFW at 12:00 noon. We do practice “social distancing” and masking for those of you who feel comfortable enough to come out.

My very best to you all!
For God and Country
Karen Smith, President
Flagler American Legion Unit 115

The Florida Farm-to-You webpage can be accessed via this link: https://www.fdacs.gov/Agriculture-Industry/Florida-Farm-To-You

The Florida Farm-to-You webpage can be accessed via this link: https://www.fdacs.gov/Agriculture-Industry/Florida-Farm-To-You
Flagler County Commissioners’ Proclamation naming August 2020 as Purple Heart Month to be made Monday 3 Aug 2020 @ the Flagler County Council Meeting 0900hrs.

POW/MIA Update

POW/MIA Update the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency made the following announcements.

May 29, 2020 Soldier Accounted For From World War II (Sitarz, J.)
Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Hash, B.J) June 1, 2020 Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Mazzulla, A.) Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Hart, J.)
June 8, 2020 Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (DeWitt, S.) USS Oklahoma Sailor Accounted For From World War II (Griffith, T.) June 9, 2020 Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Conley, P.)
June 12, 2020 USS Oklahoma Sailor Accounted For From World War II (Flanagan, J.) USS Oklahoma Sailor Accounted For From World War II (Graham, W.) USS Oklahoma Sailor Accounted For From World War II (Rice, I.) June 16, 2020 Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Hash, B.J)
June 23, 2020 Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Quong, J.) Marine Accounted For From World War II (Fahy, J.) June 25, 2020 USS Oklahoma Sailor Accounted For From World War II (Stout, R.)
July 2, 2020 Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Henderson, R.)
July 7, 2020 Pilot Accounted For From World War II (Melville, W.)
July 9, 2020 Soldier Accounted For From Korean War (Rochon, F.)
July 14, 2020 Pilot Accounted For From Vietnam War (Krogman, A.)
July 15, 2020 Marine Accounted For From World War II (Gillen, J.) Marine Accounted For From World War II (Langan, J.)

WREATHS across AMERICA
REMEMBER the Fallen. . .
HONOR those who Serve. . .
TEACH our children the value of Freedom.
Welcome to the American Legion Post 115 (FL0824)'s Wreaths Across America Page.

On Saturday, December 19, 2020 at 12:00 PM, American Legion Post 115 (FL0824) will be helping Espanola Cemetery to Remember and Honor our veterans by laying Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes.
Please help us honor and remember as many fallen heroes as possible by sponsoring remembrance wreaths, volunteering on Wreaths Day, or inviting your family and friends to attend with you.
Thank you so much for supporting the American Legion Post 115 (FL0824) and Wreaths Across America!

Please check our website www.FlaglerPost115.org and our Facebook Page facebook.com/AmericanLegionPost115Flagler.
Both sites offer the ability to sponsor a wreath for the veterans at Espanola Family Cemetery.

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AL RIDERS CHAPT. 115

1 August we rode to Post 267 in Ormond Beach in order to capture the AL District 17 traveling trophy and had lunch following @ Beachside Grille in Flagler Beach where four (4) Paws of War dogs were recognized for graduating the Paws of War Training Academy.

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ALR CHAPTER 115 GRABS THE DISTRICT 17 TRAVELING TROPHY

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 115 has been active even during this virus pandemic.

Meetings are the 2nd Sat. each month @ the VFW Post 8696 in Palm Coast. We are currently looking at various fundraising activities to support the Chapter’s goals and those of our parent Post 115 in support of the American Legion’s 4 Pillars.

Our membership year started again 1 July same as the A.L. and we are adding members and growing. ALR Chapter 115 dues are $25 annually payable to ALR Chapt. 115. Our mailing address is the same as the Post – PO Box 1731, Bunnell, FL 32110 – phone 386-585-5302

Suicide Awareness and Prevention
From the WNZF Radio Podcast, July 5, 2020
Will You Be Ready?

Dave Lydon, Flagler County Veterans Service Officer, received a call in his office from a Vietnam veteran suffering from PTSD. The caller was sitting in his car in a local church parking lot contemplating on ending his life. The caller stated that the current reporting of the Coronavirus statistics were reminiscent of the body counts in the Vietnam War and were causing him to become extremely depressed.

After calling a crisis line and being transferred several times the call was eventually routed to the Flagler County Veterans Service office and Dave answered the phone. The office is not listed as a crisis line. At first Dave thought it might be a crank caller. However, his experience told him the caller was a man in distress. Dave had been in and around the military for over 30 years and retired from law enforcement.

AL RIDERS CHAPT. 115

6-17-2020 Funeral Service for WWII member Hal Mettee @ Hammock Community Church

On June 17th Chapter 115 escorted WWII Legion Member Hal Mettee and his hearse from Craig Flagler Palms Funeral Home to his final resting place at Hammock Community Church on A1A. We were escorted by the Flagler County Sheriff C.O.P.S. with many thanks to them.

It was very touching to see the traffic come to a halt pulling off the road for our procession along 100 and A1A, with many people saluting as we went by.

29 June 2020 Flag Line from Chap. 115 for LTC David Patterson Memorial Service

Respectfully Submitted,
Ron Dean, Chap. 115 Director
Dave quickly built a rapport. The caller was satisfied that as a fellow veteran he could relate with him. In truth, Dave could relate. The events that triggered the caller’s reactions were affecting him as well. When Dave felt the caller was more relaxed and conversant, he invited him to his office to talk. The caller was perplexed. He thought he had reached some far away call center. Instead, he was on the phone with the local veterans’ service office in Flagler County. The caller agreed and came into Dave’s office. Dave spent another 3 hours with him. He spoke, he laughed, and he cried. Dave reminded him of all the good there was in the world and that they lived in a beautiful place. Dave told him he was a kind person with a great sense of humor and doesn’t have the right to “punch out early.” For all he knows, his mission is to stick around and make use of those characteristics to positively affect others. This resonated with him. He lit up. They shook hands and agreed to stay in touch.

Dave texted him that evening and he was doing fine. Dave left the office exhausted, but full of pride, relief and gratitude that God gave him the tools to handle that situation.

Dave Lydon is a Lt Col in the USAF Reserves and recently returned from a deployment in the Gulf Region. He is retired from the New York State Police, and resides with his wife, Sally in Palm Coast, Flagler County, Florida. Dave currently works as the Veterans Service Officer for Flagler County. He also belongs to the American Legion Flagler Post 115, VFW Post 8696, Flagler County Veterans Advisory Council and the Flagler County Chapter of MOAA. Both of Dave’s sons are commissioned officers in the US Army.

Be sure to listen to VETERANS ON POINT radio broadcasts on WNZF 94.9 FM aired Sunday mornings 0930hrs.

VETERANS NEED TRANSPORT

There are Post 115 members that are unable to drive at night as well as those in residence at home or various assisted living facilities here in Flagler County that are in need of transport to/from meetings. Hopefully you would be able to stop by and pick up a member on your way to a meeting? It would definitely be appreciated! There are members in the Bunnell area and western parts of the county that are in need as well.

Please contact Adjutant Owens @ 386-585-5302 or adjutant@flaglerpost115.org if you are able to help out, or are in need of a ride.

Spaghetti Dinner Update

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic our Annual Spaghetti Dinner had to be postponed. We will be planning for a Spring 2021 resumption of this dinner event. Thanks so much to all of those that have sent in your reservations and donations! I have your payments noted for credit towards the future event date. Gary Owens, Adj.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND TRANSFERS

Gary Kaskisto, Jeffrey Baker, Christopher Jeffries, Levern Lewis, Kyle Totten, Ray Hightower

POST EVERLASTING

Hal Mettee 7/21/25 – 6/10/20

David Patterson, LTC (R)

ADJUTANTS ADMISSIONS

Our Post 115 membership has grown to 444 members as of last report. Please visit the Post 115 website www.FlaglerPost115.org and look over the proposed budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year starting 01 July 2021. At the 10 Aug. meeting we will be asking you, the general membership, to approve this updated budget.
On the Post’s website www.FlaglerPost115.org are the meeting minutes posted from the past Executive Committee meetings. Please review these minutes as we will also be asking for the approval and adoption of those minutes as well.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!
We will have a table set up at the 10 Aug meeting for your membership renewal. Table will open @ 1730hrs (5:30pm) and operate until meeting start @ 1830hrs.

MEMBERS – CONTACT YOUR SENATORS AND REPS. NEEDED NOW!
Once again Honorable Discharged Veteran that was a Green Card Immigrant and was recruited and served is being denied U.S. Citizenship after such being promised during enlistment.

FROM OMER SMITH – “Paul came to me back in February I believe with his story. I interviewed him, the family and turned the case over to the Department’s partnering Immigration Attorney, Elizabeth Ricci, Rambana & Ricci, Tallahassee. Back a few months ago Joe Pepin, Hank and myself traveled to Orlando to protest in front of the USIS building Paul’s case. Anyway, if you go to Elizabeth Ricci’s facebook page and get the full story on her efforts and the history behind Paul’s effort to become a citizen and the write, text, E-mail or telephone Senator Rubio’s office ask him to help Paul. If you want more information on Paul and can’t find Elizabeth’s Facebook page, I can send you information on his history. This is a drive that needs to right a wrong. The USIS have played games with Paul. He needs our help.

Regards,
Omer "Gene" Smith
Chairman
Immigration Committee
The American Legion
Department of Florida”

Members -
Please contact our U.S. Senators Marco Rubio and Rick Scott as well as Rep. Michael Waltz asking for or even demanding help to correct this wrong made to a Veteran!
https://www.rubio.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact
https://www.rickscott.senate.gov/
https://waltz.house.gov/

SICK CALL
Ray Salas – heart attack recovery
Joe Pepin – hip replacement recovery
Lenora Dean – ankle surgery recovery
Helena Boone – surgery recovery
Vinnie Raffaele – colon surgery recovery
Catherine Hammond – continuing treatment
Kathy Owens – continuing chronic pain
Hank Mangels – liver transplant candidate
Gene Parisen – surgery recovery
Past Commander Barry Preston – continuing issues
June Stockley – dementia

THE AMERICAN’S CREED
By William Tyler Page

Written 1917, accepted by the US House of Representatives on 3 April 1918

“I believe in The United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States, and one inseparable, established upon the principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.
I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its law; to respect its flag; and to defend it against all enemies.”

CALENDAR
EARLY VOTING STARTS 3 AUG thru 15 AUG
GENERAL PRIMARY VOTE 18 AUG 2020

8 AUG ALR Chapter 115 meeting 1000hrs @ VFW Post 8696 – ride afterwards

10 AUG GENERAL MEETING 1830hrs
Planning starting for Veterans’ Day Emory Bennett VA Post 115 sponsored Steak Dinner

BLOOD DRIVE – date TBD

14 SEPT GENERAL MEETING

20 SEPT. 17TH DISTRICT ALR MEETING hosted by Chapter 115 @ VFW 8696 1130hrs
Flagler American Legion Post 115, Inc.
P.O. Box 1731
Bunnell, FL 32110 – 1731

Deliver To:

KRIER BOOSTERS

6/20 6/25 James Canfield
10/17 9/20 Leonard & Jeanette Sampson
1/16 12/20 David & Catherine Hammond
2/19 2/21 Ruby Saffell
6/19 6/21 Bryant & Brenda Thorpe
6/17 5/22 John & Chris Mendez
8/19 8/20 Ken & Dorothy Wall
8/19 8/20 Lois M Andrs
8/19 8/21 Gary & Kathy Owens
10/19 10/21 Ron & Beverly Kecskes
1/16 12/22 Deidre Jean Wright
1/18 1/23 Phyllis M Wright
8/18 7/23 John & Margaret Russell
10/18 9/23 Joe & Di Pepin
10/19 10/24 John C Clark
10/19 10/21 Ron & Lenora Dean

02/20 02/21 Anthony & Joan Libaci
02/20 02/22 Ronald & Beverly Kecskes
02/20 02/25 Joe & Bina Leahy
02/20 02/21 Rev. Ross A Licata
04/20 04/22 Mary Beck
08/20 08/22 Glenn French
08/20 08/22 Michael Sikora

Krier Booster Donation Form

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________

Start Date of Donation ____________
Period Covered (1 or more years) ________
Amount Contributed (min $16/yr) $ ________