

1919 – 2025



Flagler ALR  
Chapter 115



Flagler American  
Legion  
Auxiliary Unit 115



Flagler American Legion Post 115  
*Serving Flagler's Veterans since 1937*

106 years of  
service



Flagler Sons of the  
American Legion Squadron 115

# Legion Krier

AUG - SEP 2024

Editor: Gary M Owens

**NEXT POST MEETING**  
**MONDAY 05 AUGUST –**  
**SPAGHETTI &**  
**MEATBALLS, CESEAR**  
**SALAD, GARLIC**  
**BREAD \$7pp!**

**Meeting starts 6pm**  
**PROMPTLY so be a bit**  
**early.**

**We'll still need  
potluck desserts!**

**COMMANDER'S**  
**COLUMN**

The summer is fully upon us, and our new officers have been installed to take us through the next year.

Please congratulate the following Legion officers when you see them and ask if there is a way you can help the cause: Cdr. Paul Werner, 1st VC Ronnie Dean, 2nd VC Joseph Leahy, 3rd VC James Boyd, Fin. Off. no candidate, Chaplain John Johnson, Sgt @ Arms Edward Beier, Historian no candidate.

Please also congratulate yourselves, too, and especially Past Cdr. Joe Pepin, because Post 115 exceeded all membership goals for 2024! Each member plays a role in the success of our post. Tell a neighbor, a vet on a bike at the gas pump, a friend at another club you belong to, who isn't yet a member of ours. People join individually, one at a time, as they are inspired by you. Great job for the 2024 year - keep up the great work!

One of the reasons our membership is growing is that we have moved to a new location for our meetings. The AMVETS opened up their home to us in friendship and camaraderie, and many Legion members have been enjoying the meetings in a smoke-free room environment with its own convenient entrance. The other benefits of partnering with AMVETS include a welcoming bar, the ability to host dinners, cookouts, and to co-fundraise together in the future. The Legion Riders also hold their monthly meetings there. Attend our American Legion Post 115's next monthly meeting (always the first Monday of each Month @

6pm - on August 5 and enjoy a Spaghetti dinner for \$7 pp. Come early - by 6pm, it's almost "standing room only" in our popular new home.

Neither drought nor 105-degree temperatures could keep our ALR and other 115 Legion members from patriotically participating in the Flagler July 4th Parade. The A1A onlookers waving and shouting appreciation for the veteran's sacrifices was heartwarming and joyous. Keep posted for news about our next parade!

Once our 3rd Annual Charity Golf Tournament ended last October to great success, the golf committee began planning for an even bigger and better tournament this coming fall. Are you an enthusiast who hasn't gotten involved yet? New golf committee members and those who enjoy fundraising are asked to contact Adjutant Gary Owens for details on how your participation can help make this year's tournament spectacularly successful for our cause.

Please, get involved and help move Post 115 into the future.

Whatever your interest or

expertise, we'd love to get you involved. **We're a family and the fun starts when YOU show up.**



17<sup>th</sup> Dist. Cdr. Bryant Thorpe & Post 115 Cdr. Paul Werner

### **ADJUTANTS CORNER**

Welcome fellow Legionnaires to a new membership year – 2024-2025!

We finished the '24 year at 104.57% of our goal with a total now of 458 in our membership! And that is without our own building! You all are amazing, and I thank you for remaining as dedicated members.

Please use the small business cards we have to give to a veteran that you see in a store or wherever and invite that veteran to a meeting – **1<sup>st</sup> Monday every month @ Amvets Post 113 – 3400 Steel Rail Dr., Bunnell.**

The Post had our first meeting at The AMVETS Post 113 on Monday May 6<sup>th</sup> with a huge and motivated crowd! Everyone seemed to enjoy the new venue, the food was great, lots of smiles, and we successfully elected our officers for the 2024 – 2025 membership year. (See the Officer Roster later in these pages).

The Post was well represented at the various Memorial Day

Activities in the area – Palm Coast Heroes Park ceremony, Flagler County Veterans ceremony, Flagler Beach Veterans Park ceremony, and the VFW 8696 Annual Memorial Day Picnic which we were co-sponsors of.

At the 2024 Dept. of FL State Convention held June 13-16 in Orlando our post was represented by Cdr. Paul Werner, Ed and Ophelia Beier, Omer Smith, and Guy Middleton. Many thanks for attending, representing the post, and bringing back a lot of great material. If you are a member of our post that would like to attend the annual convention or the November Fall Conference, please let an officer know – the more a member learns about what and why we do things the more we can all get accomplished!

### **POST 115 QUILT RAFFLE 2024**

Auxiliary Unit 115 member Di Pepin has again created a beautiful quilt and donated to the post. The quilt is red, white, and blue patterns on both sides and is queen size. We will be raffling off the quilt for \$5 per ticket (recommended donation) with the drawing to be held Monday Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> 3pm @ Amvets Post 113.



Thanks to Di Pepin for this quilt donation  
\$5 / ticket  
Raffle to be held 11/11/24

We have many activities coming up and looking forward to being in and helping our community through our support of The American Legion 4 Pillars – Americanism, Children & Youth, National Security, and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation.



Cdr. Werner's car

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July our Post led the Flagler Beach Parade and won the Best Walking Display! Many thanks to our Sgt. @ Arms Ed Beier and the Color Guard, our ALR Chapter 115 motorcycles, and the decorated autos that we had in our procession.



Flagler Beach 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade  
l-r Bryant Thorpe & Gary Owens

On Sat. July 6<sup>th</sup> Past Cdr. Joe Pepin, Guy Middleton, Nelson Sastoque, and others grilled 6 oz. sirloin steaks to the delight of the residents and staff at the Emory Bennett Nursing Home, Daytona Beach. Many thanks for your dedicated service to our vets that look forward to events like this! You exemplify The American Legion.



Daytona Tortugas Baseball Night  
Wed. May 22

We are again having our *Lollipop Drives* at various Publix locations and volunteers are needed for a 2-hour shift – please offer a couple hours to help our cause. Next date to volunteer for is Sat. Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> at the Belle Terre / Palm Coast Pkwy Publix.

The July 1<sup>st</sup> membership meeting held at the Amvets post included another potluck dinner and the installation of our Post, SAL, and ALR Officers for the 2024 – 2025 year.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays every month members Gary McNamara and Ray Work, plus occasionally Jim Boyd, serve coffee, water, and fruit to the veterans visiting at the Daytona Beach VA Clinic – 7-10am. This has been an ongoing ritual for these guys for many years and they get a lot of enjoyment out of it. Many Thanks Gary & Ray!

Our next membership meeting is Monday August 5<sup>th</sup> and *THERE IS NO POT-LUCK DINNER* – the Amvets 113 Auxiliary will be serving Caesar salad, garlic toast, spaghetti & meatballs for \$7 per person so please be ready to pay at the door – no need to cook for this meeting! We also have a lot of business to cover at the meeting so please be sure to attend – remember you can enter the meeting hall from the SW side of the building.

### 2024-2025

### POST 115 OFFICERS

PAUL WERNER, CDR  
386-986-9601  
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DAVID P LYDON, Jr,  
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**Be sure to listen to VETERANS  
ON POINT radio broadcasts on  
WNZF 94.9 FM aired on  
Sundays 0930**



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR 4<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF  
TOURNAMENT TO BE HELD  
SATURDAY OCT. 5 @ PALM  
HARBOR GOLF CLUB  
\$125 per player  
SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

[www.MyLegion.org](http://www.MyLegion.org)

**Register yourself on the  
MyLegion.org website!  
This will be needed for your  
future renewals so please be  
sure to sign up and create  
your username and  
password!  
Help is available from  
Adjutant Owens or Service  
Officer Lydon if needed.**

### **SAL SQUADRON 115 NOTES**

This year Cdr. Richard J (RJ)  
Card and Adj. David N

Campbell will take the helm of the Squadron and they have a lot of plans.

The squadron ended the year June 30<sup>th</sup> with 43 members and is currently at 49.

Our SAL membership has really grown and diversified as well with many men, particularly our ALR members, joining – welcome to all!

The first big event to come will be the Five Star Award to be presented on Thur. Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> to Flagler County Sheriff and SAL Squadron member Rick Staly. Please join us for this presentation to be held at the FSCO Operations Center 61 Sheriff EW Johnston Dr, Bunnell. Seating begins at 5pm and presentation of colors at 6pm sharp. A tour of the FSCO museum will be held for those interested following the ceremony.

### SQUADRON 115 OFFICERS

Cdr. Card 949-395-2578

Adj. Campbell 352-727-0822

[sal@flaglerpost115.org](mailto:sal@flaglerpost115.org)



Jackie Robinson Stadium Daytona Beach

### AUXILIARY UNIT 115

Auxiliary Unit 115 held their first meeting Wed. July 3<sup>rd</sup> with A lot of planning is already in progress. A “Bakeless Bake

Sale” is coming soon, SAL Squadron 115 event Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> Post 115 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Golf Tournament, Sharing Table @ Remembering Heroes event Oct 19<sup>th</sup> @ P/C Town Center, Veterans Day 11/11 Poppy Drive.

Our Unit received letters of thanks from each of our girls that attended Girls State.

A letter from Dept. Chair Robin Burk - Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation – included an award to Unit #115.

We are already at 102.5% membership and are excited for the new year.

The following officers installed by the 17<sup>th</sup> District President

Mary Bryan:

President Sally Hayes

Secretary Karen Marks

Financial Karen Smith

Membership

Dagmar Lockwitch

Chaplain Mary Beck

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally Hayes, Pres. Unit #115

## BE THE ONE

*On the first day of every month, The American Legion distributes content related to its primary focus, reducing the number of veterans lost to suicide. Each newsletter includes inspirational stories, updated resources, a challenge and more.*

<https://www.legion.org/newsletters>

### The American Legion PREAMBLE

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purpose:

To uphold and defend the constitution of the United States of America; To maintain law and

order; To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars; To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; To make right the master of might; To promote peace and goodwill on earth; To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

AUG 4 Sunday

AMVETS 113 LUAU and Stuff-the-Bus 2-5pm

AUG 5 Monday Post 115

Membership Meeting 6pm  
AMVETS 113

AUG 15 Thursday

SAL Squadron 115 5-Star Award  
Presentation FSCO Ops Center  
Doors open 5pm

AUG 2 Monday Post 115

Membership Meeting 6pm  
AMVETS 113

OCT 5 Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Post

115 Charity Golf Tournament –  
Palm Harbor Golf Club – 7am –  
2pm

OCT 7 Monday Post 115

Membership Meeting 6pm  
AMVETS 113

NOV 4 Monday Post 115  
Membership Meeting 6pm  
AMVETS 113

NOV 22-24 Friday-Sunday Dept.  
of FL Fall Conference – Caribe  
Royal Conf. Ctr. Orlando

NOV 28 Thursday  
THANKSGIVING

DEC 3 Saturday ALR Chapter  
115 meeting 1000 @ AMVETS  
113

DEC 5 Monday Post 115  
CHRISTMAS DINNER @  
GRAND HAVEN GOLF CLUB

## **WELCOME NEW AND TRANSFER MEMBERS**

John Philhower USA, Richard  
Thomas, John Giaimo, Sam  
Stewart USAF, Joe Kurish  
USMC, Mark Gauthier USN,  
Clayton Pendleton USA, David  
Bishop USN, Douglas D Decker  
USN WWII, Eric Stevens

## **SICK CALL**

Bina Leahy, Pastor John  
Johnson, Arlie Johnson, Vinny  
Raffaele, Jim Muskopf,  
Michaela Sipes, Jeremy Holt, Joe  
Holt, Linda Dyer, Tod  
Rothenberger, Donna Gregory,  
Gina McNamara, Billy Jones  
Please keep these folks in your  
prayers.

## **NEW MEMBER VIDEO**

American Legion Membership &  
Post Activities Committee  
Chairman Matt Jabaut hosts a  
new-member orientation video  
that provides a clear  
understanding of the nation's  
largest veterans organization and  
what the Legion does to  
strengthen America.

The video is ideal for new or  
potential members. You can find  
the video at this link  
[www.imeo.com/americanlegion](http://www.imeo.com/americanlegion)  
on the Legion's Vimeo channel.

## **ALR CHAPTER 115**



ALR Members at Submarine Base  
Kings Bay for a boomer tour!

Your American Legion Riders  
Chapter 115 has been busy! The  
month of April was “Round  
Robin Month” where we visited  
various posts of all service  
organizations to raise \$\$ for  
Project VetRelief and Suicide  
Prevention. We totaled 1,894  
miles for the month.



ALR Chapter 115 members on a visit

In June we donated \$1,000 to the  
Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch  
Program by sponsoring four (4)  
children to Summer Camp.  
Please note that POST 115 and  
ALR CHAPTER 115 earned the  
LIFETIME GOLD STAR  
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
earlier this year from the FSJR!

Some members attended a  
motorcycle safety course  
sponsored by the JAX Sheriff's  
Dept. in June, and we also did a  
ride-by along with the FSCO and

other veteran organizations for a  
100-year-old Guadalcanal  
Marine.



Flagler Beach 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade

The Chapter rode once again in  
the Flagler Beach 4<sup>th</sup> of July  
parade to the delight of  
especially the kids loving the  
thunder!

The 2024-2025 ALR Officers are  
as follows:

Tod Rothenberger, Director  
Paul Werner, Asst. Director  
Allen Poff, Treasurer  
Ray Krov, Sgt @ Arms  
Nelson Sastoque, Chaplain  
Road Captain Willy Ledoux  
Gary Owens, Adjutant

A few riders will be leaving the  
1<sup>st</sup> week of August for the  
motorcycle rally in Sturgis S.D.  
and riding all the way! Our  
prayers will be with them.

We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday  
monthly @ 10am @ the  
AMVETS Post 113 and usually  
have a ride afterward to  
somewhere – or we may do our  
Adopt-A-Road Clean-up. Our  
section is Belle Terre Pkwy from  
Pine Lakes Pkwy south to the  
Wadsworth Elementary School  
intersection at Parkview so if  
you see us on a Saturday  
morning – honk!

Lots more to come from Chapter  
115 – we get the American  
Legion name out there in a  
respectful and dedicated manner.

Our Motto – FOR THE CAUSE  
– NOT THE APPLAUSE!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tod Rothenberger, ALR 115 Dir.

**IT'S THAT TIME OF  
YEAR!**

**A NEW MEMBERSHIP  
YEAR!**

**7/1 – 6/30 ANNUALLY IS  
OUR MEMBERSHIP  
YEAR SO PLEASE  
RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP TODAY!  
OVER 25% OF OUR  
MEMBERS HAVE  
ALREADY RENEWED SO  
JOIN THE CROWD SO  
WE CAN GET AN EARLY  
JUMP – AND BE SURE  
TO RECRUIT A NEW  
MEMBER!**

### **FLAGLER COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE**

The Flagler County Veterans Services department offers a professional resource to all members of the armed forces of the United States - former, present, and future - including those with service-connected and non-service-connected disabilities.

These services include:

Aiding veterans obtain VA benefits for service-connected disability compensation, non-service-connected pension, and home loan guaranty benefits. Assisting surviving spouses, children, and parents of deceased service members and veterans with obtaining death benefits

such as a burial plot in a national cemetery, reimbursed burial allowances, government grave marker or headstone, government life insurance

proceeds and other survivor benefits.

Assisting eligible veterans with obtaining VA health benefits such as outpatient services, inpatient hospital care, and long-term care to promote, preserve, and restore veterans' health.

Assisting veterans obtain exemption certification for property taxes.

Assisting veterans obtain available benefits from the state. Providing veterans' advocacy.

***We are also looking for Veteran of The Week candidates for the Palm Coast Observer We have a simple form to fill out and would appreciate a photo of them and now if available!***

For information contact:  
DAVID LYDON or ERIC  
FLORES-FEBLES  
386-313-4014

### **COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS**



AMERICAN LEGION POST 115  
PLAQUE @ PALM COAST HEROES  
PARK

In September 2022 then Cdr. Joe Pepin purchased a plaque and donated it to us, and we then

dedicated an area in Palm Coast Heroes Park for our own Commemorative Brick Area.

We now have pavers placed in dedication honoring those that have served be it ourselves, family, or friends.



20 SEPT 2022 Heroes Park bricks  
dedication ceremony

Bricks are still available for purchase and placement at the park, \$35 each. Contact Adj. Owens to obtain an order form. Dedicate a brick to yourself, a family member, perhaps a lost comrade-in-arms. The area is a very peaceful spot within the park.

### **2024 BOYS & GIRLS STATE**

Post 115 again this year sponsored four (4) H.S. juniors to Tallahassee for Boys State. The letters that we received back from these young men were very enthusiastic and thankful for an opportunity that opened their eyes to how our system of government works.

Auxiliary Unit 115 was able to sponsor two (2) girls to Girls State and those delegates responded very positively as well learning a lot from the program.

We will be inviting these young men and women and their families to a meeting in the near

future to recognize their service and hear their stories.

## **YOUTH LAW CADET**

This year Post 115 was very proud to again sponsor two (2) cadets recommended by the FCSO to attend the Dept. of FL & FL Hwy Patrol Cadet Academy at the FHP Training Academy.

We were suddenly notified that the FHP was not going to sponsor the program and they backed out – 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row. As an avid supporter and post chair of this program Adj. Owens will be writing many letters to Tallahassee, local legislators, and law enforcement. This program was a huge hit with the cadets the first year we took part in it, and we need to keep it going for the betterment of our youth and community's future.



Eric Flores-Febles & David Lydon

## **NEWS FROM THE VA**

Beginning September 1, travel payments will be provided via direct deposit only through the VA's Beneficiary Travel Program, a 24/7 online portal. Checks will no longer be submitted.

Veterans, caregivers, and beneficiaries who are eligible for

reimbursement of mileage and other travel expenses to and from approved health care appointments can now enter claims in the Beneficiary Travel Self-Service System (BTSSS). This online system simplifies the current claim submission process for beneficiaries and ensures timely processing and payment of travel reimbursements. Submit claims online 24/7, 365 days a year Track the status of submitted claims Reduce processing time for submitted claims

Use self-help tools to make claim submissions fast and easy

To prepare for filing your first claim with BTSSS, do these three things to help your claims processing go smoothly.

First, sign up or update your direct deposit information with VA if appropriate.  
Second, upgrade to a Premium My HealthVet account, create an ID.me account or sign up for a Level 2 DoD DS-Logon account  
Third, log in to BTSSS for the first time, create a profile and be sure to add your direct deposit account information.

For more tips and instructions on how to use BTSSS, watch our six-video playlist. For more information contact your local travel beneficiary office, click your healthcare system link below.

Or you can call the VA's Beneficiary Travel toll-free call center at 855-574-7292.

Hours: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Your Post 115 Color Guard also serves as an Honor Guard and has been tasked many times to stand watch during services for a veteran that has passed. The Color Guard also has a Rifle Squad that has served at events or services in both Palm Coast and Flagler Beach. ALR Chapter 115 also provides a Flag Line for memorial and burial services as well as motorcycle escort for a veteran's service.

## **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**

*SAVE THE DATE – SATURDAY  
DEC. 14*

It's coming up on that time of year again where we need to help make sure that our fellow veterans interred at Espanola and Masonic cemeteries are remembered with a Christmas Wreath!

To support our efforts go to [www.wreathsacrossamerica.org](http://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org) and search for our two sponsored cemeteries.

FLESPC - Espanola Cemetery  
FLMASC - Masonic Cemetery



Post 115 Color Guard @ Espanola Cemetery

**DON'T FORGET AUGUST  
15<sup>th</sup> SAL SQUADRON 115  
EVENT AT THE FSCO  
OPERATIONS CENTER**

Legion Krier  
Flagler American Legion Post 115, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1731  
Bunnell, FL 32110 – 1731

**Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Palm Coast FL  
Permit NO 140**

DELIVER TO:



**WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO HELP LESSEN  
KRIER COSTS BY SUBSCRIBING VIA  
EMAIL?**

**KRIER BOOSTERS**

02/21	02/31	Frank & Helena Boone
06/24	06/25	Shirley Bump
06/21	06/26	Bryant & Brenda Thorpe
10/21	10/26	Carl & Era Bertoch
02/23	02/25	Bev & Ron Kecskes
06/23	06/25	Ken & Do Wall
09/22	09/24	Glenn J French
06/20	06/25	James Canfield
12/20	12/25	David & Catherine Hammond
10/23	10/27	Gary & Kathy Owens
10/18	10/23	Joe & Di Pepin
10/19	10/24	John C Clark
10/21	10/28	Ron & Lenora Dean

**YOU'D GET A COLOR VERSION RATHER  
THAN THE PRINTED BLACK & WHITE**  
**Please email [adjutant@FlaglerPost115.org](mailto:adjutant@FlaglerPost115.org) to be  
added to the email list**

02/20	02/25	Joe & Bina Leahy
04/24	04/26	Mary Beck
11/20	11/23	Charles & Claire Saarela
10/23	10/24	Bill Klinkenberg
04/24	04/26	Jim Boyd
04/24	04/26	RJ & Donna Card

**Krier Booster Donation Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Start Date of Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Period Covered (1 or more years) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Contributed (min \$10/yr) \$ \_\_\_\_\_