

American Legion Post 112

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HAPPY ★ NEW ★ YEAR

January 2018

Commander

Lee Oliver
706-260-7294

Adjutant

John Wilson
706-270-2874

Senior Vice Commander

Gary Benson
706-581-2770

Junior Vice Commanders

Junior Hammontree

706-271-5628

Lewis Headrick

706-847-0429

Jerry Manning

706-483-4692

Bob Oxford

706-260-5279

Finance Officer

Rudy Desmond

706-428-4746

Service Officer

Lenard Whaley

706-259-5508

Chaplain

Harrison Parker

706-695-5301

Sergeant-at-arms

Fred Denbleyker

954-802-7377

Historian

Leo Whaley

706-264-8577

Judge Advocate

Ed Shriver

706-847-6344

Past Post 112 Commander

Dewey Moss

706-463-1674

SAL Commander

George Lo Greco, Sr.

706-259-0072

Auxiliary President

Wanda Parker

706-581-3666

We had a wonderful Christmas party on December 2nd; everyone seemed to have the best time and were in a festive mood. The Classics (a band that plays and sings songs from the 50s and 60s) were VERY entertaining. There was dancing, good food and door prizes. It was great! Thanks to all that attended.

The Post 112 Ladies Auxiliary did an outstanding job of decorating the Legion for the party; everything looked **GREAT!** They took hours to make sure everything was just right. You could not tell you were in a bingo hall. Kudos to the Ladies Auxiliary.

We were fortunate to have two past American Legion National Commanders in attendance for our Christmas party; our very own Post 112 member Bob Turner and last year's National Commander Dale Barnett. During the festivities Post 112 donated \$2000 to the National Emergency Fund and past National Commander. Barnett was kind enough to accept the donation on behalf of the NEF. We continue to abide by our motto – *We Serve*. You can be proud to be a member of American Legion Post 112.

Post 112 will begin serving a **FREE** meal to veterans on the third Saturday of each month, beginning on January 20th. The meal will be served from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. You don't have to be a member of Post 112, but you will need to prove you are a veteran. Tell your friends.

Another way Post 112 will begin serving veterans – beginning on January 14th at 2:00 pm, an informal seminar regarding **VA benefits for the**

blind will be held at our post. Roger Akins along with our own Post 112 member, Fred McDade, will conduct the seminar. If you or someone you know who would benefit from this important information, please pass the word along.

If you haven't paid your dues, now is the time to do so. From the Department Newsletter – *"A member whose dues for the current year have not been paid by January 1, shall be classed as **delinquent**. If his or her dues are paid on or before February 1, they shall be atomically reinstated. If he or she is still delinquent after February 1, **he or she shall be suspended from ALL privileges and will be dropped from the membership roster.**"*

It has been a memorable year for our Legion family. Sincere wishes are for a 2018 rich with blessings of love, joy, warmth and laughter for each of you. We are looking forward to the New Year for Post 112 so we can find even better ways to serve our veterans.

For God and Country,

Lee Oliver

Commander

HELP IS AVAILABLE FOR VETERANS

The Veterans Administration (VA) has inpatient PTS/PTSD programs, residential treatment, and day hospital programs. In addition, VA has special programs for substance abuse, homeless veterans, and women's coordinators for female veterans.

There are also many private clinicians or not-for-profit agencies that offer specialized treatment for PTS/PTSD similar to care provided by VA.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- January 11, 5:30 pm, Executive meeting American Legion; 6:00 pm, Ladies Auxiliary
- January 18, 6:00 pm, Regular meeting, SAL
- January 20, 5:30 pm, 7:00 pm, Dinner for Veterans
- January 25, 6:00 pm, Regular meeting American Legion and Ladies Auxiliary



BINGO - 7:00 pm every Monday, Tuesday and Friday (Open to the public - Tell all your friends)
SPECIAL BINGO - First Friday night of each month.



Our ladies auxiliary fixed about 130 gift bags which were delivered to area nursing homes and home bound veterans. The bags contained an assortment of Kleenex, lounge pants, lap quilts, socks and different personal items. Several people helped put together gift

bags. There were many Auxiliary and Legion members also who volunteered to deliver these gift bags to the nursing homes and homebound. The gifts were presented individually to veterans. We appreciate these caring people for their time and effort.

Several area elementary schools made Christmas cards and letters for veterans. Cards were put in the Christmas gift bags and many of the letters will be distributed later.

The Legion's Christmas Party was great. The Auxiliary enjoyed doing the decorations. There was an excellent turnout with a great band, wonderful food and fellowship that was enjoyed by everyone who attended.

Reminder about dues – if you have not paid your dues, please do so as soon as possible. If you have questions about your dues, contact membership chairman Wanda Tibbs at 706-694-8018. Also, if you have some spare time and would like to help deliver biscuits to the VA Clinic, contact Wanda Tibbs.

Any member not receiving a newsletter to your household, please let us know. Contact any member of the Auxiliary or Post or feel free to call the Post at 706-226-5120.

Best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year!

Our best days are before us,

Wanda Parker
Auxiliary President

My goals for 2018-2019:

- To recruit more members so we can have ten well attended meetings.
- Train and elect new officers.
- Train speakers to visit schools and other community organizations.
- Inform locale schools about scholarship programs.



Do you have a wish list? Bring your ideas and friends to our January 18, 2018 meeting. Come and talk about what you want the squadron to do for you and the community. ***Happy New Year!***

In His service and at your service,

George Lo Greco Sr.
Commander Squadron 112

VA launches program to resolve compensation appeals sooner

Veterans and their family members will have more options for how their compensation appeals will be processed. On Nov. 1, VA launched the Rapid Appeals Modernization Program, or **RAMP**, with the goal of providing eligible Veterans with the earliest possible resolution of their disagreement with VA.

The Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017, or **Appeals Modernization Act** not only provides VA with the framework to modernize the current appeals process, it also authorized VA to create RAMP.

VA's complex legacy process was adopted after World War I. The act allows VA to clear one of the largest hurdles in continuous efforts to improve the delivery of benefits and services to Veterans and their families.

RAMP is voluntary and will first be offered to claimants with some of the oldest pending appeals in VA's inventory. RAMP participants will have the chance to enter the new, more efficient appeals process, outlined in the historic appeals legislation recently signed into law by the president. Over the next several months, VA will send out notices to Veterans eligible to participate in RAMP. RAMP will run through the implementation of the Appeals Modernization Act.

To learn more about the new appeals process, visit <https://www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/appeals.asp>