American Legion Post 112

1118 N. Glenwood Avenue
Dalton, Georgia 30722-0932

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Email: alpost112@optilink.us

www.americanlegionpost112.org

"Together we can make a difference"

March 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
706-264-9633

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

Things are starting to "green up." Trees are beginning to bloom. Pretty soon we'll be thinking about planting a garden, mowing the grass and other things associated with spring. We "spring ahead" (clocks are moved forward) on ***March 11***. That is also a good time to replace the batteries in your fire alarms.

I'm sure most of us have heard the question, "***What does the American Legion do***?" The enclosure lists "some" of the things the American Legion and Ladies Auxiliary do. For sure, this is an impressive list of services we, American Legion Post 112 and the Post 112 Ladies Auxiliary, provide for Veterans. I'm sure you will agree, we continue our mission "TO SERVE."

There are some exciting things ahead this year for Post 112. Your Executive Board continues to strive to make Post 112 the very best American Legion Post possible. We are continuously thinking of ways to attract younger Veterans. Stay tuned for good news coming your way.

REMINDER to everyone, a FREE MEAL is served to all Veterans on the third (3rd) Saturday of each month from 5:30 pm-7:00 pm. This month, the third Saturday is March 17th, which also happens to be St. Patrick's Day. Everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day so get your green on and dress for the occasion. A prize will be awarded to the "best-dressed" person. Bring your spouse or significant other and join other Veterans for food, fun and fellowship.

Spring Conference and Georgia American Legion College will be held on March 23-25, 2018, in Duluth, GA. If you are interested in attending the conference, please call the Legion at 706-226-5120.

We need volunteers to visit Veterans in Assisted Living facilities in Dalton. If you are interested, please call 706-226-5120 or Leo Whaley 706-264-9633. It will be rewarding for you as well as the Veteran.

Don't forget Post 112 provides a room every other Wednesday to treat Veterans for PTSD. Clarence Harris, Readjustment Counselor, will be here on March 14 and 28. If you know of someone who would benefit from this treatment, please call the Legion.

For God and Country,

Lee Oliver
Commander

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- March 8, 5:30 pm Executive meeting American Legion; 6:00 pm Ladies Auxiliary
- March 11, 9:00 am, Breakfast and Chapel Service at Post
- March 15, 6:00 pm Regular meeting SAL
- March 17, 5:30-7:00 pm Free Veterans dinner (St. Patrick's Day)
- March 23-25, Spring Conference, Duluth Georgia
- March 29, 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.

The Past President's Parlay will be held in Calhoun April 7. This is a Saturday and begins at 11:00 am. If you would like to go, let me know. This is a fund raising event held each year and it goes toward the District Nursing Scholarship.

Many of our Ladies Auxiliary helped to fix hors d'oeuvres for the recent Meet and Greet with the Chamber of Commerce. It was a great turnout and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Breakfast and Chapel Services are being held at the Post on the second Sunday of each month. The next Service will be March 11 at 9:00 am.

Remember 50/50 Bingo the second and third Friday nights. We can still use some help. Also if you can help take biscuits to the Chattanooga VA Clinic, please contact Wanda Tibbs at 706-694-8018.

Membership is important! Always keep applications with you so you won't miss an opportunity to share information about the Ladies Auxiliary.

Our best days are before us,

Wanda Parker
Auxiliary President

March is a great opportunity to learn more about the American Legion, Auxiliary, Sons and Riders at the Legion College March 23-25 at the Spring Conference in Duluth, GA. The Conference will be held at the Sonesta Hotel, 1775 Pleasant Hill Road, Duluth GA 30096. Please plan to attend.

Everyone should talk to local schools about Boys State. This year Boys State will be held at the Riverside Military Academy starting May 27 and ending June 2. It is a week that shapes a lifetime!

If you like to talk to students about your experience in the Military, please get in touch with me. I want to help make that happen. Our schools need to know the truth about us.

I am currently working on a fund raising drive to replace the worn flags we display at the Court House. This is an important project, please help!

Our next meeting is March 15, 6:00 pm at the Post.

In His service and at your service,

George Lo Greco Sr.
Commander Squadron 112

VA's New Innovation Podcast Launches With Powerful Episode On Suicide Prevention

"VA is excited to announce the inaugural episode of the VA Innovation Experience podcast! VA Innovation's Ecosystem podcast is a new show dedicated to discussing and promoting the groundbreaking work being done across VA to advance care and support of Veterans. Each month we will bring you a new episode that focuses on a specific challenge that VA is facing, and how frontline employees and Veterans themselves are taking innovative steps to tackle them. We'll also be discussing these efforts on a broader scale with private sector organizations and individuals who are working in the same sphere. We're hoping to give everyone a better insight into the many ways that VA is adapting and growing to an ever-changing Veteran population."

If you are a Veteran in crisis or know a Veteran who is, please call **1-800-273-8255** and **Press 1**, chat online, or send a text message to **838255** to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

For more information: https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/45246/vas-new-podcast-launches-with-powerful-episode-on-suicide-prevention/

Things/services American Legion Post 112 in Dalton provides for veterans:

Post 112 buys biscuits which Leo Whaley takes to the VA clinic in Chattanooga, TN, on the last Friday of each month. Leo has been taking the biscuits for several years

Our Post Chaplain, Harrison Parker, takes biscuits to veterans at the VA Clinic in Chattanooga, TN, on the first Friday of each month. Chaplain Parker also dresses as Santa Claus, and along with his wife and two of his grandchildren, gives candy/fruit bags to Veterans at the VA Clinic at Christmas time

Post Chaplain Parker conducts a "chapel Service" at Post 112, on the second Sunday of each month, for anyone that would like to attend

Some of our members transport veterans on a weekly basis, to the VA Clinic in Chattanooga, TN, as well as other locations upon the veteran's request

Donate over $5000 to NEF in the last two years

Provide a space at our Post every other Wednesday for PTSD patient treatment

Made yearly donations the last 3 years to the following non-profit local organizations: Dalton's Greater Works, City of Refuge, DOC-UP, Salvation Army, Northwest Georgia Family Crisis Center, Friendship House, Whitfield County-Dalton Day Care, Family Support Council, Cherokee Estates Youth Home, Dalton High JROTC Program

In 2016, established a lifelong endowment scholarship for a Veteran or the son/grandson or daughter/granddaughter of a Veteran, to attend Dalton State College

Provide Honor Guard services (firing of the volleys, folding the flag and presenting to next of kin and play taps) for approximately 100 veterans each year

Sponsor a Boy Scout troop as well as purchased an enclosed trailer for the Boy Scouts to use for camping trips, etc.

Furnish a hot meal to veterans, homeless or otherwise, on the third (3rd) Saturday of each month

Provide space at Post 112 for an informal seminar regarding VA benefits for the blind

Sponsors and financially supports yearly the Boys State Program, a participatory program in which high school students become part of the operation of local, county and state government

Along with the Post 112 Ladies Auxiliary, have provided socks and sweat pants for Veterans in Assisted Living facilities at Christmas

Some of our members assist in placing flags at the courthouse several times throughout the year

A team of Post 112 members travel to the VA Hospital in Murfreesboro, TN, once a year, to cook hamburgers and hotdogs for hospital patients and staff

Projects provided by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 112

- Sponsor up to six upcoming 11th grade High School girls to ALA's Girls State Program.
- Award a $500 scholarship each year to nursing students at Dalton State College.
- Provide breakfast items and coffee to the VA Clinic in Chattanooga at least twice monthly.
- Visit schools for Teacher Appreciation Day and donate fruit.
- Visit area nursing homes and carry gifts to over 100 veterans and many who are homebound.
- Donate to: USO, Wounded Warriors, Christmas items to the VA Hospital in Atlanta, National Emergency Fund and others.
- Provide desserts for monthly meeting at the Post.
- Interact with students in grammar schools with making greeting and holiday cards for disabled veterans, plus teaching flag etiquette and pledge.
- Some members have helped veterans file for health benefits and provided transportation to obtain healthcare.
- Maintain a food pantry for needy veterans and their families.
- Assist Legion Post 112, when asked, with projects.
- Along with Post Chaplain, provide spiritual support and breakfast the second Sunday of each month at the Post.
- At times, our unit sponsors quilting for Quilts of Valor, gun safety, defensive driving classes and leadership workshops.
- Distribute US Constitution pamphlets to area schools.
- Provide music awards to the AL chorus group and band programs in area high schools.