

# American Legion Post 112

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[www.americanlegionpost112.org](http://www.americanlegionpost112.org)

*“Together we can make a difference”*

February 2019

## Commander

Lee Oliver  
706-260-7294

## Adjutant

John Wilson  
706-270-2874

## Senior Vice Commander

Gary Benson  
706-581-2770

## Junior Vice Commanders

Jerry Manning  
706-483-4692  
Dewayne Shiver  
423-762-2582  
Bob Oxford  
706-260-5279  
John Czerneski  
706-847-5006  
Sheldon Grant  
706-280-0908

## 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

To be Announced

## Judge Advocate

Ed Shiver  
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

How do you make decisions? All of us make decisions every day. Sometimes they appear to be insignificant but then we see in time they were very significant. Sometimes those decisions have little or no consequence and sometimes they have great consequences. Sometimes the consequences are joyful - sometimes they are not so joyful! But, we are all in the process of making decisions and those decisions not only affect us, they often affect other people and we all have a basis for making them. That is, we all make our decisions based on something. I would like to urge and encourage you to join with me in praying for the leaders of this great country to use wisdom, good judgement and understanding in making decisions that affect not only our brothers and sisters here in this country, but each and everyone around the world.

## **May God Bless America!**

I'm saddened to inform those of you that don't know, we recently lost a conscientious and caring member of Post 112, **Leo Whaley**. Leo was the epitome of someone who went above and beyond each day, to show people, especially Veterans, how much he enjoyed helping others. For those that aren't aware, Leo delivered biscuits to the Veterans and staff at the VA clinic in Chattanooga, at least once a month for several years, using his own car and fuel. Leo was very involved in Operation Song, an organization whose mission is to empower veterans and their families to tell their stories through the process of song-writing. Leo was extremely active here at our post too, serving on the

Board of Directors for many years. RIP my friend, you will be missed.

By now, I'm sure a very large number of our members are tired of hearing me ask if your dues have been paid for 2018/2019. But membership is immensely important to the American Legion. Again, for the umpteenth time, membership runs from July 1 of each year to June 30 of the following year. Therefore, if you pay your dues at the end of the year (November, December, etc. or the first part of a calendar year (January, February, etc.), you will receive another dues notice in a few short months. At the top of your membership card, you can see if you have paid your current dues for 2019. At Post 112 we are rather close to our goal of **100% for 2018/2019**. **We urge and encourage you, if you haven't paid your membership dues, please do so by the end of February.**

We are planning a flag retirement ceremony at our post on Saturday, February 16, 2019, at 11:00 am. If you have old tattered flags or if you know of anyone that does have any old flags, please bring them to the post Monday through Wednesday any time between 9:00 am - 12:00 noon or place them in the old "mail box" on sidewalk at the Legion.

May God continue to bless you and your family. Thessalonians 5:16-18 "Rejoice always, **pray without ceasing**, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

For God and Country,

*Lee Oliver*  
Commander

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

- February 14, 5:30 pm, Executive meeting American Legion;  
6:00 pm Ladies Auxiliary (Happy Valentine's Day)
- February 21, 6:00 pm, Regular meeting SAL
- February 28, 6:00 pm, Regular meeting American Legion and Ladies Auxiliary

**Flags will be placed on the courthouse lawn on February 18 at 7:00 am and retrieved at 5:00 pm**

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



We are heart broken over the loss of Leo Whaley. Our hearts go out to Peggy and family.

Everyone appears to be busy with many things going on in their lives so we are not planning to have Chapel Service anymore. If this changes, we

will let you know. We are expecting to have some new members soon. Do your part and bring someone to the meetings. The District Meeting is this month. We are also hoping to get some new projects going soon.

We still need help with 50/50 bingo and Wanda Tibbs could use some help in taking biscuits to the VA Clinic in Chattanooga.

Our best days are before us,

**Wanda Parker**  
Auxiliary President

We had a minimum quorum at the January meeting. Thank you to those who came to the meeting - we voted to contribute \$200.00 for the Legion attendance drawing.

We need to assemble a working party to re-straighten the flag holders around the courthouse, over three dozen are leaning. Also, please plan on going to the Spring Conference in Duluth on Saturday, March 23.

Bring someone with you to the next meeting, we always enjoy these meetings - it is very rewarding and enjoyable.

In His service and at your service,

**George La Greca Sr.**  
Commander Squadron 112



## Blue Water Navy Decision Advances Case for Agent Orange Benefits

Blue Water Navy veterans won a major victory in their fight for VA benefits to treat illnesses linked to exposure to Agent Orange during the Vietnam War. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit ruled Tuesday in favor of Alfred Procopio Jr., who served aboard the USS Intrepid during the war. Procopio, 73, suffers from diabetes and prostate cancer, both of which are linked to Agent Orange exposure.

American Legion National Commander Brett P. Reistad applauded the court's decision that found no reason to deny VA disability benefits for Procopio, who did not meet the "boots on the ground" criteria for Agent Orange-related VA disability benefits.

"The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit echoes what The American Legion, multiple other veterans service organizations and Vietnam War veterans have been arguing since an administrative decision in 2002 cut off benefits to those who were exposed at sea," Reistad said. "It doesn't matter where you were exposed to Agent Orange when you served. It only matters that you were exposed when you served. To deny VA disability benefits for victims who were exposed at sea, and to provide benefits only to those veterans who were exposed on the ground, is a distinction based much more on budget than justice."

The decision comes on the heels of a failed effort to pass H.R. 299, The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act, during the final days of the 115th Congress. Reistad said that the ruling in favor Procopio Jr., "is a step in the right direction" for some 90,000 veterans who served offshore and may be suffering from conditions related to exposure to Agent Orange. VA recognizes 14 adverse conditions as presumptively linked to exposure to the chemical herbicide used to defoliate jungle vegetation that provided the enemy cover during the war.

The American Legion allied with Columbia University during the 1980s and 1990s to provide undeniable evidence that Agent Orange exposure had led to numerous adverse health-care conditions among Vietnam War veterans who came into contact with it. "This ruling is an important step in a long journey toward justice for all who were exposed, were sickened and disabled by Agent Orange," Reistad said. "But it is not the final step, and The American Legion will continue to fight in Congress, VA and the courts, if necessary, to definitively return fairness and justice to these affected veterans."

(Read this complete article - See below)

<https://www.legion.org/veteransbenefits/244691/blue-water-navy-decision-advances-case-agent-orange-benefits>