

**American Legion Auxiliary Winter Park Memorial Unit 112  
General Meeting Minutes**

**August 15, 2023**

The August 2023 general meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 112 was called to order at 7:02pm by President, Marge Berrios. The meeting was opened according to ritual.

Members in attendance included:

Marge Berrios  
Terry Berrios

Nell Colbert  
Braelyn Colbert

Laurel Ross  
Debi Shannon

Guests in attendance were:

Bob Colbert, Post 112 Adjutant

Nell confirmed that we have a quorum for this meeting and Marge was granted permission to deviate from the printed agenda should the need arise.

The minutes from the last two meetings were emailed to all members. Terry Berrios moved (seconded by Debi Shannon) that the minutes from our June and July meetings be approved as written. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert gave the Finance Report. Debi Shannon moved (seconded by Terry Berrios) that the Finance Reports for June and July be filed for audit. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert shared items of correspondence received this month including:

- Department *The Liberty Bell* newsletter
- Note from Aunita Padgett
- Thank You notes from Americanism Essay winner Elly Thomas (Rainbow Elementary)
- Thank you note from Debi & Dyke
- Thank you note from Girls State delegate Jacqueline Cook
- Memo from Department regarding changes in membership process
- Membership Credit Report as of June 30, 2023 (\$45.50 pd 7/12/23)
- Membership Credit Report as of July 23, 2023 (\$15 due to unit)

Bob Colbert reported on the Post Executive Committee meeting:

Bob noted that not much new is going on:

- The Boys State and Girls State debrief went well last week.
- Billy Dover will be planning our Four Chaplains Service for February and the Unit will be asked to participate.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Marge called on the Committee Chairs to give their updates if there was activity during the month.

- **Girls State:** Debi and Nell reported that three of our Girls State delegates participated last week in the debrief at the Post and gave very interesting reports on their activities. Marge will get the names and contact information of all our delegates to Laurel so she can reach out to invite them to Post 243's meeting in September to share their experiences. Debi shared information she received from some delegates from the Space Coast who noted that they did not know what to expect when they arrived at Girls State because their orientation was not as detailed as the one done in 6<sup>th</sup> District. Marge will contact Paula to suggest that she develop a standardized syllabus for the orientation to be used by all districts. Nell noted that we should perhaps instruct our delegates to wear their Girls State shirts when they come to the Post to do their debrief as one of our delegates was not appropriately dressed last week.

- **Membership:** To date, we have 18 paid members. Our goal is 28 for 2024, so we are at 64.29%.

**LEADERSHIP SEGMENT:**

Debi pointed out a very good article in the latest American Legion Auxiliary magazine (page 19) that talked about an e-Unit in Hawaii. Much like what we do, they hold their monthly meetings on zoom and get together periodically to do the projects that the members want to do. Debi noted that she participates in a few networking type groups and asked about promoting our unit in those groups. The consensus was that this is a great idea and that we would love to have additional members who may not necessarily be in the Central Florida area. Nell also has a few contacts who might be interested but who don't live nearby.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

2023-2024 Program Chairs – it was agreed that we will leave our chairs as they are. Nell will file the paperwork with the 6<sup>th</sup> District.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Veterans “Healing Through Expression” – Laurel presented some information about a program that MOAA (Military Officers Association of America) would like to pursue with us as a partner. The American Legion Auxiliary national organization has a grant program where MOAA can get a grant if they are partnered with an Auxiliary Unit. Since this organization is partnering with Orlando VA Healthcare System to do the *Healing Through Expression* program, they would like to have our unit partner with them so they can get the Auxiliary grant. Nell will scan and email the brochure to everyone so we can get feedback from our members.
- Americanism Essay Contest – Laurel suggested that we evaluate how awards are given, especially at the high school level, for next year. Since we don't get entries from many schools, rather than doing certificates and medals at all the schools for each level, we lump all the school entries together and do one award for 9th-10<sup>th</sup> grade and one award for 11th-12<sup>th</sup>.
- Nell confirmed that we still want to do the check for the Scholastic Books program for the teacher at Eastbrook that was approved in our 2023-2024 budget. Nell will confirm in early September that the teacher is still using the program and will arrange to get the check to her for our Give 10 to Education project.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS:**

- Send service hours to Marge and Nell
- 6<sup>th</sup> District School of Instruction is this Saturday, 8/19, at Pine Castle Post 286 – check in at 8:30am, class at 9am.
- 6<sup>th</sup> District fall meeting is 9/30 at Winter Grden Post 63 - 9:30am sign in, 10am start

Debi Shannon offered the benediction and Marge Berrios adjourned the meeting at 7:43pm.

Respectfully submitted



Nell Colbert  
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_

Nell Colbert, Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Marge Berrios, President \_\_\_\_\_