

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

**November 19, 2024**

The November 2024 general meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 112 was called to order at 7:04pm by President Marge Berrios. The meeting was opened according to ritual.

Members in attendance included:

|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Marge Berrios        | Laurel Ross           |
| Terry Berrios (Zoom) | Maria Santiago (Zoom) |
| Nell Colbert         | Debi Shannon          |

Guests in attendance were:

|                                |                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bob Colbert, Post 112 Adjutant | Jim Middlekauff, Commander |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|

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 meeting were emailed to all members. Debi Shannon moved (seconded by Terry Berrios) that the minutes be approved as written. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert gave the Finance Report. Debi Shannon moved (seconded by Maria Santiago) that the Finance Report be filed for audit. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert shared items of correspondence received this month including:

- Department *The Florida Toolbox* newsletter
- Unit Membership Credit Report
- ALAMIS renewal invoice
- Thank you note from Jan Farrington, Dept. Membership Chair
- US Flag Maker flags
- Solicitors permit renewal and renewed permit

Jim Middlekauff and Bob Colbert reported on the Post Executive Committee meeting:

- The Legion Family Four Chaplains ceremony will be held on 2/2 beginning at 2pm at the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church in Winter Park. Billy Dover is managing the event and will have more information for the Jan-Feb newsletter.
- Jim removed the tree off the fence in the back yard.
- Jim noticed that the canoe trailer for one of the scout troops is in bad shape so the Post may replace their trailer
- The legion Family holiday party will be held on 12/13 beginning at 7pm at Perkins on University Blvd. Our usual optional gift exchange will be held.
- The Legion will be doing their Giving Tree shopping on 12/3 with the help of the Auxiliary. We will meet at the Target on University at Goldenrod at 10am.
- The Post is at 74% membership.
- The Girl Scouts BSA troop will be moving their meetings back to the church beginning in december now that the church has completed the renovations in the part of the building where the troops were meeting.
- The girl troop has an Eagle candidate who should be finishing her project soon.
- The legion will hold a brief meeting at Perkins immediately before the holiday party to conduct any urgent business rather than holding their regular December meeting.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

- **AEF:** Our new AEF house will be on display at Fall Conference. Nell will also bring it to the holiday party and ask permission for it to be placed at the Post.
- **Americanism:** We gave out small American flags at Eastbrook during their Veterans Day ceremony on 11/8. The updated Essay contest coversheet has been posted to the department website and Nell will be sending it out to our elementary schools. We will judge the essays at our February meeting.
- **Children and Youth:** We delivered Thanksgiving dinner food to Eastbrook for their weekly backpack project. This year, we provided all the non-perishables for the ten families who receive backpacks each week. Nell also talked about the requirements for the Good deed and Young Hero awards. The girls who have completed their Eagle projects are good candidates for the Good deed awards as the service projects performed must be planned and led by the youth who is nominated for the award. Nell will be sending information about the awards to our schools, too.
- **Community Service:** Nell and Marge attended the Department Community Service Zoom meeting this month. There was a lot of valuable information shared. These Zoom sessions are held monthly for anyone interested in attending.
- **Education:** Nell posted the Scholastic Books class picture to our Facebook page and group.
- **Girls State:** Marge spoke with TK Wildrick about Trinity prep and confirmed that our Unit covers that school. Marge asked Debi to update the Girls State and essay contest letter so that she can get the information dropped off at our high schools in early December. Girls State is 6/19 – 6/22 2025. The check for our delegate needs to be received by Department before 12/28. Over quota checks are due by 1/31. Marge will check with Post 243 to see if they are going to fund the over-quota delegate this year.
- **Legislative:** Nell encouraged everyone to sign up for Voter Voice through the national Legion so that we can support the Legions legislative efforts.
- **Membership:** Our membership is at 107%.
- **Poppies:** Marge noted that we only have a few left. The Department Secretary has assured Nell that we should be able to get an order filled for Memorial Day.
- **Public Relations:** Nell is working on the grant application for the Rotary Club that is due in mid-December.
- **VA & R:** Our food shopping for the veteran holiday baskets was a success and we came in under budget. We will deliver the baskets to lake Baldwin for their Giving Tree families on 12/3 along with the Post's purchases for their Giving tree family.

## **LEADERSHIP SEGMENT:**

Debi continued with Part 3 of her segment on effective communication, emphasizing the need to calm down and listen, repeating back to the speaker what you heard and allowing for clarification if needed. Debi presented a communication exercise in problem solving for us to discuss at a future meeting

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- AEF Disaster Fund donation – The check was sent to Department.
- Service branch birthday cakes – Because we did not do the birthday cake for the Marines for the November meeting, we discussed combining the Marine birthday

with the Space Force birthday in December and do a big sheet cake for everyone to enjoy at the Legion Family holiday party.

- 6<sup>th</sup> District newsletter – please watch your email about the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month for the new District Auxiliary newsletter.
- Fall Conference – The Department Fall Conference is this weekend and everyone is encouraged to attend if even just for the classes on Friday.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Child Welfare Fund donation – Nell suggested that since we came in under budget for our Eastbrook food pantry project that we donate to the Legion’s Child Welfare Fund. Debi Shannon moved (seconded by Terry Berrios) that we make a \$30 donation for the 2024 year. Motion carried. Nell noted that if we donate at least \$1 per member as of the close of books in June 2025, we will receive a ribbon for our Unit flag. Our \$30 donation for 2024 will earn the 2024 ribbon.
- Nell asked everyone to consider attending the regular Department Zoom sessions for each program in which you have an interest. Please join the Facebook groups for each program – each is consistently named like ALAFL Community Service, ALAFL Education, etc. To get on the email invitation list, just email the Department Chair.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS:**

- Send service hours to Marge and Nell

Debi Shannon offered the benediction, and Marge Berrios adjourned the meeting at 7:59pm.

Respectfully submitted



Nell Colbert  
Secretary-Treasurer

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

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

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