American Legion Auxiliary Winter Park Memorial Unit 112
General Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2026

The October 2026 general meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 112 was called to order at 7:05pm by President Marge Berrios. The meeting was held via Zoom and opened according to ritual.

Members in attendance included:

Leslie Beltz	Bob Colbert	Maria Santiago
Marge Berrios	Nell Colbert	Debi Shannon
Terry Berrios-Guariglia	Mercedes Reedy	

Guests in attendance were: NONE.

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 Maria Santiago) that the minutes be approved as written. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert gave the Finance Report. Terry Berrios-Guariglia moved (seconded by Debi Shannon) that the Finance Report be filed for audit. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert shared items of correspondence received this month including:

- Confirmation of receipt of our FL Sales Tax report for July-Sept 2026.

Leslie Beltz and Bob Colbert reported on the Post Executive Committee meeting:

- The DAR Veterans Committee met at the Post as did the Fort Christmas DAR Chapter.
- The Commander and Adjutant attended the recent joint Court of Honor for troops 613 and 4613. The Commander (and ALA 112 member) assisted with the presentation of the Unit's 4th Good Deed Award to one of the Troop 4613 Eagle Scouts.
- The first vote was held on the revised Constitution and ByLaws for the Post.
- The Post hosted an information table and comfort cart at the Lake Baldwin VA on 10/19 where the Legion got lots of leads for new members.
- On 10/26 a donated granite slab will be installed at the Post on the existing BBQ grill so we can have cookouts in the future.
- The Orange County Veterans Servicer will be at the Post on 10/31 to answer questions and assist Veterans and their families with obtaining benefits.
- The Post and the Auxiliary will be participating in the Annual Celebration of Veterans on 11/6 in Winter Park's Hannibal Square from 9am until noon. This will be another fantastic opportunity to share information about the Legion family and attract some new members.
- Several Post members are meeting for breakfast every Tuesday morning except for Post meeting days. Everyone is encouraged to attend – contact Leslie for additional information.
- The cost for Boys State has increased to more than $500. Out Post will continue to send four boys.

- Past Sons Commander Charles Coleman has passed away.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

- **AEF:** Nell promoted AEF at the last Post meeting.
- **Americanism:** Nell shared information about how to get flag half-staff notifications from the Legion national via email. Americanism Essay Contest information has been sent to the elementary schools.
- **Children and Youth:** Marge, Mercedes, Bob, and Nell shopped for the goodies for our Tushies and Toes projects. Nell, Bob, and Marge delivered the socks and underwear to the school.
- **Community Service:** Reports of service hours are being sent in for our annual reports.
- **Constitution and By-Laws:** Nell noted that she has made the housekeeping changes to our Constitution and ByLaws needed due to the recent Auxiliary membership eligibility made by the Legion at the national convention held in August.
- **Education:** Marge, Mercedes, Bob, and Nell shopped for the goodies for our Adopt a Teacher project. Nell, Bob, and Marge delivered school supplies and healthy snacks to the school. They also presented one teacher with our annual $250 check to Scholastic Books so her first grade students can get a book to keep every month during the school year. This completes our Give 20 to Education project for the year.
- **Girls State:** Marge will be visiting our high schools beginning in early January. Debi will update the letter.
- **Legislative:** Nell promoted the Grassroots sign-up so our members can send emails to our legislators about legislation being promoted by the Legion.
- **Membership:** As of this date, we have 29 paid members for 2027. Our goal this year is 36.
- **National Security:** Both Maria and Terry have recently run races with funds raised going to programs that support military families and first responders.
- **Poppies:** We gave out some Poppies at the flag retirement held at the Post on 9/26. No locations have been secured for Poppy booths for Veterans Day.
- **Public Relations:** Nell made a short presentation at the Sunrise Rotary Club (formerly Orange County East Rotary) and was presented with a $1000 grant check that supports our Girls State, Americanism Essay Contest, and Education programs by allowing us to present school medals at the elementary schools and send one girl to Girls State each year. Nell is also posting Auxiliary related information to our Facebook page and group.
- **VA & R:** Leslie spoke with Benji at the Lake Baldwin VA about the upcoming Giving Tree program.

LEADERSHIP SEGMENT:

Debi shared information about the Auxiliary's "Hello Grouper" program. This week's presentation was about data centers.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Roadhouse Fundraiser – Nell shared the information she received about doing a fundraiser in conjunction with the Oviedo Texas Roadhouse, noting that we would

receive 10% “commission” on all meals purchased on our date if the customers showed our flyer to their server. It was agreed that we would work with Roadhouse to set a date after the first of the year and that we would invite our Legion family to participate with us.

- Standing Rules changes – completed.
- Seminole County Veterans Luncheon – Nell left a message with the secretary but has yet to receive a return call. Since this event does not take place until April, we will try again after the first of the year.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Eastbrook food pantry backpack project and VA holiday food box shopping – Marge, Nell, and Bob will meet at the new BJ’s store in Casselberry on November 6th at 2pm. Anyone else who would like to attend is welcome to join us.
- Eastbrook Veteran’s Day program – no firm information has been received as of this meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Leslie explained in detail the Hannibal Square Annual celebration of Veterans, noting that there will be music, and other patriotic programs along with the presentation of several Quilts of Valor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS:

- Send service hours to Marge and Nell. Please remember to include a brief description of what you did, not just the hours volunteered.

Debi Shannon offered the Benediction, and Marge Berrios adjourned the meeting at 7:58pm.

Respectfully submitted

Nell Colbert
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes approved _____

Nell Colbert, Secretary _____

Marge Berrios, President _____