



# The Deltona Legionnaire

Sgt David G Ledgerwood American Legion Post 255

Deltona, Florida

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 12

PAGE 1

January 2026

## OFFICERS

### Commander:

Pedro Rosario

### 1st Vice:

Dave Parry

### 2nd Vice:

Andrea Turner

### Adjutant:

Joel Recu

### Finance:

Joel Recu

### Chaplain:

Loren King

### Sergeant-at-Arms:

Tom Snyder

### Service Officer:

Phil Loranger

### Aux President:

Jamie Brady

### ALR Director:

Vacant

### Sons Commander:

Fred Lowry

### Webmaster/Editor:

Vacant

## From The Commander:

Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas. Wreaths Across America went extremely well not only were we able to cover all our veterans grave sites but had enough left over to cover Deltona Memorial Gardens sister cemetery and even had some for the Veterans Museum.

At Our annual Christmas party we had lots of fun and fellowship with members and there families I would say about 35 people showed up. Our 50/50 raffle we sold 802 tickets not quite what we were aiming for but close thank you to all that came out to help with that.

We will be sad to see our lifetime member John Boccino and Pat leave wishing you both all the best in Jacksonville. Our officers meeting went well we had 5 officers present and 3 guest Mike Phelps, Janice and Charity.

End of the year report this year's Veterans Day Ceremony was one of our best even though it was cold looking forward to our upcoming fundraisers will let you know when for our 4 Chaplains and Law and Order ceremonies coming up.

I want to thank all our members and officers for an amazing job that you all did this year looking forward to a New Year so Happy New Year to you all God Bless

For God and Country  
Commander Pedro Rosario



**ALR Ride Report:**

ALR Chapter 255 would like to extend a very big "THANK YOU" to all of the Post Family members who participated in the Fall 50/50 Raffle. It was, I believe, the most successful fundraiser we have had since we brought the post back to life some 14 years ago. Besides the grand prize, we were able to secure three other valuable prizes. All prized have been mailed out to the respective winners. And now we are looking forward to the next opportunity to do it again.

Our original "Come Ride With Us" laminated posters have been found. (You probably didn't know they were lost. Anyway, We will be distributing them in strategic places where they will be seen by a multitude of prospective members. We are hoping to gain a significant number of new riders as well as post family members.

Consider the fact, it is NEVER to late to experience the freedom of the road, the amazing scenery, and the comradery of brothers and sister of like minds, from the saddle of a motorcycle.

Hope to see you on the road with us in the near future.

Loren King  
Chapter 255 Ride Director  
407 222 6625

**From the Webmaster:**

Be sure to check the website for upcoming events.

This Weekend now on the website.

The post maintains a website to keep its members, veterans and prospective members up to date on what the post is doing and will be doing. The website is full of good information from community events to veteran services. If you forgot when and where, check the website there's a very good chance the information is just a click away. Additionally, Sue sends a weekly email on Thursday to keep our members informed of what is happening over the weekend. That email also provides information on future events the post is either sponsoring or involved in. Please take a minute to review it before you discard it, thanks.

**From the Sons:**

Like many other Sons of The American Legion Squadrons, our Squadron 255 is a source of pride for our members and Post 255. By volunteering to assist older veterans and participating in patriotic holiday events, our squadron not only expands the post's representation but reflects the Sons' purpose "to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism. This mission is fulfilled by the participation of SAL members in volunteer service at hospitals or medical centers in the VA Voluntary Service Program (VAVS).

SAL members should use their experience and talents in leadership and instructional capacities within the squadron. They should also assist newer members of the squadron in training and Legion protocol.

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One of the four pillars of The American Legion is Americanism. SAL members play a vital role in the promotion an understanding and appreciation of American government: the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship; and activity in the American way of life through youth activities, community service, education and educational facilities, and proper U.S. flag etiquette as well as the protection of the U.S. flag from physical desecration. The SAL participates both as counselors and participants in Americanism programs such as Boys Nation, Boys State, Oratorical Contest, Scouting, and Junior Shooting Sports in addition to providing scholarship money to various programs.

You never served in the U.S. military? That's ok. Join our Sons of The American Legion Squadron 255, in honor of your Father's, Grandfather's or Great Grandfather's service. We have a place for you here at Sgt. David G Ledgerwood Post 255. Come check us out and join up today.

Loren King  
Squadron 255 Adjutant  
407 222 6625

**Cross Words, from the Chaplain:**

Greetings to all our Legionnaires, Auxiliary, SAL, ALR members and guests. I hope this newsletter finds you and your family healthy and well. Well, well, well, here we are beginning a new year and looking for great things to happen in the next 12 months. I trust you all had a wonderful Christmas holiday and a good start to the New Year. Our family is still in the midst of Christmas cheer. My daughter and her family got here four days after Christmas and we are still waiting for my son and his family to arrive. Not sure when they'll get here but I am hoping it's before Easter (LOL).

January is the month of new beginnings, new hopes, resolutions, renewed faith in the miracles of everyday life, and a focus on the things that truly matter. January is the month of new beginnings—a time to reflect on the past year and set goals and intentions for the months ahead. Whether you're looking for motivation, reflection, or just a little winter inspiration, January is the perfect opportunity to embrace a fresh perspective. As the first month of the year, January marks the transition from the warmth of the holiday season to the quiet, chilly days of winter, making it an ideal time to recharge, refocus, and set new goals.

Speaking of setting new goals, our upcoming general meeting, January 3rd, will be a meeting our membership should want to attend. Alex Silva, from Architecture 101 will be with us to give a presentation on the new post home. I am thinking he will have not only a verbal presentation but also a visual presentation, showing floor plan and, hopefully, 3D visuals of the building and land surrounding the building. We are currently planning to present our ideas and plans to the city around the middle of this month.

Before I go any further, I do want to say thank you to all of our members who went above and beyond to make our Fall 50/50 Fundraiser a success. We had approximately ten weeks to distribute 1000 raffle tickets and at the deadline and day of the raffle, we had given out 802 tickets. We collected \$4010 and drew four winners. First prize was half of the money received. Second prize was a Blackstone griddle. Third prize was a \$200 gift card to Seminole Harley Davidson and forth prize was five \$27 free car washes at LUV's Car Wash. All prized have been given to the appropriate ticket holders. The four winners reside in Deltona, Orange City and two in Port Orange.

After expenses, the remaining funds were deposited into the post building fund account and the ALR account. Our next fundraiser will be coming up fairly soon and will benefit the Four Chaplains Ceremony and Service. This Post activity will be held on February 7, 2026. So please put it on you calendar now and plan to attend the event.

There are some important days to remember during the month of January other than our Post and Auxiliary general meeting on January 3rd. New Year's Day, you guessed it, will be Jan, 1st. In addition Jan. 1st, is also the birthday of our U. S. Navy SEAL Teams. Jan. 19th, is Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Jan. 17th, is Popey's Birthday and Jan, 27th, marks the Vietnam Cease Fire (1973). Other Post Family activities and events will be discussed at out January 3rd, meeting.

## **IMPORTANT VA UPDATE**

For those using the VA for their health care and/or are receiving VA compensation, you **MUST** login to My Healthy Vet regularly in order to maintain an active account. VA is planning an update to the system and if you have not logged in you may be removed from the system. If you are removed your VA health care and/or your VA compensation may be affected.

It is recommended that you login in monthly in order to maintain an active account and avoid any unnecessary disruptions of your health care and/or compensation. If you have never logged in this web address will provide you with a means to register.

[www.va.gov/health-care/manage-health/](http://www.va.gov/health-care/manage-health/)

We took a short break during the month of December from our regular study to remember the true meaning of the Christmas season. So now let's get back to Psalm 91, picking up where we left off. Let's look at Psalm 91: 7 - 9.

A thousand may fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, but it shall not approach you...For you have made the Lord, my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place. – Psalm 91:7, 9.

Do we ever stop to consider what God is saying to us in verse 7? Do we have the courage to trust God's Word enough to believe He means this literally? Is it possible for this to be true, and for us to miss out on these promises?

Jesus answers this question in Luke 4:27: "There were many lepers in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet: and none of them were cleansed". Only Naaman the Syrian soldier was healed when he obeyed in faith.

You see, not everyone will receive the benefits of this promise in Psalm 91. Only those who believe God and hold fast to His promises will profit; nonetheless, this promise is available. And to the measure that we trust Him, we will in the same measure reap the benefits of that trust.

That is an awesome statement! God wants us to know that even though there will be a thousand falling by our side and ten thousand at our right hand, it does not negate the promise that destruction will not approach the one who chooses to believe and trust His Word. God means exactly what He says! How do you think Peter must have felt when he walked on the water to Jesus. It's easy to see how he started to sink into the waves when he saw all the turbulence of the storm raging around him. It is very easy to become fearful when disaster strikes all around you. So it's no accident that this little statement is tucked away right in the middle of this psalm.

God knew there would be times when we would hear all kinds of negative reports, see so many needs, and encounter so much danger around us that we would feel overwhelmed. So here He is warning us in advance of time that "thousands would be falling around us". Why? So we would not be caught off guard.

Now the proverbial "ball is in our court". And we must make a choice to either run to His shelter in faith and the storm will not approach us, or passively live our lives the way the world does, not realizing there is something we can do about it.

Psalm 91 is the preventive measure that God has given to His children, against every evil known to mankind. No place else in Scripture is all of this protection promised (including help from angles, as well as promises ensuring our authority) accumulated in one covenant to offer such a total package for living in this world. It is both offensive and defensive measures, for warding off every evil before it has had time to strike. This is NOT ONLY a cure, but a plan for "complete prevention"!

This is a tremendous insight, after our minds have been renewed by the Word of God, to realize, contrary to the world's thinking, that we do not have to be among the ten thousand who fall at our right hand.

Look for a moment at verse 8.

"You will only look on with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked". (Psalm 91:8)

You'll see recompense (payment) being doled out at times. There is judgment. Every sin will be exposed sooner or later, and paid for in full. An evil dictator falls, an unrighteous aggressor is stopped, a tyrant faces his crimes against humanity, a wrong is rectified – the recompense of the wicked speaks of justice. Wars have been fought where one side had a righteous cause, and consequently, good won over evil. The justness of God is that evil will not be triumphant.

Verse 8 says that we will "only look on and see" it happening. The word "only" tells us that we will be protected by not experiencing the evil, even though we will see it. In addition, it denotes detachment in that the evil we will not get inside of us. We are set apart in that we will not allow our enemy's hate to change us.





Look at this Scripture with our faith in mind; do we sometimes fall into unbelief? Faith in God, in His Son, Jesus Christ, and in His Word is counted in God's sight as righteousness. But when we are in unbelief, to some degree we are placing ourselves in the category of the wicked. Sometimes, even as a Christians, I have been an unbelieving believer when it comes to receiving all of God's Word.

Jesus said, in Matthew 5:18, "Not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until it is all accomplished". Even if believers have never utilized this psalm in its full potential, the truth has never passed away or lost one ounce of its power.

Many think of the Gospel as an insurance policy, securing only their eternity and their comfort after disaster strikes. Unfortunately, those folks are depriving themselves of so much. Let's ask ourselves this question. "What kind of coverage do I have – fire or life". God's Word is far, far more than merely an escape from hell; it is a handbook for living a victorious life in this world.

There is a difference between the destruction of the enemy and persecution for the gospel's sake. As the Apostle Paul writes in 2 Timothy 3:112. "Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted".

There are times when we will be mistreated because of our stand for the cause of Christ. Psalm 91 is a very distinct concept dealing with natural disasters, accidents, sickness, and destruction. Jesus suffered persecution but He did not face calamity, disaster, and mishap. Accidents never approached Him.

I'll finish with this. There is a place where calamity literally does not even approach us. This would be seemingly impossible to imagine – especially in combat situations. Yet, to look at this verse in its true context, with its thousands falling on either side, we observe the strongest description of casualty and calamity named in the psalm. If this verse isn't a description of actual combat, I don't know what is. Yet tied to it is a promise of protection beyond anything that could otherwise be envisioned. This portrayal of people falling is directly connected to the promise that it will not even come near us. Two opposite poles joined together!

Just something to think about.

Thoughts and prayers continue for:

John McDonald  
Bud Faint  
Janice Rosario  
Loren King  
Angie Recu  
American Legion Family Center (Post Home)

For God and Country  
Loren King  
Chaplain Post 255

A new clinic dedicated to treating post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) has opened in Central Florida, offering Electroencephalogram Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (eTMS) therapy.

This non-invasive treatment helps those with PTSD, traumatic brain injuries, and sleep disorders at no cost, thanks to state funding

Each session lasts about 15 minutes, and while some may need up to 20 sessions for full benefits, the hope it brings is significant. If you or someone you know is interested, please bring valid ID and proof of service.

For more information or inspiring stories about how this service is helping lives, feel free to reach out to me.

With gratitude for our heroes,

The new Central Florida facility is located at 555 Winderley Place, Suite 300, just outside of Orlando.

Attn Disabled Vets...if you have mobility problems, (cant get out of tub or you may slip and fall while using the shower), the VA will pay for grab bars to be installed in both of your bathrooms. FREE! Very good quality, local plumber comes to your home-fast and easy! If you worry about falling, please talk to your VA primary care doctor and ask for this service.

Remember to save your pop tops as our Auxiliary continues to collect them for the Ronald McDonald House program

### **"DUES NOTICE"**

National raised the dues by \$5 last year. This forced the Post to raise its dues from \$45 to \$50 per year (this increase does not affect PUFL). Post dues is now \$50 per year. Please make a note of it when paying your dues.

### **Membership**

Another year of membership drive is coming. Please remit your dues as soon as possible so that the Post can reach its goals quickly. Dues collection starts after the Convention so please plan to get your dues in. Cmdr Pedro will be doing his Buddy Check's again this year. Last year our Post attained 100% membership most of which was accomplished with the Buddy Checks. If you have the time he would appreciate the assistance.

### **From the Webmaster:**

Be sure to check the website for upcoming events.

This Weekend now on the website.

The post maintains a website to keep its members, veterans and prospective members up to date on what the post is doing and will be doing. The website is full of good information from community events to veteran services. If you forgot when and where, check the website there's a very good chance the information is just a click away. Additionally, Sue sends a weekly email on Thursday to keep our members informed of what is happening over the weekend. That email also provides information on future events the post is either sponsoring or involved in. Please take a minute to review it before you discard it, thanks.

[al255deltona.org/events/](http://al255deltona.org/events/)

<https://al255deltona.org/this-weekend/>

### **Park Cleanup**

On the 3rd Fri of each month members are asked to find a few minutes and come to DVMP to walk the grounds and pick up trash and move debris that may have fallen on our displays. We start at 10a and it doesn't take more than 20 minutes to accomplish this. Please find some time to come out once a month and help. The more folks that come out the less time it takes to accomplish this; many hands make light work.

### **Post Home**

We have positive movement where it concerns property for our Post Home. The City Commission voted unanimously to lease the 2.5 acres adjacent to the Veterans Park to the Post for 100 years; amount is still to be determined but the Mayor is requesting for \$1 per year. This is a huge step toward having a Post Home. Once the lease is signed we can actively solicit for grants to help us build our Post Home.

A huge thank you to Loren, Pedro and a number of other members who tirelessly petitioned the city for an agreement; your efforts have not gone unnoted.

Email questions, comments, pictures or info to:

[al255deltona@al255deltona.org](mailto:al255deltona@al255deltona.org).

AL255DELTONA.ORG

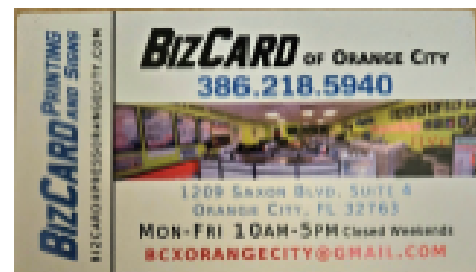
**Gary Sturgeon**  
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Sturgeon Insurance Agency, LLC  
GES Florida Insured LLC  
2955 Enterprise Rd. Ste. 110  
DeBary, FL 32713

386-224-1999  
[gary@gsflins.com](mailto:gary@gsflins.com)



Personal & Commercial  
Insurance Agency



## **Post Service Officer**

An American Legion Post Service Officer (PSO) cannot file a claim, fill out a claim, review a current claim or represent a veteran with the VA unless they are accredited by the VA. Attending the American Legion PSO course does not certify or accredit a PSO to represent a veteran.

An American Legion PSO has a wealth of information. They can help a veteran find resources to assist them in whatever endeavor they are trying to accomplish. They can provide information concerning benefits, programs, and resources that may assist our veterans to survive a crisis, get VA assistance, and/or provide options for the veteran to consider. Once the veteran has spoken with the PSO and the veteran determines that they would like to proceed, the PSO can and will provide the points of contact for the program, person, or organization that can help the veteran. A PSO's greatest weapon is information and they have a ton of it!

The main office for the Volusia County Service Officer was moved to 211 Rich Ave in DeLand and the Deltona office is located at the Deltona Regional Library at 2150 Eustace Ave. The hours are Mon—Fri 8am to 5pm. 386-775-5205.

Veteran suicides are at epidemic proportions. Below is a suicide prevention number available if a veteran is struggling and finds themselves in that dark place. We cannot afford to allow a veteran in crisis to go by the wayside. Never leave a man or woman behind!

988 option 1 or 1-800-273-8255

When speaking to a veteran in need of reviewing their claim, paperwork or filing a claim refer them directly to the County Service Officer; this is what the PSO will do. If the veteran is looking for general information, benefits, resources or anything of that nature please have them contact the PSO.

The bottom line is; the American Legion provides veterans with PSOs so that the information concerning benefits, programs, and discounts can be widely disseminated. Please utilize this resource.

## **Editor**

If you have information for the newsletter please get that to the editor before the 20th of the month. This gives the editor time to edit/adjust the newsletter. Pictures are always welcome. If you have them forward them to the editor and/or the Historian for inclusion in the newsletter and our yearbook.

Any items that require correction need to be brought to the editors attention so that a correction can be posted in the following months newsletter.

Here's a link to the Department of Florida newsletter: [floridalegion.org/newsletter](http://floridalegion.org/newsletter)

## **Veterans Museum:**

Deltona Veteran's Museum is open on Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Our 1st Vice Dave is the Museum Director. We need **HELP!**. Members of the Post Family are asked to find the time to volunteer at the museum and lend a hand. This is a great way to meet the public, provide information and even promote the American Legion Family. A lot of our fellow Veterans visit the museum and it is a great way to reflect on their time in the military. Whether you served or were a dependent, your time will not be wasted. Please find time to come out and help keep the museum open and running

***Dates to Remember:*****Jan - Observances: Martin Luther King Day  
Celebrations: New Years Day**

1st New Years Day  
3rd Post & Aux general meeting 10am at  
Cross Walk Church.  
6th ALR/Sons meeting 7p at Cross Walk  
Church  
19th Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**Feb - American Legion Americanism and Religious Emphasis Month. Observances: Valentine's Day, President's Day. Celebrations: .**

1st Post & Aux general meeting 10am at  
Cross Walk Church. 4 Chaplains Ceremony 6pm at Cross Walk Church  
4th ALR/Sons meeting 7p Cross Wal  
Church  
8th District 17 meeting 1000 at Post 17.  
Bikers Against Trafficking Ride 8am at  
Seminole Harley  
13th VCEP meeting 6pm at DVMP  
14th Happy Valentine's Day  
17th President's Day  
21st Park cleanup 10am at DVMP  
23rd Post officer meeting 4pm at DVMP  
25th Riders/Sons Officers Meeting 9am at  
Cocky Rooster



## **Free Daytona Clinic For Low-Income, No-Health-Insurance Patients Has Moved**

**The Volusia Free Clinic, a volunteer-based community health center, has moved to a new location and is seeing low-income Volusia County patients who have no health insurance. The new location is 1901 Mason Ave, in Daytona Beach, Suite 110.**

**The new office is in Daytona Beach, and will give the clinic an opportunity to serve more patients, said Dr. Sam Cay, vice president of the Volusia Volunteers in Medicine, Inc., board.**

**Cay said the move was made possible in part by donations of money, medical equipment and office furnishings.**

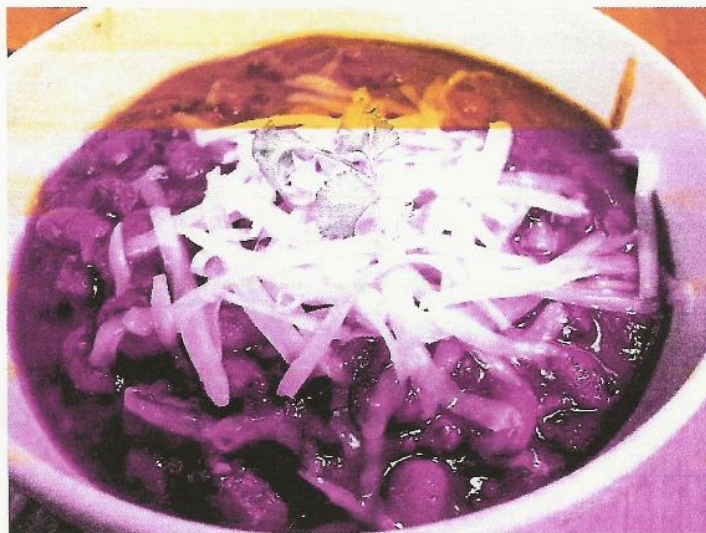
**Volusia Free Clinic operates with volunteers and is looking for more help from medical providers, he said.**

**Typically, the clinic sees patients with arthritis, breathing problems, diabetes, heart disease and elevated cholesterol. Appointments must be made in advance. In addition to the website, people can call 386-316-2771.**

**its website includes contact information and guidelines for who may be eligible – including individuals making less than \$45,000 annually and couples living on less than \$61,000 annually.**

**Note: This article was printed in the Daytona News Journal and written by Mark Harper**

**District 17**  
Riders  
**Chili Cook Off**



**January 24, ~~12 Noon~~ 10:AM**

**Emery L. Bennett Post 380**

**If you think you make the best Chili**

**Prove it**

**All donations will go to**

**Emery L Bennett Activity Fund**





# AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

## 10th Annual

# SUMMIT & EXPO

**FEBRUARY 18-21  
2026**

Meet & Greet  
CLASSES  
Raffles  
MUSIC

AMERICAN LEGION  
RIDERS

FLORIDA MOTORCYCLE SAFETY PROGRAM  
ABATE | FL-ALR | L.A.M.A.

Help the Florida ALR Leadership team  
"Building Foundations, One Mile at a Time".  
Learn about the Four Pillars and how we as Legion Riders  
can build our Chapters and support The American Legion  
Family while doing what we love, RIDING.

Registration and  
Information



Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort  
100 N Atlantic Ave  
Daytona Beach, FL 32118

Join us Wednesday, February 18, 2025 from 6:00pm – 8:00pm for a fun networking event.

**COMMUNITY  
PARTNERSHIPS  
GOOD FOR BUSINESS  
AND  
GOOD FOR POST 255**

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**WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW  
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

We are working to establish more community partnerships with local restaurants, dry cleaners, oil change facilities and the like. As the list grows we will be sure to inform everyone. Also remember the businesses in The Deltona Legionnaire are strong supporters of Post 255. Thank you for doing business with those who support the American Legion and our Post.



**FOR GOD AND COUNTRY  
AND OUR POST FAMILY**