

YEARBOOK OF  
TOWN AND COUNTRY MEMORIAL  
POST 152



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
TAMPA, FLORIDA  
FOR 2020-2021

By John Cannon, Post 152 Historian



THE AMERICAN LEGION

1919 100 2019  
*Years*

VETERANS STILL SERVING AMERICA

# Introduction



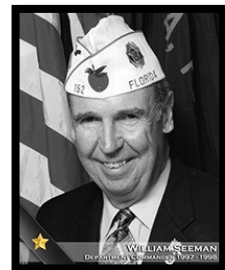
Town and Country Memorial Post 152  
Tampa, Florida

## Post 152 History

- April 27, 1981: Post 152 received its temporary charter.
  - July 10, 1981: Post 152 received its permanent charter.
  - Post 152 namesake: Town and Country Memorial
  - First Commander: Robert Springsteen
- 
- 1997-1998: Post 152 member, Bill Seamen is the Department of Florida commander.
- 
- 2010-2011, 2011-2012: Post 152 member, Jim Zipler, is the District 15 Commander.
  - 2012-2013: Post 152 member, Jim Zipler, is the Central Area Commander.



Robert Springsteen



Bill Seamen



Jim Zipler

## Tampa Bay's Military History

- **American Civil War:** Fort Desoto and Fort Brooke had important roles during the Civil War. Fort Desoto ran a blockade of Edgemont Key, while Fort Brooke was involved in the battle of Tampa at the mouth of the Hillsborough river in 1862. During the Battle of Tampa, Union boats tried to shell Fort Brooke and Tampa without success. Months later, Union soldiers attacked on foot and succeeded in burning down moorings located near modern day Lowery Park Zoo. Later that year, in May 1864, the Battle of Ballast Point took place. It was this battle, in the area of modern day Bayshore Blvd and Gandy, that Fort Brooke was overtaken by Union troops. A few months later, the Civil War ended.
- **Spanish-American War:** The Tampa Bay area was the training site for Colonel "Teddy" Roosevelt and the Rough Riders previous to leaving for Cuba to help fight for Cuba's independence in 1898. More than 66,000 troops had gone through the ports of Tampa during the Spanish-American War which began an increased relationship between the military and the Tampa Bay area.
- **World War II:** Tampa became the site for a new Air Force base in 1939. MacDill Air Force Base and Drew Field were among a number of new airfields picked to be built that year. As World War II unfolded, these bases trained thousands of troops in land, air and sea drills to prepare for battle overseas. Over 125,000 troops circulated through MacDill Air Force Base and Drew Field during this time. After the war, MacDill Air Force Base and Drew Field became "prisoner of war" facilities, interning over 1000 German POWs.
- **Viet Nam War and Beyond:** MacDill AFB in Tampa became a training base for F-4 Phantoms during the Viet Nam War and F-16 Falcons during the first Gulf War. Fighter training stopped in 1993, transferring the F-16 fighter wing to another site. In 1994, MacDill became home to the 6th Air Base Wing, which included U.S. Central Command and U.S. Special Ops Command. As well, MacDill is home to the 6th Air Mobility and 927th Air Refueling wings. These wings have been instrumental, providing refueling and transport duties during the Iraq war.



## **Capsule History of the American Legion**

A group of officers who served in the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in France during World War I is credited with founding the American Legion. AEF headquarters asked the officers to suggest ideas on how to improve troop morale. One officer, Lt. Colonel Theodore Roosevelt Jr., proposed an organization of veterans.

In February 1919, the group formed a temporary committee and selected several hundred officers who had the confidence and respect of the whole army. About 1,000 officers and enlisted men attended the Paris Caucus in 1919. They adopted a temporary constitution and the name The American Legion.

The group also elected an executive committee to complete the organization's work. It considered each member of the AEF a member of the Legion. The executive committee named a subcommittee to organize veterans at home in the United States.

Two months later, in May 1919, the Legion held a second organizing caucus in St. Louis. It completed the constitution and made plans for a permanent organization, setting up headquarters in New York City and beginning its relief, employment and Americanism programs.

Congress granted the Legion a national charter in September 1919. The first national convention convened in Minneapolis, adopting a permanent constitution and electing the officers to head the organization.

## Post 152 Relationship with The American Legion

**+Department of Florida+**

**+Central Area+**

**+District 15+**

**Temporary Charter: April 7, 1981**

**Permanent Charter: July 10, 1981**

## Town and Country Memorial

### Post 152 Home

**Address: 11211 Sheldon Road, Tampa, Florida 33626**



Post 152 with Old Sign



Post 152 with New Sign

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# Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion



**“For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a 100-percent Americanism; To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations of the great wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.”**

## **Current Post 152 Commander**

**Theresa D. Zipler**

### **Military Service**

US Army 1979-1982  
Honorable Discharge

### **Membership**

American Legion Post 152 since 1993  
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 152 since 2002

### **Post 152 Positions Held**

Commander 2016-2017, 2017-2018  
Finance Officer 2002, 2009  
Assistant Finance Officer for several years  
1st Vice Commander 2019-2020  
Executive Board member for several years

### **District 15 Positions Held**

Finance Officer 8 years

### **Awards/Activities**

Post 152 Lifetime Achievement Award

## **Current Post 152 Historian**

**John T. Cannon**

### **Military Service**

US Army 1974-1976

Honorable Discharge

US Army Reserve 1986-1987

Honorable Discharge

### **Membership**

American Legion Post 152 since 2011

Sons of the American Legion since 2012

### **Post 152 Positions held**

Post 152 Adjutant –3 times

Post Historian– 3 times

Lounge Committee– 1 time

Disciplinary Committee-1 time



## **Acknowledgement of Contributions**

### **Photographs:**

**Cliff Zimmerer**

**Doug Fivehouse**

**Bob Lehmiller**

**Michiko Hathaway**

**Lon Hathaway**

**John Cannon**

### **Historical Information:**

**South Tampa Magazine**

**The American Legion**

**Doug Fivehouse**

## Post 152 Officers 2020-2021



American Legion  
Post 152



Commander  
Theresa Zipler

1st Vice Commander  
Debbie Lair

2nd Vice Commander  
Bob Lehmiller

Finance Officer  
Doug Fivehouse

Chaplain  
Cathy Cornish

Historian  
John Cannon

Sgt, at Arms  
Lon Hathaway

Adjutant  
Doug Fivehouse

Service Officer  
Bruce Smith

### Executive Committee

3 Year Member  
Cliff Zimmerer

2 Year Member  
Brandon Zylstra

1 Year Members  
Glen Lathers  
Jose' Cortez

Immediate Past Commander  
Armond LaFramboise



American Legion Auxiliary  
Unit 152



President  
Lisa Anseeuw

1st Vice President  
Patty Pritchard

2nd Vice President  
Phyllis Roman

Treasurer  
Bonnie Lehmiller

Chaplain  
Debbie Kilcoyne

Historian  
Andrea Sherman

Sgt, at Arms  
Michiko Hathaway

Secretary  
JoAnn Lathers

### Executive Committee

Vickie Sidenbender  
Erin Vaughn  
Carol Bauer  
Vicki Irby  
Mary Kelly-Perkins



Sons of the American Legion  
Squadron 152



Commander  
Bob Testino

1st Vice Commander  
Mike Sherman

2nd Vice Commander  
Bob Lehmiller

Finance Officer  
Jack Zambito

Chaplain  
Open

Historian  
Ben Freeman

Sgt, at Arms  
Michael (Cowboy) Vaughn

Adjutant  
Mike Sherman

Advisor  
Open



American Legion Riders  
Post 152



Director  
Mike Thorpe

Assistant Director  
Mike Sherman

Secretary  
Donna Pomeroy

Treasurer  
Bonnie Lehmiller

Sgt, at Arms  
Earl Gloster

Chaplain  
Jim Reedy

Asst. Chaplain  
Jose' Cortez

Road Captain  
Bob Lehmiller



# **Post 152 Officer Installation 2020-2021**

**July 16, 2020**

## Post 152 Officer Installation 2020-2021

July 16, 2020



(Lt to Rt) Post 152 Chaplain Cathy Cornish, Commander Armond LaFramboise and Adjutant Doug Fivehouse



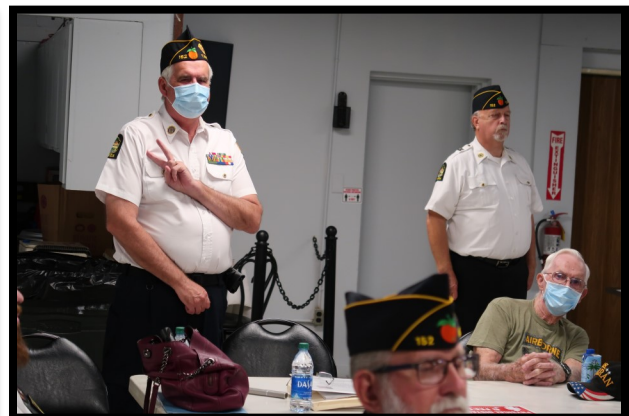
15th District Commander Bruce Carl





## Post 152 Officer Installation 2020-2021

(continued)



## Post 152 Officer Installation 2020-2021

(Continued)



15th District Commander Bruce Carl



2019-2020 Post 152 Commander Armond LaFramboise(It)  
and 15th District Commander Bruce Carl



Commander LaFramboise and 2020-2021 Post 152  
Auxiliary President Lisa Anseuw



# Post 152 Officer Installation 2020-2021

(Continued)



Post 152 Riders Director Mike Thorpe receives an award from Commander LaFramboise



Post 152 Sgt. At Arms Lon Hathaway receives an award from Commander LaFramboise



Post 152 Finance Officer and Adjutant Doug Fivehouse receives an award from Cdr. LaFramboise

# Post 152 Officer Installation 2020-2021

(Continued)



Post 152 1st Vice Commander Bob Lehmiller(Lt) receives an award from Cdr. LaFramboise



E Board member Glen Lathers(Lt) receives an award from Cdr. LaFramboise



2020-2021 Post 152 Commander Theresa Ziplier (Lt) and Dist. 15 Cdr. Bruce Carl





## Post 152 Officer Installation 2020-2021

(Continued)



2020-2021 Post 152 Commander Theresa Ziplier (Lt)  
and Dist.15 Cdr. Bruce Carl



Post 152 2019-2020 Cdr. LaFramboise receives an award  
from 2020-2021 Cdr. Ziplier



# **Post 152 Patriot Day Flag Waving**

**September 11, 2020**

# Post 152 Patriot Day Flag Waving

September 11, 2020





## Post 152 Patriot Day Flag Waving

(Continued)





## Post 152 Patriot Day Flag Waving

(Continued)





## Post 152 Patriot Day Flag Waving

(Continued)





**Post 152  
Wreaths  
Across  
America  
Golf Award  
Ceremony**

**October 14, 2020**



# Post 152 Wreaths Across America

## Award Ceremony

October 14, 2020



# Post 152 Wreaths Across America

## Award Ceremony

(Continued)



Post 152 2nd Vice Commander Bob Lehmiller



Bob Lehmiller wins a basket as Bonnie Lehmiller looks on.



Debbie and Mike Thorpe win a basket.



Bonnie Lehmiller wins a golf club.



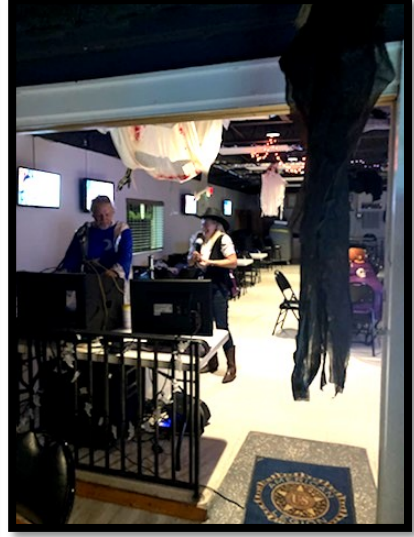
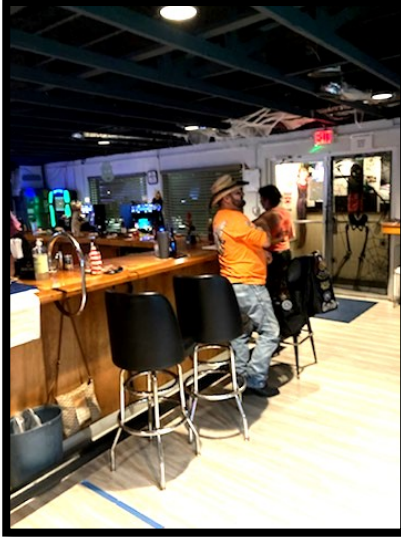
# **Post 152 Halloween Party**

**October 31, 2020**



## Post 152 Halloween Party

October 31, 2020





# **Post 152 Veterans Day Observance**

**November 11, 2020**

## Post 152 Veterans Day Observance

November 11, 2020



Post 152 Executive Board member Brandon Zylstra prepares to escort World War II Veteran and Post 152 member Jack Weinl to the Florida National Cemetery for a Veterans Day observance.



# **Post 152 Children's Christmas Party**

**December 12, 2020**



# Post 152 Children's Christmas Party 2020

December 12, 2020







# **Post 152 Christmas Baskets**

**December 18-19, 2020**

## Post 152 Christmas Baskets 2020

December 18-19, 2020



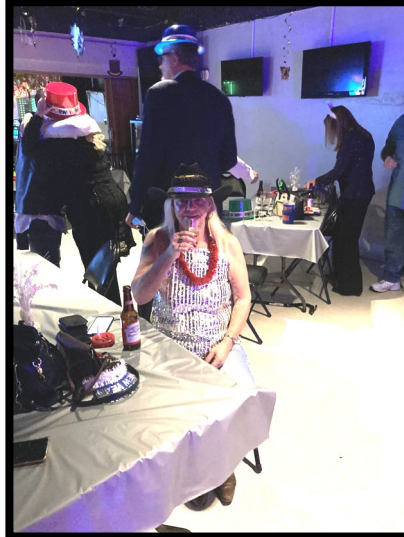


# **Post 152 New Years Eve Party**

**December 31, 2020-  
January 1, 2021**

# Post 152 New Years Eve Party 2020-2021

December 31, 2020-January 1, 2021





## Post 152 New Years Eve Party 2020-2021

(Continued)



## Post 152 New Years Eve Party 2020-2021

(Continued)







# **Post 152 2021 Classic Car Show**

**May 29, 2021**



# Post 152 2021 Classic Car Show

May 29, 2021





## Post 152 2021 Classic Car Show

(Continued)



Kevin Jespersen





## Post 152 2021 Classic Car Show

(Continued)



Cliff's Classic Chevy





## Post 152 2021 Classic Car Show

(Continued)





# **Post 152 2021 Scholarship Fundraiser**

**June 5, 2021**



# Post 152 2021 Scholarship Fundraiser

June 5, 2021





## Post 152 2021 Scholarship Fundraiser

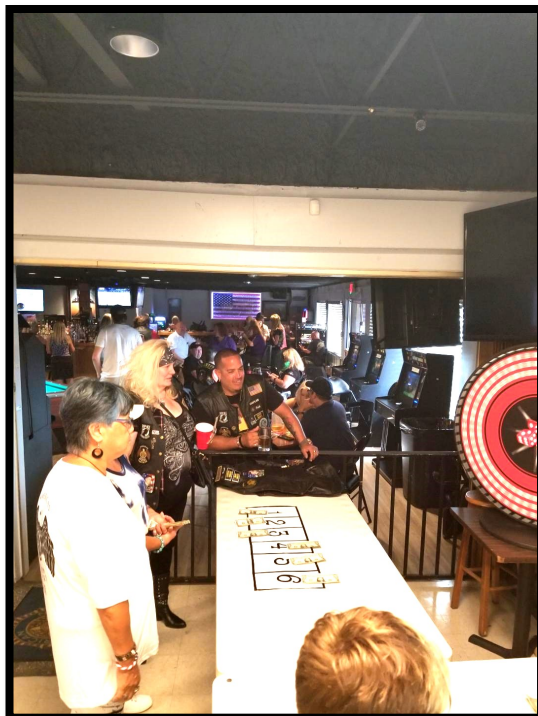
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## Post 152 2021 Scholarship Fundraiser

(Continued)





## Post 152 2021 Scholarship Fundraiser

(Continued)







# **Post 152 2021 Flag Day Ceremony**

**June 14, 2021**

# Post 152 2021 Flag Burning Ceremony

June 14, 2021



## Post 152 2021 Flag Burning Ceremony

(Continued)







**In  
Memoriam:  
Post 152  
Everlasting  
2020-2021**

**Post 152 Everlasting 2020-2021**

*Thomas Armstrong*

*Louís Lítus*

*Ilustre Baytan*

*Randy Olding*

*John Corio*

*Peter Ritter*

*George England*

*Tímothy Roth*

*Don Farley*

*Charles Walker*