

Post 243 Newsletter



Volume 3 | Issue 10 | April 2022

Police, Fire & Legionnaire of the Year Recognition



What a great evening we had celebrating our local first responders. As a bonus, we named our 2022 Post 243 Legionnaire of the Year. This has been uniquely challenging year for our community and our post. It was a special treat to meet those in our community that are committed to serving our citizens and neighbors. The Central Florida Chapter of the Gary Sinise Foundation served us a special meal as part of their Serving Heroes initiative. We are grateful for their support for us and for veterans across our great nation.

Key Dates

- April 27, 10-1200 | VA Medical Counselor
- April 28, 11-1300 | Seminole County Vet Lunch
- April 30, 1300 | Eastern Area Ball
- May 7, 0900 | District Meeting
- May 18, 10-1200 | SC Veteran Service Officer
- May 19, 1800 | Potluck Supper/*Oratorical Participants*
- May 21, 0800 | Florida's Fallen set-up
- May 22-Jun 3 | Florida's Fallen in place
- May 25, 10-1200 | VA Medical Counselor
- May 29, 12-1700 | Blood Drive
- May 30, 1100 | Memorial Day Tribute
- June 1, 10-1200 | SC Veteran Service Officer
- June 4, 0800 | Florida's Fallen take-down
- June 11, 1000 | Flag Retirement (Tremont)
1330 | Bowling for Benefit
- June 15, 10-1200 | SC Veteran Service Officer
- June 16-18 | Department Convention
- June 23, 1800 | Potluck Supper/Installation
- June 29, 10-1200 | SC Veteran Service Officer
& VA Medical Counselor



**Police Officer
of the Year**
Bobby Draughon

**Firefighter
Paramedic
of the Year**
Gavin Jackson



**Legionnaire
of the Year**
Brad Sokoly



Key Date Details

Blood Drive

Walk-ins welcome, appointments preferred. See our calendar page of the website for the link.

Bowling for Injured Warrior Benefit

Come join us to help support wounded veterans. \$5/game (2 min) and your highest score goes towards your branch. Must register by May 14th. navymommmary1@gmail.com.

Department Convention

An agenda for each day will be published on FloridaLegion.org before the event.

District Meeting

Come see what a Constitutional Conference entails. We will carpool from our Post to Post 35 in Mt Dora. Delegates are encouraged to attend to vote on key District business.

Eastern Area Ball

Hosted by Post 183 in Fern Park. Reservations required. Contact Darryl Bass 407-738-3357.

Flag Retirement

In honor of Flag Day, Post 243 will perform flag retirement services at the Tremont. Please arrive 15 minutes early to get set up. Legion caps & shirts..

Florida's Fallen Memorial

More information elsewhere in this newsletter. Please consider helping in a way that you are able.

Installation

Welcome our newly elected and returning officers to their positions at Post 243.

Memorial Day Tribute

Plan on attending to help honor our fallen comrades.

SC Veteran Service Officer

Our Seminole County VSO is at our post only on certain days each month. Watch the calendar or take a picture of the dates on our outside bulletin board.

Seminole County Veterans Appreciation Lunch

At the Sanford Civic Center. Those wishing to carpool, meet at our Post by 1020. Must register to attend: [vetslunch2022.Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

VA Medical Counselor at Post 243

A counselor is scheduled to come the last Wednesday of each month. Available to entire community, spread the word.

Tremont Visitation



We are honored to be able to visit some of our Veterans residing at the Tremont in Oviedo. Meeting them and hearing their stories helps us appreciate those that have come before us and help bring a

thoughtful ear to spouses of veterans who have passed. We've even been able to award some Vietnam Veteran lapel pins during our visits. Thank you to Mike Segura for coordinating these visits and to all members who have gone to visit..



Next Visit

May 11, 1330
space is limited
must coordinate
with Mike

Flag Retirement

June 11, 1000
outside
all invited

We Have a Winner

Member Pizzurro wins the Vietnam Challenge Coin display at Mission BBQ!



Spread the Word

Help like and share our Post activities

Facebook:

[American Legion Oviedo](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionOviedo)

Instagram:

[americanlegionpost243](https://www.instagram.com/americanlegionpost243)

If you'd like to be added to our email distribution, please send your contact information to the email address below. If you need help getting to or from Post events, just ask, we're here to help!

Website: www.OviedoLegion.org

Email: ALMPost243@gmail.com

Cadet of the Year



Local Cadet, Grace Wilson, from Lake Howell High School, was recognized as Department of Florida's Cadet of the Year. Grace will be continuing her education at one of several colleges she has applied to.

From the Commander

I am truly honored to serve as your Post Commander and am committed to continuing to lead our Post during the next year. I look forward to seeing where our membership decides we want to grow in our community and how we can be better connected with our Veteran population.

Thank you to everyone for continuing to support your local post and those that are able to give their time and talents to making this little piece of Oviedo strong and mighty! Help us expand our Veteran network by spreading the word about our post, our activities, and our commitment.

Stay involved! Laurel

Flag Folding & Retirement



Seminole County 4-H and Lake Mary JROTC joined us this month for our quarterly flag activities.



Other Local Winners

Department of Florida also selected the following local students for additional scholarships:

Brialore Campbell

Oviedo High School

3rd place – Cadet of the Year

Lucas Dye

Winter Springs High School

2nd place – General Scholarship

Thomas Roesner

Winter Springs High School

6th place – General Scholarship

Florida's Fallen Memorial (FFM)

Our Post is privileged to be the conservators of the FFM. We can only continue with the support of our members and community members. There are several ways you can help:

- 1) Assist with the installation and take-down. This involves light to medium manual labor.
- 2) Be a Guardian of the Memorial while it is installed. Look at the attached schedule to see where you might be able to volunteer two hours of your time or more to sit at the memorial, answer questions, and serve as the Post representative.
- 3) Help us spread the word. Like and share all events related to the Memorial and our Memorial Day event. Help us find media outlets to post the information so that the entire state of Florida knows about the FFM.

For more information about the Memorial, visit: oviedolegion.org/fl-fallen-memorial



Spring Clean-up

Thank you to all who help maintain our Post home...



And to those who came to do the heavy lifting!



Honoring our Comrades

Long time post member Edward Kershner was honored by our members who recently participated in a Celebration of Life Ceremony where he was transferred to American Legion Post Everlasting.



We also mourn the loss of member John Bentley this month. Thank you to those that provided support for John's family at both services .



Commander's Challenge IT'S BACK!



Learn more about YOUR American Legion, the nation's oldest and largest veteran service organization. I will purchase one 50/50 raffle ticket for every Post 243 member who completes their American Legion Basic Training Course (self-paced, online, free) and sends me their 2021-2022 OR 2022-2023 course completion certificate. If you've previously completed training, it's time to go again! Click [here](#) to create your account and begin.

Voting Ends Thursday!

Reply to 14 April email to vote.

Special thanks to Tom Moon for serving as our Nominating Committee Chair

2022
Florida's Fallen Memorial
Volunteers

	Sunday 22-May	Monday 23-May	Tuesday 24-May	Wednesday 25-May	Thursday 26-May	Friday 27-May	Saturday 28-May	Sunday 29-May	Monday 30-May	Tuesday 31-May	Wednesday 1-Jun	Thursday 2-Jun	Friday 3-Jun
800	Joel Durand 646-606-1241					Erich Erdman 407-625-7862	Erich Erdman 407-625-7862	Erich Erdman 407-625-7862	Erich Erdman 407-625-7862	Erich Erdman 407-625-7862	Erich Erdman 407-625-7862	Erich Erdman 407-625-7862	Erich Erdman 407-625-7862
1000	Erich Erdman 407-625-7862	Ingrid Bryant 407-977-1921	Ingrid Bryant 407-977-1921	Ingrid Bryant 407-977-1921	Ingrid Bryant 407-977-1921	Ingrid Bryant 407-977-1921	Erich Erdman 407-625-7862	Erich Erdman 407-625-7862	Erich Erdman 407-625-7862	Melody Sweigert 407-324-6025 Madelda Thompson	Melody Sweigert 407-324-6025 Madelda Thompson		Madelda Thompson 407-924-7997 Charlotte Bentley
1200	Brad Sokoly 407-353-7096 Maria Rizzo					Daniel Van Tol 407-990-7785							Daniel Van Tol 407-990-7785
1400	Brad Sokoly 407-353-7096 Maria Rizzo												
1600			David & Frankie Godwin 407-493-7338										
1800	Bill & Hope Hyde 407-415-1707	Brad Sokoly 407-353-7096 Maria Rizzo		Bill & Hope Hyde 407-415-1707		Bill & Hope Hyde 407-415-1707			Brad Sokoly 407-353-7096 Maria Rizzo				

volunteer requests: almpost243@gmail.com
you will receive a confirmation email

as of 4/24/2022

Volunteers sign up for two-hour blocks of time to sit at the Memorial. Chairs, table and canopy are provided. Volunteers need to bring their own cell phones, water, sunscreen and bug spray.

To volunteer, contact almpost243@gmail.com with your name, phone number and times you are requesting. You will receive a confirmation email once you have been scheduled.

The schedule will be posted on our website at the bottom of the Calendar page periodically oviedolegion.org/calendar-1. Be sure to note the “as of” date at the lower right corner.