



# The American Legion

## Bruckenthal - Cann Post 385 Newsletter



Serving Weston, Pembroke Pines, Miramar, Davie, Southwest Ranches & Sunrise

WINTER 2014

Chartered June 16, 2005 Website: [www.alpost385fl.com](http://www.alpost385fl.com)

Volume 9 Number 2

### Commander's Corner

I hope and pray that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year. This new year brings us with many tasks ahead.

The first, of course, is membership. We're down from last year and may be in the position of not making our goal for this year. It would only be the second time in our Post's history we haven't made the 100 % mark. If you haven't renewed by now, please do so a.s.a.p. !

Upcoming events include the Orange Blossom Parade in Davie on February 28th. We'd love to have as many members as possible marching with us this year.

The 4 Chaplains Service was held at the Coast Guard Station at John U. Lloyd State Park on Sunday Feb 8th at 2:00. We had many V.I.P.'s.

Again this year we will have another two students going to Boys State in Tallahassee.

Let's all come together as one great family and make 2015 the best year our Post has ever had.

For God and Country,

Jim Tewes



The 9th District Ball with Department Membership Chairman Stephen Shuga, George Koren, Teddy Pomerantz and James Tewes.

James Tewes and Joe Motes each received a membership awards.



#### OUR MEETINGS FOR THE 2014 - 2015:

March 3, 2015, April 7, 2015, May 5, 2015

Our Post meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm between September and May.

at the *YWCA Pembroke Falls Aquatic Center*

Please check our website for the map or call me for information on each months meeting.

954-441-8735 or 954-559-3202.

Facebook Page: American Legion Post 385

## REMEMBERING OUR FALLEN POST 385 MEMBERS

Our Post 385 Commander would kindly request that all Post members make arrangements for relatives or friends to notify our Post upon your passing so that we can properly honor your military service and membership in the American Legion.



**For God and Country**

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305-436-8507 fax  
Email: [ewagner@itcaog.com](mailto:ewagner@itcaog.com)



### AMERICAN LEGION POST 385 USA Flags Program for retirement

Please bring your old USA Flags for retirement.

Bring them to the meetings or call Teddy Pomerantz at 230-494-9715 to arrange a Pickup.



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## Military Gun Salutes

By- Bob Nagle, Post Chaplain

**We see honors bestowed in the military communities, but how well do you know what they mean?**

U.S. Military salutes can wrench emotion from one's soul. Who can hold back a tear when shots echo through the countryside at a funeral, or not be overwhelmed with pride when the big guns on a ship roar across the seas?

These salutes are steeped in military tradition, some dating back hundreds of years. But, there are many misconceptions about military salutes. This is understandable, though, considering the number of salutes for various occasions. Some have even changed over the years, sometimes through acts of Congress. All of them, however, are intended to demonstrate great honor to those for whom they are conducted. This includes fallen members of the military, presidents, heads of state and even the nation.

### Three Volley Salute

One misconception is calling the shots fired at a military funeral a 21-gun salute. Even if there are seven soldiers firing three rounds each, this is not a 21-gun salute, because the soldiers aren't using guns, they're using rifles. In the military, guns are considered artillery. Instead, the shots fired during a military funeral are called the firing of three volleys in honor of the fallen.

The firing of three volleys dates back to the custom of ceasing hostilities to remove the dead from the battlefield. Once finished, both sides would fire three volleys to signal that they were ready to resume the battle.

During the firing of three volleys, the rifles are fired three times simultaneously by the honor guard. Any service member who died on active duty, as well as honorably discharged veterans and military retirees, can receive a military funeral, which includes the three volleys, the playing of taps and a United States flag presented to the next of kin. Three spent cases are usually inserted into the folded flag, one representing each volley fired.

### 21-Gun Salute

The 21-Gun Salute hails from naval tradition where a warship would fire its cannons, rendering them unloaded, to signify its lack of hostile intentions. Ships would typically fire seven shots. Whether this is because that was the traditional number of guns on a British warship or because it is of biblical significance is unknown. Forts, having more ammunition, would fire three shots for every shot by a ship. Of course, this wasn't set in stone, and the number of shots fired differed greatly depending on the country.

Today, the 21-Gun Salute is fired by artillery batteries in honor of the U.S. President, former presidents, the President-elect and heads of foreign states upon their arrival and departure of a military installation. "Hail to the Chief" or the national anthem of the visiting dignitary is also played. The salute is also fired at noon on the day of a funeral of the President, former presidents and the President-elect, as well as Memorial Day in honor of America's fallen, and on Washington's Birthday.

In addition, a 19-Gun Salute is fired in honor of other dignitaries such as the Vice President, the Speaker of the House, president pro tempore of the Senate, Chief Justice of the United States, state governors, chiefs of staff and 5-Star Generals. There is a ranking system for salutes to lower-ranking generals and other dignitaries consisting of dropping two guns for each flag rank junior to a 5-Star General.

### Salute to the Nation

The practice of firing one shot for each state was officially established in 1810, which at the time was only 17 guns. This tradition continued until 1841 when it was established as 21 guns. Current tradition has the Salute to the Nation as 50 shots by capable military bases, one for each state in the union, fired at noon on Independence Day, with naval vessels firing a 21-gun salute.

### Veteran's Day

While there isn't a gun salute dedicated to veterans, November 11 is a day when the U.S. and many World War I allied countries commemorate the sacrifices made by the men and women who served in the armed forces. Veteran's Day is often confused with Memorial Day, which is when we honor those who have fallen in service of our country. Veteran's Day celebrates all military service members, not just those who died.

Veteran's Day was first created as Armistice Day by President Woodrow Wilson in 1919 to mark the end of World War I. In 1938, Congress made November 11 a national holiday. Then, on June 1, 1954, President Eisenhower signed legislation that changed the name to Veteran's Day to celebrate all military veterans.

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## Since 9/11 Facts about our military

1.9 million Americans have deployed.  
876,000 are parents.  
245,000 have been away twice,  
91,000 three times,  
48,000 four or more times.

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**Commander James Tewes and Judge Advocate Joe Motes presented a \$200 check to Boy Scout Troop 224 during their Fall Court of Honor.**



Post 385 celebrated Veterans Day by attending the Pembroke Pines ceremonies at Civic Center Park and late at Applebee's in Southwest Ranches. Members participating were James Tewes, Joe Motes, Teddy Pomerantz, Alberto Darby, Carol Fraser, George Koren, Robert & Lorraine Angelotti, Vince Mancusi, Ray Aguiar, and Bob Nagle.

COMMUNITY NEWS



## Boy Scout Troop Conducts American Flag Retirement Ceremony

BY DEBBY TEICH



burning. Members of American Legion Pembroke Pines Post 385 and the Honor Guard participated in the ceremony.

Troop 224 has been providing this service for the past 13 years. They still have over 100 additional flags to retire and will conduct another ceremony in the next few months.

"This is a very important function the troop performs that should not be viewed lightly," said Santos.

Throughout the years, members of American Legion Pembroke Pines Post 385 have attended and supported Troop 224's fundraisers, including the Pancake Breakfasts and Spaghetti Dinners. They also provide them with an annual donation, and support their Court of Honor by recognizing their Eagle Scouts with an American Legion Good Citizenship certificate from the post.

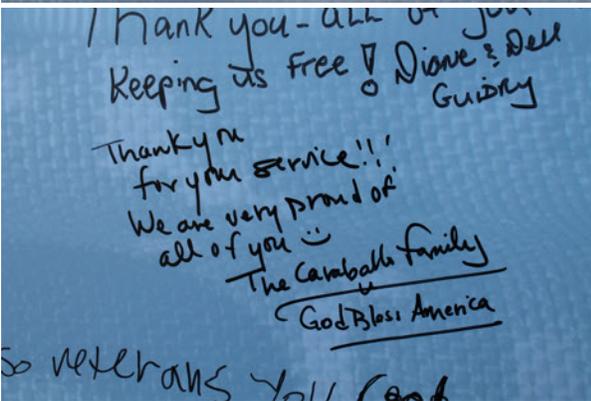
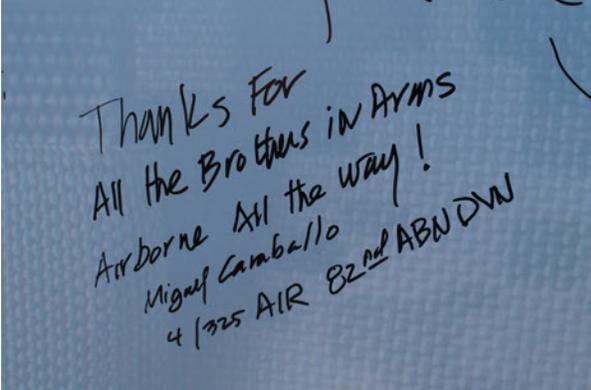
To submit a flag for retirement, call Joe Motes at 954-559-3202 or Yolanda L. Santos at 954-873-4920.

**F**OR MORE THAN 200 YEARS, THE AMERICAN FLAG HAS REPRESENTED our nation's strength and unity. Boy Scout Troop 224, which meets in Pembroke Pines, recently conducted an American Flag Retirement Ceremony to honor and dispose of over 100 flags that were faded, worn, frayed or tattered.

"The flag is an important symbol of our nation," said Yolanda Santos, Boy Scout Chair and Public Relations Officer for American Legion Pembroke Pines Post 385, which supports Troop 224. "It is one that Americans have died defending, and it deserves an honorable retirement. The flags were accorded the same dignity at the end that they rightly received during their lifetime."

The troop collected flags from various businesses, Legion Posts, VFW posts, and the general public. They disposed of them according to a Federal law that stipulates many aspects of flag etiquette. After the flags were given a proper retirement ceremony, they were burned with dignity. The flags received a final salute before and after the





The top photo was mailed to us with a couple of nice Thank You notes to us from our Applebees Veteran's Day welcoming.



Veterans Appreciation Day with Jim Tewes, Joe Motes, Teddy Pomerantz and George Koren at Broward College Buehler Planetarium



Commander James Tewes presents the Americanism Medal to a Cadet from the Pembroke Pines - Miramar Squadron during their Fall awards ceremonies.



Joe Motes celebrating Halloween with two V.A. Staff members at the South Florida Out Patient Clinic in Sunrise.



Joe Motes present an Eagle Scout certificate to a scout from the Deerfield Beach Scout Troop.



Brett Alayon, our Boys State student spoke to our Post about his adventure at Boys State in Tallahassee, he was awarded the Boys State medallion, cap and bumper sticker for his car.



Jim Tewes, Joe Motes and Dept Commander Jay Conti celebration the Christmas Holidays with the Veterans and the Hooter Girls at the Sunrise V.A. Clinic.



Carol Fraser and Joe Motes celebration their birthdays at Benihana in October.

Installation of Post 385 Officers during our September meeting, officers being installed were James Tewes, Carol Fraser, Alberto Darby, Teddy Pomerantz, Joe Motes, Ray Aguiar and Bob Nagle.

**Chaplain's Corner By Bob Nagle**

**Meet America's oldest living vet. He smokes cigars, does yard work, drives and drinks whiskey. And he's 108.**

Richard Overton, 108, is thought to be the oldest living veteran in the United States. But he's as active as ever.

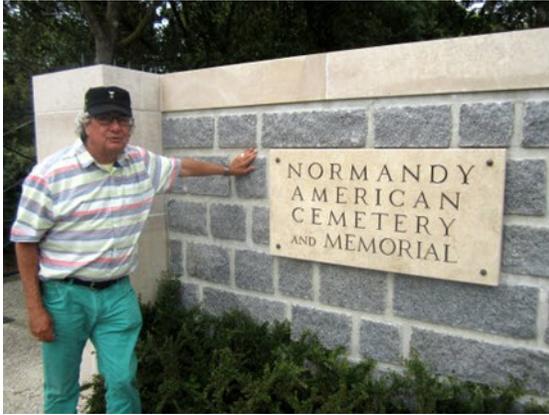
On Tuesday, shortly after he served as grand marshal in Austin's Veteran's Day Parade, Overton was relaxing on the porch of his Texas home — the same house he bought when he returned from World War II (he paid \$4,000 for the house. This year's parade, was "fine, lovely, beautiful. The best one I've seen yet."

"It made me feel good. I appreciate everything they're doing," Overton said. "I had my name and age on the side of the car, and they couldn't believe it. I was still walking and talking and riding along and everything."

Overton used to start his days with some whiskey in his coffee, and he still adds a teaspoon from time-to-time. "It's just like medicine," he said. Overton smokes cigars daily, too. "I'm smoking one now," he said.

Indeed, Overton hasn't slowed down much and remains sharp. He still drives his old Ford pickup truck, attends church every Sunday and has been known to help to transport widows to church, and [he still does yard work](#).

Reminder: He is 108 years old. *One. Hundred. And. Eight.*



The following photos were taken by one of our Post member who was at Normandy when this child stood at attention for several hours to honor our fallen soldiers at Normandy.



Yolanda Santos attended the Tuskegee Airman Red Tail Pilots Memorial at the 2014 Veterans Day Wreath Laying Ceremony, Orlando, FL in November 2014.



Wreaths Across America with Yolanda Santos, Jim Tewes, Joe Motes, Teddy Pomerantz at South Florida National Cemetery on December 13th, 2014.

When asked the key to a long life, he said, “You have to ask God about that. He brought me here and he’s taking care of me, and nothing I can do about it.” He added: “I can talk about what he’s doing for me.”

Overton, born in 1906 in Texas, [served in the Pacific Theater](#) from 1942 to 1945 as part of the all-black 1887th Engineer Aviation Battalion.

“War’s nothing to be into,” Overton said. “You don’t want to go into the war if you don’t have to. But I had to go. I enjoyed it after I went and came back, but I didn’t enjoy it when I was over there. I had to do things I didn’t want to do.”

Upon returning from the war, he worked at an Austin furniture store. He said that he first retired at age 65, but that he kept being asked to come back and was hired four more times. “I got near 100 and finally quit,” he said. “They still wanted me back.”

Last year, he traveled to Washington and got to meet President Obama, who spoke about him at an event at Arlington National Cemetery.

“When the war ended, Richard headed home to Texas to a nation bitterly divided by race,” Obama said. “And his service on the battlefield was not always matched by the respect that he deserved at home. But this veteran held his head high. He carried on and lived his life with honor and dignity.”

Overton is the cousin of the late Austin [civil rights leader Volma Overton](#), who also served in World War II as a Marine and went on to become the longtime president of the Austin NAACP.

Although Overton may be the oldest living vet, it’s not by much: He’s [only three days older](#) than Lucy Coffey, the [oldest living female vet](#), who joined the Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps in 1943.



### Adjutant’s Report

My Fellow Post 385 Legionnaires,  
I like to start off to wish our Legionnaires and their family a healthy and prosperous New Year.  
Since the start of our new membership year, we were on track with our renewals for the first 5 months with receiving awards. As of the month of January our renewal percentage is way down. I sent an email out in November about bringing up our renewals and only about 2% responded. So with that let’s bring Post 385 back on top.



**Commander James Tewes, Adjutant Teddy Pomerantz, P.R. Yolanda Santos attended the American Legion Fall Conference attending classes and business meetings.**

Our post participated in Wreaths across America at Lake Worth National Cemetery and laid wreaths at our member’s sites. The post also participated at the Pembroke Pines Veterans Day ceremony. If we can get more participation at events it will be greatly appreciated. Again currently we have a collection of worn out American Flags to be retired properly by our local Boy Scout Troop. If you have any of these items please save them and we will arrange a pickup, please call me anytime at 230-494-9715 to set up a pickup.  
I just want to thank everyone for your outstanding support. I thank you now for a great year.  
For God and Country, Teddy Pomerantz



*To Eat Well Is  
To Live Well.*

**Rachel Kelley**  
General Manager

954-431-1341  
Fax-954-431-1241

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Special Events Coordinator

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www.acfp.com

office 954 443 6471  
pembrokepines@acfp.com



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**Nathan Bruckenthal - Adam Cann Memorial  
American Legion Post 385  
2133 NW 208 Terrace  
Pembroke Pines FL 33029-2320**

***Post 385 Active Charter Members***

Kenneth Baranik	John Boyle
Dominick Froio	Peter Moore
Joseph Motes	Roy Schofield
Dennis Teitge	



**2014 - 2015 Post 385 Officers**

COMMANDER - JAMES TEWES  
954-655-2833  
jaws2z@comcast.net

VICE COMMANDER - ALBERTO DARBY  
954-665-0105  
Darbyal@aol.com

VICE COMMANDER - CAROL FRASER  
954-436-7168  
cafraser34@comcast.net

ADJUTANT & FINANCE OFFICER - TEDDY POMERANTZ  
203-494-9715  
Ted.Pomerantz@snet.net

JUDGE ADVOCATE - JOSEPH MOTES  
954-559-3202  
Joemotes@aol.com

SERVICE OFFICER - RAY AGUIAR  
954-646-9460  
ramonaguaiar@comcast.net

SGT-AT-ARMS - GEORGE KOREN  
gkoren44@aol.com

CHAPLAIN - ROBERT NAGLE  
954-432-2440  
casailio@hotmail.com

HISTORIAN - CAROL FRASER  
954-436-7168  
cafraser34@comcast.net

PUBLIC RELATIONS - YOLANDA SANTOS  
(954) 433-4920  
airforce\_1985@comcast.net

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**Post 385 Taps**

Leonard Saver	01/06/06	
Stewart Fraser	09/01/06	
Frank Fong	03/24/07	Charter member
John B. Franz	09/05/07	
Jack Finkelstein	09/07/07	
Joseph Buchler	10/07/07	
Helen Franz	10/24/07	
Myron Pavlik	11/18/07	
Juan R. Zayas	12/29/07	
Morris Weinstein	04/03/08	
John A. Sexton	04/09/08	
Andrew Hudson	07/07/08	
Raymond G. Chote	2008	
Eugene V. Palermo	10/11/08	
Alvin Harold Chanin	03/15/09	
Anthony J. Radzville	02/03/09	
Fred Green	03/24/09	
William Engel	01/31/10	
Barrett Balsam	04/01/10	
Felix Giuffre	04/10/10	
Frank Dingfelder	06/24/10	Post Vice Cmdr.
Robert J. Dolin	06/26/10	
Luis A. Soto	07/21/10	
Vincent W. Shevlin	10/12/10	
William Spiekerman	03/20/11	
Rene "Al" Kirouac	04/08/11	
Guy F. Walters	05/03/11	
Edward J. Bleyer	09/06/11	
Cooper Camp	09/18/11	
Clinton Lingerfelt	11/28/11	
Jordan D. Raileanu	12/27/11	
Donald Korn	04/08/12	
George W. Wilsher	06/14/12	
Elbert Armstrong	10/13/12	
Angelo Peretto	01/27/13	
James Beicher	02/03/13	
Alvin Trilling	02/14/13	
Julius Smalkin	08/13/13	
Arthur Aiss	08/21/13	
Thomas A. Flynn	08/05/14	
Joseph Pezzulo	01/03/15	