




The Ribbiting News Communique

President's Message

I have to say that traveling around the state, touring and visiting facilities, and meeting members is fantastic. It is also very overwhelming to say the least. After each official visit, I get home with a lot of new information leaping around in my head ☺ and think "how wonderful is this ... I belong to such a great organization of wonderful members!"



In my travels I have had several members comment about the fact that for District positions the same people keep serving over and over – and no one else is ever asked. My response to that comment and the point I want to get across to everyone now is this: If you're interested in a position – at any level – step forward and say you're interested. Let the incoming President (Unit, District, Department) know what you're interested in. I don't know any mind readers in the Department ... so speak up! I know we have a lot of members out there who have the knowledge and ability to serve in different positions. Please step up to the plate. Thanks for listening ... and thanks for everything you do for our great organization.

Membership: The April 13th report from Headquarters shows Department at 95.18% ... thank you to everyone! Nationals' April 11th report shows Florida in 7th place. We cannot slow down ... I know everyone would like to see Department make 100% in membership

this year. If we all pull together and give those last big pushes, we can do it. ☺

"Honoring Their Service" Commemorative Buttons are still available from National Headquarters. This is a great membership tool. I have been stopped many times by people inquiring about my pin showing 'My Hero' Chuck! It begins great conversations that lead to eligibility to the American Legion Family. The order form was included in the November 2011 issue of The Ribbiting News – so you can find it there, on National's website, or email me and I'll email you the form. Show off your hero on a commemorative button. ☺

Homeless Veterans: I'm going to again beg for information! ☺ As you all know, my Special Project is Homeless Veterans. In my travels, many members told me what they'd done – either 'hands-on' or financially – for homeless veterans directly and through various veterans' organizations. When it was mentioned to me, I always requested that the information be emailed to me so I could brag about it in the Ribbiting News and so I could consolidate it into my year-end report. Well ... I haven't received as much input as I should have from members and Units out there. ☺ I love to brag about everyone ... and I know you like to see your name in writing ... so one more time (& this is the last time I can request info in time to brag about it during my year as Department President!) ... PLEASE email me information now – put on the subject line "Homeless Veterans" – email to president@alaf1.org. Thank you.

My recent travels: I've put on a lot of miles and had lots of smiles since the last Ribbiting News. ☺ It's hard to tell "the long story short" so here goes. March 14th to the 16th found me touring around the 7th District with President Nancy. On March 14th, we toured the Sunshine Village (aka Sunshine Foundation's Dream Village) in Davenport. Their mission and sole purpose is "to answer the dreams of chronically ill, seriously ill, physically challenged and abused children ages 3 to 18, whose families cannot fulfill their requests due to financial strain that the child's illness may cause." We visited each of the cabins – decorated in different themes – and were honored to meet Bill Sample, Founder & President of Sunshine Foundation. Read all about it at www.sunshinefoundation.org/dreamvillage.html. ☺ Had a great lunch with members of Unit 8, Winter Haven – and then dinner with members of Unit 72, Mulberry. On March 15th, after breakfast at Chalet Suzanne – such a beautiful, historic inn – we were off and running – members of Unit 3, Bartow, had set up a lunch meeting with 2 reps from the Polk County Veterans Service Office – and a lot of questions were answered while eating a great lunch on the porch of the Stanford Inn & Tea Room. During my visit in the 7th, I also had the chance to meet members from several units at dinners and lunches too ... sorry, can't list all places and meetings or this would go on for pages! I was thrilled to have dinner with PDP Betty Barber one evening. Oh yes, Nancy and I took a couple of hours to relax and get a little walking exercise in at Bok Tower Gardens. Thanks everyone for your hospitality and friendship.



Immediately following activities for my “official visit” in the 7th District, I stayed in the area to attend the Homecoming of National S.A.L. Commander Jim Roberts. Enjoyed a great dinner at Post 8, Winter Haven, on Friday evening ... attended the Central Area Riders’ meeting Saturday afternoon at Post 72, Mulberry -& presented Jaebird with a Biker Babe Frog (go figure!) ... and Saturday evening attended the great homecoming gathering for Commander Jim at the Imperial Swan in Lakeland. Also, National President Kris Nelson attended these festivities ... and Chuck and I got to spend time with President Kris and her husband Terry – just relaxing and chatting – we really enjoyed the one-on-one time with them. ☺

March 21st to 23rd found me in the 2nd District touring around with President Kathee. Wednesday evening found us enjoying a great gathering and dinner with members of Unit 84, Havana, and Unit 217, Quincy, at the West Side Grill in Quincy. Thursday we had lunch with a great group of members from Unit 82, Lanark Village, at Carrabelle River Marina. We stopped quickly for a “photo op” at the World’s Smallest Police Station in Carrabelle and then went to the WWII Museum. Then many miles were put on to get us up to Marianna to join members of Unit 100, Marianna, and Unit 241, Sneads, in attending the 4th Annual Classic Southern Desserts benefit fundraiser for the Jackson County Public Library. Hmm ... wonder why they thought I’d like desserts?! ☺ Yummy – and no, I didn’t go to the ‘sugar free’ table like I should have! A great time was had by all. Friday, Kathee and I visited the Veterans’ Homeless Shelter in Tallahassee ... then had the great pleasure of joining our VA Outpatient Clinic Deputy Pleasant Mae Fisher for a tour of the clinic facility along with Administrative Officer Steve White. Then we went to Julie’s Restaurant where I had the honor of meeting many members of Unit 13, Tallahassee, and Unit 114, Crawfordville. We had a wonderful visit and buffet lunch. From there, I headed west to the 1st District:

District President Jane wasted no time in getting me hopping around the 1st District! Friday evening was food and fun at Post 356, Lynn Haven, with members of the whole American Legion Family. The fish

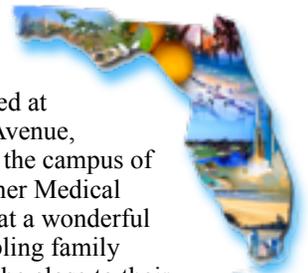
fry put on by the S.A.L. Squadron was delicious ... the relaxed atmosphere of chatting and listening (& yes, singing & dancing) to karaoke was great. Was honored to have a couple of singers actually singing to me! ☺ A good time was had by all – as they say! Saturday found us touring the new Fisher House at Eglin Air Force Base – stupendous ... then enjoying a great visit with PDP O.T. at her house ...& then enjoying an evening at 296, Destin – great dinner and then relaxing with members. Sunday found us enjoying brunch at Post 340 with members from Pensacola Units 340 and 193 ... before heading out to the Navy Base Museum – what a fascinating place. Thank you 1st District. Look forward to future visits.

Left Pensacola on Monday morning – actually had the day to enjoy traveling along the white sandy beaches – stopped and put my feet into the sand and water – and made my way to Tallahassee (in the 3rd District) to enjoy a steak dinner with our NEC Irma Wehrli. ☺ The next 2 days found me leaping around the 3rd District with President Mary. We toured the Lake City VAMC with our Rep. Elaine Warner and others, ate lunch in the cafeteria, then toured the Jenkins State Nursing Home ... where FYI they are in need of heavy duty rocking chairs. That evening was a great potluck dinner at Lake City 57 with members from Unit 57 and Unit 383, Old Town and their American Legion Families. Lots of good cooks there! ☺ Wednesday, toured Cabin In The Woods where we got to meet several of the previously homeless veterans who are now residing there. After lunch, we went back to the Lake City VAMC ... and I was honored to help Post and Unit 57 do bingo for the veterans there. I loved it. ☺ Again ... another fabulous visit.

March 31st found me honored to be at Camp Boggy Creek for The 5th Annual Schwarzkopf Society Recognition Luncheon. Wow ... what a feast Olive Garden puts on for this event. Even though the Department is not a member of the “Society,” we were invited and I was thrilled to attend. Come on everyone ... we must continue to support Camp Boggy Creek!

Last – but certainly not least – my last “official visit” was to “my own District” – the 6th District. On April 6th, we were able

to tour the Ronald McDonald House located at 1630 Kuhl Avenue, Orlando, on the campus of Arnold Palmer Medical Center. What a wonderful place – enabling family members to be close to their hospitalized children. I should have started by saying that we were “Hopping” around the 6th District ... because our next stop was the Russell Home where I was thrilled to be the Easter Bunny at their Easter Egg Hunt. The Russell Home is for ‘Atypical children’ – those children with a special need, whether mental or physical. Everyone was excited to have the Easter Bunny visit, pass out candy-filled plastic eggs, give hugs, and pose for pictures with all who wanted to. It was a visit that deeply impacted this Easter Bunny’s heart – I will never forget the visit and hearing them shout “We love you Easter Bunny!”



This past weekend Chuck and I attended Detachment of Florida Commander Bill Kelly’s homecoming at Post 137 in Jacksonville ... which included a homecoming “roast” by some and gift presentations by others. ☺ Following the festivities, entertainment by Sally Langwah was awesome ... so we danced until it ended. Yes, these ‘frog legs’ of mine are tired. LOL.

Well, it’s hard to believe that my Homecoming is April 21st ... and then Commander Williams’ the following Saturday. Where has the year gone? ☺ Until the gavel has sounded the end of Convention on June 9th, I will be on the road to Constitutional Conferences, putting together the consolidated report for National, and putting my year-end report together. ☺ Ribbitt!

Leap To Success,

Diane Rousseau
Department President





Chaplain's Report

Greetings in the name of the Lord:
 I am in Pittsburgh, PA at this writing, with my husband.
 Bob had a Kidney transplant
 on April 4, 2012. We will be in Pittsburg for several weeks.
 Bob is doing well. We take comfort
 in the words of Psalms 91: 11 and 12. "For He shall give His
 angels charge over you, to keep you in
 your way. In their hands, they shall bear you up."



Deceased list;

- District # 1
 - Unit 1 Faircloth, Betty Thurman
- District # 2
 - Unit 217 Robinson, Lillian
Smith, Fannie
Wells, Hazel
- District # 4
 - Unit 27 Orr, Henrietta (Betty)
- District # 5
 - Unit 88 Showalter, Deidre D.
- District # 6
 - Unit 80 Cook, Joan
Hardy, Pamela
Pradera, Lillian
 - Unit 183 Crawford, Laurie
Warner, Nina
- District # 7
 - Unit 8 McNeal, Patricia H.
Powell, Annie
Rella, Lorraine M.
Thomas, Glenda
- District # 8
 - Unit 69 Biever, Dorothy
 - Unit 113 Saccoccio, Paula
- District #9
 - Unit 36 Dorand, Lynda
Guiheen, Diane
Patterson, Mary
 - Unit 83 Sapp, Dorothy
 - Unit 162 Labutis, Cathy R.
Penny, Paricia
- District # 11
 - Unit 277 Harrington, Rita
- District # 113
 - Unit 110 Craig, Lillian D.
Grant, Dorothy V.
 - Unit 135 Allen, Lois P.

District #15

- Unit 138 Thibodeaux, Eugenia
- Unit 139 Finnis, Mary A.
Garrity, Frieda
Kitt, Vera
Schumann, Katherine A.
Vanetten, Adele A.
Winchell, Gracie F.
- Unit 148 Russell, Joan M.
- Unit 152 Lubrano, Karen
Cox, Marvis
- Unit 186 Daly, Karen
Muzzy, Winifred
Valencia, Dorothy
- Unit 334
- District # 16
 - Unit 119 Claridge, Morgan L.
 - Unit 125 Carr, Tasha L.
Fowler, Jane M.
George, Nancy
McCarthy, Carol
Richards, Rhea A.
Scott, Carol J.
Seaman, Roseanne
Wilson, Nellie
- Unit 238 Cline, Mary J.
Morgan, Wava K.
Perry Magdalene M.
- Unit 273 Siezega, Elaine
- Unit 275 Butts, Margaret

May God Bless you all today and tomorrow.

Marion Vick
Department of Florida Chaplain



From the Secretary's Pad...



Unit Compliance . . .

I am amazed by the number of calls I have received regarding the Units responsibility to be in full compliance with the Department's Constitution & Bylaws requiring they file an annual report with the IRS and be incorporated with the State of Florida.

This office has been providing Units with this information beginning in 2006, preparing Units to begin filing with the IRS as of 2007. Every Communiqué has contained information regarding the steps to insure compliance and informative meetings held at every Department Conference. This entire process was not complicated. The IRS actually made it quite easy for units to become in compliance and we offered our assistance on every level. Filing the 990 reports, Being Incorporated and renewing each year, insuring the Unit name is correct and the fiscal year matches Department's is the Unit's responsibility.

Year-end report forms . . . were due to the District Chairman by April 15th. All Unit year-end report forms were included with the Plans of Action received by Unit Presidents and Secretaries in the beginning of the year.

District Year-end Report forms were included with the District Presidents and Secretaries Plans of Action.

All Plans of Action and report forms are on the Department web site. There is no consolidated report form this year.

Election of Unit Officers . . . In accordance with Article V, Section 6 of the Department Bylaws, all officers of the Unit with the exception of the Secretary who may be appointed by the President **shall be elected not more that sixty (60) days nor less that fifteen (15) days prior to Department Convention.** Consequently, **Unit elections cannot be held before April 9, 2012 nor after May 24, 2012.**

In the event your Unit's Constitution & Bylaws are still in conflict with Department Bylaws regarding election of officers, they are void per Article V, Section 6 of the Department Bylaws.

Remember . . . unless your Unit's Constitution & Bylaws state that nominations close at a specific meeting, the floor must be opened for nominations the night of elections.

Unit Officer's Form . . . the 2012 - 2013 Unit Officer's was mailed to each unit. Please use the form provided to report your Unit election results. Complete the form carefully, as additional information has been included. This form is also available on the Department web site under forms in a fill-able document. You can complete the form on your computer, save the form to your computer fill it out, print it and mail it to Department or email it to adminasst@alaf1.org.

Constitutional Conference. . .Registration paperwork and voting strength information is being sent each Unit President approximately two weeks before their District Conference.

There is no fee to register your delegates for the District Constitutional Conference and by now, each District President should have mailed information regarding their conference to each Unit in their District.

All delegates to Constitutional Conference must be elected by their Unit and registered using the form provided. Only registered

delegates have a vote at the Conference and only the District President has her own vote. Any other Department Officer or Past Department President, must be elected by their Unit to be a registered delegate at a Constitutional Conference.

Department Convention, June 7 - 10, 2012 . . . the "Call to Convention" was mailed to all units on April 10th. There are no planned activities for juniors at this year's Convention. If they attend the Convention, they must be registered as a guest of the Unit. No junior may represent a unit as a delegate or alternate.

Close of Books . . . Department will close its books on May 24, 2012. Membership must be received no later than noon on the 24th to count in Close of Books. Voting strength for Convention as well as next year's goals will be based on the membership figures as of this date. Remember, all credits must be used by this date.

Girls State. . . Packets were mailed to all Delegates, Alternates, District Presidents, District Girls State Chairmen, and 2012 Girls State Staff the week of April 10th.. Orientation schedules were included in each packet. These Orientations are mandatory for the Delegates and Alternates to attend. They are entitled to attend any Orientation in the State if they are unable to attend the one in their area. It is important they sign-in at the Orientation so we know they were in attendance. They are not required to notify anyone of the change. Attendance is tracked at Department Headquarters.

Donations . . . we continue to receive donations to places that are not listed on the Donation Remittance Form. **If the place your Unit wants to donate to, is not listed on the form, your Unit must donate directly.** We will only process donations included on the approved 2012 Donation Remittance Form.

**Please keep the following people
in your thoughts and prayers.**

First District President, Jane Hardacre, is recuperating from recent surgery. Her address is 504W 26th St, Lynn Haven FL 324544.

PDP, Jean Mahoney, is recovering from a bad fall that caused a cracked pelvic bone and a fracture in her Lombard vertebra. Her address is 120 South Boulevard #1A, Boynton Beach FL 33435.

Department Chaplain, Robert Vick, is recuperating from a kidney transplant in PA. We do not have an address to mail something to them, but please keep both Bob and Marion in your prayers.

Department of Florida's NEC, Bob Proctor, continues to fight for his life following many medical issues. His address is 209 Mark Twain Lane, Rotonda West FL 33947.

Congratulations go out to newlywed, PDP Mary Kelly-Perkins, now Mary A. Kehoe. PO Box 6593, Spring Hill FL 34611.

Remember, donations must be in Department Headquarters by May 31st to count for the 2012 year. **Please be aware that Department's deadline for Child Welfare donations to National is also May 31st, so please do not wait until the last minute to get that donation to us.** We overnight our donation



on the 30th. We want your donation to be included!

Unit Information Forms . . .Several Units have not returned the Unit Information Form validating the Unit's address and amount of your Unit's dues for both senior and junior. We **MUST** report this information to National no later than May 1st. Remember the per capita due Department will increase to \$16.50 even if your Unit's dues are not sufficient to cover this amount.

A dues change requires action of your Unit body with a change to the unit's constitution and bylaws. Placing the new amount in your standing rules will not work. Time is running out to make this change. Again, we reported to Units following the National Convention the dues increase. Units have had a year to update their documents and increase their dues to accommodate this increase "Lack of planning on your part, does not constitute an emergency on

mine." Wise words, I wish I could remember where I heard them!
On a personal note: Thank you to everyone that has sent well wishes for my sister in California and my grandson, CJ. It has been difficult being so far away from my sister while she goes through her health crisis, knowing she has no family near her. She is stable, though facing more surgery, as I am; she is overwhelmed by the thoughtfulness of our members with their well wishes for her. As for CJ, he is holding his own at this time, waiting to be treated at All Children's Hospital for his condition of the bone. The prognosis is bleak, at least we now have a diagnosis and that is something! Please keep your prayers coming. Thank you!

Robin Briere
Secretary-Treasurer



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Any application for new membership accepted from this date until September 1st **MUST** be processed for the 2012 membership year.

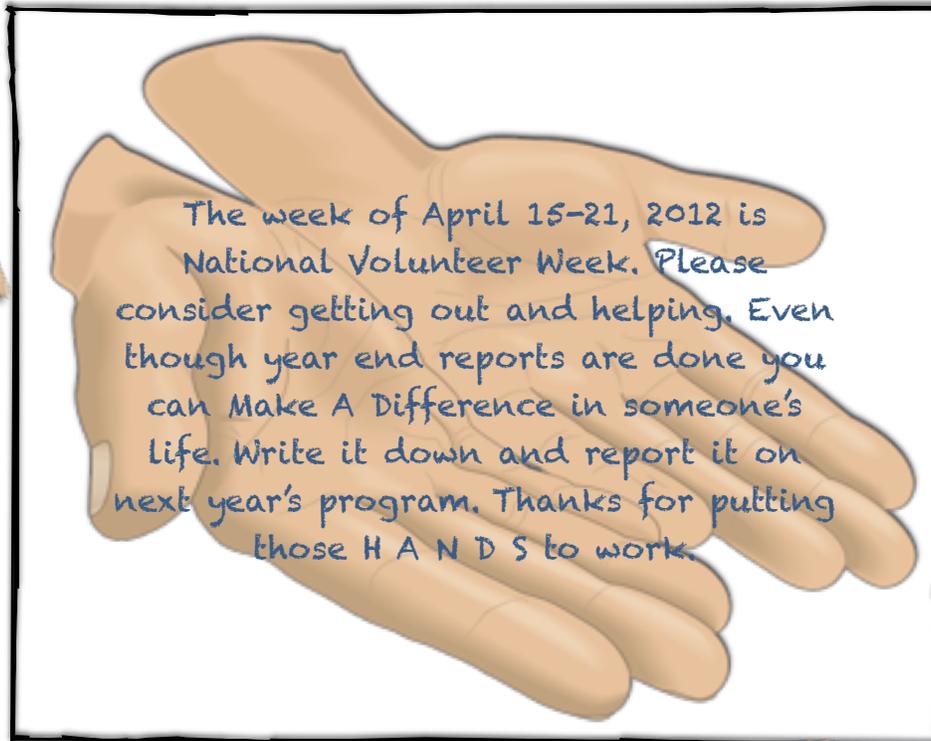
Units are not allowed to accept money for membership and hold it. If you do not wish to sign a member up for the **2012 year**, do not accept their application or payment until September 1st or later.

Any application received in this office before September 1st or after September 1st, that is dated by either the member or Post Officer before September 1, 2012 will be processed for the 2012 year irregardless of the year listed on the recap sheet.

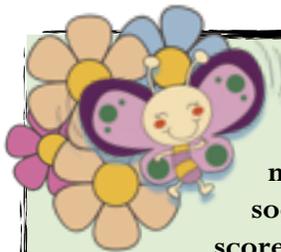
It is very important that all units understand their responsibility to process membership to Department for the year, in-which it was accepted. No Unit has the right to collect membership in one year and hold it to another. **New membership can not be accepted for the 2013 year until September 1, 2012.** Only renewals can be processed before September 1, 2012.

If you mail new applications to this office before September 1, 2012, we will process them for 2012 and once they are processed we will not reverse the action.

Make sure all members of the Unit understand this policy. There will be NO exceptions.



COACH'S CORNER



Happy Spring!! I want to thank all you wonderful ladies for continuing to turn in membership. The End-Zone is soooo close, I still know we can score. Please consider doing a "Per Diem" for new and re-newals. If you do this -please vote to have this happen. Also, please don't hold new membership. New members are entitled to many perc's.

I hope that at Department Convention Madam President will be sporting a frog tattoo. The challenge was issued that if we are 100% by Madam President's homecoming , we would both get tatoos.

As the saying goes "it ain't over til it's over!" Keep on pushing membership , and guess what? I WAS TOLD THE YEAR THAT WAS LOST ON YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD WILL BE FOUND NEXT YEAR!!! So, please tell the Ladies this because I know it has been a source of concern. We want this organization to grow. | I am wowed by ALL the Units that are way over 100%. That is truly amazing, as well as ALL Units that are at 100%. We have several District that by now are at 100%. Districts 4, 3, 12 16,17 are very close as well as 6,13 7 5 and 15. Keep up the great work and I'll see ya in the End Zone!!

Sandy Beasley





CHILDREN AND YOUTH NOTICE!



A special request has been received from National Children & Youth Chairman Janet Jefford. On our Annual Impact Report it only asks for number of Military families served.

The American Legion has asked us to help them gather some additional numbers about the Auxiliary Children and Youth activities. These numbers will help The American Legion when they go before Congress for Children and Youth.

There are only 3 questions to be answered.

1. Total amount of direct aid spent to help ALL children(not just military children): \$ _____.
2. Total number of children served in the year? _____.
3. Total amount of contributions made to other agencies except Child Welfare and not listed on our remittance form. (i.e. St. Judes, Girl Scouts, COTA, Sunshine Village, Candlelighters etc.): \$ _____.

You may e-mail me your report. childrenyouth@alafll.org or you may snail mail to 314 Lake Ave. Lehigh Acres, Fl. 33936 or you can call me at 239-369-4399. If no answer, leave your unit name and answers on the machine.

It is very IMPORTANT that I receive your reports by June 1, 2012 so I can forward the totals to National.

Thank you for assisting with this special request. I look forward to seeing you all at convention. Continue to Leap for all the children.

Lois McFall
Children & Youth Chairman



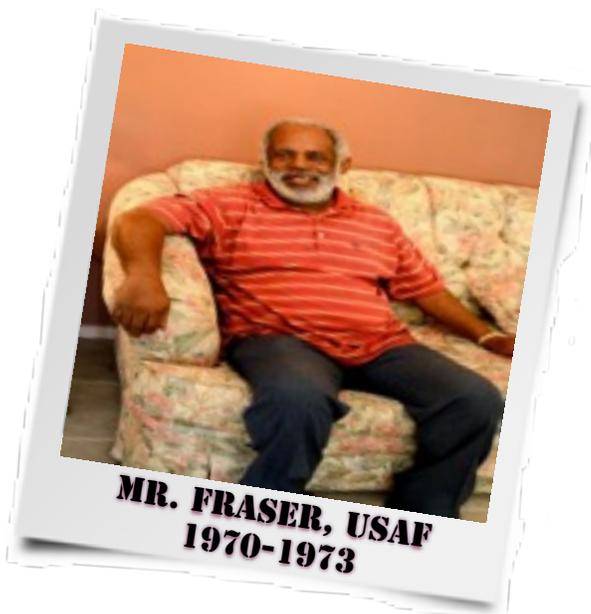


HOMELESS VETERANS

Arlington, Unit 283, Jacksonville: The following information was received from Cheryl LaBarge back in January ... and needs to be shared with everyone: ☺

“The holidays may be over but the American Legion Auxiliary keeps on giving. Unit 283 partnered with the 100 Homes Jacksonville campaign that is a part of the 100,000 Homes campaign to house 100,000 of the nation's most vulnerable homeless by the year 2013. The American Legion Auxiliary along with the American Legion and the Sons of the American Legion of Post 283 collected household donations consisting of a sofa, a love seat, a Lazy Boy chair, two kitchen tables complete with chairs, end tables, a bedroom dresser, a nightstand, and lamps. Additionally, the Auxiliary purchased dinner plates, silverware, cups, glasses, hand towels, wash cloths, pot holders, kitchen towels, paper towels, toilet paper, household cleaner, hand soap, Kleenex tissue, and everything else needed to get started in a new studio or one-bedroom apartment for three homeless veterans. One of the Auxiliary members was able to sit in on an initial interview with a Vietnam era veteran and 100 Homes Jacksonville; and when asked where he slept the night before, he replied that he slept in the park because he did not want to sleep in a shelter because of the barracks atmosphere that he remembered in the military. This was just before he saw his new one bedroom apartment , furnished by The American Legion Family of Arlington Post 283.”

Below is a picture of Mr. Fraser, USAF 1970-1973 ... homeless no more ... in his one bedroom apartment ... sitting on his new love seat.



Buddy Baskets

Project Housewarming: A couple of months ago Department Headquarters was contacted by an organization in the Sarasota area inquiring about getting Buddy Baskets for veterans. Tara Booker, Director of Volunteer Services and Community Outreach for Operation Military Assistance Program (OMAP) was at National Convention in Minneapolis with her mother who is Department President in Rhode Island – and she heard about Florida’s Buddy Basket Project and was wondering if the Auxiliary could make Buddy Baskets for their Project Housewarming. The information was turned over to Department President Diane, 2nd VP & VA&R Chairman Gerrie Bailey, and 8th District President Barbara Field ... and the Auxiliary is now helping Project Housewarming!

A little background FYI: Project Housewarming was designed as a volunteer component to the OMAP program that utilizes SSV4 funds. This grant provides funds to get Veterans into housing and with basic utilities, but does not allow for funds to provide basic items or things that make it a “home.” Project Housewarming hopes to assist in this area by providing some basic needs to the Veterans such as toilet paper, cleaning supplies, towels, and dishes.

Long story short: District President Barbara contacted area Units about the project. Rotonda West Unit 113 and several members who belong to Kirby Stewart Unit 24, Bradenton (8th District) have put together four (4) Buddy Baskets that are being delivered to Tara. Way to go ladies!

As more Buddy Baskets are needed, the 8th District will be there to help ... and will get word out to others if more help is needed. ☺

Homeless Veterans Apartments in Pensacola: Word was received back in February from Department 2nd Vice President & VA&R Chairman Gerrie Bailey that Hanniton Watts Unit 193, Pensacola, has provided nine (9) Buddy Baskets to the new Homeless Veterans Apartments (30 apartments!) in Pensacola ... and they are working on more to give. Way to go Unit 193! Keep making those Buddy Baskets. ☺



*Lehigh Acres Unit 323
Proudly endorses Lois McFall
For Department 2nd Vice President*



On October 3, 2011 at a regularly scheduled meeting, Lehigh Acres Unit 323 unanimously endorsed Lois McFall for the high Office of Department 2nd Vice President for 2012-2013.

Lois's eligibility for the American Legion Auxiliary is through her father, Roy R. Stotts who served in the US Army during WW I. Roy was an active member of The American Legion until his death. Lois grew up attending unit meetings and has been an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary for 57 years.

Lois is the mother of 4 daughters and 4 sons. She is proud to have had a son attend Boys State and a daughter attend Girls State. Lois is also proud that all of her sons joined the US Air Force. Her youngest son is currently deployed.

Lois's commitment to the Auxiliary has been evident by her willingness to serve. On The unit level, she has held every chairmanship, receiving several Department Awards. She is currently serving as Leadership and Past Presidents Parlay Chairman. Lois has also held every office on the unit level including serving as Unit President of each unit she was affiliated with for a total of nine terms. She is currently serving as Treasurer.

On District level, Lois has held many chairmanships and served as Historian, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and served as District President in 2004-2005.

For Department, Lois served as Asst. Sgt.-at-Arms, and on several committees. She served as National Security Chairman in 2009-2010. At National Convention, Lois was awarded the National Southern Division Best Overall Program award and The Ione Kubby award for most outstanding overall National Security Program. She is currently serving as Department 3rd Vice President and Children and Youth Chairman.

Lois has attended Department Workshops, ABC Schools (In training to be an Instructor), Spring and Fall Conferences, Department and National Conventions, The Washington Conference in Washington DC and the Mission Training in Mobile Alabama held in January of this year.

Lois's dedication to the American Legion Auxiliary and her willingness to listen and learn has prepared her to serve as Department 2nd Vice President and VA&R Chairman for the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Florida.



*American Legion Auxiliary Unit 120 Holly Hill
Proudly endorses Erna Schwabe
For Department 3rd Vice President*



Erna is eligible for the American Legion Auxiliary through the service of her husband Art Schwabe who proudly served in the United States Army during the Vietnam era. She is also eligible through her brother retired from the USAF.

Erna and Art have been married for 36 years and have three beautiful daughters, 10 Grandchildren and 3 Great Grandchildren. Erna was born and raised as a farmer's daughter in Wisconsin.

Erna has been a member for 14 years and served in her Unit as Unit President for two years and held many chairs.

On the District level she served as District President for two years and was awarded the District President of the Year for 2009-2010. She has held many chairs in the District and is currently serving as Membership Chairman and District Chaplain.

On the Department level Erna has served on the Membership Committee, Americanism Chairman, and is currently the National Security Chairman. Erna serves as the VA Deputy for Emory L. Bennett VA Nursing Home and the Daytona Beach VA Outpatient Clinic.

Erna has attended Fall Conferences, Department and National Conventions and recently attended the Mission Training Class in Mobile, Alabama. She successfully completed the Leadership Class at Department level and completed the National Leadership Class.

With the respect for the American Legion Auxiliary, Veterans, Communities and Children Erna is dedicated and will proudly serve as your 3rd Vice President for the Department of Florida.



American Legion Auxiliary
Pine Castle Memorial Unit 286
529 E Fairlane Ave Orlando, FL 32809



Pine Castle Unit #286 is proud to endorse Debie Showalter as a candidate for Department Historian for 2012-2013.

Debie's eligibility for the American Legion Auxiliary is through her own military service. She served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam Era and is a proud dual member. Debie has been an active Legionnaire for 16 years in Pine Castle Post 286 and she has been an active Auxiliary member for 13 years in Unit 286.

She has held various Chairmanships within her Unit and served on the Executive Committee for many years. She is always involved with the activities and programs of her Unit. In 2006 she was honored as Unit 286 Member of the Year.

She has held the office of District Sgt-at-Arms and as District Historian and is extremely proud of the history she completed for the District.

Debie is currently serving her second year as our Department Historian and is ready once again to use her vast talents serving the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Florida as Department Historian. She is also a member of the Legion Riders, 40/8, 20/4 and the 8/40.

If elected, the members of Pine Castle Memorial Unit 286 have every confidence that *Debie will write an outstanding history for the Department of Florida* and are extremely proud to endorse and support her for Department Historian for the 2012 -2013 year.



CORRECTING IRS PROBLEMS

Name Correction

To change/correct your Unit's name on IRS records, you must write requesting this change. Mail a cover letter requesting the change/correction clearly giving your Unit's name as you want it to appear on their records.

All Unit's legal name must be written as:

American Legion Auxiliary (Name on Charter) Unit (Unit #) Inc.

An example is:

American Legion Auxiliary Ocoee Memorial E-Unit109, Inc.

The address to mail this correspondence to is:

Internal Revenue Service
TE/GE, EO Service Determination Office
PO Box 2508
Cincinnati OH 45201

Fiscal Year Change

All Units must have the same fiscal year as the Department of Florida; per the Department's constitution and Bylaws.

The correct fiscal year is July 1 - June 30

To change your year on IRS records you must write requesting it be changed to July 1 - June 30 as per the Department and Unit Constitution & Bylaws.

Along with your cover letter, you must include a copy of the Department's Constitution & Bylaws which begins on page 14 of the Unit Guide. Hi-light Article IX, Sec 1 for them which is at the top of page 19 and your Unit's Constitution & Bylaws hi-lighting where it says you must have the same Fiscal year at Department.

The address to mail this correspondence to is:

Internal Revenue Service
Attn: EO Service Entity
MS 6273
Ogden UT 84201



Membership Statistical
Membership Keyed as of 4/25/2012

DISTRICT 1					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
75	CRESTVIEW	167	160	95.81%	-43
78	MILTON	51	47	92.16%	-11
121	JAY	19	17	89.47%	-4
193	PENSACOLA	135	118	87.41%	-24
221	NICEVILLE	62	70	112.90%	-27
235	FT.WALTON BCH	208	167	80.29%	-21
240	PENSACOLA	308	249	80.84%	-33
296	DESTIN	70	71	101.43%	-22
340	PENSACOLA	287	293	102.09%	-92
356	LYNN HAVEN	251	210	83.67%	-34
375	SOUTHPORT	62	55	88.71%	-12
378	GULF BREEZE	18	25	138.89%	-12
382	NAVARRE	117	122	104.27%	-40
392	PANAMA CITY	74	102	137.84%	-50
District		1829	1706	93.28%	-700

DISTRICT 4					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
16	GAINESVILLE	66	70	106.06%	-24
27	OCALA	33	27	81.82%	-4
56	STARKE	24	20	83.33%	-3
58	DUNNELLON	76	61	80.26%	-8
77	INVERNESS	50	53	106.00%	-18
91	TRENTON	27	22	81.48%	-3
149	NEWBERRY	47	43	91.49%	-10
155	CRYSTAL RIVER	239	322	134.73%	-155
210	OCALA	18	17	94.44%	-4
225	FLORAL CITY	30	29	96.67%	-8
230	HAWTHORNE	50	41	82.00%	-6
236	WILLISTON	16	18	112.50%	-7
237	BEVERLY HILLS	60	71	118.33%	-29
284	BELLEVIEW	204	186	91.18%	-43
314	STARKE	23	19	82.61%	-3
District		963	999	103.74%	-7

DISTRICT 2					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
13	TALLAHASSEE	91	83	91.21%	-19
42	GRACEVILLE	42	15	35.71%	14
51	CHATTAHOOCHEE	31	24	77.42%	-2
82	LANARK VILLAGE	51	71	139.22%	-35
84	HAVANA	29	22	75.86%	-2
100	MARIANNA	63	65	103.17%	-21
114	CRAWFORDVILLE	30	29	96.67%	-8
172	HOSFORD	20	18	90.00%	-4
217	QUINCY	48	56	116.67%	-22
241	SNEADS	64	66	103.13%	-21
272	BLOUNTSTOWN	16	11	68.75%	0
District		485	460	94.85%	-193

DISTRICT 5					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
37	ST. AUGUSTINE	118	117	99.15%	-34
54	FERNANDINA BCH	232	230	99.14%	-68
88	JACKSONVILLE	98	114	116.33%	-45
129	JACKSONVILLE BCH	350	309	88.29%	-64
137	JACKSONVILLE	587	597	101.70%	-186
174	FERNANDINA BEACH	14	0	0.00%	10
194	ST. AUGUSTINE	36	32	88.89%	-7
197	JACKSONVILLE	55	39	70.91%	-1
202	KEYSTONE HGTS	100	101	101.00%	-31
233	PONTE VEDRA BCH	146	151	103.42%	-49
244	SO. JACKSONVILLE	47	56	119.15%	-23
250	MIDDLEBURG	346	312	90.17%	-70
283	JACKSONVILLE	286	244	85.31%	-44
316	ATLANTIC BCH	470	418	88.94%	-89
373	ORANGE PARK	19	22	115.79%	-9
District		2904	2742	94.42%	-1145

DISTRICT 3					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
49	MONTICELLO	24	19	79.17%	-2
57	LAKE CITY	229	222	96.94%	-62
107	LIVE OAK	31	40	129.03%	-18
131	GREENVILLE	42	41	97.62%	-12
215	JASPER	43	42	97.67%	-12
224	MADISON	37	32	86.49%	-6
291	STEINHATCHEE	138	145	105.07%	-48
322	LAKE CITY	18	17	94.44%	-4
383	OLD TOWN	134	153	114.18%	-59
District		696	711	102.16%	-328

All membership, new & renewal received by April 25, 2012 has been keyed!



DISTRICT 6					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
10	KISSIMMEE	314	298	94.90%	-78
19	ORLANDO	253	215	84.98%	-38
21	UMATILLA	45	40	88.89%	-9
35	MOUNT DORA	132	93	70.45%	-1
52	LEESBURG	16	21	131.25%	-10
53	SANFORD	238	207	86.97%	-40
55	CLERMONT	144	133	92.36%	-32
63	WINTER GARDEN	34	37	108.82%	-13
76	TAVARES	36	36	100.00%	-11
80	ST. CLOUD	257	243	94.55%	-63
101	BUSHNELL	134	136	101.49%	-42
109	OCOOEE	36	39	108.33%	-14
112	WINTER PARK	15	14	93.33%	-4
183	ALTAMONTE SPR	132	127	96.21%	-35
219	FRUITLAND PARK	262	270	103.05%	-87
242	ORLANDO	177	166	93.79%	-42
286	PINE CASTLE	332	333	100.30%	-101
330	LEESBURG	48	50	104.17%	-16
331	ORLANDO	71	73	102.82%	-23
347	LADY LAKE	706	811	114.87%	-317
District		3382	3342	98.82%	-1482

DISTRICT 9					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
36	FT. LAUDERDALE	104	96	92.31%	-23
92	HOLLYWOOD	166	141	84.94%	-25
142	POMPANO BEACH	341	308	90.32%	-69
157	MARGATE	353	365	103.40%	-118
162	DEERFIELD BEACH	362	328	90.61%	-75
180	PLANTATION	127	129	101.57%	-40
209	DANIA	41	33	80.49%	-4
222	FT. LAUDERDALE	92	85	92.39%	-21
287	DEERFIELD BEACH	35	14	40.00%	11
304	DANIA	272	274	100.74%	-84
310	HALLANDALE	52	40	76.92%	-4
321	COOPER CITY	181	176	97.24%	-49
District		2126	1989	93.56%	-820

DISTRICT 7					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
3	BARTOW	76	72	94.74%	-19
4	LAKELAND	111	102	91.89%	-24
8	WINTER HAVEN	691	653	94.50%	-169
34	HAINES CITY	89	79	88.76%	-17
72	MULBERRY	192	168	87.50%	-34
118	ZEPHYRHILLS	46	38	82.61%	-6
201	FLORENCE VILLA	46	46	100.00%	-14
213	MOULTRY-CRAFT		19		
339	CRESTHAVEN	72	57	79.17%	-7
District		1323	1234	93.27%	-506

DISTRICT 11					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
12	PALM BEACH	42	12	28.57%	17
20	BELLE GLADE	66	59	89.39%	-13
47	LAKE WORTH	144	134	93.06%	-33
62	STUART	71	78	109.86%	-28
64	OKEECHOBEE	164	137	83.54%	-22
65	DELRAY BEACH	45	59	131.11%	-28
141	WEST PALM BCH	117	103	88.03%	-21
164	BOYNTON BEACH	177	176	99.44%	-52
188	DELRAY BEACH	32	16	50.00%	6
199	WEST PALM BCH	66	48	72.73%	-2
258	GREENACRES	29	24	82.76%	-4
268	RIVIERA BEACH	166	126	75.90%	-10
269	LANTANA	27	26	96.30%	-7
271	JUPITER	157	163	103.82%	-53
277	BOCA RATON	102	104	101.96%	-33
288	BOYNTON BEACH	80	74	92.50%	-18
367	ROYAL PALM BCH	53	54	101.89%	-17
District		1538	1393	90.57%	-430

DISTRICT 8					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
11	ARCADIA	53	38	71.70%	-1
24	BRADENTON	483	429	88.82%	-91
25	LAKE PLACID	396	376	94.95%	-99
30	SARASOTA	58	42	72.41%	-1
69	AVON PARK	279	287	102.87%	-92
74	SEBRING	86	86	100.00%	-26
113	ROTANDA WEST	419	393	93.79%	-100
159	VENICE	856	816	95.33%	-217
254	NORTH PORT	131	103	78.63%	-11
266	FRUITVILLE	172	125	72.67%	-5
309	PALMETTO	279	280	100.36%	-85
312	ONECO	254	269	105.91%	-91
325	ELLENTON		42		
District		3466	3248	93.71%	-1342

DISTRICT 12					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
1	TITUSVILLE	288	280	97.22%	-78
22	COCOA	115	117	101.74%	-37
39	VERO BEACH	180	198	110.00%	-72
40	FORT PIERCE	246	249	101.22%	-77
81	MELBOURNE	138	147	106.52%	-50
117	PALM BAY	339	357	105.31%	-120
126	JENSEN BEACH	165	183	110.91%	-68
163	EAU GALLIE	379	358	94.46%	-93
171	FORT PIERCE	38	36	94.74%	-9
189	SEBASTIAN	100	96	96.00%	-26
191	MELBOURNE	155	156	100.65%	-48
200	SATELLITE BEACH	87	88	101.15%	-27
318	PORT ST LUCIE	347	332	95.68%	-89
332	KENNEDY SPACE CT	34	32	94.12%	-8
348	CAPE CANAVERAL	206	205	99.51%	-61
355	W PORT ST LUCIE	110	97	88.18%	-20
358	FORT PIERCE	49	54	110.20%	-20
359	PORT ST JOHN	232	235	101.29%	-73
366	BAREFOOT BAY	80	80	100.00%	-24
394	PALM BAY	35	50	142.86%	-26
District		3323	3350	100.81%	-1522

Checkout the Friday report on the Homepage!



DISTRICT 13					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
38	FORT MYERS	120	103	85.83%	-19
90	CAPE CORAL	187	178	95.19%	-47
103	PUNTA GORDA	327	324	99.08%	-95
110	PORT CHARLOTTE	511	520	101.76%	-162
123	SANIBEL	93	90	96.77%	-25
130	LABELLE	177	203	114.69%	-79
135	NAPLES	445	395	88.76%	-84
136	PINE ISLAND	401	383	95.51%	-102
192	FORT MYERS	34	25	73.53%	-1
274	FORT MYERS BCH	617	571	92.54%	-139
303	BONITA SPRINGS	371	373	100.54%	-113
323	LEHIGH ACRES	419	426	101.67%	-133
336	N. FORT MYERS	210	226	107.62%	-79
351	FT MYERS SHORES	102	96	94.12%	-25
388	BONITA SPRINGS	41	15	36.59%	14
District		4055	3928	96.87%	-1698

DISTRICT 16					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
7	CLEARWATER	489	404	82.62%	-62
14	ST. PETERSBURG	159	140	88.05%	-29
79	NEW PORT RICHEY	327	304	92.97%	-75
104	PINELLAS PARK	286	293	102.45%	-93
119	LARGO	372	365	98.12%	-105
125	GULFPORT	345	391	113.33%	-150
158	TREASURE ISLAND	107	132	123.36%	-57
173	HOLIDAY	307	289	94.14%	-74
238	SAFETY HARBOR	266	242	90.98%	-56
252	CROSS BAYOU	535	553	103.36%	-179
273	MADEIRA BEACH	2078	2,087	100.43%	-632
275	DUNNEDIN	297	294	98.99%	-86
305	ST. PETE BEACH	165	152	92.12%	-37
335	HUDSON	213	220	103.29%	-71
District		5946	5866	98.65%	-2596

DISTRICT 14					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
28	KEY WEST	82	77	93.90%	-20
29	MIAMI	28	10	35.71%	10
31	MIAMI	131	124	94.66%	-32
43	HOMESTEAD	67	54	80.60%	-7
67	NORTH MIAMI	107	84	78.50%	-9
98	CORAL GABLES	51	48	94.12%	-12
133	PERRINE	104	94	90.38%	-21
154	MARATHON	171	172	100.58%	-52
168	KEY WEST	29	43	148.28%	-23
333	KEY LARGO	97	60	61.86%	8
346	MIAMI	34	38	111.76%	-14
374	KEY BISCAYNE	72	74	102.78%	-24
District		973	878	90.24%	-343

DISTRICT 17					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
6	DELAND	120	112	93.33%	-28
17	NEW SMYRNA BCH	230	254	110.43%	-93
45	PALATKA	41	40	97.56%	-11
115	BUNNELL	101	91	90.10%	-20
120	HOLLY HILL	235	239	101.70%	-75
127	LAKE HELEN	25	25	100.00%	-8
204	DAYTONA BEACH	59	50	84.75%	-9
255	DELTONA	37	31	83.78%	-5
259	DEBARY,ORANGE CT	35	35	100.00%	-11
267	ORMOND BEACH	182	165	90.66%	-38
270	PORT ORANGE	162	160	98.77%	-47
285	EDGEWATER	309	315	101.94%	-99
293	INTERLACHEN	167	137	82.04%	-20
361	SOUTH DAYTONA	170	174	102.35%	-55
District		1873	1828	97.60%	-798

DISTRICT 15					
UNIT	NAME	GOAL	NOW	CURRENT %	NEEDED 85%
5	TAMPA	41	42	102.44%	-13
26	PLANT CITY	39	36	92.31%	-9
99	BROOKSVILLE	45	41	91.11%	-10
111	TAMPA	72	57	79.17%	-7
138	PORT TAMPA CITY	305	303	99.34%	-90
139	TAMPA	185	168	90.81%	-39
147	ODESSA	60	49	81.67%	-7
148	RIVERVIEW	203	215	105.91%	-73
152	TAMPA	329	307	93.31%	-77
167	TAMPA	31	11	35.48%	11
186	SPRING HILL	417	386	92.57%	-94
248	WEST TAMPA	26	24	92.31%	-6
334	TAMPA	60	51	85.00%	-9
389	RUSKIN	30	35	116.67%	-14
District		1843	1725	93.60%	-711

All Membersip received by 04/25/2012 has been keyed.

**DISTRICT ORDER
ALL MEMBERSHIP KEYED AS OF 4/25/2012**

District 4	103.74%
District 3	102.16%
District 12	100.81%
District 6	98.82%
District 16	98.65%
District 17	97.60%
District 13	96.87%
District 2	94.85%
District 5	94.42%
District 8	93.71%
District 15	93.60%
District 9	93.56%
District 1	93.28%
District 7	93.27%
District 11	90.57%
District 14	90.24%

The 2012 Department Membership Goal is 37,242.

As of 4/25/2012, **35,986** membership have been processed.

We are currently at 96.63%