



VOLUME IX • ISSUE 10 • MAY 2020
DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT ANN KING-SMITH

MAIL CALL

2019-2020

DEPT OF FLORIDA

Richard H. Marquez S1
U.S.S. Rocky Mount
c/o 7ent P.O. Box
San Francisco, Calif.

VIA AIR
AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO
Frank Marquez
4734 Diggins St
Los Angeles Calif.

Richard H. Marquez
U.S.S. Rocky
Boat crew
San Francisco, Calif.

VIA AIR MAIL

FEATURED: Department President • AEF • Voting Recommendations

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Mission Statement

In the spirit of Service, Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad.

For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

Vision Statement

The vision of The American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion while becoming the premier service organization and foundation of every community providing support for our veterans, our military, and their families by shaping a positive future in an atmosphere of fellowship, patriotism, peace and security.



Want to submit an article and/or photos to **MAIL CALL?**

alafl.org/submit
secretary@alafl.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ANN KING-SMITH



First, I want to thank every member for being "Florida ALA Strong" during the past days, weeks and months. These are times and conditions like we have never known, and I am so very proud of all you that have found such creative and caring ways to continue to carry our mission forward.

Tough times, such as these, can mean different things to different people. Coping with difficult times and life changes is never easy. But, as we have so often heard, "what doesn't kill you makes you stronger." Surviving each day of this difficult time is helping us to build personal character and this character will carry us through to the many good times to come. Character really matters during tough times. Character helps to step back and realize that what we are going through is only temporary. Getting through the tough times is all about mindset and about the choice to be strong and make it through. Focusing on the ALA mission and finding ways to further help our veterans, children and communities through this crisis is a great way to remain positive and really focus on "service not self."

I know that we would all love to have the capabilities to be in control of people's health and our economy right now. We just need to band together and remember that although we cannot control everything that is happening in our lives right now, we can be accepting and focus on the many positive parts of life. Once a day, take an inventory of all the good things you have in your life, remembering how many things you can always be thankful for.

Now is a great time to do some things you may not have had time for in a while.

- Take a walk
- Go for a run

- Exercise until you get sweaty
- Breathe slowly
- Turn up the music and dance
- Sing a song
- Read a book
- Watch a movie
- Scream out loud (preferably in your own house)
- Try some creative writing to prepare for next year's narrative
- Be creative and make something
- Work on a home improvement project
- Take an online class
- Make cards to send to our veterans in hospitals and nursing homes
- Call ALA members and see how they are doing

These are just a few ideas of things you can do to stay busy and keep your sanity while remembering just how strong we are.

For our organization, things have been changing day by day. As you know, conventions at all levels have been cancelled for 2020. Both National and Department officers and chairmen will remain the same until 2021. I know this decision, which was made by our Department Executive Committee, was a difficult one to make. I know that much planning had already taken place for the upcoming year and disappointments were felt.

Although serving as Department of Florida President for two years was something I could have never imagined, I assure that I will remain loyal to both the organization and our members and will serve in the absolute best of my ability. As I said, there have never been times in the history of our organization to compare to what we are dealing with now. I ask each of you to be patient,

Continued on Page 4 >>

understanding and helpful as we navigate through these trying times.

Department officers, District Presidents and Department Chairmen will be, for the most part, remaining the same. Program Action Plans will be very much the same, with a possible few variations. Honor Flight will remain my special project for the upcoming year. So, as you can see, there will not be many changes. If we look at this as an "extended year" this will all make sense.

Please continue to work on recruiting and retaining our members. I am so proud to announce that of last week, Florida ranks #1 in the nation in membership with a whopping 96.03%. Let's keep sending in those transmittals and make out 100% goal by June 12th.

Thanks to each of you for remaining "Florida ALA Strong."

CONVENTION

American Legion Auxiliary Units

Re: 2020 Department Convention and Elections

In this time of uncertainty it is with a heavy heart, that we announce the American Legion Department of Florida Executive Committee has cancelled the 2020 Department Convention.

In accordance with Article VI entitled: Department Convention – Section 1 of the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary, a letter was sent to the

Department Executive Committee on April 14, 2020 to vote on the cancellation of the Department of Florida 2020 Convention to be held at the Marriott World Center, June 23-25, 2020. The Executive Committee voted to cancel by majority vote.

We regret any inconvenience this may cause our members, but your safety and health is our number one priority.

We will be publishing recommendations on how a unit can hold their nominations and elections.

ELECTIONS

American Legion Auxiliary Units

A statewide stay-at-home order that Governor Ron DeSantis announced March 24, 2020 in response to the coronavirus pandemic is still in effect. Executive Order 20-83 urges the public to avoid all social and recreational gatherings of ten or more persons. The executive order also directs all Floridians to limit movements and personal interactions outside the home to only those necessary, to obtain or provide essential services or conduct essential activities.

Due to this order the post are closed and we find ourselves seeking for a way to conduct our annual unit elections.

The attached document contains suggested ideas for units to conduct nominations and elections during this period. The unit must decide what is best for you.

I urge you to complete this in a way that is fair and that takes into account the needs of all members. Every member in good standing has the obligation and the right to vote for officers of the unit. Every effort should be made to not disenfranchise any member.

Stay safe during this crisis and be mindful of those that need our help.

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND

LINDA KNOBLACH-HARKNESS

I hope this article is finding you well and safe. The Auxiliary Emergency fund is here for times such as these. Who could have imagined that so many of us would need to apply for assistance in such a time like this?

Remember, that like any grant applications, there are essential requirements so it can be processed.

Here are a few tips so your application can be processed as soon as possible.

1. To be eligible for a grant you must be a member of the American Legion Auxiliary for 3 consecutive years and current year's dues are paid.
2. Be sure the application is COMPLETED. Every line item needs to be filled in
3. Please make sure that the creditor information section is completed
4. ALL paperwork needs to accompany the application (bills, eviction notices, letters from unemployment office, food stamp or any other assistance that you applied)
5. Investigators need to make sure all the necessary documentation is attached to the application before sending it to Department
6. Any one of these missing items will stop the process. It is imperative that the application instructions are followed to the letter.

Don't forget, you can apply for National Auxiliary Emergency Fund as well. It is not one or the other. Apply for both if you think you need more help. Again, please make sure you follow the application

instructions thoroughly.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you need help with your application or investigation. Of course, I won't be able to meet with you, but I will walk you through it over the phone line item by line item if that is what you need. My email is emergencyfund@alafl.org

Also, let me ask those of you, who are able, to donate to the Department of Florida's Auxiliary Emergency Fund. I am asking each member of the Department of Florida to donate \$1. Please donate more if you can.

Please stay safe. My hope is that we will be able to see get together again soon.



Shop at AmazonSmile and Amazon will make a donation to:
American Legion Auxiliary Foundation Inc.
Make sure you choose us when you check out.



VOTING RECOMMENDATIONS

AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

THESE ARE POTENTIAL OPTIONS AND ARE ONLY SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. UNITS NEED TO MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS BASED ON WHAT IS BEST FOR THEIR MEMBERSHIP.

UNIT NOMINATIONS AND VOTING

The biggest issue in this entire process is fairness and communications.

A Unit must make a good faith effort to reach their entire membership and inform them of the steps to both nominations and elections. Those steps are:

NOMINATIONS: When will nominations process start and how that gets done and a cut-off date.

ELECTIONS: The date when elections will take place, how it will be done, when it begins, and when it ends.

Also, it is strongly suggested depending on how you do elections, that if you are actually counting physical ballots and not using an online method that they be secured and opened at a separate time when all members can come and watch the count from their cars (depending on the restrictions currently in place) if desired. Some of your members you can reach by email, others by phone and all the rest by mail. However you choose to do nominations, elections and posting of the results the procedure must be reasonable and fair to all Unit members.

Under the COVID 19 crisis the methods of running elections should be decided by the following procedure.

NOMINATIONS

- Nominations are required, even in this crisis. Self-nominations are acceptable (Write In). Seconds of nominations are not required per Roberts Rules of

Order, Newly Revised.

- Not required to be read at one, two or three meetings prior to election.
- In all situations nominations are allowed at the time of election using the write in space.

Therefore, there are several options that a Unit can use to take nominations, but the membership must know the start and cutoff date for nominations.

A Unit can take nominations and can be made by:

- Email from the member to the Secretary or the nominating committee if you so advise your members of the Secretary's email address.
- By phone call to the Secretary or the nominations committee, if his/her phone has voice messaging and the members have his/her phone number and extension.
- By a sign-up sheet on the front door if you have informed the membership that the sign-up sheet is there.

BALLOT

- After the cutoff date for nominations, review the nominees to insure each one is a member in good standing of your Unit.
- Once you have the candidates that are in good standing, you will prepare the ballot listing each office and the members who are running for that office. That ballot must include a space under each office so that a member can "write-in" a candidate that may not have been nominated through the nominations process.

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- Make certain you put a space for every officer even if there are no nominations because each will have a "write-in" space any member could write themselves in for that open position.

ELECTIONS – you have several options available

- Simply View (www.simplyvoting.com) is an online application which is low cost, provides for the Unit Secretary or whomever else the Unit appoints to administer the election to input the membership data and an election ballot. You would go to the Application on-line, members could perhaps use their 9-digit membership number for authentication, after authentication, ballot comes up, vote, release your ballot, your done. You can't vote again.
- Next option could be a drive-in ballot where members pull up in their car to a location, Secretary or whomever checks to make sure they are a member, provides them a ballot, they complete the ballot and place it in a ballot box. On another day at a predetermined time and place the ballot boxes are opened and counted.
- Ask the Post if they will allow you to use it for 5 or 6 hours to allow members to come in for voting only. Member comes in, maintaining social distancing, check-in to ensure they are a member in good standing, get a ballot, vote and place ballot in box

REPORTING RESULTS: To maintain transparency we strongly recommend that the results of the election be reported in a separate meeting, possibly in the parking lot where members could watch the opening and counting of ballots from their cars. After the count is complete and verified the results of the votes announced and then post the results. If you use an online tool or other means you could mail, email or simply report the results at a separate meeting. Just make sure that you afford all members the opportunity to vote and give all of them the results of the election.

PLEASE REMEMBER: No matter which of these options you choose, the option must be communicated to your entire membership, everyone must know when, where and times so everyone has the opportunity to participate.

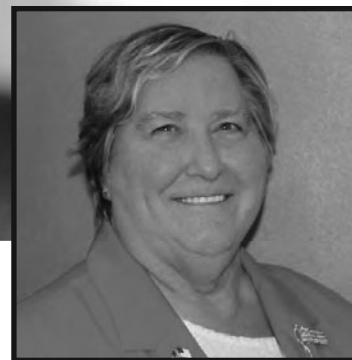
THESE OPTIONS ARE ONLY SUGGESTIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS.

**Department President, Ann King-Smith's
homecoming has been cancelled at this time.**

A new date has not been determined, if any. More information to come when available

CHAPLAIN

LOIS STACHELRODT



As we continue to practice social distancing may we all remember to be grateful for what we have and who sacrificed it for us. We still need to have our hearts and minds remember those who are no longer with us today and keep them close. Let their families know how much we appreciate what they have done to allow us to be here today. Memorial Day is coming and we will remember those soldiers,

veterans, the fallen ones and their families, no matter where we are, they should be in our thoughts and hearts. Please on Memorial Day, no matter where you are at 11:00 AM, stop what you are doing and say a prayer.

Recently Departed Members

DISTRICT 2

Jewel Reynolds, Unit 13

DISTRICT 3

Joyce Prinz, unit 336

DISTRICT 4

Joy Goodson, Unit 149

DISTRICT 5

Marianne Dopson, Unit 54
Donna Lewis, Unit 54

DISTRICT 6

Catherine W. Wokanovicz, Unit 347

DISTRICT 9

Vivian Schroeder, Unit 142

DISTRICT 11

Barbara Blehm, Unit 62
Ellen Ferris, Unit 62
Kathy Hurd, Unit 62
Patricia Lyman, Unit 62
Sara Sorensen, Unit 62
Nellie Foreman, Unit 64
Shirley Vrchoticky, Unit 64

DISTRICT 12

Mabelle Busceni, Unit 117
Jinelle Craig, Unit 117
Sharon Stone, Unit 117
Zerry Shilliday, Unit 117
Joan Sullivan, Unit 117
Jo Ann Wright, Unit 117
Maura L. Amaral, Unit 359
Beverly Greeley, Unit 366

DISTRICT 13

Beth Church, Unit 130

DISTRICT 15

Ruth Bartels, Unit 139
Lois Faust, Unit 148
Marjorie Lowe, Unit 186
Donna Outcalt, Unit 248

DISTRICT 16

Mary Brenda Brown, Unit 125
Mary Lou Ebersole, Unit 273



Dee Bell, (pictured left) Florida Department Chairman for Children and Youth, reached out asking for volunteers to help sew quality medical masks for the health care workers at All Children's Hospital. American Legion Auxiliary member, Seminole Unit 111, Tampa Florida Sue Welfley (pictured right), Florida District 15, jumped right in, sewing over 90 quality masks for this project. Other units within the 15th District were also involved such U.S.S. Tampa Unit 5, Charles E Murray Unit 186 Brooksville, with the making of masks. Additional thanks goes out to all the volunteers throughout the entire State of Florida who stepped up to help.

LEGISLATIVE

LISA HOYLAND

I first want to say Thank You for all the great Legislative reports that I have received from our districts. Thank you for being Florida Strong in Advocating this year for our Active Military, Veterans, families and communities.

The beginning of March I had the honor to attend and represent our American Legion Auxiliary Department of Florida at the Washington National Legislative Conference. It was a wonderful few day with lots of great information. I have shared below some of the information that you can share with your unit members.

- American Legion Family Panel - Vickie Koutz, V.A.&R. National Committee Chairman spoke to members regarding the Red Coat Ambassador program and the National Creative Arts Festival 2020 that it will be held at Bay Pines in St. Petersburg, Florida.
- Protect the GI Bill (H.R. 4625, S. 2857) for more education funding. The Forever GI Bill STEM extension was created to encourage veterans to pursue more resources then the 36 months of benefits the post 9/11 GI bill allocates. The bill has allotted money in for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math).
- Legion family members need to encourage new veterans to get involved with the Solid Start program (to provide awareness of VA benefits, services, and other resources to new veterans coming out of active duty). How to assist someone with obtaining information on obtaining veterans benefits through the Veterans Benefits online at www.va.gov, section on benefits.
- T.A.P. (Transition Assistance Program). Tap Counseling program begins a year before the veteran transitions out of service. Now it's

starting 365 days out. This is mandatory for everyone. For more information go to: Yellow Ribbon Transitions Program: www.va.gov

- Discuss with our legislators the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 (it was signed into law on June 26, 2019) to maintain funding for this program.
- Veterans Legacy Memorial (VLM). Online memorial space for veterans to honor our lost heros's through the digital memorial space, providing a VLM profile page for each veteran. Also check out Digital Legacy- www.va.gov/remember.
- The Department of Defense plans to eliminate funding for the paper in their 2021 budget.
- Toxic Burn Pits - S.2950 Veterans Burn and Pits Exposure Recognition Act of 2019, and that there were four new diseases being attributed just to Agent Orange alone. These include hypertension, hyperthyroidism, Parkinson's, and bladder cancer.
- The Deborah Sampson Act has passed the House, but a different version is in the Senate. They are the same in name only. As more women serve in the military, the VA needs to better meet their specific needs. While some improvements have been made, many female veterans still need to go outside of a VA facility for care.
- The VA's Suicide Prevention efforts are ongoing. The suicide rate among veterans, especially female veterans, is well above that of their



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civilian counterparts. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain injury are factors in the higher rates. We were urged to ask our representatives to support S.785.

- Veterans homelessness continues to be an issue. The problem is even more difficult to address for female veterans with children. Providing higher funding for the HUD-VASH (Housing and Urban Development and VA Supportive Housing). Homeless Program vouchers would offer some help to those in need.
- The National Staff gave an excellent presentation on the plan to upgrade the Voter Voice. The Action Alerts can be targeted by state and congressional district. Geocoding would show how many activists and Legion Post are in a specific region. A scorecard would be available that would show how legislators voted on issues of interest to us. The staff's upcoming plans would include restructuring the Legislative Committee and Council. It could include adding all new members to the Voter Voice data base, unless they opt-out, when they join. The Veterans Allies Action Coalition (for non-members) would also be added to the data base. The more individuals that receive the action alerts the better. Their studies have shown that 24% of those who get alerts take action.

Tuesday, I had the opportunity to Storm the Hill and attended visits with two representatives from Florida. Many of our congressmen and Senators had visits by members of the Department of Florida American Legion family and discussed/asked about supporting different bills and to thank them for their service and representing our great state.

A great tool to have on hand is the American Legion Legislative Handbook and you can get this off the legion website www.legion.org. And you can get information from our website www.alaforveterans.org.

Please continue contacting your members letting them know The American Legion Legislative agenda for the 116th Congress Second Session and contact your elected officials to support the agenda.

It is my hope that you are all staying safe as we stay home when possible and keep our distance. Call your neighbors and friends. Do what you can for the mission of the ALA.

Thank you for all your work. Feel free to contact me at any time.



NATIONAL SECURITY

RHONDA BRAILEY-MAURER



Who would've every thought in this day and age, with all the advanced medically technology, that we would be faced with a worldwide pandemic that would stop us in our tracks.

So what can we do... Be a Blood & Plasma Donor!

1. As many of you know a lot of our American Legion Blood Drives have been cancelled throughout the state, and/or rescheduled due to our Post homes being closed.
 - Please visit www.oneblood.org and register on-line to find a donor center or a big RED bus close to your home. You can make a difference!
 - The fear about the corona virus is keeping people from wanting to donate blood. But In times of crisis we witness the best of humanity as people roll up a sleeve to help those in need, this is no different.
 - We greatly appreciate the generosity of our members, families and friends that help to keep our hospital shelves stocked during this uncertain time.
 - Recently you may have heard about the Mayor of Miami, Francis Suarez that was the first to become a plasma donor as a part of an experiment that recovered patients of the

COVID-19 can help others infected with the virus. It's called the convalescent plasma, which will help critically ill patients, if you know anyone like this, please share this information.

- There are many different blood types, and all serve a purpose, but the most extraordinary type one in the giving type, let's do our part in this battle to help save lives.
- When we get our normal back, let's make sure we give special attention and Thanks to the members on the front line to help fight this war of sickness:

All of our Active Duty Military
The National Guards & Reserve
All the Homeland Security/
First Responders, Coast Guard, Police
Officers, Firefighters & EMTs

Lastly, I just want to mention that reading some of these year-end narratives has been nothing short of inspiring, and I'm so proud and honored to serve as your Department National Security Chairman this year. Together we can accomplish great things.

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy, and Stay Home!



**Visit Your Local Tag Office
and get yours today!**

**Proceeds benefit Veterans and their families
in the State of Florida.**

floridalegion.org

POPPIES

RUTH SOVERN

A special "Thank You" goes out the Districts and Units that participated the Centennial Poppy Project sponsored by our National Poppy Chairman, Beth McGinn. The poppies submitted were all fantastic and choosing the one to represent the Department of Florida was difficult but we could only submit one to National for the project: a map of the United States with a poppy representative of each of the states attached which will be presented to the National President, Nicole Clapp.

The 5th District

Poppy was made by Kelly J. Mixon of Unit 9, Jacksonville, and truly represents our great State of Florida!

And the winner is.....



VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

JANE HARDACRE

Are you interested in helping veterans? The American Legion Auxiliary is looking for members to fill various roles as Representative and/or Deputies at our State VA Hospitals and Nursing Homes.

Are you worried about having the time? You can choose a flexible time/date schedule that fits your lifestyle! Our veterans need you!

If you are interested, or would like more

WE NEED
YOU!



information, please contact Jane Hardacre at www.veteranaffairs@alafl.org, or 850-814-4463.



FLORIDA ALA HAPPENINGS

FROM THE UNITS



Unit 285: Jean Johnson serves corned beef and cabbage on St Paddy's Day



Unit 291: American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 291 of Steinhatchee participated in Teacher Appreciation Week. Each of the 7 teachers at the Steinhatchee School was given a 25.00 gift card to our local restaurant (Roy's). Pictures of teachers are attached.

IN MEMORY OF JEAN MAHONEY

I came across a poem that seemed so fitting for a woman that spent 97 years on this earth in so many roles. I know that each of us had a different relationship with Past Department President, Jean Mahoney. To me, she was a mentor. She was always making suggestions of how things could and should be done in a better way and I almost always followed her advice. I believe that the advice I accepted from Jean helped me to become a better American Legion Auxiliary member and leader. ~ **Ann King-Smith**

A Life Well Lived

by Anonymous

A life well lived is a precious gift
Of hope and strength and grace,
From someone who has made our world
A brighter, better place
It's filled with moments, sweet and sad
With smiles and sometimes tears,
With friendships formed and good times shared
And laughter through the years.
A life well lived is a legacy
Of joy and pride and pleasure,
A living, lasting memory
Our grateful hearts will treasure.

Jean was a grand cornerstone of our organization. She believed in doing things right and would stand fast for her principles. She was a Great Teacher and Mentor, all you had to do was listen and depending on the subject, she could make you cry with laughter. I will miss her smile and promise to continue serving our mission in her footsteps. ~ **Treva Kay Wildrick**

33 years ago I met Jean, we became friends over the years she was a great friend and mentor to me along with the American Legion and Auxiliary. 2007 National Convention in Reno 1 afternoon we had a little free time Jean rented a car, she asked Doris Rash and I to take a trip to Lake Tahoe, at the time I felt honored to be asked to go. We had a great time! May you rest in peace.... ~ **Linda Teasley**

You said you wanted to attend the 100 year of the Auxiliary convention and you did. You wanted to make your 97th birthday and you did. My friend, my mentor and my roommate I will miss you so much, but watch out heaven here comes Jean. ~ **Shirley Fraser**

At a National Convention our Past Department Secretary was being very bullish to our Department and wanted to know when anyone left their Chair. Jean Mahoney passed a note amongst us to send to the Secretary a note she was "going to take a crap". We all laughed so hard. Thank you Jean Mahoney for your friendship and Mentorship. ~ **Erna Schwabe**

As like everyone I have so many memories of Jean. The many times she has made me laugh and also cry. I remember one time at workshop I was working the audio / video equipment and Jean wanted to bring me a drink of water from the back of the room (on her scooter of course) Well we all know how Jean drove that scooter ... Jean ended up plowing into chairs and took out an entire row of Auxiliary ladies but never spilled one drop of that water.

Jean was a friend and mentor and she will be missed by ALL. ~ **Michele DeGennaro**

With her vision, creativity and having been my great mentor for many years, I could think of only one person to be the Installation Chairman for this momentous ceremony. Jean Mahoney, as always had a vision, took over and went full steam ahead with her ideas and did a spectacular job choreographing the event. She assembled helpers giving them lists and strict instructions as to how she wanted people lined up, gave others diagrams of how she wanted chairs placed and still others where to put decorations. Jean never raised her voice, didn't look harried and didn't break a sweat while in a very short time arranged District and Area residents when seated to spell out USA and advancing the newly elected platform officers in strict protocol order with everyone wearing coordinating patriotic red, white and blue. She thought of and planned very detail ahead of time allowing the ceremony to proceed smoothly and effortlessly. Jean Mahoney gave me a most precious gift that day. The gift of an extraordinary, amazing ceremony along with her encouragement, everlasting friendship and love to begin my incredible journey. Goodbye my friend, aireoidh mé uaim thú ~ **Pat Donohue**

My memories of Jean Mahoney, where do I start? Our friendship goes back to the mid 1970's. Like to so many of us, she was my teacher and mentor. But to me she was so much more. We became close friends and were there for each other in times of great joy and deep sadness. She was a generous, loyal and loving friend.

When I returned home from the hospital after my beloved husband, Jim passed away in 1986 I found Jean at my house with my sister making lists and notifying people so I would not have to do it. She called me every night for six months just to make sure I was ok. Jean has called me every year on that anniversary for 34 years. I will miss our almost daily calls; most placed by me the last several months and my frequent visits to her house. Jean's passing has left a deep void in my heart.

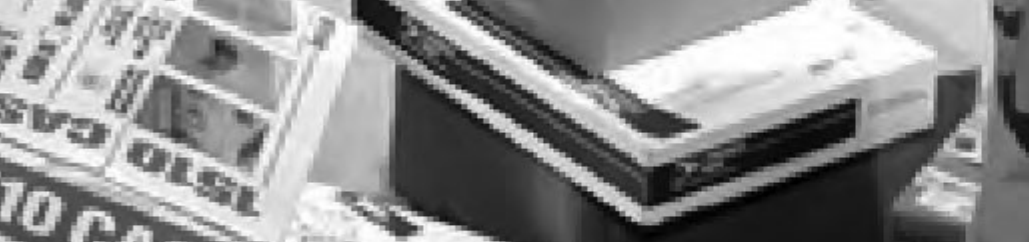
On Auxiliary matters, Jean was always prepared to take a stand on an issue if she felt she was right. There have been occasions where I was called "Jean Mahoney junior" because I will do the same thing. Jean always said "have your ducks in a row", have facts to back up the position. Sometimes we had different opinions on some things but never let it interfere with our friendship which was most important.

One year at National Convention a group of us were sharing a suite. We were holding a reception there for Florida's candidate for National office. We needed more counter space to place serving platters and a lamp was in the way because it was bolted down. Always creative and a problem solver, Jean said we can fix that. We unbolted the lamp and placed it in a closet until the reception was over and then replaced it. No harm done and it was a great reception.

~ **Fran Carlton**

I first met Jean in the mid 80's when I first joined the American Legion Auxiliary. She became a mentor to me from the day I met her. Believe me I never forgot what she taught me. She was a wealth of information and I could call her anytime and she would always get back with an answer. Jean and Jan Croft were two ladies that I love and adore and were the ones who encouraged me to reach the goal of being a Department President. Thank you Jean for all you did for the American Legion Auxiliary. Thank You for your service in the Navy, with the American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary. May you rest in Peace and God Bless You. We Will miss you. ~ **Pearl McIntyre**

Jean Mahoney was the epitome of a dedicated Auxiliary member. You could count on Jean to tell you exactly how she felt, no sugar coating anything. When I was starting up the ladder to Department President, she told me I was to "American Legion" and I needed to be more "Auxiliary". I had been involved with my husband in his pursuit to become Department Commander. She motivated me and over the years I called her for guidance many times. Her spirit and love for the American Legion Auxiliary will live on through the members she inspired. ~ **Peggy Hearlson**



The American Legion Auxiliary, and especially the Department of Florida, has lost one of its most vital sources of information. If I contemplated a move and had any doubt it would be in the best interest of the ALA, I could talk to Jean and get the most straight forward answer for the situation. Jean would work with our leadership team to make right any situation, she was resourceful. I will always remember her as a great influencer on the Unit, Department, and National levels. Jean was the best team player we could have. I am grateful to have had her on our team. "Dedicated Service With Love and Devotion" ~ **Kat Rich**

Ten years after Jean served as our ALA Department President (72-73), I attended my first Department Convention. She was pointed out as a great person to know and a wealth of knowledge. At first, I found her to be intimidating, but over the years we came to a meeting of the minds. Over time, we had many discussions covering a variety of subjects. I won't ever forget the last in-depth conversation we had! Rest in Peace, Jean!! ~ **Kathee Coughlin**

I came across a poem that seemed so fitting for a woman that spent 97 years on this earth in so many roles. I know that each of us had a different relationship with Past Department President, Jean Mahoney. To me, she was a mentor. She was always making suggestions of how things could and should be done in a better way and I almost always followed her advice. I believe that the advice I accepted from Jean helped me to become a better American Legion Auxiliary member and leader. ~ **Diane Rousseau**



PDP Jean Mahoney

Jean Mahoney was the best of the best. There was not a day her phone didn't ring with a question from a Unit, District, and even the Department that she share her knowledge. Jean knew the Unit guide from cover to cover and word for word.

We shared an unbreakable bond for 58 years! I was her little sister. We shared the worst of times and the best of times, laughing and crying all the way through our journey together.

Getting our hair done was always a must before leaving for Department meetings. Once going to Robert Meyer Hotel, we forgot all about our hair and jumped into the pool!! Followed by a big splash with lots of laughter!!

We had so many more precious memories over those years together. May your soul soar with the angels. ~ **Janet Croft**



MEMBERSHIP REPORTS

MAY 8, 2020

DISTRICT 1

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0075	Crestview	146	0	176	176	120.55%
0078	Milton	14	0	14	14	100.00%
0193	Pensacola	93	15	58	73	78.49%
0221	Niceville	72	1	68	69	95.83%
0235	Ft Walton Beach	187	3	147	150	80.21%
0240	Pensacola	211	2	209	211	100.00%
0296	Destin	45	1	48	49	108.89%
0340	Pensacola	321	7	312	319	99.38%
0356	Lynn Haven	209	2	140	142	67.94%
0375	Southport	77	1	54	55	71.43%
0378	Gulf Breeze	48	0	45	45	93.75%
0382	Navarre	128	0	152	152	118.75%
0392	Panama City	183	1	128	129	70.49%
0402	Panama City Beach	43	1	32	33	76.74%
TOTALS		1777	34	1583	1617	91.00%

DISTRICT 3

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0049	Monticello	27	0	21	21	77.78%
0057	Lake City	237	1	219	220	92.83%
0107	Live Oak	45	2	38	40	88.89%
0131	Greenville	29	1	9	10	34.48%
0215	Jasper	40	3	32	35	87.50%
0224	Madison	39	0	33	33	84.62%
0291	Steinhatchee	181	3	180	183	101.10%
0383	Old Town	144	0	93	93	64.58%
TOTALS		742	10	625	635	85.58%

DISTRICT 2

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0013	Tallahassee	81	7	78	85	104.94%
0082	Lanark	95	1	79	80	84.21%
0084	Havana	34	16	14	30	88.24%
0100	Marianna	50	4	31	35	70.00%
0217	Quincy	49	6	45	51	104.08%
0241	Sneads	58	23	45	68	117.24%
TOTALS		367	57	292	349	95.10%

DISTRICT 4

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0016	Gainesville	53	0	26	26	49.06%
0027	Ocala	20	1	12	13	65.00%
0058	Dunnellon	38	2	41	43	113.16%
0077	Inverness	40	0	45	45	112.50%
0149	Newberry	32	2	19	21	65.63%
0155	Crystal River	317	6	313	319	100.63%
0166	Homosassa Springs	74	4	103	107	144.59%
0230	Hawthorne	48	4	33	37	77.08%
0236	Bronson	52	0	31	31	59.62%
0237	Beverly Hills	159	0	160	160	100.63%
0284	Bellevue	85	2	81	83	97.65%
TOTALS		918	21	864	885	96.41%

DISTRICT 5

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0009	Jacksonville	40	3	32	35	87.50%
0037	Saint Augustine	58	2	25	27	46.55%
0054	Fernandina Beach	156	4	142	146	93.59%
0088	Jacksonville	79	3	81	84	106.33%
0129	Jacksonville Beach	348	13	344	357	102.59%
0137	Jacksonville	519	19	423	442	85.16%
0194	St Augustine	71	9	62	71	100.00%
0197	Jacksonville	64	10	38	48	75.00%
0202	Keystone Heights	53	0	55	55	103.77%
0233	Ponte Vedra Beach	168	35	116	151	89.88%
0244	Jacksonville	22	4	20	24	109.09%
0250	Middleburg	354	35	283	318	89.83%
0283	Jacksonville	438	23	434	457	104.34%
0316	Atlantic Beach	335	48	294	342	102.09%
0372	Mandarin	25	4	28	32	128.00%
0373	Orange Park	43	9	31	40	93.02%
0401	Hilliard	40	1	35	36	90.00%
TOTALS		2813	222	2443	2665	94.74%

DISTRICT 7

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0003	Bartow	81	1	64	65	80.25%
0004	Lakeland	62	3	59	62	100.00%
0008	Winter Haven	599	6	576	582	97.16%
0034	Haines City	64	0	66	66	103.13%
0071	Lake Wales	74	0	38	38	51.35%
0072	Mulberry	164	6	139	145	88.41%
0201	Florence Villa	36	3	28	31	86.11%
TOTALS		1080	19	970	989	91.57%

DISTRICT 6

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0010	Kissimmee	202	3	179	182	90.10%
0019	Orlando	130	5	115	120	92.31%
0035	Mount Dora	116	2	123	125	107.76%
0041	Eustis	14	0	12	12	85.71%
0052	Lake Panasoffkee	19	0	3	3	15.79%
0053	Sanford	67	3	46	49	73.13%
0055	Clermont	97	1	134	135	139.18%
0063	Winter Garden	37	2	32	34	91.89%
0080	Saint Cloud	274	20	220	240	87.59%
0101	Bushnell	116	1	112	113	97.41%
0109	Ocoee	16	3	8	11	68.75%
0112	Winter Park	22	2	20	22	100.00%
0183	Fern Park	124	4	110	114	91.94%
0219	Fruitland Park	196	2	199	201	102.55%
0242	Orlando	123	10	107	117	95.12%
0286	Orlando	187	7	156	163	87.17%
0330	Leesburg	65	1	61	62	95.38%
0331	Orlando	42	0	12	12	28.57%
0347	Lady Lake	2485	13	2607	2620	105.43%
0347	Lady Lake	1961	12	2396	2408	122.79%
TOTALS		4332	79	4256	4335	100.07%

DISTRICT 8

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0011	Arcadia	31	10	22	32	103.23%
0024	Bradenton	317	14	267	281	88.64%
0025	Lake Placid	362	0	351	351	96.96%
0030	Sarasota	73	11	63	74	101.37%
0069	Avon Park	583	10	619	629	107.89%
0074	Sebring	87	0	93	93	106.90%
0113	Rotonda West	331	4	314	318	96.07%
0159	Venice	724	9	694	703	97.10%
0254	North Port	119	0	119	119	100.00%
0266	Fruitville	132	4	131	135	102.27%
0309	Palmetto	179	1	161	162	90.50%
0312	Oneco	258	2	238	240	93.02%
0325	Ellenton	154	0	156	156	101.30%
TOTALS		3350	65	3228	3293	98.30%

DISTRICT 9

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0036	Ft Lauderdale	41	0	31	31	75.61%
0092	Hollywood	98	4	89	93	94.90%
0142	Pompano Beach	197	8	176	184	93.40%
0157	Margate	234	15	157	172	73.50%
0162	Deerfield Beach	197	22	151	173	87.82%
0180	Fort Lauderdale	105	5	89	94	89.52%
0209	Dania Beach	24	0	19	19	79.17%
0220	Ft Lauderdale	29	12	19	31	106.90%
0222	Fort Lauderdale	54	2	46	48	88.89%
0287	Deerfield Beach	14	0	14	14	100.00%
0304	Dania	74	3	58	61	82.43%
0310	Hallandale	36	0	36	36	100.00%
0321	Cooper City	146	30	177	207	141.78%
0365	Sunrise	17	0	15	15	88.24%
TOTALS		1266	101	1077	1178	93.05%

DISTRICT 12

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0001	Titusville	312	15	292	307	98.40%
0022	Cocoa	99	1	83	84	84.85%
0039	Vero Beach	186	6	190	196	105.38%
0040	Fort Pierce	171	3	174	177	103.51%
0081	Melbourne	129	1	117	118	91.47%
0117	Palm Bay	481	17	466	483	100.42%
0126	Jensen Beach	228	3	208	211	92.54%
0163	Eau Gallie	255	8	241	249	97.65%
0171	Fort Pierce	12	0	15	15	125.00%
0189	Sebastian	115	1	127	128	111.30%
0191	Melbourne	102	16	78	94	92.16%
0200	Satellite Beach	145	5	151	156	107.59%
0318	Port St Lucie	802	5	858	863	107.61%
0344	Merritt Island	27	11	33	44	162.96%
0348	Cape Canaveral	172	0	173	173	100.58%
0358	White City	59	1	62	63	106.78%
0359	Port St John	285	15	256	271	95.09%
0366	Barefoot Bay	72	25	48	73	101.39%
0394	Palm Bay	152	5	142	147	96.71%
0410	Viera	11	0	11	11	100.00%
TOTALS		3815	138	3725	3863	101.26%

DISTRICT 11

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0020	Belle Glade	52	5	48	53	101.92%
0047	Lake Worth	113	4	98	102	90.27%
0062	Stuart	358	3	385	388	108.38%
0064	Okeechobee	117	0	102	102	87.18%
0065	Delray Beach	49	5	48	53	108.16%
0141	West Palm Beach	94	5	86	91	96.81%
0164	Boynton Beach	145	12	126	138	95.17%
0199	W Palm Beach	51	0	36	36	70.59%
0268	Riviera Beach	84	11	68	79	94.05%
0271	Tequesta	165	7	146	153	92.73%
0277	Boca Raton	93	0	98	98	105.38%
0288	Boynton Beach	33	16	13	29	87.88%
0367	Royal Palm Beach	45	10	31	41	91.11%
0367	Royal Palm Beach	44	12	32	44	100.00%
TOTALS		1399	78	1285	1363	97.43%

DISTRICT 13

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0038	Fort Myers	59	0	44	44	74.58%
0090	Cape Coral	235	4	236	240	102.13%
0103	Punta Gorda	425	3	424	427	100.47%
0110	Port Charlotte	545	5	546	551	101.10%
0123	Sanibel	80	2	56	58	72.50%
0130	Labelle	144	0	127	127	88.19%
0135	Naples	316	1	332	333	105.38%
0136	Saint James City	457	3	448	451	98.69%
0192	Fort Myers	21	2	18	20	95.24%
0274	Fort Myers Beach	585	3	583	586	100.17%
0303	Bonita Springs	416	16	382	398	95.67%
0323	Lehigh Acres	427	35	397	432	101.17%
0336	N Ft Myers	356	4	343	347	97.47%
0351	Fort Myers	80	2	83	85	106.25%
0351	Fort Myers	80	0	78	78	97.50%
TOTALS		4146	80	4019	4099	98.87%

DISTRICT 14						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0028	Key West	69	0	55	55	79.71%
0031	South Miami	171	6	167	173	101.17%
0043	Homestead	57	1	54	55	96.49%
0067	North Miami	56	3	51	54	96.43%
0098	Coral Gables	18	0	20	20	111.11%
0133	Miami	75	8	60	68	90.67%
0154	Marathon	170	1	154	155	91.18%
0168	Key West	26	0	11	11	42.31%
0333	Key Largo	85	0	76	76	89.41%
0346	Miami	22	1	16	17	77.27%
0374	Key Biscayne	49	0	39	39	79.59%
TOTALS		798	20	703	723	90.60%

DISTRICT 16						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0007	Clearwater	289	4	285	289	100.00%
0014	St Petersburg	123	4	99	103	83.74%
0079	New Port Richey	463	49	361	410	88.55%
0104	Pinellas Park	257	8	213	221	85.99%
0119	Largo	400	19	358	377	94.25%
0125	St Petersburg	350	17	307	324	92.57%
0158	Treasure Island	290	2	296	298	102.76%
0173	Holiday	270	10	255	265	98.15%
0238	Safety Harbor	284	13	254	267	94.01%
0252	Seminole	988	9	983	992	100.40%
0273	Madeira Beach	3132	12	2846	2858	91.25%
0275	Dunedin	749	10	832	842	112.42%
0305	St Pete Beach	127	0	113	113	88.98%
0335	Hudson	149	4	66	70	46.98%
TOTALS		7871	161	7268	7429	94.38%

DISTRICT 15						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0005	Tampa	42	3	36	39	92.86%
0026	Plant City	25	1	16	17	68.00%
0111	Tampa	51	1	44	45	88.24%
0138	Tampa	435	9	435	444	102.07%
0139	Tampa	109	0	115	115	105.50%
0147	Odessa	33	0	36	36	109.09%
0148	Riverview	175	7	177	184	105.14%
0152	Tampa	261	14	251	265	101.53%
0167	Tampa	24	1	18	19	79.17%
0186	Brooksville	354	1	368	369	104.24%
0246	Sun City Center	20	0	12	12	60.00%
0248	West Tampa	20	1	23	24	120.00%
0389	Ruskin	15	2	13	15	100.00%
TOTALS		1564	40	1544	1584	101.28%

DISTRICT 17						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0006	Deland	135	1	76	77	57.04%
0017	New Smyrna Beach	232	4	224	228	98.28%
0045	Palatka	45	3	44	47	104.44%
0115	Palm Coast	37	1	38	39	105.41%
0120	HollyHill	214	6	204	210	98.13%
0127	Lake Helen	24	5	20	25	104.17%
0204	Daytona Beach	24	10	10	20	83.33%
0255	Deltona	27	8	22	30	111.11%
0259	Debary	30	5	15	20	66.67%
0267	Ormond Beach	175	4	165	169	96.57%
0270	Port Orange	143	0	126	126	88.11%
0285	Edgewater	134	3	109	112	83.58%
0361	S Daytona	180	11	184	195	108.33%
TOTALS		1400	61	1237	1298	92.71%



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