

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED



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Patty MacDonald / Brandi Seeber

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.

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

alafl.org/submit secretary@alafl.org

PRESIDENT'S INESSAGE ANN KING-SMITH

Believe me when I say that I am incredibly surprised to be writing yet another article for our Department Newsletter in the capacity as Department President. The occurrences of the past few months have been something none of us could have ever imagined we would be dealing with. In all walks of our lives, we have been forced to find our "new normal" and discover ways to make that "new normal" work. The American Legion Auxiliary has been placed in the same difficult situation. I am so proud of all our Units for the way you have been problem solving and finding ways to keep our organization smoothly running.

At Department level, we have been working hard to plan for the upcoming 2020-2021 year. Our Finance Committee met earlier this month to plan a proposed Department Budget, which will be presented to the Department Executive Committee later this month. I would like to thank Department Finance Committee Chairman, Kelli Coppla, for all the time and dedication she has taken in getting us to this point. I know that many of you have struggled with preparing a budget for your Unit. Just imagine the efforts that go into a budget at Department level.

As you may know, most of the District Presidents will remain the same, excepting District 7. After the resignation of Mary Lewis as District President, I was proud to appoint Faye Kirkland as the District 7 President for 2020-2021. Our Department Officers and Chairmen will remain the same, however there will be a few changes to committee members and VA representatives. Due to the small number of changes, we will not be printing a new Unit Guide. The changes and updates to the 2019-2020 Unit Guide will be posted on the Department Website soon and you can simply "write in" and changes that are necessary.

As of June 10th, our official Florida

membership stands at 37,011 paid members. As of this date, Florida is ranked in 1st place with a whopping 97.38%. We still have until mid-July to report 2019-2020 memberships to National. Terry Gallagher has done a great job of keeping us all "revved up for membership." Let's continue to work on renewals and push our way to the goal of 100%. Our Department staff, Patty, Brandi and Keni, have been doing a great job of keeping everything up to speed, as they continue to work from their homes. Hopefully, you have not experienced any difficulty in reaching them for any questions you may have had. We are currently waiting on approval from the Legion to find out when office life will resume. As always, the concern for the health and safety of our entire American Legion Family is our first and utmost concern. Department Secretary Patty and I have been meeting almost every week with the rest of the Legion Family leaders via conference call.

Thanks to each of you for your patience, understanding and cooperation during this difficult time. I know you are all excited and looking forward to being able to resume your meetings and plan for all the great things you are going to do this year. Hope to be visiting with many of you during the upcoming year. Unfortunately, there were 4 District visits that had to be postponed due to COVID-19. I have already made plans for the District 13 visit and look forward to scheduling visits with Districts 2, 11 and 16 soon. Additionally, I hope to be able to spend time with other Districts and Units during special events.

The President's project for 2020-2021 will continue to be Honor Flight. Although they have postponed

Continued on Page 4 >>



President continued from Page 3 <<

all flights until the Spring of 2021, they need our help more than ever. They have many veterans that have missed the opportunity to take the trip of a lifetime this year. They will not be forgotten and are at the top of the lists. This means there is a long list of heroes that we need to support. Please remember to stay safe. I look forward to celebrating "Florida ALA Strong" with you at Fall Conference in November.

For God and Country Ann King-Smith

INTERNAL UNIT AUDIT

A unit should have an internal audit committee who are not authorized signers of the bank account. The current Treasurer should be available to answer any questions. An internal audit should be done every three months and at the end of the year. If the unit does not have much activity than it can be conducted semi-annual.

Below is the items needed to conduct a Year End Audit:

- 1. 12 bank statements (July June)
- 2. Bank Reconciliations for each month
- 3. Check book
- 4. Credit or Debit card statements and receipts
- 5. Minutes for 12 months
- 6. Annual approved budget
- 7. All receipts
- 8. Deposit slips
- 9. Treasurer's Report

Items to check:

- 1. Make sure enough time is allotted to complete the audit.
- 2. Verify all totals on the treasurer's report are accurate.
- 3. Verify the ending reconciled bank balance matches the checkbook balance and the Treasurer's report balance.
- 4. Verify checks written have been signed by two authorized signers
- 5. Verify receipts for each expense.
- 6. Verify the payee matches the invoice and/or reimbursement request.
- 7. Verify that the amount of the check match the receipt.
- 8. Verify the expense is approved in the budget or a vote was conducted in the minutes.
- 9. Verify the deposit amount in the checkbook matches the deposit slip
- 10. Verify backup documentation matches deposit

Once the audit is complete a report should be provided at the next general meeting



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

SEGRETARY / TREASURERER PATTY MACDONALD - BRANDI SEEBER





Greetings from the Department Secretary and Department Treasurer. We hope that this article finds you well.

In this article we will be covering close of books for membership, fiscal year close of books, membership cards and Membership Credit Report and more.

Membership Close of Books

Membership close of books was June 12, 2020. The report has been posted online at www.alafl.org and in this newsletter. Congratulations to all the units for a job well done. National close of books is August 1, 2020 so please continue to submit 2020 dues so we can reach 100% with National.

2021 Membership Cards

The 2021 membership cards will be available in the beginning of July. The cards are shipped to Department Headquarters from National and Department has to sort them before distribution. Department Headquarters is offering the District Presidents to pick up the cards at Department with an appointment. If the District President does not choose to pick them up, the cards will be mailed to each unit. They will go to the address we have on file for the Unit.

2021 Membership Dues (Renewal Only)

The 2021 membership dues (renewal only) will be accepted starting the first week of July. New members for 2021 will not be accepted until September. Please note that Department will process any new member received at this time for 2020.

Account Receivable Statements

Account receivable statements will be sent to the Unit the week of June 29, 2020.

June 30, 2020 MCR (Membership Credit Report)

Unit Have a Credit: Yes

Unit Have an ACH on File with Department: Yes, MCR will be emailed to Unit the week of July

13, 2020. Note, if Unit Treasurer has not had correspondence with the Department Treasurer please email Brandi at treasurer@alafl.og so she has your email on file.

Unit Have a Credit: Yes

Unit Have an ACH on File with Department: No, MCR and check will be mailed the week of July 20, 2020

Unit Owe Department: Yes

Department will mail an invoice to the Unit with the amount due the week of July 13, 2020

Poppy Reconciliation Forms:

Poppy Reconciliation Forms must be received by Department by June 30, 2020. You must notify Department if your Unit did not participate in the May distribution date due to COVID.

Officer List

The unit officer list is due to Department on or before June 30, 2020. If the unit is holding officers over they still must complete the form. The Unit Officers list was mailed to all units at the beginning of June. It can also be located on our website at www.alafl.org under forms and resources.

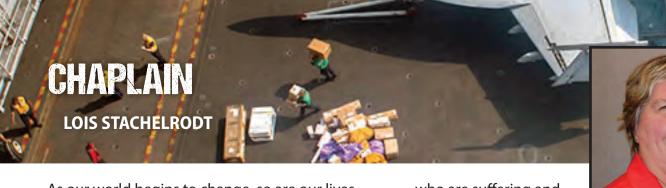
Officer Dues

Department Headquarters will be verifying all 2020 officers dues when the officer list is mailed in. If dues are outstanding notification will be sent to the unit. It is recommended that the unit officer pay their 2021 dues as soon as the dues are accepted at Department.

2021 Unit Obligations

The 2021 unit obligations invoices will be sent out the week of July 27, 2020. Please do not pay until you receive an invoice from Department Headquarters.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.



As our world begins to change, so are our lives as we know it. We need to embrace the changes to keep our lives as constant as we can. As we experience new ways to do things may we understand the new ways we have to keep.

These last few months have shown all of us how precious life is and has given us many different ways to do things that we may have taken for granted all these years. Just simple tasks that have been forgotten about or how to do have been given back to us to embrace.

May we always remember that our Lord is watching over us and he is guiding us through this huge storm. He will always be at our sides and will continue to love us.

With that being said, here is a prayer that I have written for all of you.

Father,

As we continue to heal those who are suffering in this crisis, we ask for your healing prayers and your healing hands to send the love you offer. There are families that need your love and guidance as they deal with their losses. May they know that their loved one is in your precious heaven and is safe. We ask that you guide and protect our Veterans

who are suffering and help them through their own personal issues.

Please help our members to reach out to friends and family who they have not heard from in a while, making sure they are okay and seeing if they need assistance.

We also ask, Father, that you keep our service men and women who are fighting to keep our Country safe from harm and bring them home soon to their families so they know they are safe.

In closing Father, we ask that you help our World to heal from the entire crisis that is happening and help those to heal and understand, and forgive where needed. We all cherish what you have done for us and we Thank You for your love, guidance and wisdom. We love you and honor you.

All this we ask on thy Holy Name, Amen

I hope this article and prayer will help someone through a trying time and please know that your Chaplain is praying every day for peace to come back into this world and to you.

CALLING ALL CHAPLAINS

Since the Convention has been canceled this year. I spoke with Department President Ann King Smith and asked if we could put the Prayer Books on an extension to Fall Conference.

I believe that all the Chaplains thought that the award was not going to take place, however it is still happening and I have received one book so far.

With that being said, I would like to let you all know that we are extending the deadline for Prayer Books to 30 days prior to Fall Conference.

Please try to do a Prayer Book for your President.

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND

LINDA KNOBLACH-HARKNESS

I hope this finds you all safe and well. So here we are in hurricane season and according to NOAA's predictions this might be a rough one. NOAA's Climate Prediction Center is forecasting "a likely range of 13 to 19 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher), of which 6-10 could become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), including 3 to 6 major hurricanes (category 3,4, or 5: with winds of 111 mph or higher)."

Having said this, you know what is coming next, our members need our help. I have said it before and I'll say it again, "This is the only program that is for us, the members."

Last year I asked each member of the Department of Florida to give \$1. If that had happened, we would have raised over \$38K. However, we fell short. We raised \$2,838.00. I want to thank each of our members who contributed to our Disaster Relief Fund. Because of you we now have \$11,825.53 in this fund.

However, on the high note the Department Revenue for Department AEF (separate line item on the Remittance form) was \$7,286.00. This is fantastic, because \$7,250.00 was used. These numbers show you how important our contributions are. Thank you to all the members who contributed to Department's AEF.

As of April 30, 2020, we have \$37,647.69 in this fund. When we combine the two-line items, we have \$49,437.68. To break this down, if a major catastrophe strikes our state and our members apply for AEF, we would only be able to give 41 members \$1,200.00. As you can see, we need our members to be generous by donating \$1 each.

The unit from each Membership Grouping that gives the highest percentage of the total unit membership will be given an award of appreciation.

However, this year will include both line item

2050, Department AEF and Disaster Relief, Line 2200 on the donation

remittance form. Units don't need to wait until April to send their donation to Department. You can send some now and later.

Here's a small suggestion, maybe you can set up teams within your unit to see which team can raise the most money for AEF. The funds don't just need to come from members. Maybe your friends and family can give \$1. Please think out of the box.

Finally, if you need assistance, please don't hesitate to apply. Be sure to send in the supporting documentation along with your completed application otherwise the process is slowed down dramatically.

As always, I am here to support your fund-raising efforts and to help with applications. Please feel free to reach out to me (emergencyfund@alafl.org or 484-264-7892).

Thank you all for being members of this great organization. You are appreciated and valued. Please stay safe and healthy.



Submitted by: Treva Kay Wildrick, PDP





The Fourth of July—also known as Independence Day or July 4th—has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues. The Fourth of July

2020 is on Saturday, July 4, 2020.

Unfortunately, we are hearing that many of our traditional ways to celebrate this holiday have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 restrictions. Please remember to take time to remember, in your own way, the reason we celebrate on this special day in our history.

I look very forward to working with you and serving as your Department Americanism Chairman for the 2020-2021 Auxiliary year.

My Name is Old Glory

by Howard Schnauber

I am the flag of the United States of America. My name is Old Glory.

I fly atop the world's tallest buildings. I stand watch in America's halls of justice.

I stand watch in America's halls of Justice.

I fly majestically over great institutes of learning.

I stand guard with the greatest military power in the world.

Look up! And see me!

I stand for peace - honor - truth and justice. I stand for freedom I am confident - I am arrogant I am proud.

When I am flown with my fellow banners My head is a little higher My colors a little truer.

I bow to no one.

I am recognized all over the world.

I am worshipped - I am saluted - I am respected I am revered - I am loved, and I am feared.

I have fought every battle of every war for more than 200 years:

Gettysburg, Shilo, Appomatox, San Juan Hill, the trenches of France, the Argonne Forest, Anzio, Rome, the beaches of Normandy, the deserts of Africa, the cane fields of the Philippines, the rice paddies and jungles of Guam, Okinawa, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Guadalcanal New Britain, Peleliu, and many more islands.

And a score of places long forgotten by all but those who were with me.

I was there.

I led my soldiers - I followed them.

I watched over them.

They loved me.

I was on a small hill in Iwo Jima.

I was dirty, battle-worn and tired, but my soldiers cheered me, and I was proud.

I have been soiled, burned, torn and trampled on the streets of ountries I have helped set free. It does not hurt, for I am invincible.

I have been soiled, burned, torn and trampled on the streets of my country, and when it is by those with whom I have served in battle - it hurts. But I shall overcome - for I am strong.

I have slipped the bonds of Earth and stand watch over the

uncharted new frontiers of space from my vantage point on the moon.

I have been a silent witness to all of America's finest hours.

But my finest hour comes when I am torn into strips to be used for bandages for my wounded comrades on the field of battle, When I fly at half mast to honor my soldiers,

And when I lie in the trembling arms of a grieving mother at the graveside of her fallen son.

I am proud.

My name is Old Glory.

Dear God - Long may I wave.



Hello fellow American Legion Auxiliary members. It's been too long – but hopefully we will all be back to our "new normal" soon. What's the definition of "normal"? Everyone has their own opinion of "what's normal" and that's ok! One definition that is pretty standard is "Leadership". Google leadership and you'll get a variety of definitions but bottom line they're all saying the same thing: "A simple definition is that leadership is the art of motivating a group of people to act toward achieving a common goal"*. After working with the fabulous members of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of FL, I know we have a lot of wonderful leaders out there teaching and motiving members to work the mission of the largest and greatest Veteran Support organization in the country. To help you do that the Department of Florida Leadership Chairman, committee and ABC/ Leadership instructors are available to help you, to answer your questions and make sure you have to tools to get the job done.

Let's start from the beginning... Although we are in a "continuous" auxiliary year, doesn't mean we stop learning and educating. So, for all you new officers and chairmen as well as the ongoing officers and chairmen, please be sure to familiar yourself with the tools available to you. The American Legion Auxiliary Department of FL website alafl.org has a wealth of information available to you, from program action plans (PAPs), to all the forms you

need from the unit level straight on up to the National level. There are

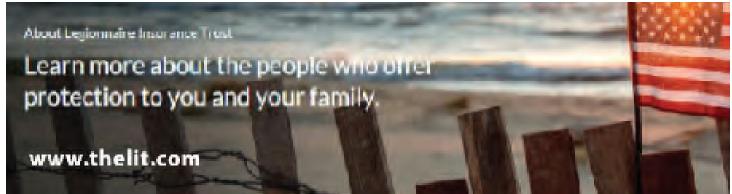
guidebooks for Unit and District Presidents, that are not only there for the benefit of the president, but for anyone who wants to take that initiative to learn more. Check out the drop-down menu of each program and see what resources your Department Program Chairmen have available to help you manage your program. Familiarize yourself with the Unit Guides – they are chock full of information. One important document you need to be sure you're fully versed on is your Constitution/By-Laws and Standing Rules. This is the guide on the whos, the whats, the wherefores of your unit. And they're also available on the Department website.

So, stay tuned for more Leadership updates and tidbits and look for your local ABC/Leadership class coming soon to your district.

Be safe and stay ALAFLSTRONG!!!

Yours In Service Dorothy Walsh Leadership Chairman

* Ward, S. (2020, April 24). What Is Leadership? And Can You Learn to Be a Good Leader? Retrieved June 12, 2020, from https://www.thebalancesmb.com/leadership-definition-2948275



How a Bill Becomes Law

The legislative process can be a complicated one. The following information will help you better understand how a bill becomes law.

Introducing the Bill and Referral to a Committee

Any member of Congress may introduce legislation. Each bill that is introduced by a member of Congress is assigned a number—H.R. number for bills originating in the House of Representatives and S. number for bills originating in the Senate. After a bill has been introduced and assigned a number, it is referred to the committee, which has jurisdiction over the issue. For example, The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs is the authorizing committee for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

Conference Committee: A committee called with a set number of members from the House and Senate that are tasked with reconciling differences between different versions of legislation passed by each chamber. The conference committee is usually composed of the senior Members of the standing committees of each House that originally considered the legislation. Each house determines the number of conferees from its house. The number of conferees need not be equal from the two houses of Congress. In order to conclude its business, a majority of both House and Senate delegations to the conference must sign the conference report.

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Committee Action

After the bill has been referred to the appropriate committee, the chairman of the committee will decide whether or not to hold a hearing or a "mark-up" on the bill. If there is a hearing, members of the committee gather information about the bill and its effects from a number of people who are knowledgeable about the issue and invite individuals to provide expert testimony during the hearing. If there is a mark-up, members of the committee will make changes (called amendments) to the original text of the bill. After the mark-up is complete, the committee will vote the bill out.

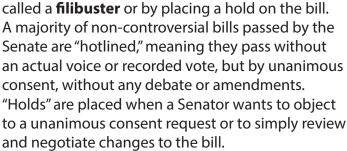
Floor Debate and Votes

In the House of Representatives, the **Speaker of the House** determines if and when a bill will come before the full body for a vote. In the Senate, this is the function of the **majority leader**. Each chamber of the legislative branch has a different process for voting on and amending bills after they are introduced.

In the House, **the Rules Committee** sets the time allotted for debate and rules for offering amendments (in the House, all amendments offered must be relevant to the bill). After proponents and opponents debate a bill, the bill is reported back to the House for a vote. A **quorum** must be present (218 Representatives) to have a final vote. If a quorum is not present, the Sergeant at Arms is sent out to round up missing members. For noncontroversial bills, the **Speaker of the House** may make a **motion to suspend the rules** and pass the bill.

In the Senate, there are no time restrictions for debate, unless **cloture** is invoked. Senators can offer amendments, even if amendments are not relevant to the bill, such as **riders**. Bills pass the Senate by a majority vote or unanimous consent. Senators can obstruct passage of a bill by prolonging the debate





Referral to the Other Chamber

After a bill has been passed by one chamber of Congress; it is then referred to the other chamber. Upon receiving a referred bill, the second chamber may consider the bill as it was received, reject it, or amend it.

Conference on a Bill

If the House and Senate versions of a bill vary after passing both chambers, a conference committee is created to reconcile the two different versions of the bill. If no agreement can be reached, the bill dies. If the conference committee is able to come to a consensus, both the House and Senate must pass the new version of the bill. If either house does not pass this version, the bill dies. Often, the House and the Senate committees of jurisdiction will negotiate provision of non-controversial bills to avoid conference.

Action by the President

After the final version of the bill is passed in both chambers of Congress, it is sent to the president to be signed into law. If the president does not agree with the bill, they may veto it. The president may also "pocket-veto" a bill by taking no action on it for ten days after Congress has adjourned. If the president vetoes a bill, Congress may override it by a two-thirds roll call vote. If they succeed, the bill becomes a law

Definitions

Here are some terms that you should know to understand the how a bill becomes law:

Speaker of the House: The leader of the House of Representatives. This person does NOT have to be of the majority party, but because members determine who holds this position, it nearly always is.

Majority Leader: The leader of the party holding the majority of seats in Congress.

Minority Leader: The leader of the party holding the minority of seats in Congress.

Rules Committee: A committee unique to the House of Representatives that is responsible for assigning each bill introduced in the House a "rule" determining how much debate will be allowed on the measure.

Motion to Suspend the Rules: when 2/3 of voting members in the House of Representatives vote to override the rule attached to a bill, or to allow it to be brought to the House floor without a rule.

Quorum: The number of members who must be present in order for the House, Senate, or their committees to do business.

Cloture: A procedure in the Senate that allows the Majority leader to stop all debate on a bill. This requires 2/3 of the Senate to approve.

Riders: A legislative amendment or measure attached to a bill that is non-related. This can happen in the Senate because amendments are not required to be germane (or related) to the measure being debated or voted on.

Filibuster: A procedure unique to the Senate that allows any member to speak on a bill for as long as they would like, as long as they continue without stopping or sitting down. This is used to halt debate or block measures from being voted on.



PUBLIC RELATIONS

ELEANOR AMATO

Public Relations is ongoing! However, we started our new year in May 2020. Remember this is only for the Public Relations' Program. To make life easier for you, please document how many posts you put on Facebook and how many articles you have put in a newspaper (don't forget to save a copy and send to Department Public Relations. We had a wonderful year last year and this is because of the communication at the unit level. Who doesn't like to see their name in lights? I know I do. As a result, the Department of Florida had over 1800 pictures posted on Facebook and we have a total of 554 members on our page. Wouldn't it be nice to hit 600 by Christmas? Department received a total of 41 entries for the public relations scrapbook/narrative. There were 21 proclamations made in our state along with birthday wishes from Governor Ron DeSantis.

We are still celebrating the Auxiliary 100 year anniversary. This is our second chance. If your unit didn't do a celebration last year plan one this year and remember however big or small invite the mayor, councilman, dignitary and picture it and send it to the newspaper. (It doesn't have to be a party, did you help clean the post? Didn't you do it to help the Legion) How about a bus stop bench or a plaque in the veteran's park. There are so many things we can do. Be creative.

Public Relations gave our members a challenge during this pandemic crisis. Send the names of the members who are making masks for our frontline heroes to FLALA Public Relations, and your name will be put in for a during for a beautiful handmade jewelry set made by Kathy Helmly. Drawing will be done at Fall Conference. We have a total of 26 in the drawing. Thank you ladies and gentlemen for your talent.

Remember I am here for you. You can reach me on internet, email Facebook and phone. God bless you

and thank you for a wonderful year. The following is information on how you can improve your units Facebook page. Thanks so much.

Social media is here to stay! It is an important part of life for millions across the world. It's a great tool for both recruitment and retention of ALA members. People first turn to Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to check out a person, place, business, or organizations.

Using social media correctly can have a positive impact on the American Legion Auxiliary's brand to the public.

Properly name your social media accounts, provide current contact information, an update "about me" section, and regularly post/update photos can go a long way in branding your unit/district/department to the public, which includes potential volunteers, members, and donors.

Naming your account:

Just imagine someone learns about your unit through a community event or by word of mouth. They want to learn more, so, they turn to the internet. Your unit doesn't a website, but the public is positive your unit will be on social media. They begin to search but can't find your unit. Is it because your unit's social media account name is listed as "American Legion Auxiliary Unit 123" or "American Legion Auxiliary Unit"? There could be several pages just like this. People aren't going to take the time to do a deep-dive search to find your unit if it proves to be a challenge.

The better way to label your unit on social media would be: "American Legion Auxiliary Unit 285, Edgewater, FL" or "American Legion Auxiliary Unit 75, Crestview, FL." Key parts of your name on social media should include your unit number, city, and state. There are multiple units with the same unit



number across the country, so including city and state can set you apart and ensures the public is able to reach out to the right unit.

Reminder: Do not label your page "American Legion Ladies Auxiliary" or "Women's Auxiliary".

Communication:

The interested community member finally found your Facebook page — bravo! They are eager to reach out to get more information on volunteer opportunities with your unit, so they send an email to the one listed under contact information, and immediately, the email bounces back. They try the phone number listed — the person says they are no longer part of that unit. Dead end. This, of course, is upsetting because they just want to help veterans, military, and their families, but the unit can't take the time to make sure its contact information is up to date.

Updated 'about me' section:

Make sure this section of your social media account contains current information. People need to get a quick idea of who the Auxiliary is. Not sure what to write? Feel free to use parts or all of what National Headquarters uses.

"American Legion Auxiliary members have dedicated themselves for a century to meeting the needs of our nation's veterans, military, and their families both here and abroad. They volunteer millions of hours yearly, with a value of nearly \$1 billion. Auxiliary volunteers across the country also

step up to honor veterans and military through annual scholarships and

with ALA Girls State programs, teaching high school juniors to be leaders grounded in patriotism and Americanism".

Regular posting/updated photos:

Simply having a Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram account is one thing. It's quite another to actively use it. You don't want someone to come to your page and see the last post is from two months ago. Keep the page updated with fresh content. Your unit doesn't have to post every single day, but try to share information regularly about what your unit/district/department is doing in your community to serve veterans, military, and their families. Then don't forget to send your information to Department's Facebook public relations page at FLALA Public Relations.

Be careful what you post

A Facebook page for your unit and a personal social media page are very different. Try to be extra mindful of what you post on your unit/district/ department pages, especially with elections coming up. Be sure you don't go one-sided when using this account. The ALA was created a century ago as a nonpartisan organization, and we will remain one. Don't change that intent by posting political statements!



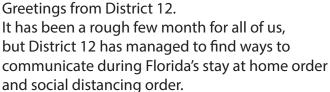
Visit Your Local Tag Office and get yours today!

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

floridalegion.org







Many Units found their members banding together and contacting others to ensure that they were doing well. Others were shopping in stores for those who were homebound. Face masks were made by multiple members and donated wherever needed.

Units found ways to bring joy to members who could not celebrate birthdays by creating "drive-by" birthday parties, in which cars would drive by and hand the birthday member a card and / or gift. One significant surprise drive-by was organized by Unit 117. The husband and S.A.L. member of a long time Auxiliary member is suffering from cancer.

Approximately 50 (or more) motorcycles and cars gathered and drove over to the home carrying gifts

and monetary donations. It was heartwarming to see the look on the faces

of the couple when everyone showed up.

District 12 was able to keep in touch with each other via telephone conference calls utilizing www. freeconferncecall.com. We have had a monthly Unit President call, along with emergency calls, as necessary.

The Units are now either in the midst of, or have completed their yearly election process for the coming year.

I am happy and grateful to continue as District 12 President and look forward to a very successful American Legion Auxiliary year.

I am sad to know that I will not be able to see all my friends from other Districts this month at Convention, but look forward to seeing all of you at Fall Conference.



WELCOME - FAYE KIRKLAND, DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT

Let's all join in and welcome our newest District President, Faye Kirkland. Faye was appointed and ratified to serve as the District 7 President for the 2020-2021 Auxiliary year after the resignation of Mary Lewis, District 7 President for 2019-2020.

Faye has been an ALA member for the past 7 years. She is a member of Unit 72 in Mulberry. Faye is married to her husband of 51 years, Henry is a 100% disabled veteran who served in Vietnam. He is also the recipient of a Purple Heart. They have 2 daughters, 3 grandchildren and will soon be great grandparents for the first time.

Faye is very thankful for the service of our veterans and our active duty military and she feels very privileged to serve at District 7 President.

FLORIDA ALA HAPPENINGS FROM THE UNITS

Unit 5: On Wednesday May 20, 2020 several members of Unit 5, total of 9 auxiliary members came together preparing poppies for the special social distancing Memorial Day that we were planing. It was not going to be our traditional Memorial Day, with a special ceremony of speakers, music, singers and open to the public or the presentation of Beautiful Wreaths by many American Legion Post Families and organizations. It was going to be a quite one with mask, gloves social distancing due to the COVID-19 Virus. This virus had stop so many of the normal events that many of do. get together many of us do. But we were not going to let the virus stop us in remembering our fallen. (To be killed or lost in War is not the worst that can Happen, to be forgotten is the worst.)

















Unit 5: Auxiliary members of Unit 5 (U.S.S. Tampa) came together and purchased several Starter baskets along with various items. All these items will be donated to the Food Pantry which our 15th District President

Unit 5: Yes the Auxiliary members of Unit 5 U.S.S. Tampa Florida are staying safe and wearing mask, practicing safe distancing we have been able to work on our programs. Just recently several members sent out a total of 125 thinking of you cards to the Baldomere Lopez State Veterans Nursing Home which is located in Land O'Lakes Florida. And we are currently working on cards for the Veterans for the upcoming flights for the Central Area Honor Flight. In addition to this we have also been able to send cards out to the James A Haley VA Hospital located in Tampa .

Mary McColgan set up to help our Veterans that are in need of assistance. Many Veterans that were living in dorm settings are being housed in their own apartments so there was a request placed for the baskets. For those of you that don't know what a Starter Basket is, it consists of a tall laundry basket filled with: mop, broom, cleaning supplies, bath towel, shower curtain and rings, silverware, plastic plates, tumblers and bowls. Kitchen utensils, trash bags and several other items. All Auxiliary units within the 15th District continue their ongoing 100% support for the food pantry helping our Veterans

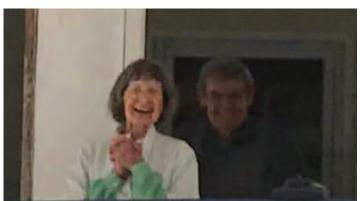








Unit 291:The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 291 along with the help of the Legionnaire's and Son's of the Legion put up the 398 crosses and flags honoring our Veterans (living and deceased). This project was started by the Auxiliary Unit 291 in 2018 and the flags are displayed the week prior to Memorial Day and the week prior to Veterans Day.







Unit 291:Auxiliary member Mildred turned 91 today 5/21/20 and members of Auxiliary Unit 291, legionnaires and Son's of the legion along with the Sheriff's office, fire department and ambulance service did a drive by birthday with sirens and the works. Even in the mist of Covid 19 we try to remember our members and make them feel loved.

THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

IN MEMORY OF JEAN MAHONEY



Jean Mahoney was a force to be reckoned with. From the first time we met at an Auxiliary meeting, I could always count on her to give me advice whether it was asked for or not – as we all know! I will always treasure the times we spent together. She always called Chuck her boyfriend (and we know she had many!) ... and Chuck & I will always treasure a particular time with Jean at a National Convention. And as they say "enough said." Jean is gone from us but will never be forgotten. Rest In Peace my dear friend.~ Diane Rousseau, PDP 2011-2012



PDP Jean Mahoney









Fall Conference held at the Renaissance SeaWorld Orlando is sure to be a great experience for first time attendees as well as seasoned officers. With the professional staff at the Renaissance, along with your Department Headquarters team, our goal is to make Conference a successful and enjoyable experience.

The Fall Conference has been designed to serve as an all-inclusive training opportunity through dynamic lecture series and distinguished guest speakers invited to general session.

Each year the Fall Conference is geared toward the needs of our members and officers. As a Department staff we look forward to your participation and insight into making each aspect of conference a value for you and the members of local posts you are representing.

NOVEMBER 5 - 8, 2020 - RENAISSANCE SEAWORLD ORLANDO

Renaissance SeaWorld 6677 Sea Harbor Dr Orlando, FL 32821

Room Rate: \$135.00 +tax

*Optional \$20 resort fee – includes guest room internet, transporation to SeaWorld, Universal Studios, and Disney, local calls, in-room bottled water

For Reservations:

Book Online: https://book.passkey.com/e/50010031 or Call: 407-351-5555 Direct

Be sure to ask for "American Legion" room block.

NOTES:

No hospitality parlors in the room block, please contact the hotel if you would like one. The Renaissance will be charging the first night's deposit when making a reservation. Resort fee is optional, see details above.

Self-parking is free to overnight guest. Valet parking is subject to a fee.



2020 CRUISE

OCTOBER 3-8



Maureen Williams PVP **1-800-819-3902 EXT 85931**

GROUP CODE F33MX9

Elation - Exotic Eastern Caribbean

DATE	DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
10/03/20	SAT	Port Canaveral (Orlando, FL)		3:30 PM
10/04/20	SUN	Nassau, The Bahamas	10:00 AM	7:00 PM
10/05/20	MON Complin	Princess Cays, The Bahamas nentary water shuttle service required between	7:30 AM n ship and shore.	3:30 PM
10/06/20	TUE	Grand Turk	11:30 AM	6:00 PM
10/07/20	WED	Fun Day at Sea		
10/08/20	THU	Port Canaveral (Orlando, FL)	8:00 AM	

*Deposit is \$150 per person and final payment is due 7/20/2020.

Questions?

Maureen Williams, Vacation Planner Carnival Cruise Line 800-819-3902 EXT 85931 OFFICE 305-406-6183 FAX MON - THU 11:00 AM - 8:00PM EST FRI 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM mwilliams2@carnival.com

Welcome from Dept Commander

Last years cruise was a blast, and we are ready to go again.

This will be a first come first serve, so make your reservations ASAP as cabin space might fill up quickly. Please call to reserve your room as prices change all the time. My wife works for Carnival, so we will be taken care of.

Put your deposit down quickly and she will try to have us as close together as possible. Remember, this will be a FUN cruise and time to enjoy each other's company and to recharge for the year.

I will have hotel information as we get closer for the night before the cruise. **Everyone have a great time and** we'll see you aboard. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to myself or vacation planner, Maureen Williams.



William R Johnson
Department Commander
American Legion
Department Of Florida
954-242-4496
rickitank@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP REPORTS

JUNE 19, 2020

	DISTRICT 1								
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT			
0075	Crestview	146	1	183	184	126.03%			
0078	Milton	14	0	14	14	100.00%			
0193	Pensacola	93	15	66	81	87.10%			
0221	Niceville	72	1	70	71	98.61%			
0235	Ft Walton Beach	187	3	162	165	88.24%			
0240	Pensacola	211	2	212	214	101.42%			
0296	Destin	45	1	48	49	108.89%			
0340	Pensacola	321	7	314	321	100.00%			
0356	Lynn Haven	209	2	142	144	68.90%			
0375	Southport	77	1	54	55	71.43%			
0378	Gulf Breeze	48	0	46	46	95.83%			
0382	Navarre	128	1	162	163	127.34%			
0392	Panama City	183	1	130	131	71.58%			
0402	Panama City Beach	43	1	32	33	76.74%			
	TOTALS	1777	36	1635	1671	94.03%			

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	40	42	93.33%		
0131	Greenville	29	1	9	10	34.48%		
0215	Jasper	40	3	32	35	87.50%		
0224	Madison	39	0	34	34	87.18%		
0291	Steinhatchee	181	3	180	183	101.10%		
0383	Old Town	144	1	120	121	84.03%		
	TOTALS 742 11 655 666 89.76%							

DISTRICT 2								
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT		
0013	Tallahassee	81	7	80	87	107.41%		
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%		
т	TOTALS 367 57 294 351 95.64%							

No.	DISTRICT 4										
	UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT				
	0016	Gainesville	53	0	42	42	79.25%				
	0027	Ocala	20	1	13	14	70.00%				
	0058	Dunnellon	38	2	41	43	113.16%				
	0077	Inverness	40	0	47	47	117.50%				
1	0149	Newberry	32	2	21	23	71.88%				
10	0155	Crystal River	317	7	316	323	101.89%				
À	0166	Homosassa Springs	74	4	103	107	144.59%				
1	0230	Hawthorne	48	4	33	37	77.08%				
	0236	Bronson	52	0	35	35	67.31%				
	0237	Beverly Hills	159	0	168	168	105.66%				
	0284	Belleview	85	2	81	83	97.65%				
		TOTALS	918	22	900	922	100.44%				

	DISTRICT 5									
UNI	СІТҮ	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT				
000	Jacksonville	40	3	33	36	90.00%				
003	7 Saint Augustine	58	2	27	29	50.00%				
005	Fernandina Beach	156	4	156	160	102.56%				
008	3 Jacksonville	79	3	86	89	112.66%				
012	Jacksonville Beach	348	13	347	360	103.45%				
013	7 Jacksonville	519	19	433	452	87.09%				
019	St Augustine	71	9	62	71	100.00%				
019	7 Jacksonville	64	10	39	49	76.56%				
020	2 Keystone Heights	53	0	55	55	103.77%				
023	Ponte Vedra Beach	168	36	134	170	101.19%				
024	1 Jacksonville	22	4	20	24	109.09%				
025) Middleburg	354	36	286	322	90.96%				
028	3 Jacksonville	438	23	435	458	104.57%				
031	Atlantic Beach	335	48	296	344	102.69%				
037	2 Mandarin	25	4	28	32	128.00%				
037	Orange Park	43	9	31	40	93.02%				
040	l Hilliard	40	1	39	40	100.00%				
	TOTALS	2813	224	2507	2731	97.08%				

Š	DISTRICT 7									
	UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT			
ŝ	0003	Bartow	81	1	70	71	87.65%			
i	0004	Lakeland	62	3	59	62	100.00%			
Ĺ	8000	Winter Haven	599	6	577	583	97.33%			
	0034	Haines City	64	0	68	68	106.25%			
Š	0071	Lake Wales	74	0	39	39	52.70%			
Š	0072	Mulberry	164	6	145	151	92.07%			
Ì	0201	Florence Villa	36	3	33	36	100.00%			
		TOTALS	1080	19	991	1010	93.52%			

	DISTRICT 6								
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT			
0010	Kissimmee	202	3	179	182	90.10%			
0019	Orlando	130	5	120	125	96.15%			
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	49	52	77.61%			
0055	Clermont	97	2	142	144	148.45%			
0063	Winter Garden	37	2	32	34	91.89%			
0080	Saint Cloud	274	20	224	244	89.05%			
0101	Bushnell	116	1	112	113	97.41%			
0109	Ocoee	16	4	11	15	93.75%			
0112	Winter Park	22	2	20	22	100.00%			
0183	Fern Park	124	16	115	131	105.65%			
0219	Fruitland Park	196	2	201	203	103.57%			
0242	Orlando	123	10	112	122	99.19%			
0286	Orlando	187	7	158	165	88.24%			
0330	Leesburg	65	1	61	62	95.38%			
0331	Orlando	42	0	12	12	28.57%			
0347	Lady Lake	2485	13	2625	2638	106.16%			
0347	Lady Lake	1961	12	2396	2408	122.79%			
	TOTALS	4332	93	4311	4404	101.66%			

	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	12	65	77	105.48%				
0069	Avon Park	583	10	622	632	108.40%				
0074	Sebring	87	0	93	93	106.90%				
0113	Rotonda West	331	4	318	322	97.28%				
0159	Venice	724	14	715	729	100.69%				
0254	North Port	119	0	119	119	100.00%				
0266	Fruitville	132	5	138	143	108.33%				
0309	Palmetto	179	1	161	162	90.50%				
0312	Oneco	258	2	254	256	99.22%				
0325	Ellenton	154	0	161	161	104.55%				
	TOTALS	3350	72	3286	3358	100.24%				

	DISTRICT 9								
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT			
0036	Ft Lauderdale	41	0	31	31	75.61%			
0092	Hollywood	98	4	91	95	96.94%			
0142	Pompano Beach	197	8	191	199	101.02%			
0157	Margate	234	15	157	172	73.50%			
0162	Deerfield Beach	197	22	155	177	89.85%			
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	1098	1199	94.71%			

	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	386	389	108.66%			
0064	Okeechobee	117	0	122	122	104.27%			
0065	Delray Beach	49	5	48	53	108.16%			
0141	West Palm Beach	94	5	86	91	96.81%			
0164	Boynton Beach	145	12	127	139	95.86%			
0199	W Palm Beach	51	0	39	39	76.47%			
0268	Riviera Beach	84	11	68	79	94.05%			
0271	Tequesta	165	7	148	155	93.94%			
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	1312	1390	99.36%			

DISTRICT 12								
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT		
0001	Titusville	312	16	293	309	99.04%		
0022	Сосоа	99	1	83	84	84.85%		
0039	Vero Beach	186	6	192	198	106.45%		
0040	Fort Pierce	171	4	181	185	108.19%		
0081	Melbourne	129	1	134	135	104.65%		
0117	Palm Bay	481	18	477	495	102.91%		
0126	Jensen Beach	228	3	212	215	94.30%		
0163	Eau Gallie	255	8	242	250	98.04%		
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	155	160	110.34%		
0318	Port St Lucie	802	5	863	868	108.23%		
0344	Merritt Island	27	11	33	44	162.96%		
0348	Cape Canaveral	172	0	174	174	101.16%		
0358	White City	59	1	62	63	106.78%		
0359	Port St John	285	15	259	274	96.14%		
0366	Barefoot Bay	72	25	48	73	101.39%		
0394	Palm Bay	152	5	151	156	102.63%		
0410	Viera	11	0	11	11	100.00%		
TOTALS 3815 141 3790 3931 103.04%								

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	426	429	100.94%		
0110	Port Charlotte	545	5	553	558	102.39%		
0123	Sanibel	80	2	57	59	73.75%		
0130	Labelle	144	0	129	129	89.58%		
0135	Naples	316	1	336	337	106.65%		
0136	Saint James City	457	3	452	455	99.56%		
0192	Fort Myers	21	2	18	20	95.24%		
0274	Fort Myers Beach	585	3	584	587	100.34%		
0303	Bonita Springs	416	16	385	401	96.39%		
0323	Lehigh Acres	427	35	397	432	101.17%		
0336	N Ft Myers	356	4	349	353	99.16%		
0351	Fort Myers	80	2	87	89	111.25%		
0351	Fort Myers	80	0	78	78	97.50%		
	TOTALS 4146 80 4053 4133 99.69%							

DISTRICT 14									
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	GOAL JR SR		TOTAL	PERCENT			
0028	Key West	69	0	56	56	81.16%			
0031	South Miami	171	6	168	174	101.75%			
0043	Homestead	57	1	55	56	98.25%			
0067	North Miami	56	3	51	54	96.43%			
0098	Coral Gables	18	0	20	20	111.11%			
0133	Miami	75	8	62	70	93.33%			
0154	Marathon	170	1	155	156	91.76%			
0168	Key West	26	0	11	11	42.31%			
0333	Key Largo	85	0	79	79	92.94%			
0346	Miami	22	1	16	17	77.27%			
0374	Key Biscayne	49	0	41	41	83.67%			
	TOTALS	798	20	714	734	91.98%			

ı	DISTRICT 16							
ı	UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT	
ı	0007	Clearwater	289	4	285	289	100.00%	
ø	0014	St Petersburg	123	4	99	103	83.74%	
ı	0079	New Port Richey	463	61	370	431	93.09%	
į	0104	Pinellas Park	257	8	217	225	87.55%	
ì	0119	Largo	400	19	367	386	96.50%	
ı	0125	St Petersburg	350	17	311	328	93.71%	
4	0158	Treasure Island	290	2	296	298	102.76%	
á	0173	Holiday	270	10	255	265	98.15%	
ı	0238	Safety Harbor	284	14	262	276	97.18%	
į	0252	Seminole	988	9	991	1000	101.21%	
i	0273	Madeira Beach	3132	13	3177	3190	101.85%	
l	0275	Dunedin	749	12	836	848	113.22%	
	0305	St Pete Beach	127	0	113	113	88.98%	
	0335	Hudson	149	4	70	74	49.66%	
		TOTALS	7871	177	7649	7826	99.43%	

	DISTRICT 15							
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT		
0005	Tampa	42	3	37	40	95.24%		
0026	Plant City	25	1	16	17	68.00%		
0111	Tampa	51	1	44	45	88.24%		
0138	Tampa	435	9	438	447	102.76%		
0139	Tampa	109	0	116	116	106.42%		
0147	Odessa	33	0	36	36	109.09%		
0148	Riverview	175	7	178	185	105.71%		
0152	Tampa	261	14	252	266	101.92%		
0167	Tampa	24	1	18	19	79.17%		
0186	Brooksville	354	1	376	377	106.50%		
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	1559	1599	102.24%		

	DISTRICT 17								
ı	UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT		
ı	0006	Deland	135	1	92	93	68.89%		
4	0017	New Smyrna Beach	232	4	224	228	98.28%		
f	0045	Palatka	45	3	45	48	106.67%		
Ž	0115	Palm Coast	37	1	38	39	105.41%		
ı	0120	HollyHill	214	6	204	210	98.13%		
į	0127	Lake Helen	24	5	20	25	104.17%		
ļ	0204	Daytona Beach	24	10	10	20	83.33%		
ì	0255	Deltona	27	8	22	30	111.11%		
ı	0259	Debary	30	5	16	21	70.00%		
ı	0267	Ormond Beach	175	4	172	176	100.57%		
	0270	Port Orange	143	0	126	126	88.11%		
	0285	Edgewater	134	3	109	112	83.58%		
ĺ	0361	S Daytona	180	11	184	195	108.33%		
		TOTALS	1400	61	1262	1323	94.50%		

Ţ



The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Florida

PO Box 547917 Orlando, FL 32854-7917

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