

VOLUME XII • ISSUE 5 • DECEMBER 2022  
DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT JANE HARDACRE



# *The Florida* *Carvas*

**C.O.L.O.R.**

*Continue Our legacy of Respect*

# THIS MONTH'S EDITION



## 3 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *Jane Hardacre*

## ALSO INCLUDING...

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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.

## UPCOMING EVENTS DECEMBER 2022

3	District 12: Meeting
3	Winter Snowball Gala
7	Pearl Harbor Day (1941)
7	Flags Half Staff
11	District 5: Meeting
13	U.S. National Guard Birthday
15	Articles Due for January Edition
15	Bill of Rights Day
17	Wreaths Across America
19	Hanukkah
20	U.S. Space Force Birthday
21	First Day of Winter
23-2	Dept Headquarters Closed
24	Christmas Eve
25	Christmas Day
26	Boxing Day
31	New Year's Eve



Want to submit an article  
and/or photos to *The Florida Canvas*? [alaf1.org/submit](https://alaf1.org/submit)  
[secretary@alaf1.org](mailto:secretary@alaf1.org)



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JANE HARDACRE



I hope that you all had a wonderful learning experience at our Fall Conference. The feeling of family, friendship, and fun could be felt throughout the Legion Family. As we celebrated the Thanksgiving holiday, my wish is that you had a time to reflect on our many blessings. These

blessings are a direct result of our veterans and we are truly thankful for their service.

My visits started at the end of October. I want to thank the 1st District for stepping up to take the 13th District scheduled visit. Pam Pannasch, District President, put together a wonderful "homecoming" visit in only a couple of weeks. I am truly grateful for all the Units who came together during my visit.

I then visited the 4th District and the 2nd District. Many thanks go to District 4 President Natalie Scott and 2nd District President Kaye Brown. Both of these District Presidents have taken an active role in their District. They are a colorful example of what a District President should be.

With three visits in a three-week span, it is hard to describe all the wonderful things these Districts/Units are doing. They collect school supplies, books, and stuff backpacks for the children of their communities. They adopt families for Thanksgiving baskets for military families as well as non-military families. Active military personnel receive "Thank You For Your Service" cards, boxes of supplies from home, and coupons to help ease the period that they are away from loved ones.

Homeless veterans receive bags of supplies that included toiletries, utensils, and a note to let them know that they are not forgotten. They visit veterans in the nursing homes, participate in poker runs to raise awareness for veteran suicide. These Units play an active role in their Post homes. Numerous Commanders shared their thanks to the Units for all their hard work and support. What a Legion Family these Units have! It still rings true that "The Families that works together. .... thrive together!"

On Veterans Day weekend, these Units participated in parades, ceremonies, and community events celebrating our veterans. Breakfast was served to veterans, patriotic gifts were distributed, and all the while, our members showed their love and respect. These Units join up with other community organizations to maximize their efforts. Our organization's motto of Service Not Self can be seen in Districts 1, 2, and 4!

We would like our communities to miss us if we close our Post homes and these three Districts definitely would be missed if anything happened. They supported those affected by Hurricane Ian by making donations, collecting supplies, and even taking trailer loads down south. Many of the areas in these Districts are rural but that does not stop them. They work with what they have and manage to overcome any obstacles. They work on welcoming prospective new members, engage the members they have, and work our Mission. What more could anyone ask?

I am thankful that they are here to support our veterans, their families, and our children and youth! Keep on saying #colormethere, and thank you for coloring our world!

**#ColorMeThere**



# DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

## DEPARTMENT STAFF

Just a quick note from Department Headquarters regarding donations. Units can send in donations using the donation remittance form as many times as they need to. All donations sent to Department must be received by April 30, 2023, in order for the unit to receive credit. Department cannot account for units that send

donations directly to the organization. Department will send all donations collected between July and June directly to the Organization the end of June. If monies sent to Department are intended for a specific purpose that must be noted on the donation remittance form, or the memo of the check.

## MEMBERSHIP

### STACY CUSANO



We are Painting the Town!  
We now have 5 units that have reached their 100% membership goal! Congratulations to Units 220, 230, 331, 365 and 367! You all made your goal by November 11, 2022 and will receive from National a \$25 Gift Card to

Emblem Sales.

Have you started Holiday shopping? Are you looking for a Special Gift for someone who already has everything? Or maybe you know someone who really wants to renew their membership but cannot afford it right now? Gift them a membership, pay their dues for the next year! I'm sure they would appreciate it dearly.

A few reminders from Headquarters about submitting the Member Recap Forms:

- Keep your Recap Sheets for 7 years.
- NEVER throw away applications.
- Use the appropriate recap form (Example, if you are remitting 2019 dues, use the form from then, if you are remitting 2023 dues, use the form from now).
- DO NOT use staples or tape.
- The names on the recap sheet should be in alphabetical order.
- Write legibly or type into the recap sheet.
- Use the appropriate size envelope.
- DO NOT use the back of the form – use another

recap sheet.

- DO NOT use the same transmittal number on all of the recap sheet.

Following these guidelines will help them process our membership faster!

Congratulations to the Units with the highest membership in their grouping the week before fall conference are (Friday Report dated 11/11/22):

- Group 1 (0-50 Members) – Unit 365 Sunrise with 123.08%
- Group 2 (51-100 Members) – Unit 139 Tampa with 87.72%
- Group 3 (101-20 Members) – Unit 189 Sebastian with 85.44%
- Group 4 (201-400 Members) – Unit 104 Pinellas Park with 77.95%
- Group 5 (401-600 Members) – Unit 138 Tampa with 71.37%
- Group 6 (601+ Members) – Unit 252 Seminole 73.87%

We are at 54.04% Department wide with 21,042 paid members!

You still have time to meet our next target date! 75% target is by Pearl Harbor Day, December 7, 2022!

Keep up the great work!



# CHILDREN & YOUTH

ROBIN BURKE



Happy Holidays to everyone! At this wonderful time of year while we are all enjoying the holidays, I have a special request of you:

I ask that you open your hearts to those who are experiencing sadness, the loss of a loved one or distance from family, especially children. With minimal effort and/or expense, we can lift the spirits of many in need.

Oh, what fun!!!!

Visit a nursing home. Residents just want to talk to new people and share their history. Perhaps your Unit can sponsor an ice cream social or organize caroling.

Visit a Girl Scout or Boy Scout troop meeting and supply the cookies! Play some games.

Visit a day-care center and supply some treats! Do you have a Post member who can play Santa?

Get your Junior members involved in town holiday parades or organizing an ice cream social or caroling at a local assisted care facility.

If your not able to plan such an event, I still ask you to consider President Jane's charity this year, Gary Sinise's Snowball Express. His wonderful organization provides a holiday trip to Disneyworld for surviving children of servicemembers or first responders who they lost in the line of duty. Please consider making a donation to this very worthy organization. Or, ask your Unit to make a holiday donation. It's never too late. Your Unit should report any Unit donations to Snowball Express on the annual donation from by March 31, 2023.

I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

## LEADERSHIP

MARY KELLY-PERKINS



One of the biggest challenges our organization faces is the ability to get along with each other. The complaint heard most often is past leaders on all levels — unit, district, county, and department — tend to dominate and try to control activities that should be,

would be, beneficial to carrying out the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Are you the past leader who doesn't know she's a bully? You love the organization, you love what we do, you love our mission, but are people staying away from the meetings because you're dominating all the conversations?

You could be keeping ALA members from attending meetings because you are being a bully, which hurts the mission as well as the growth of the organization.

Are you the first one to speak up, and continue to speak up, when there is discussion on the floor? Do you dominate and intimidate others and leave them with the impression of, 'do as I say or you'll never get anywhere in this organization?'

Are you using your influence as a past leader in your unit or department to convince others that your way is the only way? Are you the one making the phone calls trying to sway other members to your way of thinking? Do you constantly criticize the actions of other members?

### Are you mentoring in the wrong direction?

*"Everybody can be great. . . .because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." ~ Martin Luther King, Jr.*

# JUNIORS

DARA OLIVER



Several American Legion Auxiliary Florida Juniors are well on their way to receiving the Color Wheel Patch Challenge Certificate. If they earn 2 patches prior to Department Convention set for June 15 – 18, 2023 at Marriot Orlando World Center they can also get a certificate.

All Juniors are encouraged to earn patches regardless of where they live. Even if Juniors live out of state they can still work on projects to earn patches. Contact Junior Activities Chairman: Dara Oliver for info or click [www.alafl.org](http://www.alafl.org) under the juniors tab for the Patch Program forms.

A new Patch this year, is the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival Patch that Juniors can raise money for National President Vickie's Project. For every year the Junior is in age, they can raise \$5. and receive a patch. So if the ALA Junior is 4 (x \$5) they need to raise \$20. to earn the patch.



## NATIONAL VETERANS CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL PATCH

The week-long Festival showcases the creative achievements of veterans receiving treatment at VA medical facilities. Veterans participate in many categories, including visual arts such as painting, sculpting, and drawing, as well as creative writing, dance, drama, and music.

A special Junior patch has been created for our Junior members and SAL youth to be involved in raising money for the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival. Any Junior or SAL youth can earn this patch if they raise at

least \$5 for each year old. For example, a 17-year-old would raise a minimum of \$85 (17 x \$5 = \$85.)

Donations can be raised a variety of ways. Juniors and SAL youth can solicit donations from family, friends, Legion Family members or contribute themselves. Fundraising activities can be coordinated, such as bake sales or other sales, etc. Funds can be raised individually or as a group, but each Junior or SAL youth receiving this patch needs to have raised the required minimum funds for their age. The goal is for the youth of our organization to be involved and aware of the Veterans Creative Arts Festival. Checks should be made out to National Treasurer, American Legion Auxiliary with **National President's Project 2022-2023** in the memo line. Send to: Dara Oliver 17776 SE 158th Court Weirsdale, FL 32195 and she will send all the applications to National. Each Junior will be presented at Dept. Convention in June with their Patches and earned certificates.

Juniors Camp might NOT be held this year BUT ... we have an opportunity to participate in The Veterans Expo to be held at Post 69 Avon Park, FL January 6th – 7th & 8th. The Juniors will have their own canopy tent and table set up. They can assist with the Mobile Vietnam Wall & escort and can stay at either the Highlands Hammock State Park in Sebring or Jacaranda Hotel in Avon Park. Contact Juniors Chairman: Dara Oliver for more information and accommodation requests.

CONGRATULATIONS to 22 ALA FL Juniors and 3 Young SAL members who participated in the Art Show & Sale at Fall Conference which raised \$1000. For President Jane's Project: Snowball Express. Details will be forthcoming in the next Issue of the Canvas.





ALA  
Florida  
Juniors



#COLORmeThere

Department of  
Florida  
2022-2023  
Honorary Dept.  
Jr. President:  
Jasmine Harris

# Color Wheel Patch Challenge

All Juniors are challenged to earn 2  
patches this year to win a Certificate

Contact Chairman: Dara Oliver for more information

# American Legion Post 69 Presents

January 6,7,8 (10-5pm)



## 8th Annual 2023 VETERANS EXPO



### PROJECT: VETRELIEF

They Fought for Us. We Fight for Them.

Proceeds raised benefit Project Vet Relief™. Find out more by visiting [www.ProjectVetRelief.org](http://www.ProjectVetRelief.org)  
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- (01/06/23) 11am
- The Vietnam/Global War on Terror Traveling Memorial Wall Escort

- (01/07/23) 10-5pm
- Sons Famous Breakfast 7-930am
- Veterans Suicide Awareness: Be The One-2.2 Mile Walk
- Jeep - Bike Cruise In
- Live Music

- (01/08/23) 10 register 1100 KSU
- Motorcycle Poker Run

- (Daily) 10-5 pm
- Counseling Resources
- Therapy Resources
- Vendors
- Food Trucks

Event Facebook Link  
For updated Info



POC: Larry Roberts for more information on how you can get involved: 850-7018-7773





# American Legion Chapter 69

## With Patriot Guard Riders

January 6 (10am)

2023

# Traveling Memorial Wall Escort

Proceeds raised during this event benefit Project Vet Relief™. Find out more by visiting [www.ProjectVetRelief.org](http://www.ProjectVetRelief.org)

**Cars and Trucks Welcome**



- \* The American Legion Chapter 69 with the Patriot Guard Riders will be escorting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the War on Terrorism Walls from 1901 Longleaf Blvd, Lake Wales, FL 33859 to the American Legion Post 69 in Avon Park for the Veterans Expo on Jan 7th.
- \* The staging area is 2 miles south of Hwy 60, on Hwy 27 Lake Wales, (*Across from Loves Truck Stop*) with a 22 mile ride to Post 69
- \* Staging at Post 69 1000, for those wanting to meet and ride up
- \* Staging at Longleaf 11:00 for the actual escort event
- \* There will be a Police escort from Polk and Highlands County Sheriffs Offices.

- ♦ (01/06/23)
- ♦ 1000 Staging ( Post 69)
- ♦ 1015 Sharp KSU
- ♦ 1100 Staging (Longleaf)
- ♦ 1115 Briefing
- ♦ 1130 KSU

### Staggered Formation

#### Order of Escort

Law Enforcement  
PGR-Flag Bikes  
American Legion  
VFW  
VMC  
Saddle  
Memorial Wall  
Vehicles

- ♦ Water available
- ♦ Restrooms available

Scan QR Code—>  
For Event Info



<— Scan QR Code  
For Staging Address



**POC: David Partain, Events Coordinator Chapter 69 (xxx) xxx-xxxx**

# LEGISLATIVE

SHIRLEY FASHANO



Election Day was Nov. 8, it was a time when American Legion Family members and other voters headed to the polls to uphold their Constitutional right and civic responsibility. And boy did you!!! As citizens and veterans of this great nation, it was our duty to exercise our right to vote and encourage others to do so as

well. And we accomplished this through the Get Out the Vote program established by the American Legion.

Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution of The American Legion, states, "The American Legion shall be absolutely nonpolitical and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor the promotion of the Candidacy of any person seeking office or preferment." Legionnaires engaged in partisan activities – such as attending a candidate's rally – should do so without wearing the Legion cap or other Legion attire.

Voting is a powerful way to participate in our government. By voting you are upholding a civic responsibility and demonstrating how we are truly ...Veterans Strengthening America.

The ***Supporting Families of the Fallen Act***, a bill to increase service members' life insurance benefit coverage, was signed into law by President Biden. The legislation increases the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) and Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) coverage amount from \$400,000 to \$500,000. SGLI and VGLI coverage amounts had not previously been updated since 2005. The bill was introduced by Senator Tommy Tuberville.

Getting the ***Supporting Families of the Fallen Act*** signed into law is a huge win for Florida's military families. The Sunshine State is home to 21 military bases, three unified commands, nearly 70,000 active duty personnel and 1.5 million veterans. We should never stop fighting to make sure they have the benefits they have earned and so rightly deserve. [Legion.org](https://www.legion.org)

As you know our leaders are back in session for the Congressional 117th meetings. Still a few items on the

list for the American Veterans. More than 34,000 of our members sent messages to Congress urging them to pass the PACT Act before their break. Thank you! Your letters and phone calls are working.

Be aware of all the bills on the table through the American Legion website. We support Bills for our American Veterans, their spouses, and family. Here's one of many...

## **H.R. 4673- Ensuring Veterans' smooth Transition (EVEST) Act**

**Automatically Enroll Veterans for Benefits** The bill requires the Veterans Affairs Department to automatically enroll in the department's system for VA health care benefits and services those individuals who are separating from the military and transitioning to civilian life, and to also create an electronic mechanism through which those veterans can disenroll if they desire.

**Some** say it will help ensure that veterans don't go without needed health care during their transition from military to civilian life. **Some** oppose the measure, saying that while they support the bill's underlying intent there are too many unknowns and that it was not developed on a bipartisan basis.

On 01/20/2022-11:38am- House Passed by the Yeas 265 and Nays 163 (Roll no. 14).

On 01/20/2022 Senate Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Go to Action Center ([votervoice.net](https://votervoice.net)) to see all the Bills we are supporting.

Keep track of everything you do come November during the elections, pole watching, street walking, campaigning, etc. There will be an award given and a surprise bonus.

Throughout my emails you will note I give both "sides", because after all there are two sides to a story. I will also send information which may not be a Bill, however, is important to our American Veterans and for the



American Citizens.

It seems we are at war with fossil fuels, and has been for several years. This is causing gas prices to skyrocket and puts America at risk. Some think prices are decreasing, while others say these prices are still burdensome. America is now using up our Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR), while some think using our SPR hurts America.

America in the last couple of years has sold off **nearly 40% of our reserves**. This past month, the administration announced that they will soon use an additional 15 million barrels, and they have no plan to refill our SPR. This seems to be a concern to some saying it weakens our energy security and national security.

Is America currently unprepared for a true emergency forcing us to go to countries like Saudi Arabia and Venezuela. Or are we energy independent? Do your homework and make a decision for yourself. Then work any way you can to let our leaders know you love or dislike it. This is a way for us to help each other with the rising cost of gas. Inflation is hurting us all. We need to figure out a way to work together and make a reasonable plan for the average American.

The ***Supporting Families of the Fallen Act***, a bill to increase service members' life insurance benefit coverage, was signed into law by President Biden. The legislation increases the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) and Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) coverage amount from \$400,000 to \$500,000. SGLI and VGLI coverage amounts had not previously been updated since 2005. The bill was introduced by Senator Tommy Tuberville.

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In the year since the withdrawal of U.S. military forces from Afghanistan, the United States has welcomed more than 76,000 Afghan evacuees into the country. They include human rights and political activists, women who served in the government and armed forces, those who

served alongside American troops and others deemed to be at immediate risk.

The evacuation was the largest effort since the Vietnam War. While many evacuees reached safety inside the United States, tens of thousands of U.S. allies remained. Their service alongside American forces made them — along with their families — targets for retribution as the government crumbled and the country fell back under Taliban control.

Days before the first anniversary of the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, legislation was introduced in both chambers of Congress that could provide those 76,000 Afghan evacuees in the U.S. with a pathway to permanent residency. Many are eligible for asylum or special immigrant visas (SIV) due to the critical assistance they provided to the U.S. during 20 years of war in Afghanistan.

### **The American Legion-supported Afghan Adjustment Act of 2022 would:**

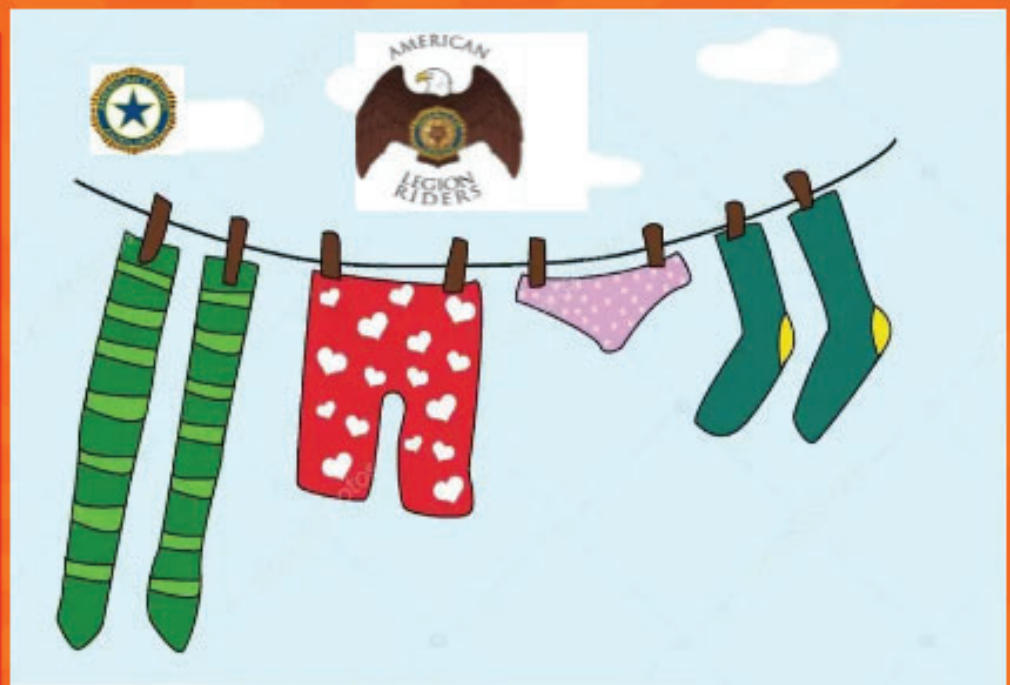
- Establish a pathway to permanent legal status for Afghans brought to the United States on a temporary humanitarian status by allowing additional vetting to apply for permanent legal residency. This includes those who supported the U.S. mission in Afghanistan over the past two decades.
- Expand the SIV program to include four previously omitted groups, including the Female Tactical Teams of Afghanistan, the Afghan National Army Special Operations Command, the Afghan Air Force and the Special Mission Wing of Afghanistan.
- Establish a task force to develop and implement a strategy for supporting Afghans outside of the United States who are eligible for SIV status and require the Department of State to respond to congressional inquiries about SIV applications.

"Giving our Afghan allies a chance to apply for permanent legal status is the right and necessary thing to do," said Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn. "This bipartisan legislation will help provide these newly arrived Afghans who have sacrificed so much for our country with the legal certainty they deserve as they begin their lives in the U.S. It's important to do what we can to help our Afghan friends find stability, opportunity and community in their new home." [Legion.org](https://www.legion.org)

2ND ANNUAL

SATURDAY  
JANUARY 21  
KICKSTANDS UP  
10:30 AM

START:  
2706 WELLS AVE  
FERN PARK FL  
32730



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 183 & AUXILIARY UNIT 183

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DONATIONS GRACIOUSLY ACCEPTED



# DISTRICT 15 EDUCATION

SHERYL KINSLER

Greetings friends and neighbors!

I am Sheryl Kinsler and I have the honor of serving as the education chairman for 15th districts, Town and Country Memorial unit 152, Tampa, FL and I would love to share with you what our unit (with the help of some others) has been doing so far this year.

Our unit hosts an annual collection of school supplies for schools in our area and each year is a little different. Unit 152 has 4 title one schools in the immediate area. Last year the request was hand sanitizer and child size masks, this year however the requests were personal water bottles as the water fountains in the schools are still not being used due to Covid and headphones along with the normal items such as tissues, pens, pencils notebooks etc. I am proud to say that Unit 152 has thus far donated over \$1,000.00 in school supplies to these 4 schools but we did not do it alone. Unit 238 donated 25 pairs of headphones, countless spiral notebooks, pencils, pens, folders highlighters.

I felt a sense of pride and many times had to fight back the tears while delivering these much-needed supplies when the schools expressed the sense of gratitude while explaining how many students our donation will help.

The supply drive was so successful this year that we have

decided as a unit to continue it year-round as the need is not only there at the beginning of the school year. Each month will have a theme, October is facial tissue, November is Hand Sanitizer and December is filler paper and crayons, lots and lots of crayons.

Hillsborough County has over 4000 homeless students enrolled this year. Homelessness does not necessarily mean living in a car, it can mean a variety of things but primarily an individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, such as those living in emergency shelters, transitional housing, or places not meant for habitation. Further, I personally did not understand what a title one school was so I googled it and this is the description of a title one school. Schools in which children from low-income families make up at least 40 percent of enrollment are eligible to use Title I funds to operate schoolwide programs that serve all children in the school in order to raise the achievement of the lowest-achieving students.

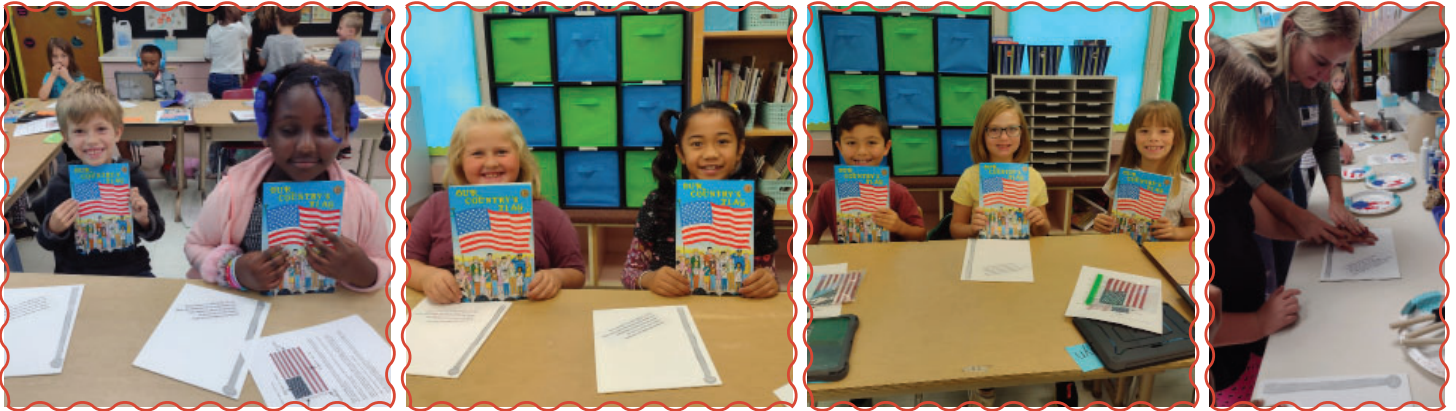
I feel that I would be remiss if I didn't offer a few kinds words and a great big shout out to the American Legions families that have and are coming to the aid of our friends and neighbors in southern Central Florida as they continue to need our help in recovery from the devastation of Hurricane Ian. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all!





# OUR DISTRICTS AND UNITS

## DISTRICT 1



District 1 - Americanism at it's best! Jennifer Mitchell Americanism Chairman and Amanda Wrathall committee member taught 2nd graders about our American Flag history, a flag project was completed by the children, and a pocket flag was given to each child. It was a great day!



District 1 - Unit 402 Panama City Beach had a membership drive and recruited 2 new members. Linda Bowers Treasurer and Billie Jones Vice President were able to thank our Active Duty Veterans and First Responders for all they do while working their program.





District 1 - President Pat Roberts and Sgt At Arms Linda Osmon from Unit 75 in Crestview Florida were honored to present male and female toiletries to the Okaloosa County Vet Center located in Shalimar Florida for the Standdown in Ft Walton Beach on November 2, 2023.



District 1 - We the members of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 75 Crestview gave our first, of many to come, "Kindness Award!" This award was given to Vickie Carr with card signed by all! Vickie's kindness was extended to our member Pat Boyce. While we enjoyed a meeting at the legion Pat was unable to attend as she cares for her Mother. Vickie, unbeknownst to anyone fixed a plate of food and a bowl of shrimp bisque and delivered to Pat's home. Thank you Vickie for your kindness.



District 1 - Unit 402 in Panama City Beach FL hosted a chili cook off. Linda Bennett took home the trophy created by Rebecca DeBell! The money we raised will go to The Gary Sinise Foundation Snowball Express! #colormethere

## DISTRICT 4

District 4 - President Jane's visit to District 4 was November 4-6. On Friday, President Jane Hardacre and 2nd VP Charlotte Bass visited Unit 166 Homosassa, Bushnell National Cemetery, and Unit 155 Crystal River. On Saturday, we visited with Unit 27 Ocala, Unit 77 Inverness, Unit 58 Dunnellon, and Unit 237 Beverly Hills. We finished up on Sunday with visits to Unit 236 Bronson, Unit 16 Gainesville, Unit 230 Hawthorne with Unit 149 Newberry, and Unit 284 Belleview. It was a wonderful weekend of good weather, working the mission together, shared fellowship, and good food.

*Continued on page 16 >>*





# OUR DISTRICTS AND UNITS

## DISTRICT 4 (Continued)





District 4 - We had 23 attendees from 9 units. We collected items for the District 4 raffle basket at Fall Conference, collected clothing and personal hygiene items that were loaded in a pickup truck and taken to Unit 16 Gainesville for the Nov 6 Blessing Buckets, and filled a pickup truck with disaster relief items that were taken to Post 237 Beverly Hills, the collection place for District 4. Past District President Bet Chavous presented training on Protocol and District 4 President Natalie Scott presented a quiz and Q&A on Membership. We had members from Gainesville, Ocala, Inverness, Hawthorne, Bronson, and Beverly Hills. We didn't wrap up until 3 PM because there were so many questions and so much discussion during the session for our instructors Linda Knoblach-Harkness and Dee Bell, with assistance from Eileen Wilson. Thank you for giving us a wonderful ABC School.



### UNIT 378

Unit 378 - Post 378 of Gulf Breeze had quite the Veterans Day weekend! We kicked off with a bbq at our neighborhood elks lodge where we cooked free hotdogs and hamburgers for veterans and their families. Our local boy and girl scouts came out to show their support and to follow along ending the day with a parade. Commander Melissa Barnes and Auxiliary President Ashley Correa performed the POW MIA ceremony. The fun didn't stop there as Post 378 was up early to meet the Marines in Downtown Pensacola to join them in their annual Semper Fi 5k. Our chefs Jimmy and Deane were back at it cooking hot dogs and hamburgers for all those who donated and supported this wonderful event. We may be the little legion but we sure are mighty. Looking forward to showing all what we have in store for supporting our families in what we do for Christmas!





# OUR DISTRICTS AND UNITS

## UNIT 62







Unit 138 - Meet & Munch - On Sunday, November 6, Unit 138 held its second bi-monthly program called Meet & Munch in which all area Auxiliary members are welcome to take part in crafting and camaraderie while enjoying a delicious light lunch. During this gathering there were fifteen members from five different units in attendance. Projects completed included Color Me There Christmas ornaments and decorating and stuffing Pringles cans with treats that will be put in troop boxes during an upcoming packing party. Unit 138 will be holding their next Meet & Munch on January 8th and all are invited!



Unit 138 - Trunk or Treat - In the waning twilight of Saturday, October 29th, Unit 138 hosted its annual Trunk or Treat as part of their Children & Youth program in the pavilion area of their Post home. With fifteen trunks festooned with decoration ranging from a spooky lab, to a pirate ship, to Noah's Ark, an estimated three hundred children from the Post and community families took part in the event. In addition, there were crafts for the children, face-painting, and a spooky trail through a mangrove path that was set up by Scout Troop 1381.



Unit 138 - Light Up the Post - On November 11th and 12th, Unit 138 was in full poppy-mode! During the midday of the 11th, member were posted in front of a local Publix Supermarket handing out poppies, coloring books, poppy seed packets and poppy-emblazoned lifesaver candies. Later that afternoon, members had a table set up to sell poppy scarves and the luminary bags which could be purchased and decorated in remembrance of a veteran. Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate this year and the full luminary display was only able to be out for the night of the twelfth.



# OUR DISTRICTS AND UNITS

## UNIT 138 (Continued)



Unit 138 - Thanksgiving Community Service - At the regularly scheduled November meeting, Auxiliary members of Unit 138 assembled ten Thanksgiving bags as part of a Community Service project to support the Robinson High School Knights in Need program. The bags were loaded with all the traditional fixings for a Thanksgiving family dinner plus a \$25 Publix gift card to purchase a turkey.

## UNIT 155

Unit 155 - C.O.L.O.R with Fresh Green Beans.

An all fresh meal served homestyle, colorful decorations, a chinese auction, a 50/50 door prizes and a prize for the most colorful outfit were on the menu at Unit 155 Crystal River's Fundraiser for the Department President Jane's Special Project "Snowball Express" on November 4th.

75 Guests attended and this was the first time Unit 155 served food in the homestyle way. We wanted to give everyone the opportunity to enjoy delicious food together as a family.

President Jane was in attendance and our Unit President Eileen Harrison gave her the floor to tell everyone about the project close to her heart.

There were other Dignitaries present from across the family branches and the evening concluded with dancing to music celebrating the era of PDP May Malone, provided by Lisa, our DJ for the night.

As a side note we found out it takes 3 volunteers, 3 hrs to top and tale a bushel of fresh green beans and as President Jane stated "These are delicious and fresh, not American Legion green beans". That was worth every minute of the 3 hrs spent preparing them.

The evening was a great success and raised approximately \$1300.00 for The Snowball Express. ~ Jeanette Goggans, Historian Unit 155





## UNIT 351



## UNIT 194



Unit 194 - October 26, 2022 we held our Trouping for the month and mailed in to the troops \$12,205.16 in coupons.



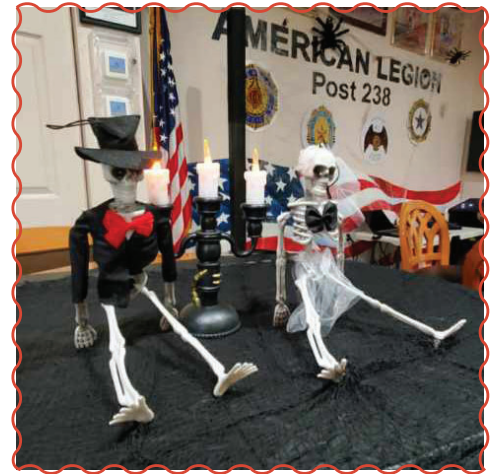
Unit 194 - On November 8, 2022 one of our very own, former 1st Vice President Cynthia Garriss was elected to City Commissioner Seat 4 of St. Augustine, FL!!! Making her only the 3rd person or woman of color to be elected to this position in the 450 year history of St. Augustine.



# OUR DISTRICTS AND UNITS

## UNIT 238

Unit 238 - On 10/29/2022 Auxiliary Unit 238, Safety Harbor, FL, hosted the Rocky Horror Picture Show / Halloween Buffet and Costume Contest. This was a sold out closed event. Everyone found their inner child! Department Officers came all the way from Tallahassee and Jacksonville, as well as District and local members. It was an outstanding event that raised money for Veterans Charities as well as additional monies that will be sent to Project Ian Hurricane Relief.



## UNIT 318

Unit 318 - Unit 318 has a wonderful re-purpose project that benefits both our environment and our homeless Veterans. Our members save their plastic shopping bags, then cut them into strips to create "yarn" for our talented knitters. The finished product is a beautiful plastic mat that can be rolled up complete with an attached carrying strap. These mats provide a much-appreciated barrier between the ground and a homeless Veteran's bedding. Truly a win-win recycle project! This year, in addition to the regular monthly collection of supplies for our homeless Veterans we have a special Holiday program. We want to give a big THANK YOU to our local Home Depot for generously donating the plastic buckets that our members will be filling with batteries, food, socks, and assorted personal hygiene items. We hope these buckets will brighten the Holidays and bring much needed cheer to our homeless Veterans. Attached photos of plastic bag prep and President Nanette Mallonee with finished mat.





## UNIT 291



Unit 291 - On Veterans Day Nov 11, 2022 Veterans of Post 291 in Steinhatchee were honored at a reception that was given by the Auxiliary. Veterans were served refreshments and beverages from 4-6. At 5 pm we were able to do a dedication to recognize three of our Veterans. Pictured from left to right is: Christopher Robert Reed, an army veteran that received a purple heart during his tour in Kuwait and Iraq. Next to him is Cindy Graham holding the quilt that she made to present to Chris. Next to Cindy is Veteran Bobby Crosby who served in the National Guard and the Air Force. Bobby served in the Korean War as a gunner on a B29. Bobby was presented a plaque and other Air Force items thanking him for his service. Van Jester who served in the United States Coast Guard was recognized for his service and also for his service as a member of the American Legion for 55 years. In the back is Butch Cantrell, Commander of Post 291 he was presented a check from the Auxiliary for \$2,000.00 to help with the building fund to expand the legion. It was a great day and was only made possible by all the hard work and planning done by the Auxiliary. Also attached is a full picture of the quilt made by Auxiliary member Cindy Graham. We also had a drawing for a gift basket that the Veterans were entered in; the Winner of the basket was Bobby Spivey. Of course the night would not have been complete without a photo of the entire Auxiliary that attended and worked to make this event the success it was. Karen Tidwell, President Unit 291 Steinhatchee.



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# MEMBERSHIP REPORTS

NOVEMBER 25, 2022

## DISTRICT 1

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0075	Crestview	212	0	104	104	49.06%
0193	Pensacola	77	14	25	39	50.65%
0221	Niceville	126	2	91	93	73.81%
0235	Ft Walton Beach	130	3	96	99	76.15%
0240	Pensacola	253	6	142	148	58.50%
0296	Destin	73	0	56	56	76.71%
0340	Pensacola	337	4	185	189	56.08%
0356	Lynn Haven	135	0	74	74	54.81%
0375	Southport	54	0	14	14	25.93%
0378	Gulf Breeze	43	0	22	22	51.16%
0382	Navarre	170	0	108	108	63.53%
0392	Panama City	174	2	127	129	74.14%
0402	Panama City Beach	40	0	28	28	70.00%
TOTALS		1824	31	1072	1103	60.47%

## DISTRICT 3

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0049	Monticello	27	0	23	23	85.19%
0057	Lake City	222	2	144	146	65.77%
0107	Live Oak	54	1	36	37	68.52%
0215	Jasper	34	0	1	1	2.94%
0224	Madison	49	0	25	25	51.02%
0291	Steinhatchee	199	2	122	124	62.31%
0383	Old Town	133	3	85	88	66.17%
TOTALS		718	8	436	444	61.84%

## DISTRICT 2

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0013	Tallahassee	77	1	49	50	64.94%
0082	Lanark	66	1	31	32	48.48%
0084	Havana	29	7	8	15	51.72%
0100	Marianna	31	3	12	15	48.39%
0217	Quincy	49	1	16	17	34.69%
0241	Sneads	71	18	50	68	95.77%
TOTALS		323	31	166	197	60.99%

## DISTRICT 4

UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0016	Gainesville	25	0	23	23	92.00%
0027	Ocala	19	1	13	14	73.68%
0058	Dunnellon	28	0	16	16	57.14%
0077	Inverness	67	1	49	50	74.63%
0149	Newberry	30	3	15	18	60.00%
0155	Crystal River	343	3	265	268	78.13%
0166	Homosassa Springs	145	2	93	95	65.52%
0210	Ocala	11	0	10	10	90.91%
0230	Hawthorne	31	4	28	32	103.23%
0236	Bronson	46	0	18	18	39.13%
0237	Beverly Hills	201	0	121	121	60.20%
0284	Bellevue	76	2	62	64	84.21%
TOTALS		1022	16	713	729	71.33%



DISTRICT 5						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0009	Jacksonville	67	2	30	32	47.76%
0054	Fernandina Beach	165	3	110	113	68.48%
0088	Jacksonville	76	0	48	48	63.16%
0129	Jacksonville Beach	358	8	190	198	55.31%
0137	Jacksonville	423	11	263	274	64.78%
0194	St Augustine	68	5	30	35	51.47%
0197	Jacksonville	43	3	14	17	39.53%
0202	Keystone Heights	72	0	37	37	51.39%
0233	Ponte Vedra Beach	175	31	88	119	68.00%
0244	Jacksonville	32	1	17	18	56.25%
0250	Middleburg	309	22	147	169	54.69%
0283	Jacksonville	459	5	273	278	60.57%
0316	Atlantic Beach	369	41	167	208	56.37%
0372	Mandarin	28	0	20	20	71.43%
0373	Orange Park	31	1	15	16	51.61%
0401	Hilliard	48	0	3	3	6.25%
2723		2723	133	1452	1585	58.21%

DISTRICT 7						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0003	Bartow	77	0	33	33	42.86%
0004	Lakeland	62	0	27	27	43.55%
0008	Winter Haven	600	4	389	393	65.50%
0015	Dade City	21	0	7	7	33.33%
0034	Haines City	77	0	49	49	63.64%
0071	Lake Wales	47	0	25	25	53.19%
0072	Mulberry	165	2	70	72	43.64%
0201	Florence Villa	24	0	12	12	50.00%
TOTALS		1073	6	612	618	57.60%

DISTRICT 6						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0010	Kissimmee	205	0	115	115	56.10%
0018	Wildwood	20	0	16	16	80.00%
0019	Orlando	108	4	69	73	67.59%
0035	Mount Dora	146	0	66	66	45.21%
0041	Eustis	13	0	10	10	76.92%
0055	Clermont	214	3	123	126	58.88%
0063	Winter Garden	34	0	8	8	23.53%
0080	Saint Cloud	263	16	183	199	75.67%
0101	Bushnell	111	0	52	52	46.85%
0109	Ocoee	12	0	2	2	16.67%
0112	Winter Park	25	2	18	20	80.00%
0183	Fern Park	120	1	54	55	45.83%
0219	Fruitland Park	205	1	155	156	76.10%
0239	Groveland	10	0	10	10	100.00%
0242	Orlando	108	8	61	69	63.89%
0286	Orlando	170	6	93	99	58.24%
0330	Leesburg	68	2	33	35	51.47%
0331	Orlando	13	0	15	15	115.38%
0347	Lady Lake	2562	7	1893	1900	74.16%
0412	Orlando	13	0	1	1	7.69%
TOTALS		4420	50	2977	3027	68.48%

DISTRICT 8						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0011	Arcadia	35	9	15	24	68.57%
0024	Bradenton	332	11	209	220	66.27%
0025	Lake Placid	394	0	232	232	58.88%
0030	Sarasota	81	8	54	62	76.54%
0069	Avon Park	719	1	426	427	59.39%
0074	Sebring	131	0	83	83	63.36%
0113	Rotonda West	307	1	112	113	36.81%
0159	Venice	710	3	414	417	58.73%
0254	North Port	118	1	56	57	48.31%
0266	Fruitville	158	1	56	57	36.08%
0309	Palmetto	176	0	116	116	65.91%
0312	Oneco	198	1	52	53	26.77%
0325	Ellenton	199	0	104	104	52.26%
TOTALS		3558	36	1929	1965	55.23%

DISTRICT 9						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0036	Ft Lauderdale	37	0	18	18	48.65%
0092	Hollywood	97	1	51	52	53.61%
0142	Pompano Beach	185	3	120	123	66.49%
0157	Margate	170	8	87	95	55.88%
0162	Deerfield Beach	171	15	94	109	63.74%
0180	Fort Lauderdale	111	0	56	56	50.45%
0209	Dania Beach	17	0	11	11	64.71%
0220	Ft Lauderdale	27	8	19	27	100.00%
0222	Fort Lauderdale	31	0	25	25	80.65%
0287	Deerfield Beach	16	0	7	7	43.75%
0304	Dania	51	0	46	46	90.20%
0310	Hallandale	24	1	19	20	83.33%
0321	Cooper City	229	2	129	131	57.21%
0365	Sunrise	13	2	14	16	123.08%
TOTALS		1179	40	696	736	62.43%

DISTRICT 12						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0001	Titusville	276	3	145	148	53.62%
0022	Cocoa	105	0	24	24	22.86%
0039	Vero Beach	206	0	82	82	39.81%
0040	Fort Pierce	184	2	117	119	64.67%
0081	Melbourne	171	1	132	133	77.78%
0117	Palm Bay	513	7	317	324	63.16%
0126	Jensen Beach	194	1	80	81	41.75%
0163	Eau Gallie	219	3	130	133	60.73%
0171	Fort Pierce	15	0	9	9	60.00%
0189	Sebastian	158	0	140	140	88.61%
0191	Melbourne	80	8	36	44	55.00%
0200	Satellite Beach	170	8	100	108	63.53%
0318	Port St Lucie	1153	3	811	814	70.60%
0344	Merritt Island	46	3	29	32	69.57%
0348	Cape Canaveral	210	1	124	125	59.52%
0358	White City	68	0	45	45	66.18%
0359	Port St John	357	2	180	182	50.98%
0366	Barefoot Bay	68	10	29	39	57.35%
0394	Palm Bay	207	5	120	125	60.39%
0410	Viera	12	0	1	1	8.33%
TOTALS		4412	57	2651	2708	61.38%

DISTRICT 11						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0020	Belle Glade	39	2	41	43	110.26%
0047	Lake Worth	74	1	51	52	70.27%
0062	Stuart	547	3	393	396	72.39%
0064	Okeechobee	115	1	69	70	60.87%
0065	Delray Beach	57	4	42	46	80.70%
0141	West Palm Beach	72	5	42	47	65.28%
0164	Boynton Beach	149	5	96	101	67.79%
0199	W Palm Beach	37	0	15	15	40.54%
0268	Riviera Beach	84	0	25	25	29.76%
0271	Tequesta	157	4	112	116	73.89%
0277	Boca Raton	110	2	87	89	80.91%
0288	Boynton Beach	21	0	1	1	4.76%
0367	Royal Palm Beach	27	4	25	29	107.41%
TOTALS		1489	31	999	1030	69.17%

DISTRICT 13						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0038	Fort Myers	36	2	28	30	83.33%
0090	Cape Coral	286	3	172	175	61.19%
0103	Punta Gorda	648	1	365	366	56.48%
0110	Port Charlotte	634	2	337	339	53.47%
0123	Sanibel	40	0	5	5	12.50%
0130	Labelle	151	0	68	68	45.03%
0135	Naples	366	0	157	157	42.90%
0136	Saint James City	515	1	196	197	38.25%
0192	Fort Myers	20	0	14	14	70.00%
0274	Fort Myers Beach	543	0	196	196	36.10%
0303	Bonita Springs	424	11	264	275	64.86%
0323	Lehigh Acres	408	33	202	235	57.60%
0336	N Ft Myers	439	0	280	280	63.78%
0351	Fort Myers	103	0	33	33	32.04%
TOTALS		4613	53	2317	2370	51.38%



DISTRICT 14						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0028	Key West	56	0	34	34	60.71%
0031	South Miami	170	3	106	109	64.12%
0043	Homestead	56	0	4	4	7.14%
0067	North Miami	41	0	15	15	36.59%
0098	Coral Gables	15	0	4	4	26.67%
0133	Miami	62	10	42	52	83.87%
0154	Marathon	145	0	78	78	53.79%
0168	Key West	22	0	4	4	18.18%
0333	Key Largo	77	0	19	19	24.68%
0346	Miami	18	0	10	10	55.56%
0374	Key Biscayne	41	0	25	25	60.98%
TOTALS		703	13	341	354	50.36%

DISTRICT 16						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0007	Clearwater	248	0	164	164	66.13%
0014	St Petersburg	116	1	24	25	21.55%
0079	New Port Richey	457	13	251	264	57.77%
0104	Pinellas Park	254	5	195	200	78.74%
0119	Largo	359	1	225	226	62.95%
0125	St Petersburg	296	1	171	172	58.11%
0158	Treasure Island	255	0	137	137	53.73%
0173	Holiday	258	1	168	169	65.50%
0238	Safety Harbor	313	6	175	181	57.83%
0252	Seminole	1064	8	808	816	76.69%
0273	Madeira Beach	3427	2	1403	1405	41.00%
0275	Dunedin	980	3	617	620	63.27%
0305	St Pete Beach	149	0	83	83	55.70%
0335	Hudson	95	3	23	26	27.37%
TOTALS		8271	44	4444	4488	54.26%

DISTRICT 15						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0005	Tampa	37	1	17	18	48.65%
0099	Brooksville	20	0	3	3	15.00%
0111	Tampa	53	0	40	40	75.47%
0138	Tampa	482	5	346	351	72.82%
0139	Tampa	57	0	50	50	87.72%
0147	Odessa	43	0	20	20	46.51%
0148	Riverview	208	4	130	134	64.42%
0152	Tampa	249	4	133	137	55.02%
0167	Tampa	15	1	14	15	100.00%
0186	Brooksville	368	1	190	191	51.90%
0248	West Tampa	14	1	11	12	85.71%
TOTALS		1546	17	954	971	62.81%

DISTRICT 17						
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	JR	SR	TOTAL	PERCENT
0006	Deland	103	0	80	80	77.67%
0017	New Smyrna Beach	211	0	119	119	56.40%
0045	Palatka	30	1	16	17	56.67%
0115	Palm Coast	39	0	32	32	82.05%
0120	Holly Hill	215	1	138	139	64.65%
0127	Lake Helen	23	1	5	6	26.09%
0255	Deltona	24	4	17	21	87.50%
0259	Debary	27	0	21	21	77.78%
0267	Ormond Beach	228	2	155	157	68.86%
0270	Port Orange	174	2	128	130	74.71%
0285	Edgewater	124	0	77	77	62.10%
0361	S Daytona	225	0	129	129	57.33%
TOTALS		1423	11	917	928	65.21%



• **THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA**

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