



Catching Rays - Creating Brighter Futures

Inside This Issue

President's Message

Installation Spotlight

President's Project

From the Department Staff

The Kaleidoscope

August 2017 Vol. VII, Issue 1

Catching Rays - Creating Brighter Futures



The Kaleidoscope

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.

For Submissions:

The Kaleidoscope

1912A Lee Road

Orlando, FL 32810

Ph: (407) 293-7411

Fax: (407) 299-6522

www.alafl.org

“Catching Rays - Creating Brighter Futures”

1	Message from the President
2	Installation Spotlight
3	President's Project
4	From the Secretary
9	From the Treasurer
10	Message from the President (ctd`)
13	Chaplain's Corner

Message From The President



T. K. Wildrick

To ALL Members and Mentors that have supported and guided me through the past several years, my Biggest Hugs and Sincerest THANK YOU!! TA DA – the dream has come true!! I am truly honored to serve as your Department President of this wonderful organization for the 2017-2018 year. I promise to fulfill the duties as your Ambassador to the best of my abilities.

As you know, the Department of Florida has had its challenges. However, that chapter is finished, the book is closed and filed in the restricted section of the library, to which the key has been tossed away. We have drawn a line in the FL sand and have leaped over and way beyond in a positive direction. Our new Department Staff have already made a difference and our Executive Team (Officers and Chairmen) have pledged to commit themselves to our mission and programs of the American Legion Auxiliary – supporting our Veterans, Military and their Families, our Children and Youth and our Communities in the spirit of Service Not Self.

My colors this year are Patriotic Red, White and True Blue in honor of our devotion to 100% Americanism. Utilizing Sun Crystals, we will be Catching Rays – Creating Brighter Futures:

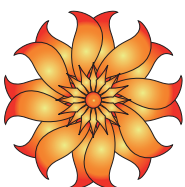
C = Capture New Enthusiastic Members and Ideas
R = Regeneration with Renewals and Rejoining Members
E = Educating and Mentoring about our Programs and Mission
A = Advocating for Veterans, their Families, our Children and Communities
T = Teamwork between the Legion Family supporting each other
E = Everyday is Special in Every Way

In order to succeed in Creating our Brighter Future, we must remember the foundation of our past accomplishments, renew our Promise of Unity and dedicate ourselves to Service, Not Self!! Let us appreciate our rich history and diverse heritage as we prepare for our 100 year anniversary. Membership is Key for any organization to thrive and ours is no exception. Although National has a 5-year Strategic Plan with a goal of 1 million members, we need to consider the quality of our members not just the quantity. This year our focus will be to sweeten our Membership. Treat each other with respect and kindness as we would like to be treated ourselves. By warmly welcoming new members, reaching out to rejoining members and appreciating our renewing members, fun and fellowship will ensue and ‘snap’ our goals will be attained!! We are all Volunteers with hearts of gold, a wealth of imagination and an overall inner sense of for the common good.

History is in the making!! My husband, Bernie Wildrick, was elected as Detachment Commander of the Sons and Steve Shuga was elected as the Department Commander of the Legion for 2017-2018. We are all members of Old Glory Post 183, Altamonte Springs; striving to be the ‘friendliest’ Post home located on beautiful Prairie Lake, believing in and living by the ideals of Legion Family among the 4 organizations. Being long-time friends, we have been named “The 3 Amigos” planning to travel the State of Florida promoting “Legion Family”.

Bernie and I started our travels on July 3rd, packing our Jayco 5th wheel with our dogs, heading to Safety Harbor for their 9th annual 4th of July Parade. This event has been hosted by Safety Harbor Unit 238, headed by Ruth Burgess and her team. They have certainly outdone themselves again this year, having the largest number of participants. The excitement started early at the staging areas, decorating vehicles and floats, last minute polishing of motorcycles, fine tuning instruments, checking giveaways of beads, candy and flags with coffee and cold drinks all around.

Thanks Bunches to Michele DeGennaro, Dee Bell and Maryann Kearns for their assistance in decorating the Department President vehicle. The streets were lined with adults and children dressed in their full ‘American holiday’ attire, waving flags and cheering Happy 4th of July!! Later, there was a ceremony at the pavilion in the center town park complete with Santa’s Drill Team, live music entertainment, speeches and a band closing out the ceremony. Post 238 had a gathering afterwards where many members enjoyed good food and camaraderie.



Continued on Page 10.



Membership

Debbie Sviderskas

Hi, I would like to introduce myself. My name is MARY POPPINS, aka Debbie Sviderskas.

I will be your Membership Chairman for the Department of Florida and President TK for the coming year. As we catch rays, creating brighter futures, we will be spreading the word about our organization,

promoting ourselves in our communities, and helping our organization to grow.

Send in your renews, and rejoins now to start the year 2017-2018.

New Members for the NEW YEAR can not be processed until September 1st.

But now is the time to get your first transmittal in to department and earn your first goal for this year. We do not want any Goose Eggs. Traditionally, all officers being installed need to pay their dues before their installation of officers,

so there is no reason you can not get your first transmittal in ASAP.

Hope all of you will be able to attend workshop, September 8th-10th.

We are planning an exciting program for you. Our Service Dogs (Department Chairmen) are eager to help you in your endeavors this year, so please, let us know how we may serve you.

A spoonful of Sugar will help you get all of our members from department down to your local Legion, Auxiliary, and

Sons of the American Legion together and work as a team to help recruit, renew and rejoin members.

It's not the Team with the best players that win.

It's the players with the best team that wins!!!

Your membership goal for this year is to get 3% more than what your units total number of members were at close of books on July 22nd, 2017. You can do it!!

Don't forget about our Facebook page for membership.

I will be posting every Friday, once our membership reports start coming out.

Mary Poppins is magical and she carries a magical bag of tricks.

She is gentle, cheerful, and nurturing. And this year she is going to use her bag of tricks to help you achieve your goals. We have six Crystal Sweeps (area chairmen) who will also be happy to help. We are excited because we are

expecting you to invite us to your membership drives that you hold at your local community fairs, markets, craft shows, etc. Thank You in advance because I know you will work hard this year to attain your goals and I am already proud of you.

Membership Contacts

Debbie Sviderskas.....membershipchairman@alaf.org...727-686-2782

Carolyn Brown.....northernareamembership@alaf.org...904-674-4179

Katie Gabehart.....centralareamembership@alaf.org...727-804-3783

Denise Grinis.....southernareamembership@alaf.org...754-264-4388
Ive "Nell"

Hewit...westernareamembership@alaf.org...850-766-1909

Welcome to the Public Relations Team.

“Catching Rays Creating Brighter Futures”

Public Relations catches the **RAYs** of the Mission related programs to **SHINE THE LIGHT** of the message for public awareness of Who we are, What we do and Why we matter to Veterans, Active Duty, Children and our Communities. Increased awareness of **American Legion Auxiliary** while positively affecting our Brand is critically important to fulfill the promise for a **Brighter Future Enhancing Membership strength**.

MAKING OUR MISSION KNOWN

What is Public Relations?

To promote, publicize, and re-educate the public and our members about our core program values of serving veterans and their families.

Why Public Relations benefits in Making our Mission Known?

Increase Awareness of ALA while positively affecting our Brand. Promoting who we are, what we do and why we matter strengthens our brand (**Goal 5**) and makes us appealing to potential members who will recognize our common goal of helping veterans, service members and their families (**Goal 1**).

Goal 5: Brand recognition and support/increase Membership **Goal 5:** With **The American Legion**, build brand loyalty. Working together as **American Legion Family** we can raise public awareness of our Mission. Wearing of the **ALA Emblem** or the **Legion Family Emblems** raises Brand recognition.

HOW the Public Relations – strengthens our brand (**Goal 5**) and makes us appealing to potential members who will recognize our common goal of helping veterans, service members and families. Promote the ALA Brand by wearing of the ALA Emblem, during Mission related program events, in Facebook Postings, during public events, and reporter interviews.

WHERE to Make our Mission known: Media Contact List Search: Research Web for Newspapers, Television and other Veteran organizations newsletters in your local area. Prepare Media releases in word document attached to emails and copied to Facebook. Included the five W's Who What When Where and Why. Send Photos of ALA members wearing emblem and Unit News to Dept. newsletter and National magazine.

SUBMIT, SUBMIT AND KEEP SUBMITTING to media resources.

We want to hear from you, Start Preparing Now. Part of making sure we are promoting our good work is reporting it to the National organization. Mid-year, Year-end reports with Narratives enable our team to review work, evaluate best practices, and capture success stories. The Public Relations Mid-Year and Year-end reports have changed. Mid-Year reports with narratives are a mid-point of reporting to track work and success stories to finalize Year-End Narratives.

Attaching a Narrative to Mid-year and Year-end Reports. **Don't Stress.** Some People develop anxiety when they hear the word “**Narrative.**” A narrative is nothing more than a story of connected events. You can make your narrative chronological, as in order of events by month, or simply highlight the public relations coverage of activities and events taking place in your Unit. We know and understand every media release is not published. We want to hear about your efforts to promote ALA programs. List every media release submission by date and Mission related program your Unit submitted to media contacts.

For God and Country

Sandi Howard-Stepp

publicrelations@alafl.org



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

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

floridalegion.org

President's Project

K9s FOR WARRIORS



The Chinese Calendar shows 2018 as the Year of the Dog. Ask anyone, my dogs are my warm-fuzzy 4-legged children, catered to as if members of royal family. So, I am very excited the Finance Committee approved my Special Project to be K9's For Warriors, located in Ponte Vedra, FL just north of St. Augustine. Founded by Shari Duval, K9s For Warriors save warriors and rescue dogs. Some are veterans, some are active duty, and all are heroes and have served in the military. K9's For Warriors' philosophy is to involve the veteran in the training of their new service canine partner, allowing the warrior the opportunity to be part of the solution to their recovery. The in-house program provides each warrior with 120 hours of hands-on training with professional canine and warrior trainers. Each dog utilized in the program is carefully selected and extensively trained to become a service dog for an American hero. I had an opportunity to tour the campus. Camp K9 has 2 state-of-the-art climate controlled kennels that can house up to 57 dogs at full capacity. The kennels feature an on-site veterinary clinic, indoor training area and indoor/outdoor runs for the dogs. The Lodge is a 17,000 square-foot headquarters with a full kitchen, dining hall, lounges, exercise room and library/card room to accommodate the warriors while class is in session. The living quads for the warriors are very spacious with specially designed feel-at-home comfortable furnishings, complete kitchenettes and laundry facility. Each room includes deluxe bedding and feeding trays for their canines. There is also a bone-shaped dog pool with a fire-hydrant fountain in the middle for the dogs to enjoy. Check out You-Tube for videos and testimonials. We are also planning special guests for our upcoming meetings! Stay

Prepared and confident

Choose the medical alert service that has saved more lives than any other

There's a Lifeline medical alert solution for you
Lifeline offers a range of choices to help you maintain your independence. Whether you need the go-anywhere protection of **GoSafe**® or the peace of mind offered by **HomeSafe**, Lifeline has you covered.

Special offer for Legionnaires
Save up to \$70 with free activation and free shipping
1-855-495-4356
www.thelife.com/lifeline-medical-alert-services



© 2015. Button signal range may vary due to environmental factors. For new customers only. Not to be combined with any other offer and subject to change without notice. Monthly fees and applicable taxes apply. Other fees may apply. Minimum stay on service may be required. *Coverage outside the home provided where AT&T wireless network coverage is available.

PHILIPS
Lifeline



From the Treasurer

Becky Gripton



Hello, Department of Florida!

What an exciting summer we've had! I was so honored to accept the appointment of Department Treasurer at Convention. Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this capacity! I look forward to a great year with our new Madam President, TK Wildrick, as we catch rays and create brighter futures. I would like to thank former Madam President, Current NEC Chair, Kelli Becraft for an awesome year as we faithfully navigated the course for veterans and their families.

And what a great job of navigation she did! For those of you who missed Convention, and may not be aware, we raised \$110,000.00 for Kelli's 2016-17 President's Project, Final Salute, a non-profit for female homeless veterans and their children. What a moving time it was as the donations just flooded in from off the floor. Personally, I can say, it was special to me to see our Units and individual members step up to the plate (or in this case, microphone!) and present additional donations to Jas Booth, the founder of Final Salute, who was in attendance. Just inspiring, Ladies! Thank you for all you do to support our veterans.

Now it's time to get down to some business as we close out the old year and usher in the new fiscal year (July 1-June 30).

*Firstly, your 2016-17 membership credit reports (AKA over/short report) have been closed out for the fiscal year. Checks were cut where credits remained on our books, and balance memos issued where Units were short. These were mailed out the week of July 24th. If you have a balance owed to Department, **please remit payment immediately.** Also be sure to send in poppy reports or proceeds where applicable for any 2016-2017 distribution dates if you have not done so already. Let's start the new fiscal year off in good standing!*

Secondly, I know that some Units attempted to use their membership credits for the 2016-17 year AFTER July 1st. Unfortunately, any transmittals received after July 1st were past the cut off date to use those credits. You will have received a check for this credit with the close of your Unit's 2016-17 membership credit report AND you will see a shortage for those transactions in the new 2017-18 year that you will need to remit to Department.

I know this presents some "double work" for those Units but due to the large number of Units as compared to our accounting staff, we had to have a cut off date and unfortunately, there is just no way to get all the accounting transactions processed that are affected by close of books. Thank you for your understanding and patience with this annual close of books process.

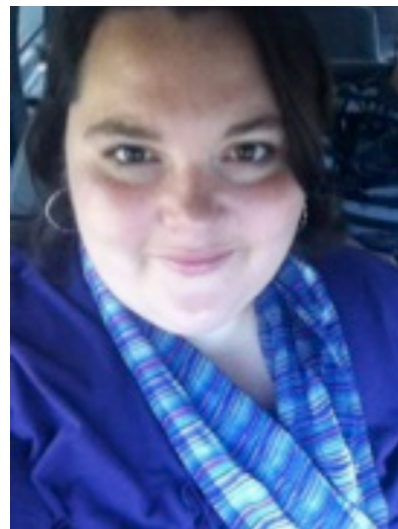
*Also, please be on the lookout for a Quota invoice for 2017-18 which will be sent out by September 15th. I have already received some checks from Units paying their Quotas based on old membership and Quota amounts. **PLEASE do not send a check in until you receive your invoice.** This will avoid shortages and overages that have to then be sorted out.*

Finally, as way of reminder, please review

and heed the important changes implemented in membership this year. A complete list was included with your membership credit report. Remember:
1- ONLY ONE CHECK PER TRANSMITTAL/ RECAP. 2- ALL CORRECTIONS TO YOUR REPORT MUST BE MADE WITHIN 90 DAYS SO PLEASE REVIEW YOUR MONTHLY CREDIT REPORT IMMEDIATELY AND CONTACT US AS SOON AS YOU NOTICE A DISCREPANCY.

Thank you!

*Becky Gripton
Department Treasurer
bookkeeper@alafl.org*





The History program is different from all other programs. Instead of waiting until April to do your narrative for completion, we must start right at the beginning of the New Year. Therefore I am including the information about awards and instructions for your reference. Thank you for participating and know that I am here for you.

Eleanore Kernaghan Senior History Trophy

History must be written in narrative form as events occur after current year's Department Officers' Installation. (See how to write a narrative in Program Action Plan – Historian)

RULES

Introduction, Inclusions

- 1. Title Page
 - a) American Legion Auxiliary Unit _____ History
 - b) City of Unit
 - c) Name of Unit Historian and President
 - d) Present year of history being recorded
 - e) Membership grouping
- 1. Foreword or dedication
- 2. A prayer
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
- 4. Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary.
- 5. List of Unit officers and chairman

Appearance – Formatting

- 1. Photos, mementos, souvenirs will not be considered in judging. These _____ items may be added later.
- 2. Use plain, white paper 8 ½” x 11 in “.
- 3. Page Setup:
 - a. Margins – Left and right margin should be 1.25 in; top and bottom margins should be 1 in.
 - 2. Pagination – Page numbers should begin on the first page of the historical content. They should be centered and placed 0.5 in. from the bottom of the page.
- f) Spacing: Double-spaced with the exception of the introductory pages (i.e. title page, foreword or dedication, prayer, Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary) which shall be centered in the middle of the page. Paragraphs may be indented or in block form.
- g) Text: 12 point font, Times New Roman or Arial style font.

Content

- 6. The unit history shall be written as a factual narrative beginning

with the installation of department officers at department convention, and ending with the summary of end-of-year reports and closing events for that ALA administrative year.

- 7. The history shall be written in third person.
- 8. Use clear, concise language with correct spelling.
- 9. Do not include or use computer graphics, pen or ink drawings, illustrations, extra material, or newspaper clippings, or other embellishments.
- 10. Be sure the unit annual history truly represents a historical account of the unit – what the unit accomplished. A unit history lists those who served as leaders and mentions notable awards or individual achievements. It is not a travelogue or diary of any officer or individual's itineraries. The content is about the unit and its collective members mission achievements.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Certificate plaque: “Honorable Mentioned Award” presented to the unit in each membership grouping who submits the best history narrative in her group but did not receive the Eleanore Kernaghan Senior History Trophy. Unit must follow instructions in Program Action Plan.

JUNIOR AWARD

Certificate plaque: Presented to the junior member who submits the best history narrative. Member must follow rules as indicated in the Program Action Plan under senior's Eleanore Kernaghan Senior History Trophy. Up to five (5) pictures can be included.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

National has changed the name for “Cavalcade of Memories”. It is now called History Committee. In this transition period, Department of Florida will be calling this program Cavalcade/History. Please send all scrap books to the Cavalcade/History Chairman, Sherry Wingard at 570 Cypress Ave., Orange City, Florida 32763 and all Narrative Histories to Eleanor Amato 892 Catfish Ave., New Smyrna Beach, Florida 32169. ALL entries must be received by May 1, 2018. No exceptions!

Leadership



Robin Burk

...and the Leaders will lead

Hello members!

The Department staff is just back from workshop. We not only had a great time getting accustomed to our new rolls as officers and chairmen, but also had an opportunity to get to know each other better, and to share ideas about our future endeavors. We are a TEAM and we work so much better together than alone! Please take this thought back to your District and Units.

It's a new term, a new "leadership", and we need to make the most of it. I am excited to know that each year, we have a new, clean slate. This is the time to invigorate your units with openness, sharing of ideas, and maintaining the focus of our mission: To give assistance to our Veterans, active duty service

members, their families and our community. We have a blank canvas. Be creative!

All of us are leaders in one way or another: Many of us are either committee chairman or officers at the Unit, District or Department level.

Embrace your position, and acknowledge the confidence it can instill in you:

Share your ideas with the officers and committee chairmen

Address an unresolved issue that may be lingering at your Unit - resolve it!

Interface with the Legion, Sons and Riders – find common ground to work together

Find new ways to preserve the history of the Auxiliary

Ask for help!

We are a TEAM! And, we hope that all members will rise to the challenge of being a leader. We have many tools to assist members with their leadership goals. A good start is to schedule your A-B-C School in your District with me, as soon as possible. You can reach me at

Leadership@alaf1.org or
robinburk@att.net.

Ladies, rise to the challenge!

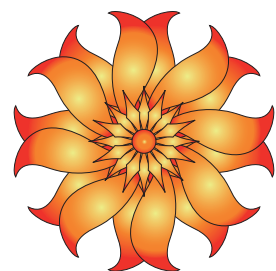
For God and Country,

Robin Burk
Leadership Chairman
Dept. of Florida

561-371-7240



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





2017 Session



Legislative



Dee Bell

Hello Ladies,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 Auxiliary year. My name is Dee Bell and I am your Department Legislative Chairman. I have been an Auxiliary member for 20 years. I live in St. Pete Beach and belong to Treasure Island Unit 158. The Legislative Program provides information and assistance to American Legion Auxiliary members to advocate for the legislative agenda of The American Legion. Let's have a great year while Catching Rays and Creating Brighter Futures for our veterans and their families, military families, children and our communities.

*Dee Bell
Legislative Chairman
legislative@alafl.org*



From The Secretary

Patty MacDonald

I want to cover some things with membership in this issue. If you have any membership questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. I will be processing the membership in Department at this time.

7. Please note on the recap or show proof that you entered a new member into ALAMIS.
8. If you make a name change or address change in ALAMIS please note that on the member data form.
9. Please review applications before sending them to make sure all the information is filled in. Department will have to send the application back if it is not complete.
10. If you are having problems logging in to ALAMIS, please contact National at alamishelp@legion-aux.org.
11. Paid up for life members don't need to be added to the recap. These members will be processed by National and National will send the dues to Department as paid.
12. Honorary Life Members are to be paid by the Unit to Department on a recap.
13. If a unit is giving an Honorary Life Membership to a member the unit must submit the minutes from the meeting to Department along with a letter stating the unit is Honoring the member with their dues being paid for Life for the member. The letter must be signed by the President and Treasurer.

Again if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. National has videos on how to use ALAMIS. If you need help, go to alaforveterans.org.

For God and Country,

Patty MacDonald
Department Secretary

Membership Facts

1. When sending in a recap sheet, please send each year on a separate recap. For example if you are paying "Jane Doe" dues for 2016 and 2017 you will need to send a recap sheet for 2016 and a separate one for 2017. You will also need to send in a separate check for each recap.
2. Please put members name in alphabetical order by last name.
3. Please send in a separate check for each recap. You can add an additional sheet if you are paying more than 15 people.
4. Please mark the recap for the year you are paying. For Example if you are paying 2016-2017 dues you would put 2017. If you are paying 2017-2018 dues you would put 2018.
5. Please use your membership credits as you go through out the year. You will receive an over and short report monthly.
6. If you are an ALAMIS user, you are responsible for entering in your new members before sending to Department. Please make sure you send in the

Message from the President

Continued from Page 1

Saturday, July 15th Bernie and I headed off to the 16th District to attend the Installation of Officers at Post 158 Treasure Island. District President Liz Close and her staff did a lovely job!

It was great to see Legislative Chairman Dee Bell and she introduced me to some of the special guests in attendance. After the ceremony, I enjoyed spending time with the Unit members of Treasure Island during the light lunch served. Shortly thereafter, we traveled to Seminole 252 for their Installation of Officers. Again, it was very special to see and visit with several Unit members that I had not seen in a while. When the ceremony was over, I was invited to participate in their long-standing tradition: sharing a toast of Champagne, kicking out the old year by kicking off a shoe, relaxing and enjoying one another's company. Then, they get ready to get back to work starting the new year tomorrow! Bernie caught the video and shared on Facebook! Thank You Ladies – I will share your tradition... This Unit does great things throughout the year, posting their contribution / donation sheet for all to see. I believe this transparency goes a long way when they ask for participation and donations in their fundraisers.

This past weekend found the '3 Amigos' attending the dinner and Installation of Officers at Old Glory Post 183. The Hall tables were decorated with Parrots, Teddy 'Sugar' Bears and puzzle pieces. Dinner was prepared by the Squadron members with a little 'secret helper' NECA Art Schwabe in the kitchen, complete with knife and apron most of the day. Thanks boys it was delicious! Several Unit members served the salads and then the dinners. Cakes for desserts were self-served. We had over 80 persons in the Hall to witness and support our officers. As Carol Pirone-Udell had recent hip replacement surgery and is currently in Rehab, Past District President Charlotte Bass presided. We all wish you a quick recovery, Carol!! The Installation Ceremonies were true to form at Old Glory, keeping the District Staff on their toes with fun had by all. True American Legion Family at its finest!!

Sunday, 'The 3 Amigos' attended the Installation of Officers at Pine Castle Post 286. We were greeted by the Honor Guard in their grandest attire – I was so overwhelmed with the hand salute I barely made it to the door!! Several other dignitaries were in attendance; Ann King-Smith presented awards for Children & Youth to Jasmine Harris who was not in attendance at Dept Convention; Jane Hardacre presented the ROTC/JROTC Award for National Security program to Fran Ridgley; Charlotte Bass awarded a Poppy award to Little Miss Poppy, Jasmine Harris.

NECA Art Schwabe was also in attendance, Erna is still under the weather and we send wishes to her for a speedy recovery. Each organization's Leader spoke, sharing inspiration, goals and expectations for the coming year. The Installation of Officers found 'special' privileges with the reading of charges. Unit President Phyllis Menoski is leading again for her 2nd term. I believe the Legion Family teamwork will shine bright for this Post home. I took Presidential privilege by asking everyone to sing Happy Birthday to Fran Ridgley. We had quite a nice visit with the members before heading over to Dorie Miller Post 331 in Orlando. Their Honor Guard posted colors with great precision – well done!! The Installation of Officers went smoothly and I had the honor to install President Stephanie Pearson, a Past Eastern Area President. All light-heartedness aside, President Stephanie stated it very well – by pledging they could turn things around with the support of the Unit and Legion members, respecting Unity and Teamwork. Enjoy your Summer ladies and hope to see you at Workshop!!

Okay, that's all for now!! I will be traveling to Reno in August for the National Convention, bringing back great ideas to share. We have started to schedule the District visits as well.

If you would like me to visit for events or attend your activities, please let me know via email President@alafl.org or cellular (407) 267-7258.

For God and Country ~
TK

Treva Kay Wildrick
Department President



Installation Spotlight

Treva (T. K.) Wildrick

Department President

Our Installation of Department Officers on Sunday, July 2nd, presided by my very dear friend, Past Department President Diane Rousseau with Past Department President Erna Schwabe as Chaplain was well attended by many members of the American Legion Family. Thank You both for your guidance this past year as I prepared for this milestone journey in my American Legion Auxiliary career. Several family members and friends also attended, witnessing the incoming District Presidents escorted by their outgoing District Presidents performing the traditional ceremony of the sash and pin exchange. The Department Officers then followed being introduced and escorted to their positions at the head table. A giant shout-out Thank You to my Granddaughter, Jennifer Stearns, for overseeing the music selections of "Incredible" by Celine Dion; "Fight Song" by Rachel Platten; "Only in America" by Brooks and Dunn and "The Power of the Dream" by Celine Dion. Then silence, as Department President was presented being escorted by my hero, my Dad, Sidney Huff, a Korean War Veteran in his full Army uniform – yes, it still fits!! The standing salutes and thunderous applause were quite overwhelming. I am not sure who was more proud, me for his service or him for my achievement. As "Make Someone Happy" by Jimmy Durante played, we began the stroll 'down the aisle' to the cheers, well wishes and sounds of air horns courtesy of Old Glory Unit 183. What a thrill seeing all the smiling faces, the biggest one my Mom's. A man of few words, my Dad stated he was very proud of me and "If you have a chance, go on the Honor Flight" when given the opportunity to speak... After the ceremony was completed, the great-grandson, Xavier, presented me with a beautiful bouquet of flowers. They traveled to Safety Harbor and lasted through Boot Camp!





LEGIONNAIRE INSURANCE TRUST

Call Now: 1-800-235-6943
Monday - Friday 8AM - 7PM (EST)

DEPARTMENT TRUSTED. LEGIONNAIRE APPROVED.

We provide a wide range of benefits designed to protect you, your family and your health.



From Your American
Legion Department

We are committed to serving the unique insurance needs of LIT members and their families.



Emergency and Accident

A crisis can strike at any moment. Learn how we can help you prepare for the unexpected and get assistance when you need it most.



Insurance Coverage

From health to auto, we offer valuable insurance products designed to fit the specific needs of Legionnaires.



No Cost Protection

Your valued status as a Legionnaire makes you eligible for LegionCare, up to \$5,000.00 in NO COST to you benefits.



Cancer Care Insurance Plan

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust products and services are there when you need them most. Listen to how others have benefited from services like our Cancer Care Insurance Plan.

- Cash benefits sent to Legionnaire members diagnosed with cancer
- We send you money – even if you don't have cancer



www.thelit.com

Chaplain's

Corner

Lois Stachelrodt

As we begin to Catch the Rays from the Sun, let us begin to Create Brighter Futures for our Veterans and their Families. We honor our Veterans in many ways and will never forget what they have done for us.

List of Deceased Members

District 1

Unit 375 Brown, Betty

District 4

Unit 16 Hill, Lucy O.
Whittle, Dorothy D.
Unit 314 Lee, Bessie

District 5

Unit 137 McNelly, Tammy L.
Walters, Mary E.
Unit 194 Naumann, Barbara
Unit 238 Powell, Jacqueline

District 6

Unit 10 Knowles, Mary
Unit 55 Knippel, Beverly
Unit 63 Parkhurst, Elizabeth
Unit 80 Bittner, Sharon
Everett, Mary
Unit 183 Johnson, Doris
Malinowski, Mildred
Unit 286 Plemmons, Betty
Unit 347 Doherty, Lucielle
Paladino, Felice

District 7

Unit 201 McCoy, Annie

District 8

Unit 24 Gallagher, Gilberle L.
Heckler, Marilyn
Hospador, Ruth
Swanson, Lois
Unit 113 Leary, Berta
Unit 159 Pittman, Margaret

District 9

Unit 92 Crumwell, Gloria
Kifner, Carol
Winston, Christine A.
Unit 142 Axelson, Margaret
Gardner, Helen (PDP)
Schaffer, Billie
Woodruff, Margaret

Unit 162 Frances, Gentile B

Unit 321 Van Pelt, Maria

Unit 222 Miller, Jean

Unit 209 Jones, Geraldine

District 12

Unit 1 Hart, Raniona
Unit 189 Thornton, Shirley
Unit 191 Edwards, Ella
Thomas, Francie
Unit 318 Bohringer, Dorothy
Gard, Anne
Heaning, Maureen
Hudy, Shirley
Kelley, Beverley
Lavallee, Sonny
Unit 358 Cady, Judy K.
Hickey, A. Jayne

District 13

Unit 110 Bailey, Joanne
Hair, Arlene
Unit 130 Squires, Donna
Unit 274 Davis, Mae

District 15

Unit 152 Anderson, Debbie
Landis, Cathy
William, Betty

District 16

Unit 119 Folsom, Jeanette
McKelvey, Carol
Tivey, Donna
Usiak, Carol

District 17

Unit 267 Williams, Susan
Unit 270 Strandrone, Jackie
Unit 285 Seaman, Eileen



It is again, my honor to be serving as your American Legion Auxiliary Department of Florida Chaplain. Thank you all for your support, kindness, love and the confidence to continue to serve as your Spiritual Advisor. Have a Blessed Day; Stay Safe and healthy, and I will see you soon.

*Lois Stachelrodt
Department of Florida Chaplain*