



#### **Pre-Order your Florida Legion license plate NOW!**

# The first American Legion specialty license plate for the state of Florida is now available for pre-order!

Proceeds from the from the sale of this specialty plate will go to support the Florida



American Legion Boys State program, Florida Auxiliary Girls State program, Gilchrist Fund and other veteran support services provided by the Florida American Legion.

Visit the Florida Legion website to learn more and order your plate today!

www.FloridaLegionStore.com

#### [ CONTENTS MARCH 2015 ]









#### This Month ]

- 1 From The President
  Department President Erna Schwabe Recaps her month
- 4 Legislative News End Sequestration
- 5 Chaplain's CornerInspiring message from Lois Stachelrodt
- 6 COTA Letter
  He Breathes for Me
- 8 Community Service
  How to Help Veterans Around Their Home
- 10 From the Units
  Find out what's happening around the state with our Units!
- 13 Membership Find out where your unit is at!!

#### The Shining Beacon

#### 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.

"Lighting the Way For Veterans"

The Shining Beacon

1912A Lee Road Orlando, FL 32810 Phone: (407) 293-7411 Fax: (407) 299-6522 www.alafl.org



Hello Auxiliary Members! I hope you are all enjoying our cooler weather and let's keep those friends in the North in our thoughts and prayers as they shovel all that snow.

Off to the 14th District with President Betty Gardner. We picked Betty up at her home and then headed to Unit 154 Marathon. The Auxiliary members were waiting for us and treated us wonderfully. They had a wonderful sit down family style dinner waiting and it was a pleasure to share it with members of the AL Family Post 154. This Unit does not sit idle. They raffled off a 60" TV with the proceeds going to their charities. They take very good care of our Veterans and sponsor lunches for them. We then headed to the Black Fin Motel for a goodnights sleep before we headed to Key West unit 28. We toured downtown Key West and visited the tall lighthouse and the museum. We had dinner at Unit 28 with members from Unit 168. What a chef they have at POST 28. We were served beef tips and noodles that were out of this world. We spent the night at the Condo on the Naval Base. It was such a relaxing time and when we woke up the "roosters" were crowing! Post 28 Family has a movie night! They have refreshments during intermission and food can also be purchased. It is becoming very popular and the members said it is like being at a

# FROM TH



### 🕽 Erna Schwabe

theater. We had breakfast at Post 154 on our way back from the Key West. Here again the Auxiliary members were working and having fun at the same time. They had served over 150 breakfasts before we left and still going strong. We met up with President Terry Fuller at Unit 333 in Key Largo and had a wonderful lunch. It was awesome to hear the work this Unit has been doing. One of their big projects is raising funds for Paws for Patriots. Once a month they host a luncheon for the VA from Miami and the local Nursing Homes that have Veterans residing there. Then we headed to Unit 133 to visit with Units 31, 43, 98 and 374 for a fantastic dinner. It was so good spending time with PDP Beverly Evans. We had some catching up and that we did. Monday we toured the VA Hospital and the Fisher House. Thank you Mike Doughty and Jolene Arena for giving us a nice tour! Our next stop was the Mailman Center where we visited with Dr. Danny Armstrong. These people are so dedicated to our Veterans and Families. Thank you to all members from the 14th District for a very enjoyable visit. You are "Lighting the way for Veterans".

Returned home on Monday evening and then on



Wednesday to the airport to pick up National President Janet Jefford. Our first stop was the dentist as Janet needed to have a cap repaired. Then we went to Claremont so President Janet could visit with PNP Kris Nelson. We headed back to Orlando for dinner and check into the hotel for a nights rest. Thursday morning we

were at Epcot to meet up with Chaplain Lois Stachelrodt who arranged a tour of "Behind the Seeds". President Janet and I participated in the releasing of the "lady bugs" into the plants. It was a beautiful walking tour and all (Peggy, Sandie, Lois, Kimberly, Charlotte) seemed to enjoy it. Unit 183 Auxiliary members hosted

# HE PRESIDENT



lunch for us which was greatly appreciated. Thank you to TK and her Auxiliary! After a walking tour of the New Lake Nona VA we drove to AL Family Post 80 in St. Cloud. We were welcomed by President Charlotte Bass and her members for dinner. We were a team for the Trivia night entertainment. Our team came in last but we sure learned a lot of Trivia! Thank you for the Donation to Veterans Foundation Charity and to COTA. Your friendship means so much. Friday morning we were up early and heading to Melbourne to visit with the Project Suds "Guys and Gals". What a sight to drive up and see all the members coming together to help with this project. National President Janet was blown away as she made this tour. We then toured a Transitional Housing Unit where the Mayor was waiting to give the "Key to the City" to President Janet then headed to Unit 117 Palm Bay for lunch with the American Legion Family. President Janet thanks you for the Red Friday Shirt and a gift for her project. Our next stop was Mc Dill Air Force Base for a tour of the medical center. What an honor to be given this guided tour. After this



very busy day we were ready for dinner at Unit 163. The Honor Guard did an exceptional presentation. After we entered the room we looked around and the guys and

gals from Project Suds were joining us for dinner. We enjoyed the company of the Auxiliary members and were able to answer questions for them. Thank you all for your hospitality. President Janet thoroughly enjoyed meeting all of you. "Lighting the way for Veterans" is a path you all take. Back to the hotel for a good nights rest before tackling Saturday. On Saturday President Janet talked with the PDC's at the Think Tank as she thanked them for what they do. We then headed into the fourth District for a visit. We went to the Ocala Ritz which is a historical building that has been turned into transitional housing for our Veterans. It was built in the 1930's and one could tell there was a lot of history behind those walls. We then went to the Gainesville Fisher House and then off to Unit 16 for a great luncheon. Thank you to all the Units and Districts that were in attendance. While at the luncheon we were introduced to Medal of Honor Recipient Duane Dewey who shared his story with us. Such a wonderful man and a walking book of stories!

Off to Unit 347 where President Carol Pirone-Udell and the auxiliary members were treating us to cake and coffee. At last we are heading back to Fern Park for a steak dinner cooked by the SAL. Thank you



American Legion Family Post 183 for your hospitality. The Department of Florida presented to President Janet, Waterford crystal bowl and matching candle sticks. She was blown away by our hospitality. A special thank you to Sandie Burgess of Unit 120 for being our personal page and to all the special members who helped make this a memorable one for our National President Janet Jefford. The next morning we were up and heading to the airport to get Janet on a flight to Connecticut. I would like to personally thank each and every person that helped put this special visit on the map. With all of your input we made it a special occasion for our National President.

After leaving the airport we drove to the Bowling Tournament that is sponsored by AL Post 286 Family. The proceeds of this tournament provides transportation for Girls/Boys State buses.

On Jan 24 Lattended the Southwestern Area Ball. It was great to visit with friends I hadn't seen in a while. Thank you, Southwestern Area Commander John Dollinger for a wonderful time. My ninth District visit had to be canceled. It will be re-scheduled in April. After a short visit in Tampa I headed across the state to the 14th District. I attended the Unit meeting of 154 in Marathon and the 9th District 4 Chaplains service held at the Coast Guard Station in Dania Beach. This was a wonderful service with the Sea Cadets in attendance. I hope you all had a chance to attend one of the Four Chaplain Services. It is awesome to be a part of it. Thank you 9th District for allowing me to be a part of your service. The Southern Area Ball was a huge success and thank you Commander Rick Johnson for a job well done. Your 9th District American Legion Family really made us proud to be a member of the AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY!

I will be attending the Female Veterans Luncheon in Hudson on Valentine's Day and then the Mardi Gras Parade in Dunedin, looking forward to my 11th District meeting then heading to Washington D.C. for the Conference. I have a very busy March coming so will be getting my calendar updated.

Please continue to work on your membership. The second notice from National has been sent so this is a good time for phone calls. Thank you for sending in your contributions to Department. Remember April is just around the corner so please start compiling your ideas and reports that will be due in April. We want to have 100% reporting for our National Reports so let's make it happen. If there is anything we can do to help you, please just call.

Thank you all for "Lighting the way for Veterans". You are all ONE IN A MILLION! Please keep those near and dear to you in your prayers and let's reach out to help others.

-For God and Country, President Erna

#### **Volunteers Needed**

The VA Jacksonville Outpatient Clinic is in need of volunteers to drive the DAV van and transport our veterans to and from Gainesville and Lake City VA Hospitals. VAVS screening and training will be provided by Byron Rowe, volunteer Services Coordinator. His contact info. is below.

Byron D. Rowe
Work Study & Volunteer Services Coordinator
Department of Veterans Affairs
Jacksonville Outpatient Clinic
1536 North Jefferson St
Jacksonville, FL 32209
904-475-6184



How many active lighthouses remain in our State of Florida?

**Winner of Trivia** #**6:** Shelby Bastow, Unit 367 Royal Palm Beach

# Legislative News

## **End Sequestration**

The Federal government is working on the federal budget. President Obama wants to end "sequestration" the program which makes automatic budget cuts across the board. As always there are varying thoughts about the federal budget. The American Legion advocated strongly in 2013 and 2014 to end sequestration. Please contact your U.S. Representative and ask them to fund programs needed for our National Security, our Veterans, our active duty military and their families. We owe a debt of gratitude to our men and women who have served and are serving, but they need more than just our gratitude. They need a decent wage to live on and access to quality health care including mental health services. Now is the time to act!

FLORIDA US REPRESENTATIVES: Jeff Miller (R) Bill Posey (R) Dennis Ross (R)
Lois Frankel (D) Gwen Graham (D) Alan Grayson (D) Vern Buchanan (R) Debbie
Wasserman Schultz (D) Ted Yoho (R) Daniel Webster (R) Tom Rooney (R) Frederica
Wilson (D) Ander Crenshaw (R) Rich Nugent (R) Patrick Murphy (D) Mario Diaz-Balart
(R) Corrine Brown (D) Gus Bilirakis (R) Curt Clawson (R) Carlos Curbelo (R) Ron
DeSantis (R) David Jolly (R) Alcee Hastings (D) Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R) John Mica (R)
Kathy Castor (D) Ted Deutch (D)

Thank you for all you are doing,

For God and Country,

Nancy Anderson

As a side note many of you knew my Mother, who was an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary for many years. She went to her heavenly home on Feb. 6th. Nancy

# Chaplain's Corner



As we begin a new month, let us always remember the legacies that have been left behind by those we hold so dear to our hearts. We must continue to follow the paths that have been built for us and strive to create new ones. Our loved ones will never be forgotten. I leave you with the quote from Erma Bombeck: "When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say, I used everything you gave me."

District 1		District 2		District 3	
Unit 78	McCarthy, Diana	Unit 172	Holland, Dorothy	Unit 107	Gafney, Mary
Unit 340	Couch, Anita	Unit 241	Jones, Martha J.	The second	
				District 7	
District 5		District 6		Unit 201	Walls, Doris D.
Unit 137	Hasty, Brenda	Unit 10	Phillips, Muriel M.	CO. 7 Bill	
Unit 233	Lazxenby, Anne B.	Unit 21	Wolfe, Martha	District 9	
		Unit 80	Kidd, Sue	Unit 323	Powell, Nancy
District 8		Unit 183	Lintz, Marian		
Unit 113	Morgan, Myrtle L.	_	Peeler, Tony	District 14	
	Paradiso, Anne	Unit 286	Persons, Hannelore	Unit 31	McCall, Alice
Unit 159	Newberry, Frances	Unit 347	Ballantyne, Patricia		
			Wilson, Leota	District 16	
District 11		The second second		Unit 79	Koncewicz, Mary
Unit 277	Lewin, Mildred	District 13			Russo, Elizabeth
Unit 367	Hamlyn, Ruth	Unit 38	Palmer, Margaret	Unit 125	Sheridan, Ann
	and the same of	Unit 103	Mary, Dorothy A.	Unit 173	Harrington, Donna B.
District 12	No. 773	Unit 130	Furman, Rose	Unit 238	Good, Debra
Unit 1	Deignan, Lavonne	Unit 135	Holmbeck, Diana	Unit 252	Hiler, Frances
	Duvall, Marily	Unit 303	Brown, Sharon W.	The same	
	ATTENDED TO 1		Decaro, Lorraine M.	Department	
District 17			Niemzyk, Judith E.	Unit 400	Arnold, Patricia
Unit 17	Taylor, Marilyn			Y	

As your spiritual leader, I just want to let you all know how grateful and humbled I am to be a part of this great organization. Thank you to all of you for the Get Well Wishes and cards when I was ill last month. Now back to business, please let me know if you will be attending Convention in June and if you will be available for the Memorial on Sunday morning. I do need Chaplains, Presidents or anyone who would like to participate. White outfit is preferred but not required. Thank you again for all your support as I perform my duties as your Chaplain. May God Bless you all and keep you safe from harm, until we meet again, and God Bless America.

Happy St. Patricks Day! Lois

## COTA Letter

#### He Breathes for Me

January 16, used to pass unnoticed just like most days in the year. This year, that is changing. A year ago, someone who I hold the closest to my heart passed away. His name is Caleb. I wish I could have gotten the chance to meet him in person as I know that I would have loved him. I've had the pleasure of speaking to his family, especially his mama Tawnya (she doesn't let me call her Mrs. Hogue anymore). This time last year, Tawnya tragically lost her son, but while grieving his loss, she chose to donate his organs. I cannot form proper words to thank his family enough. It feels like I'm writing with half the alphabet as I struggle to find words worthy enough to portray my gratitude.

The decision to donate his organs saved not only my life but so many more. The strength I have witnessed from Caleb's family is immeasurable. I have never experienced loss as immense like the loss of Caleb. He is loved by everyone that knows him. When he was with us, he didn't pass judgment, he was kind to everyone he met, and his heart was like no other. The love he had is one the world could not handle.

It breaks my heart that in a world with so much darkness that his light was extinguished. If I emit just a fraction of the happiness and kindness he did to those in his short life, then I will be complete. HE BREATHES FOR ME. I couldn't do it by myself before. Now, because of him I can run which is something I would watch in envy when my friends did.

I used to spend my days coughing while everyone around me worried that I would lose my air. Those around me ache as they watched me at my weakest displaying my greatest insecurity. Now, I'm not constantly deeply breathing trying to get oxygen in my lungs. I don't hunger for air anymore. I have so much more to thank Caleb.

Please say a prayer for his loved ones and all the really special people who received his gifts or were touched in some way by Caleb in their lives. Register to become an organ donor.

My gratitude is infinite. I will spend the rest of my days thankful for Caleb and his family's decision to donate his organs. I am the most grateful for the loving family I have gained.

Much love,
-Mariana-

PS. Please share this post with your friends and urge them to register as an organ donor.

I cannot think of a better way to share what a teenager experiences both physically and emotionally following their transplant than to hear it directly from one who has been down that road.

Thank you for your friendship and support, and for the time and effort you provide for our families! I encourage you to again join us throughout 2015 and help continue to make a difference in the lives of our children – like Mariana!

Ensuring the next group of kids is provided for is a daunting -- yet critical -- challenge for us to meet. I wish you joy throughout this holiday season! Please accept my personal thanks for your time, talent and treasure – thank you!

Rick Lofgren, CFRE - President & CEO, Children's Organ Transplant Association

	Calenda	
EVENT	DATE/TIME	LOCATION
Central Area Family Hawaii Ball	Feb 28 at 4pm	Post 8
Family Fun Day	Feb 28 at 11am	Post 1 - Titusville
Convention	June 25-28	Renaissance at SeaWorld
Girls State	July 9-17	FSU, Tallahassee

## 2015 Constitutional Conference Schedule

District	Date	Registration	Start	Post	Address
1	2-May	9am	10am	296	311 Main St, Destin
2	2-May			272	18838 Hwy 20 W, Blountstown
3	6-Jun			57	2602 SW Main Blvd, Lake City
4	6-Jun	9am	10am	284	5516 SE 109th St, Belleview
5	7-Jun	8am	9am	137	5443 San Juan Ave, Jacksonville
6	16-May	9am	9:30am	80	1019 Pennslyvania Ave, St Cloud
7	31-May	1pm	2pm	8	300 Ave M, Winter Haven
8	23-May	9am	10am	159	1770 E Venice Ave, Venice
9	13-Jun	1:30pm	2pm	180	1280 SW 44th Terr, Ft Lauderdale
11	17-May	9am	9:30am	268	1690 Avenue H West, Riveria Beach
12	9-May	9am	10am	117	189 SE Vets Dr, Palm Bay
13	23-May	8am	9am	103	2101 Taylor Rd, Punta Gorda
14	2-May	9:30am	10am		16401 SW 90th Ave, Palmetto Bay
15	30-May		11am	111	6918 N Florida Ave, Tampa
16	16-May	9am	10am	252	11433 Park Blvd, Seminole
17	7-Jun	3:30pm	4pm	6	1087 Biscayne Blvd, Deland

# Community Service How to Help Veterans Around Their Home

#### Plan of Action:

Many of our nation's veterans need assistance around their home. Elderly or limited-mobility veterans may not be able to take care of all their housekeeping requirements and would appreciate some extra help. Knowing that veterans and current servicemembers do not always come to the Auxiliary in times of need, here are a few places where you can go to share our mission and help veterans who may need ome help at home. This type of volunteer work is known as field service. Often, organizations or individuals aware of a veteran's issues will either encourage them to contact us or share his/her information with the local Auxiliary unit. In this manner, volunteers can be matched with veterans in need of help around the house.

#### **How to Find Veterans:**

- 1. In order to find veterans in need of help around the house, contact local Vet Centers and the state-level Veterans Administration office. Many of these state offices are located at Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs). Express to them that the Auxiliary unit is looking to assist disabled veterans around their homes.
- 2. Contact your local Operation Homefront by visiting www.operationhomefront.net. Operation Homefront provides assistance to deployed and wounded servicemembers and their families.
- 3. Be sure let the Legion, SAL and Riders (if applicable) in your area (especially at your post home) know what your unit is planning. They may know of a veteran who could use your help and/or be willing to volunteer to help on your project.

#### Planning to Help the Veterans:

- 1. Gather the contact information of all volunteers. If you are faced with choosing from several projects on the day of service, take a popular vote in order to select which veteran(s) to help.
- 2. Assess what specific services, costs and materials are needed for your project. Plan for the help that will be needed besides manpower (volunteers).
  - For instance, for a project like a wheelchair ramp, a unit should consider contacting a contractor to see if they would be willing to donate their time or skill in labor or materials for building the ramp.
  - Consider fundraising within your unit, post home and possibly publicly for the remaining cost of the project.
  - Additional volunteers could come from other veterans organizations and local JROTCs.

#### Ways to Help Veterans at Home:

- Basic home repairs (e.g., painting a room or the exterior of a house).
- Seasonal yard work (e.g., snow removal, raking leaves, weeding or mowing the lawn).
- Build a wheelchair ramp for a veteran who has lost a leg or an elderly veteran who is less mobile.
- Cook a meal for them at their home.
- Do their laundry or housecleaning.















# E UNITS

#### American Legion Auxiliary of Florida

#### **UNIT 139**

District 15 has been getting back to business after all the holiday events, We were thrilled to have President Erna and Art with us and I want to thank all the units who helped make her visit special. We started the new year with our ABC school. Unit 139 hosted and Barbara Field (District 8) instructed. Barbara was informative. Many things have changed or are changing in the auxiliary, Barbara was on time of her game teaching us new things and procedures. There were a lot of questions and Barbara did not disappoint with her ready answers.



At the end of Barbara's ABC instruction Jane Hardacre was a second guest. She rallied the units for membership. If possible have Jane visit your district events, she makes a great impact and leaves everyone on a high note. I was so happy that the members in attendance took such an

interest and active part in the day.

The units have all set the date for girl state interviews. All the units are aware of the changes this year and have a plan in place for their candidates. The district Poppy chairman has worked so hard trying to set up for the Miss Poppy contest. We will see how it works at the March District meeting. Poppies have been ordered and plans for distribution is in the works by the units. End of the year reports and elections are not far behind. Hard to believe the year is passing so quickly. but with much enjoyment and pleasure.

For God & Country 15th District President Rosemary Hamblin





# Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules REGULATIONS

I am working on the following Units 17,55,58,186,220,303,and 348 and plan to have them back to the Units as quickly as possible along with corrections.

If you are updating the Unit Constitution and Bylaws please be sure that you change the wording for the following:

Nature	
--------	--

Section 1. The American Legion Auxilian	ry (insert legal name)
Unitis a civilian patriotic serv	ice organization of women that supports the mission of the American
Legion.	
Article III - Objective	
Section 1. The objective of the American	Legion Auxiliary, (insert legal name)
Unit No, Department of	shall be as stated in the Preamble of the Constitution.

#### **Eligibility**

Section 1. Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion, and to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of the following periods: April 6, 19 to November 11, 1918, December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955, February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975, August 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984, December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990, August 2, 1990 to the date of cessation of hostilities as determined by the Government of the United States, all dates inclusive, or who, being, citizens of the United States at the time of their entry therein served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during any of said periods, and died in line of duty or after honorable discharge; and to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion

(Note: The wording above for Article IV, Section 1, was adopted at the August 2013 National Convention under a proviso that delays enactment upon the Legion's adoption of corresponding changes to its governing documents. Until The American Legion enacts this wording, the previous wording remains in effect, as follows:

Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the, mothers, wives, daughters, sisters, granddaughters, great-granddaughters of members of The American Legion, and to the mothers, wives, daughters, sisters, granddaughters, great-granddaughters, and grandmothers of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of the following periods: April 6, 19 to November 11, 1918, December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955, February 28, 1961

to May 7, 1975, August 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984, December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990, August 2, 1990 to the date of cessation of hostilities as determined by the Government of the United States, all dates inclusive, or who, being, citizens of the United States at the time of their entry therein served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during any of said periods, and died in line of duty or after honorable discharge; and to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.)

Section 2. There shall be two classes of membership, Senior and Junior.

- (a) Senior membership shall be composed of members over the age of eighteen years; provided, however, that a wife under the age of eighteen years, who is eligible under Section 1 of this article shall be classed as a Senior member.
- (b) Junior membership shall consist of that group under the age of eighteen years, whose activities

shall be supervised by the Senior membership. Upon reaching the age of eighteen years, Junior members shall automatically be admitted into Senior membership with full privileges.

(c) Dues of both classes shall be paid annually or for life.

If you have questions please email me at Cbylaws @alafl.org. This is the only email address that I will accept questions on pertaining to Constitution and Bylaws. The email in the Unit guide is my personal email address and since I receive way too many emails from unknown names they are being deleted or are going to SPAM which I do not check. Please make note of the correct email address which again is **Cbylaws**@ alafl.org

Mary Kehoe 5235 Elwood Rd Spring Hill, FL 34608 Cbylaws@alafl.org

NEW HORIZONS

#### LINEN SHOWER

**APRIL 25, 1:00** 

POST 340 8890 ASHLAND AVENUE, PENASCOLA, FL White Bath towels, wash clothes and hand towels are needed along with adult diapers.

Donations are welcome.

Please RSVP by April 18th to Martha McLaughlin (850)968-2257

New Horizons of Northwest Florida, Inc. is an established local organization with a new name! Originating in 1942 as the Northwest Florida Crippled Children's Association, its original purpose was to serve polio victims. The American Legion Auxiliary, Unit #33, saw a need and responded by starting a home. The organization has been serving physically challenged people. These services have grown to include habilitation training – all personalized to the needs of each client. New Horizons' 24-hour staff consists of RNs, LPNs, Qualified Mental Retardation Professionals, a Social Worker, Direct Care, and Auxiliary staff.

Refreshments will be served

SPONSORED BY AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY | UNIT 340

# Membership



Spring is on the way! Things will start growing and getting stronger. Our organization will need to continue to grow and gain strength. You, our members, are the power. We can guarantee our veterans the support they deserve by utilizing all of our members. Keep reaching out to them, giving them the care and attention they need to grow tall and strong. They will flourish and 'SHINE'. Just you wait and see!



#### Silver Brigade

Silver Brigade award, for recruiting 25 or more new members, goes to **Elizabeth Fullwood of Unit 283 Jacksonville** 

#### **Recruit 1 Buttons**

Mary McPhadder, Unit 197 Mary Adams, Unit 197 Patricia Devine, Unit 275 Lyn Felice, Unit 275

#### **Rejoin 1 Buttons**

Carolyn Brown, Unit 197 Evelyn Kachok, Unit 323

Continue calling and writing your members who have not renewed. That personal contact is just the ticket for growing your Unit. Try thinking outside of the box, you never know what can happen!!

Old Town, Unit 383, is holding a drawing for anyone who has not renewed. If you renew, your name will be placed in a drawing. The winner will have their 2016 dues paid by the Unit.

As always, please contact us for help. We can help you call your members; we are truly TEAM FLORIDA!!

For God and Country, Jane Hardacre



#### **HOMECOMING 2015**









# For God and Country

The American Legion Department of Florida Commander, Jay Conti Sr.

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Florida President, Erna Schwabe

The American Legion Detachment of Florida Commander, Kirk Miller

Present

Homecoming 2015 April 25, 2015

Post 103 - Punta Gorda

2101 Taylor Road, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Cocktails: 5:00 pm Dinner: 6:00 pm

Tickets: \$25.00

Theme is Red, White and Blue - Theme casual attire

# Membership Report

District 1							
UNIT	CITY	OBJ*	NEW	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %	
0075	Crestview	183	143	78.14%	130	81.76%	
0078	Milton	38	25	65.79%	23	47.92%	
0121	Jay	15	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	
0193	Pensacola	112	97	86.61%	96	77.42%	
0221	Niceville	64	68	106.25%	57	81.43%	
0235	Ft Walton Bch	188	144	76.60%	135	74.18%	
0240	Pensacola	265	151	56.98%	137	55.02%	
0296	Destin	65	38	58.46%	38	52.05%	
0340	Pensacola	310	228	73.55%	214	70.39%	
0356	Lynn Haven	186	153	82.26%	133	62.15%	
0375	Southport	93	51	54.84%	43	71.67%	
0378	Gulf Breeze	11	19	172.73%	16	61.54%	
0382	Navarre	142	93	65.49%	85	68.55%	
0392	Panama City	177	123	65.49%	115	101.77%	
Total		1849	1333	72.09%	1222	69.31%	

District 2							
UNIT	CITY	OBJ*	NEW	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %	
0013	Tallahassee	91	84	92.31%	77	86.52%	
0082	Lanark	95	75	78.95%	69	98.57%	
0084	Havana	30	25	83.33%	24	100.00%	
0100	Marianna	66	60	90.91%	57	86.36%	
0114	Crawfordville	32	2	6.25%	2	6.67%	
0172	Telogia	16	13	81.25%	13	68.42%	
0217	Quincy	57	53	92.98%	52	88.14%	
0241	Sneads	71	55	77.46%	55	82.09%	
0272	Blountstown	14	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	
Total		472	367	77.75%	349	80.05%	

Dis	District 3							
UNIT	CITY	OBJ*	NEW	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %		
0049	Monticello	24	18	75.00%	15	75.00%		
0057	Lake City	297	239	80.47%	234	103.54%		
0107	Live Oak	40	38	95.00%	35	87.50%		
0131	Greenville	36	20	55.56%	20	47.62%		
0215	Jasper	47	26	55.32%	26	60.47%		
0224	Madison	43	20	46.51%	20	55.56%		
0291	Steinhatchee	165	126	76.36%	119	77.78%		
0383	Old Town	147	131	89.12%	117	76.47%		
Total		799	618	77.35%	586	82.19%		

District 4				
UNIT	CITY			
0016	Gainesville			
0027	Ocala			
0056	Starke			
0058	Dunnellon			
0077	Inverness			
0091	Trenton			
0149	Newberry			
0155	Crystal River			
0210	Ocala			
0225	Floral City			
0230	Hawthorne			
0236	Bronson			
0237	Beverly Hills			
0284	Belleview			
0314	Starke			
Total				

District 5					
UNIT	CITY				
0009	Jacksonville				
0037	Saint Augustine				
0054	Fernandina Beach				
0088	Jacksonville				
0129	Jacksonville Beach				
0137	Jacksonville				
0174	Jacksonville				
0194	St Augustine				
0197	Jacksonville				
0202	Keystone Heights				
0233	Ponte Vedra Beach				
0244	Jacksonville				
0250	Middleburg				
0283	Jacksonville				
0316	Atlantic Beach				
0373	Orange Park				
0401	Hilliard				
Total					

OBJ*	NEW	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %
71	59	83.10%	54	77.14%
35	34	97.14%	33	117.86%
18	15	83.33%	14	70.00%
48	50	104.17%	40	52.63%
54	28	51.85%	27	50.00%
18	8	44.44%	7	29.17%
26	18	69.23%	18	39.13%
314	241	76.75%	234	72.22%
17	13	76.47%	11	68.75%
19	2	10.53%	2	7.41%
47	39	82.98%	39	79.59%
18	30	166.67%	20	105.26%
104	103	99.04%	91	107.06%
162	73	45.06%	73	35.78%
18	16	88.89%	16	84.21%
969	729	75.23%	679	64.00%

OBJ*	NEW	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %
34	19	55.88%	17	0.00%
109	78	71.56%	73	59.35%
239	163	68.20%	152	65.24%
137	100	72.99%	94	81.03%
299	257	85.95%	236	70.03%
590	479	81.19%	446	73.23%
15	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
34	27	79.41%	24	72.73%
37	34	91.89%	31	70.45%
80	51	63.75%	48	45.28%
161	142	88.20%	123	77.36%
53	46	86.79%	42	73.68%
331	272	82.18%	247	71.59%
319	282	88.40%	249	98.42%
417	305	73.14%	285	58.88%
30	30	100.00%	27	108.00%
33	23	69.70%	17	54.84%
2918	2308	79.10%	2111	71.20%

Di	strict	6				
UNIT	CITY	OBJ*	NEW	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %
0010	Kissimmee	270	193	71.48%	187	61.31%
0019	Orlando	172	134	77.91%	109	48.02%
0021	Umatilla	27	27	100.00%	26	56.52%
0035	Mount Dora	91	68	74.73%	60	60.00%
0041	Eustis	19	19	100.00%	18	94.74%
0052	Leesburg	35	28	80.00%	22	66.67%
0053	Sanford	160	115	71.88%	111	52.36%
0055	Clermont	160	130	81.25%	115	84.56%
0063	Winter Garden	18	25	138.89%	25	65.79%
0076	Tavares	17	12	70.59%	12	32.43%
0080	Saint Cloud	322	245	76.09%	224	86.49%
0101	Bushnell	139	118	84.89%	109	79.56%
0109	Ocoee	40	1	2.50%	1	2.44%
0112	Winter Park	22	20	90.91%	19	105.56%
0183	Fern Park	159	126	79.25%	114	86.36%
0219	Fruitland Park	244	216	88.52%	205	75.65%
0242	Orlando	174	149	85.63%	136	74.32%
0286	Orlando	302	252	83.44%	236	72.17%
0330	Leesburg	58	57	98.28%	48	94.12%
0331	Orlando	12	23	191.67%	23	29.49%
0347	Lady Lake	1265	1257	99.37%	1084	133.83%
0357	Clearmont	0	17	0.00%	11	0.00%

Dis	District 7										
UNIT	CITY	OBJ*	NEW	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %					
0003	Bartow	80	66	82.50%	60	70.59%					
0004	Lakeland	118	100	84.75%	94	85.45%					
0008	Winter Haven	632	494	78.16%	466	69.45%					
0034	Haines City	75	58	77.33%	54	63.53%					
0071	Lake Wales	60	70	116.67%	59	0.00%					
0072	Mulberry	172	136	79.07%	123	70.29%					
0118	Zephyrhills	36	2	5.56%	2	5.13%					
0201	Florence Villa	41	39	95.12%	37	77.08%					
0339	Nalcrest	43	16	37.21%	16	28.57%					
Total		1257	981	78.04%	911	71.79%					

3232

87.21%

2895

83.67%

3706

\*OBJ = OBJECTIVE

Total

Di	strict	8				
UNIT	CITY	OBJ*	NEW	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %
0011	Arcadia	20	11	55.00%	11	28.21%
0024	Bradenton	468	352	75.21%	317	73.55%
0025	Lake Placid	389	263	67.61%	250	64.27%
0030	Sarasota	76	61	80.26%	53	101.92%
0069	Avon Park	372	346	93.01%	282	100.71%
0074	Sebring	105	69	65.71%	66	75.86%
0113	Rotonda West	421	355	84.32%	331	80.73%
0159	Venice	760	656	86.32%	605	72.54%
0254	North Port	91	82	90.11%	71	65.14%
0266	Sarasota	106	88	83.02%	80	53.33%
0309	Palmetto	235	180	76.60%	176	60.48%
0312	Oneco	235	164	69.79%	158	57.25%
0325	Ellenton	63	70	111.11%	60	136.36%
Total		3341	2697	80.72%	2460	72.52%

Di	strict	9				
UNIT	CITY	OBJ*	NEW	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %
0036	Ft Lauderdale	92	57	61.96%	53	47.32%
0092	Hollywood	127	101	79.53%	98	80.33%
0142	Pompano Beach	294	236	80.27%	225	71.20%
0157	Margate	383	224	58.49%	223	61.60%
0162	Deerfield Beach	306	236	77.12%	223	65.78%
0180	Fort Lauderdale	109	97	88.99%	87	69.05%
0209	Dania Beach	19	8	42.11%	8	23.53%
0220	Ft Lauderdale	19	21	110.53%	18	100.00%
0222	Fort Lauderdale	75	52	69.33%	49	57.65%
0287	Deerfield Beach	29	16	55.17%	14	93.33%
0304	Dania	203	152	74.88%	151	55.11%
0310	Hallandale	37	17	45.95%	17	40.48%
0321	Cooper City	112	131	116.96%	109	60.56%
Total		1805	1348	74.68%	1275	62.96%

\*OBJ = OBJECTIVE

## District 11

UNIT	CITY	OBJ*	NE
0020	Belle Glade	71	66
0047	Lake Worth	138	11
0062	Stuart	139	14
0064	Okeechobee	133	10
0065	Delray Beach	53	48
0141	West Palm Beach	93	75
0164	Boynton Beach	176	12
0188	West Palm Beach	16	18
0199	Riviera Beach	30	38
0258	Greenacres	29	25
0268	Lake Park	112	10
0269	Lantana	11	2
0271	Tequesta	192	16
0277	Boca Raton	118	91
0288	Boynton Beach	67	60
0367	Royal Palm Beach	46	38
0399	Palm City	16	15
Total		1440	123

## District 13

UNIT	CITY	OBJ*	NEV
0038	Fort Myers	98	57
0090	Cape Coral	195	130
0103	Punta Gorda	339	294
0110	Port Charlotte	565	466
0123	Sanibel	97	53
0130	Labelle	183	137
0135	Naples	422	351
0136	Saint James City	476	411
0192	Fort Myers	26	20
0274	Fort Myers Beach	596	524
0303	Bonita Springs	407	351
0323	Lehigh Acres	505	508
0336	N Ft Myers	289	296
0351	Fort Myers	87	66
Total		4285	3664

W	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %
5	92.96%	66	111.86%
5	83.33%	108	80.00%
0	100.72%	126	165.79%
7	80.45%	97	70.80%
80	90.57%	46	77.97%
5	80.65%	67	56.78%
5	71.02%	116	64.80%
3	112.50%	17	100.00%
80	126.67%	35	71.43%
	86.21%	25	100.00%
5	93.75%	95	73.64%
	18.18%	2	92.59%
8	87.50%	157	58.28%
	77.12%	88	84.62%
)	89.55%	60	80.00%
80	82.61%	37	69.81%
5	93.75%	12	70.59%
86	85.83%	1154	81.15%

TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %
58.16%	57	53.27%
66.67%	114	62.30%
86.73%	262	79.88%
82.48%	447	85.31%
54.64%	49	53.85%
74.86%	132	64.08%
83.18%	313	77.67%
86.34%	395	97.05%
76.92%	19	73.08%
87.92%	482	83.25%
86.24%	327	82.16%
100.59%	462	110.00%
102.42%	246	102.50%
75.86%	64	65.31%
85.51%	3369	84.01%

	Di	strict	12				
	UNIT	CITY	OBJ*	NEW	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %
	0001	Titusville	323	279	86.38%	266	92.36%
	0022	Cocoa	93	100	107.53%	78	60.47%
	0039	Vero Beach	190	162	85.26%	141	69.46%
	0040	Fort Pierce	197	148	75.13%	141	56.63%
	0081	Melbourne	143	108	75.52%	105	72.92%
	0117	Palm Bay	419	341	81.38%	314	83.96%
	0126	Jensen Beach	195	180	92.31%	172	90.53%
	0163	Melbourne	392	324	82.65%	308	83.47%
	0171	Fort Pierce	39	24	61.54%	21	52.50%
	0177	Cocoa	10	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
	0189	Sebastian	95	65	68.42%	64	65.98%
	0191	Melbourne	148	103	69.59%	103	64.38%
	0200	Satellite Beach	111	107	96.40%	93	98.94%
	0318	Port St Lucie	521	521	100.00%	416	117.51%
Í	0332	Merritt Island	29	6	20.69%	6	17.14%
	0348	Cape Canaveral	144	142	98.61%	129	62.32%
Ē	0358	White City	51	32	62.75%	31	53.45%
	0359	Port St John	272	244	89.71%	226	92.62%
	0366	Roseland	88	71	80.68%	69	84.15%
	0394	Palm Bay	61	59	96.72%	47	82.46%
	Total		3521	3016	85.66%	2730	80.72%

Dis	District 14										
UNIT	CITY	OBJ*	NEW	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %					
0028	Key West	82	62	75.61%	59	71.08%					
0029	Miami	23	3	13.04%	3	27.27%					
0031	South Miami	153	138	90.20%	124	94.66%					
0043	Homestead	67	46	68.66%	44	78.57%					
0067	North Miami	75	44	58.67%	44	43.56%					
0098	Coral Gables	25	2	8.00%	2	4.00%					
0133	Miami	81	62	76.54%	60	62.50%					
0154	Marathon	167	138	82.63%	129	76.33%					
0168	Key West	27	14	51.85%	14	31.82%					
0333	Key Largo	86	63	73.26%	60	72.29%					
0346	Miami	26	18	69.23%	18	46.15%					
0374	Key Biscayne	75	45	60.00%	43	58.11%					
Total		887	635	71.59%	600	64.03%					

District 15										
UNIT	CITY	OBJ*	NEW	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %				
0005	Tampa	45	36	80.00%	33	76.74%				
0026	Plant City	34	22	64.71%	21	60.00%				
0099	Brooksville	40	30	75.00%	30	71.43%				
0111	Tampa	49	34	69.39%	33	55.93%				
0138	Tampa	392	332	84.69%	293	96.38%				
0139	Tampa	183	134	73.22%	123	73.21%				
0147	Odessa	40	28	70.00%	25	50.00%				
0148	Riverview	249	158	63.45%	154	70.00%				
0152	Tampa	319	259	81.19%	232	76.57%				
0167	Tampa	33	30	90.91%	27	225.00%				
0186	Spring Hill	416	330	79.33%	303	77.69%				
0248	West Tampa	23	25	108.70%	23	92.00%				
0334	Tampa	41	30	73.17%	30	60.00%				
0389	Ruskin	26	15	57.69%	13	35.14%				
Total		1890	1463	77.41%	1340	77.10%				

Dis	District 16										
UNIT	CITY	OBJ*	NEW	TOTAL %	Rejoin/ Renew	R/R %					
0007	Clearwater	392	319	81.38%	294	73.87%					
0014	St Petersburg	164	118	71.95%	114	78.08%					
0079	New Port Richey	340	306	90.00%	260	79.03%					
0104	Pinellas Park	245	200	81.63%	182	61.90%					
0119	Largo	383	324	84.60%	305	80.26%					
0125	Gulfport	392	323	82.40%	305	78.61%					
0158	Treasure Island	183	162	88.52%	153	115.04%					
0173	Holiday	277	250	90.25%	230	77.70%					
0238	Safety Harbor	294	215	73.13%	208	83.87%					
0252	Seminole	726	665	91.60%	600	108.89%					
0273	Seminole	2331	2131	91.42%	1875	88.99%					
0275	Dunedin	390	371	95.13%	329	106.82%					
0305	St Pete Beach	189	114	60.32%	105	64.02%					
0335	Hudson	235	177	75.32%	165	75.69%					
Total		6541	5675	86.76%	5125	85.99%					

\*OBJ = OBJECTIVE





#### You can give hope to a COTA family.

Raise funds to give hope to a family in your area. Make a gift to make a miracle for a child. Plan an activity to raise funds and awareness.

# GIVING HOPE MAKING MIRACLES

Become a Miracle Maker today.

Go to www.cota.org to learn more about COTA and how you can help.



Join Legion Posts, SAL Squadrons, Auxiliary Units and Rider Chapters across the country as they raise funds for COTA to help a family in their area.



www.cota.org 800.366.2682 doug@cota.org

Please support Department of Florida American Legion Auxiliary President Erna Schwabe's Caring for COTA Kids project. All funds raised will stay within the Sunshine State to help COTA families in need.