

# AMERICAN LEGION

## AUXILIARY

### Dept. of FL - 6th District

#BuildingTheHouse #MembershipsTheKey

### PENNY'S WORDS OF WISDOM

January, 2025

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Thanks to everyone who brought toys to our meeting in Mount Dora in early December. My heart is so full  Robin Shellhammer brought to my attention the VA needed toys outside of the Angel Tree program . We decided to make it a District 6 family initiative . In total we collected over 275 toys . We asked and you delivered! Words can't describe how I feel . Thank you      and a big thank you to the elves that helped load and unload all the toys!

**Our newsletter this month is very light because only a few units submitted articles. We want to promote EVERY 6th District Unit so please, please, please—send an article from your unit to our editor, Nell, at [necolbert@usa.net](mailto:necolbert@usa.net) by the 20th of each month along with a few pictures from your activities.**

Just think about how easy it will be to do your year-end reports if you send an article for the monthly newsletters along with pictures! Just pull your articles and turn them into your year-end reports. It is imperative that all units turn in a year-end report for every Auxiliary program! If your unit does not work a particular program, please email the district chair for that program and simply say, due to the size limitations of our unit, this is not a program our unit can currently support. Guess what? THAT COUNTS AS A REPORT towards the 100% goal. Each unit is also required to turn in an impact form for their unit.

For God and Country,

Penny Kanbara  
District 6 President  
407-879-2528  
[district6president@alaf.org](mailto:district6president@alaf.org)



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## The DYNAMIC 6th News Stories From Our Units

### ORLANDO UNIT 19

Four Senior members, Kathy DeRouin, Cathy Lindner, Renee-DeRouin Jessen, and Colette DeRouin assisted at the party. Two Juniors, Carlee Bruha and Lily Jessen helped hand out gifts and held one of the soldier's babies so Mom could have a break.

Two Legionnaires, Adam Bruha, and Ed DeRouin assisted. Adam is still active duty. One SAL member came, Eli Singrossi.

Hours volunteered: 46 1/2 hours for Unit 19.

This was the 164th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, located at 8385 Daetwyler, Orlando. There were approximately 300 in attendance, which was the largest party they have ever had. Another Battalion came as they had recently returned from deployment.

I am also part of Operation Homefront and collected at 5 Dollar Trees.

Kathy



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# The DYNAMIC 6th News Stories From Our Units

## WINTER GARDEN UNIT 63

Unit 63, Winter Garden, will be starting 2025 with our Inaugural Bunco Bash on Sunday, January 12th at Post #63, Winter Garden. Doors open at 1:30 pm.

Please share our attached Bunco flyer with your family, friends and community. See Page 10 for flyer.

We look forward to seeing you on January 12th.

*Let The Good Times Roll!* 🎲

--

**Lynn Bodell**

Unit 63 President, 2024-2025

Cell: 407-562-6205

#buildingthehouse

*American Legion Auxiliary Strong*

[ALA#63 Facebook](#)



# Dept. of FL - 6th District

# The DYNAMIC 6th News

# Stories From Our Units

## WINTER PARK UNIT 112



For our Give Ten to Education project, we donated \$250.00 to an Eastbrook class so that they could receive one book each to keep every month throughout the school year. Pictured on the left is our adopted class with their very first book for this year.

In November, Marge, Debi, and Nell shopped for our Eastbrook Backpack project and our Veterans Holiday food baskets that go to the Lake Baldwin VA.



Marge and Nell also gave out small American Flags and Poppies at Eastbrook's Veteran's Day program. Post Adjutant, Bob, visited with the Veterans attending the breakfast and the program that followed.

After the Veterans Day program, Nell, Marge, and Adjutant Bob helped unload all the food for the backpacks that will go out with all the non-perishable food items for a great Thanksgiving meal.



In early December Nell and Marge helped the Post with their Giving Tree shopping after which we delivered our three huge Veteran Holiday food baskets to the Lake Baldwin VA that will be given to three Giving Tree families.



Of course we had a great time at our Legion Family Holiday party with Marge, Nell, Debi, Laurel, Ross, Coleen, Victoria, Braelyn, and Brynlee. Braelyn and Brynlee are our two youngest Juniors, and Landon is our youngest SAL member.



We supported Wreaths Across America this year by sponsoring six wreaths for Pineywood Cemetery located in Winter Park near the old Navy Base and the Lake Baldwin VA. Nell, Bob Colbert, Post Adjutant, and Post Chaplain, Billy Dover, represented the Winter Park Legion Family.

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# The DYNAMIC 6th News Stories From Our Units

Continued from Page 4



After the very moving ceremony, we assisted by placing a wreath at Veteran graves after saying the Veterans' name before each wreath was placed.



We have lots coming up in early 2025 including judging of our

Americanism essay contest entries and the selection of our Girls State delegates coming in February.



We may be a small unit but we get a lot accomplished!



# Dept. of FL - 6th District

# The DYNAMIC 6th News

# Stories From Our Units

## PINE CASTLE UNIT 286

Happy New Year everyone. Hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas. Unit 286 has been very busy for the last month. The unit adopted 4 veterans from the VA Giving tree for Christmas. The Sons also adopted 4 veterans. Two members shopped for all eight veterans. They were able to get them everything that was on their wish list.



Three unit members attended the 6th district meeting. The post 286 family donated the most toys for the toy drive. The unit was presented with a Santa trophy at our unit meeting the following Monday night. District President Penny Kanbara and Department President Charlotte Bass were both in attendance at the unit meeting. They had a treat as we decided to

play a Christmas game and have pizza.



The unit took charge of our annual post family C&Y Breakfast with Santa. There were 60 children signed up for the event. They are got to have pancakes with Santa and then they each got to have a visit with him and receive a special gift.



Our next big thing was the post family angel tree and Christmas food basket project. There were nine families with a total of 28 children between them. One of the families had two adopted children that were gold star children. (their father was killed overseas). The families received enough food to last them for 3 or 4 days.

Pictured on the next page are the tables with all the food baskets (minus the cold items) ready for pick up. Assisting with pick up were Davey Kemper, Laura Ragan, Robin Shellhammer, and Laurie Mesa.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 7**



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## The DYNAMIC 6th News

### Stories From Our Units

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The children all received at least two gifts.

A lot of work went into all these projects. Some of us are ready for naps. 😊

The unit will be doing Girls State interviews soon.

The Sons have offered to help us do a fundraiser in the Spring for Operation 300. We will post information once we have a date set.

Have a great New Year.

**Does your Unit have a special event coming?**

**A Dance, a Dinner, or a Fundraiser?**

**Please send your information to the 6th District Legion webmaster, Bob Colbert, so it can be posted on the Legion Family website.**

**Email—[bcolbert@usa.net](mailto:bcolbert@usa.net)**

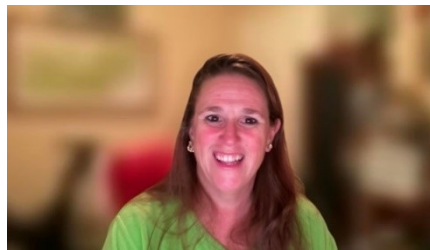
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## The DYNAMIC 6th News Program Feature of the Month UNIT HISTORY

As the Busiest time of year is upon us - don't forget to take time to journal, relax or maybe read ... But Enjoy Family and loved ones, take the photo whether you "look good" or not - remember you'll never get back those moments!

I wish to thank: Sheryle Hackman from Unit 219 who attended the Department Historian Zoom Meeting on December 11th. She was the only one from District 6 that attended, but don't miss the next one scheduled on **February 18th at 7 PM EST**, EVERYONE is invited to learn about what you can do to add to your Unit, District and Departments' History!



You don't have to be the Unit Historian to submit a "Member's Remember" project. You can write about someone from your Unit or District that made History for themselves. Maybe you know of someone that has served on the Department or National Level or how about a famous Girl Stater, what about a local celebrity or a well known Auxiliary member?

If you can interview them, that certainly helps write a great story about their public service or Auxiliary career and the work that made them popular in the public eye. But this can be about someone that has passed away. Do you have information on what programs they served or what they did for our Veterans, Military & Families, children & youth or for our community. Can you dig up photos, newspaper articles or social media posts to add to your story?

If you need help writing a story, please reach out to me. I have many resources that can assist in making it a great story that people will want to read. We just need you to start writing it. Reach out to your President, or mentors in your unit, maybe they can also assist you! Try to utilize everyone around you to add depth to your story!

Don't forget unit reports are due to the district historian on April 1st. We discussed the difference between submitting a report form with a narrative versus the actual written history. You can go back to our Facebook page ALAFL History and find the zoom video to assist you. As well as [www.alafl.org](http://www.alafl.org) under programs history to help you apply for awards and history submissions.

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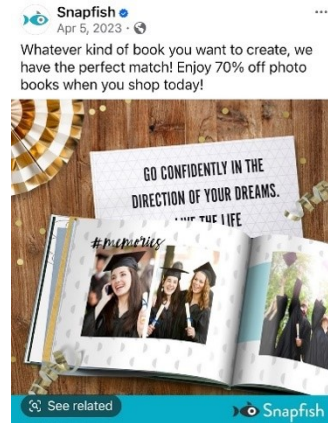


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# The DYNAMIC 6th News

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For pictorial Photo Book Ideas check out Chatbooks, Popsa or Snapfish.



Respectfully submitted:  
your Historian,  
*Dara Oliver*

*American Legion Auxiliary*

*Unit 219 Member - 6th District & Department FL Historian 2023-2025 National Historian 2024-2025*

## The Chaplain's Prayer—Karen Marks



If your Unit has suffered the loss of one of your members, please remember to notify both our District Chaplain, Paula Fox, and the Department Chaplain, Karen Marks.



Email Karen at [chaplain@alaf1.org](mailto:chaplain@alaf1.org) and Paula at [foxnails1282@aol.com](mailto:foxnails1282@aol.com)

The Member Data Form should be completed for each member who has passed and included with your emails.

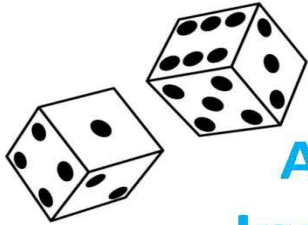
The Member Data Form should also be emailed to Department Membership at [membership@alaf1.org](mailto:membership@alaf1.org) so that National's records can be updated.

# Dept. of FL - 6th District

# The DYNAMIC 6th News

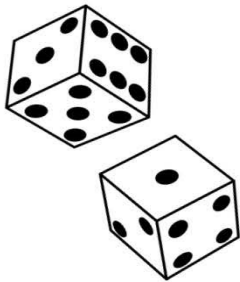
## UPCOMING UNIT EVENTS

**LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!**

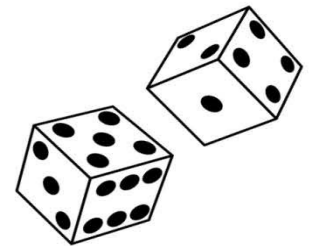


### American Legion Auxiliary #63 Inaugural Bunco Benefit Bash

Join us for an afternoon of fun



Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup> 2025  
Doors Open At: 1:30 pm  
Roll: 2:00 pm



271 W. Plant Street, Winter Garden  
American Legion Post #63

**Open to the Public ~ Let's Play BUNCO**

Light Refreshments  
\$10.00 Donation \* Prizes \* 50/50

**Your donations support our Veterans & their Families**  
Thank you



Follow Us on Facebook



Honor a Hero  
Purchase Your Wreath Today

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## The DYNAMIC 6th News

### UPCOMING UNIT EVENTS

*President Charlotte's Homecoming*

*January 18, 2025*

Social Hour Begins 5pm-6pm with Hors d'Oeuvres  
Buffet Dinner 6pm-7pm featuring : Chicken & Beef, Broccoli & Rice  
Casserole, Scalloped Potatoes, Salad, and Assorted Desserts  
Business Casual Attire

Live 70's Rock with PEGGHEDD @ 7pm

Post 80 St Cloud  
1019 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Saint Cloud, FL 34769

Ticket info:\$25PP/\$40 Couple  
Send Checks Payable ALA Unit 80 to:  
Heather Cunningham (address above)



Hotel information: Hunter Arms Hotel (1029 New York Ave) 407-891-9855  
Day-Zee Inn (1221 Carolina Ave) 407-957-0668  
Polynesian Inn (2900 13th Street) 407-892-2858  
Budget Inn (602 13th Street) 407-892-2858

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## The DYNAMIC 6th News

### UPCOMING UNIT EVENTS

# FOUR CHAPLAINS SERVICE

The Winter Park Memorial Post 112 is conducting a Four Chaplain's Memorial Service, and we are inviting everyone to attend. The service is being held at:

**First Baptist Church of Winter Park,  
1021 N. New York Avenue,  
Winter Park Florida 32789.**

**The date is February 2, 2025 at 2:00 PM.**

Our goal is to have a Chaplain from other Posts, Units, and the Department, to assist during this ceremony as well as Sea Cadets. If you would like to be part of our service, please contact Post 112 Chaplain, Billy Dover at [bgdjr@hotmail.com](mailto:bgdjr@hotmail.com).

Please attend so that we can honor God and the sacrifice of the Four Chaplains.



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## The **DYNAMIC** 6th News

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### 2025 Eastern Area Ball

February 8th, 2025

Post 117 Palm Bay

Cocktails at 3pm

Dinner at 5pm

Schnitzel by Chef Ray

Tickets \$30 Couples \$55

At the door \$40

Proceeds go to Commanders Charity of choice

Chris Hamrick and Rocky Cirigliano

**Wear your Red Shirt**



**ENTERTAINMENT**

**BY**

**JIMMY D**

# Dept. of FL - 6th District

## The DYNAMIC 6th News

### A SALUTE TO PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER



James Earl Carter Jr., widely known as Jimmy Carter, was born on October 1, 1924, in Plains, Georgia. He grew up on a peanut farm, the son of Earl and Lillian Carter. His humble beginnings shaped his strong work ethic and commitment to public service.

Carter attended the United States Naval Academy, graduating in 1946. He served in the U.S. Navy under Admiral Hyman Rickover, where he worked on nuclear submarines, a career that prepared him for leadership and problem-solving at a national level.

In 1953, Carter left the Navy to return to Georgia, where he took over his family's peanut farm after his father's death. He later expanded his business operations and became a successful businessman. During this time, Carter became increasingly involved in local politics, eventually running for the Georgia State

Senate in 1962. His political career progressed, and by 1970, he was elected Governor of Georgia. As governor, Carter earned a reputation for his progressive stances on racial integration, education reform, and fiscal responsibility. He was an advocate for environmental protection and improved race relations in a deeply segregated South.

Carter's political ascent culminated in his successful campaign for the presidency in 1976. Running as a Washington outsider, Carter promised transparency, honesty, and a return to moral leadership in the White House. He won the presidency, defeating incumbent Gerald Ford. His presidency was marked by his efforts in advancing human rights, energy conservation, and diplomacy. One of his most significant achievements was the Camp David Accords in 1978, which brokered a peace agreement between Egypt and Israel, earning him the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002.

However, Carter's presidency also faced challenges, including the Iran hostage crisis and high inflation, which affected his popularity. In 1980, he was defeated by Ronald Reagan in his bid for re-election.

After leaving office, Carter became one of the most active and respected former presidents in history. He focused on global humanitarian work through the Carter Center, an organization dedicated to human rights, disease eradication, and conflict resolution. Carter has been involved in projects such as monitoring elections in developing countries and building homes for Habitat for Humanity.

Throughout his life, Carter has remained committed to peace, justice, and service, earning a lasting legacy as a tireless advocate for human rights and a beacon of humility and moral integrity in American politics.

Rest in Peace, President Carter (1924-2024)

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## The DYNAMIC 6th News

### 2024-2025 District Calendar

#### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

##### **JANUARY 11 - ABC SCHOOL**

UNIT 55 CLERMONT, 1063 DESOTO STREET, CLERMONT, FL 34711

REGISTRATION 830 AM

CLASS BEGINS AT 9 AM -

ALL AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

##### **JANUARY 18 - PRESIDENT CHARLOTTE BASS HOMECOMING**

POST 80 ST CLOUD - SEE FLYER ON PAGE 11 FOR MORE INFO

##### **FEBRUARY 2—FOUR CHAPLAIN'S SERVICE**

Hosted by Post 112

First Baptist Church of Winter Park, 1021 N. New York Avenue, Winter Park, Florida 32789.

2pm

##### **February 8—EASTERN AREA BALL**

Post 117, Palm Bay

Cocktails at 3pm, Dinner at 5pm

##### **MARCH 1—6th District Family Meeting**

Saturday, March 1st, 2025 - 9 AM

Post 347, 699 W Lady Lake Blvd, Lady Lake, FL 32159

Times TBA

##### **April 26—6th District Family Constitutional Conference**

Post 80, 1019 Pennsylvania Avenue, St. Cloud, FL 34769

Times TBA

##### **[Department of Florida 2025 Convention](#)**

June 12-15, 2025

Orlando Hilton Lake Buena Vista,

1751 Hotel Plaza Blvd, Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

##### **[American Legion 2025 National Convention](#)**

August 22-28, 2025

Tampa, Florida

**IF YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR  
2025 MEMBERSHIP CARD**

**YOUR MEMBERSHIP HAS EXPIRED!**

**PLEASE RENEW TODAY**

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# Dept. of FL - 6th District

## The DYNAMIC 6th News

### 2024-2025 District Officers and Chairmen

Position	Name	Email Address	Phone #
PRESIDENT	Penny Kanbara	district6president@alaf1.org	407-879-2528
SECRETARY	Patsy Sewell	patsysewell13@gmail.com	407-670-8905
TREASURER	Treva Kay Wildrick	tkwildrick612@gmail.com	407-462-0173
CHAPLAIN	Paula Fox	foxinails1282@aol.com	407-747-0725
HISTORIAN	Dara Oliver	alamemberdoliver@gmail.com	321-543-1069
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	Ruth Cullver	rullver47@gmail.com	727-579-5356
PARLIAMENTARIAN	Treva Kay Wildrick	tkwildrick612@gmail.com	407-462-0173
AMERICANISM	Wendy Lavery	wlavery23@yahoo.com	321-662-5120
AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND	Marilyn Hench	mwhench@yahoo.com	407-810-7615
CAVALCADE OF MEMORIES	N/A		
CHILDREN & YOUTH	Patsy Sewell	patsysewell13@gmail.com	407-670-8905
COMMUNITY SERVICE	Diane Rousseau	flfrogs@aol.com	352-430-4714

Position	Name	Email Address	Phone #
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POPPY	Robin Shellhammer	rshellhammer@gmail.com	407-247-7177
PUBLIC RELATIONS	Eileen Scates	eileenscates@gmail.com	321-229-2265
V. A. & R.	Carol Pirone-Udell	nycarol2u@gmail.com	914-373-9947

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