



District 6,

It has been a very busy first quarter! We are now three months into president Linda's M.A.S.H tour of duty. Boot Camp, Department Workshop, District school of instruction, and installation of officers at all 16 units in our district are now complete! The troops have been given their assignments, and those in leadership positions have stepped up to ensure the mission stays in focus.

We've all seen leadership at its best, the kind that sets a clear pace and steadies the team. And we have also seen moments where that clarity was missing, and the impact was felt by everyone. As I reflect on leadership in action, what inspires me the most is how clearly our members lean into their roles, so that Linda's M.A.S.H theme, Mission Auxiliary Serving Heroes, stays sharp and on course.

*The television show M*A*S*H was full of interesting characters, like us! In visiting our units, I've already seen leaders who echo a Colonel Sherman T Potter kind of steadiness that is grounded, direct and shaped by Service. It's not flashy, but it builds trust and unity.*

So whether you've led for years, or you're holding the gavel or an officer position for the first time, your willingness to step up is what keeps this mission moving. We stand on equal footing, unified by purpose. No rank, just shared responsibility for the mission.

Let's keep that circle tight. Ask questions early. Share what works. Back each other up and continue to MOVE. Mobilizing Outstanding Volunteers Everywhere.

Each unit is a constellation with its own light. Together we form one galaxy. Let's keep our District 6 STARS shining steady and bright.

Anita Truman Hutchinson

District 6 President
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Florida



★ D6 STARS ★ Serving Together Always Ready ★ Semper Supra ★



TRANSMISSION RECEIVED UNIT 19 ORLANDO



Americanism

SAL 19, Eli, was chosen by the School Resource Officer from Joan Walker Elementary School in Chuluota to fold the flag every day.

Community Service

A member prepared food and fed the homeless at Blessed Trinity. She hosted National Night Out planning meetings, attended Pro Life meetings and stood outside Planned Parenthood praying. This

member also did the accounting for the Down Syndrome Foundation.

A Junior and a Senior member volunteered at the Avian Reconditioning Center (Birds of Prey) in Apopka, fed raptors and cleaned cages three times.



Another member is the team Mom for the Lakewood Ranch Cheerleaders. She purchased food (\$150) for the team and assisted in teaching cheers.

Unit 19 sponsors the Phoenix softball team as two members and one Legionnaire are on the team. They just returned this past week from the World Series in Columbus, Ohio.

Education

The Apopka High School Chorus and a biology teacher, received \$200 in donations from a member.

Another donated a periodic table chart for Hagerty High School.

Girls State

Unit members prepare dinner and do a bake sale every month as a fundraiser.

Legislative

A member attended and spoke at two City of Altamonte Springs Commission meetings on the budget regarding the closing of the Altamonte Library. The commission voted to keep the library open until March to research grants.



VA & R

Eight hoodies were donated to the Borden Avenue Veterans Residence, shelter, Long Island City, NY



TRANSMISSION RECEIVED UNIT 35 MOUNT DORA



Our Auxiliary helps our local schools throughout the year. We donate needed items to a local bank that distributes them to schools that have these needs. There are other groups who supply backpacks and items for schoolwork; however, this item bank serves as a depository for those items that many of us don't think about. Some of those needs include underwear, hygiene items, and even food. It is sad that many of these children live in tents, cars, and hotel rooms. Several of our members got together and made a "Giving Tree" to help supply these items. The tree had slips of paper with a needed item written on it for people to select which items they want to donate. The donations were delivered to the central location on October 1st. Many thanks to Tonya, Aurora, Mary Ann, Barb, Jan, Roxanne, and Ute for all that they do!



Tree is up!
Donation Tags are on!
Time to SHOP!
Sept 30th
is our deadline so
items can be
delivered by Oct 1st



Glitz, Glam, & Girl's Night Out

Wednesday,
September 30th

5pm-7:30pm

The American Legion
920 S. Highland St.
Mt Dora



Join us for a night of shopping, camaraderie, and fun. You do not need to be a member, so grab some friends and come explore what we have to offer on this special night. We have some new vendors with some awesome products and some of your favorites.

Public is Welcome!

Silent Auction

Specialty
cocktails

Easy Parking

Non Smoking



Glitz, Glam, and Girl's Night Out is sponsored by the SONS of Post 35, and all proceeds go toward their charities. It was a night of shopping and fun. There were numerous vendors selling their wares to include; purses, jewelry, cosmetic products, and Fairy Hair and a Masseuse.



TRANSMISSION RECEIVED UNIT 55 CLERMONT



Unit 55 – September in Review & Looking Ahead

September has been a busy and meaningful month for American Legion Auxiliary Unit 55. Our members honored veterans, supported the American Legion Family, strengthened our community, and enjoyed fellowship throughout the month.

September in Review



We began the month on September 3 with ALA Dart Night. Held on the first and third Thursday of each month, Dart Night brings members and friends together for friendly competition and fellowship.

On September 11, Unit 55 participated in the ALR Quilt Raffle and September 11 Remembrance Service. This meaningful event honored those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, as well as the first responders and military members who served and sacrificed.

The following day, September 12, was another busy day for Unit 55. Members attended the District 6 Meeting, while the Unit hosted both the Auxiliary Sip & Sign Membership Event and a 9 Ball Tournament. Thank you to everyone who participated, volunteered, and supported these activities.



On September 15, we hosted Taco Tuesday, with proceeds benefiting Girls State. We sincerely appreciate everyone who volunteered, donated, or purchased a meal to support this important program.

We gathered again on September 17 for our second ALA Dart Night of the month. Thank you to all the members and friends who joined us for another evening of fun and fellowship. Remember, Dart Night is held every first and third Thursday of every month—bring a friend and join

the fun!

Saturday, September 26, Unit 55 hosted SHOW ME THE MONEY!

Thank you to our members, volunteers, supporters, and the entire American Legion Family for helping Unit 55 make a difference through every event and activity.



THE SAINT CLOUD

MONTHLY MISSION REPORT
DISTRICT 8

TRANSMISSION RECEIVED UNIT 80 SAINT CLOUD



September is off to a great start for the American Legion Auxiliary! We're keeping the momentum going with a month full of fellowship, fundraising, and giving back to our community.

Bingo Bash

Our monthly Bingo continues to bring members and friends together for a fun afternoon of games, laughter, and good times. Thank you to everyone who comes out and supports our Auxiliary!



Roadkill Fundraiser

Our monthly Roadkill event is bigger than ever - 35 packs of food, 8 door prizes and 50/50! Being a family event, it's great to see the next generation of Post family members enjoying the event and helping to support the Auxiliary's efforts to serve our veterans, families, and community.

More School Supply Handouts



In August, we were able to provide school supplies to children before they started their school year. However, in September, we discovered there was a local community event that was being held and they needed our help with providing school supplies - Paula Fox (our treasurer) and Sandra Pinkert (an Eboard member) were quick to respond and jumped at the opportunity to provide the needed supplies.

Thank you to all of our members, volunteers, and supporters who continue to make these events possible. **Your support allows the American Legion Auxiliary to continue making a difference—one event, one veteran, and one family at a time!**



TRANSMISSION RECEIVED UNIT 112 WINTER PARK



Our Unit added two new members this month, both Legionnaires - first, our new Post Commander, Leslie Beltz, who joined under her own military service and second is Post Adjutant, Bob Colbert, who joined under his Father's service. A change in Auxiliary membership eligibility requirements was adopted by the American Legion at their National Convention in August that changed the following words:

- Mothers became Parents.
- Daughters became Children.
- Sisters became Siblings.
- Grandmothers became Grandparents.
- Granddaughters became Grandchildren.

We also want to thank all our renewing members – for 2027, we are at about 75% of our goal!



September 26th saw our Unit members supporting our Post's initiation of their brand-new flag retirement area. The fire circle was an Eagle project completed by one of the Scouts in Troop 613, sponsored by our Post and one of our Unit's first National Auxiliary Good Deed Award recipients.

Also in September, our Secretary-Treasurer made a presentation to the Sunrise Rotary Club and was presented with a grant check to support our Girls State program and our Education and Americanism school medals programs.



Our Unit's **Tushies and Toes** project that we initiated last fall is underway for this school year. The school needs smaller sized underwear for both girls and boys along with larger sized socks for their older students. Many thanks to those Auxiliary members from our sister 6th District Units who brought donations to the 6th District meeting last month. Our Unit will be shopping for additional items in early October, and we'll be delivering our collection in mid-October.

We also approved a new project for this school year - **Adopt a Teacher** - for one teacher who needs school supplies for students in need and a second teacher who would like healthy snacks for students who come to school hungry or who do not qualify for free or reduced school lunch. We will be shopping for these items on 10/3 and will deliver all the goodies mid-month.

We will continue to support one teacher at Eastbrook who uses the Scholastic Books program that sends one book per student per month for \$10 per student. This is our Give 20 to Education project for this year.

Coming in November is our annual visit to the Veterans Day program at Eastbrook where our Unit members will be handing our Poppies and small American Flags to all the Veterans who come for the breakfast. We will also be distributing Legion Family membership information, and we will be joined by several Legionnaires who will talk with the Veterans about the benefits of Legion family membership.

November will also see our Unit shopping for and delivering to Eastbrook all the non-perishable items needed for a nice Thanksgiving dinner for those families who participate in the school's Friday Backpack Food Distribution program.



TRANSMISSION RECEIVED UNIT 219 FRUITLAND PARK



Serving, Educating & Making a Difference

September has been a busy and meaningful month for American Legion Auxiliary Unit 219!

In recognition of the **National Day of Service on September 11**, Post 219 Commander Bob Powers and Legionnaire and Auxiliary member Lois Halliday visited **Carver Middle School** to present "What Happened on 9/11?" The presentation gave students an opportunity to learn about this important day in American history, remember the lives lost, and understand the significance September 11 continues to hold for our nation.



Unit 219 also answered the call of ALA National President Coral May by participating in **"Give 20 for Education."** Our Unit proudly supported Carver Middle School as part of this initiative, continuing our commitment to education and the young people in our community.

On **September 17**, our Facebook page recognized **Constitution Day**, commemorating the signing of the United States Constitution on September 17, 1787. This historic document became the foundation of our nation's government and remains an important part of the freedoms and principles we celebrate today.

Our service continues with our annual **Peanut Butter Drive**, which runs through **Make-A-Difference Day on October 24**. This year, we have set a goal of **300 jars of peanut butter!** Every jar donated brings us one step closer to reaching that goal and helping those in need

in our community.

And don't forget to mark your calendar! On **Wednesday, October 21, from 5:00–8:00 p.m.**, join us at **Texas Roadhouse in Lady Lake** for dinner and help support our Unit 219 fundraiser. Come enjoy a great meal while supporting the programs and activities of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Unit 219 truly believes in "The Legion Family" and we work together on many projects, programs, and events! The Unit has donated "Give 20 to Education" to their Favorite School ~ Carver Middle School and in return Carver asked Dual members Lois Halliday and Legion Commander Robert Powers to educate the students about Patriots Day and the 25th Anniversary of 9-11. It's always great when we can do things together as. "family!"

The Post also has a new menu and schedule out and we are hoping to host more events as well. Don't forget about Light bites and Shoots game, which is the monthly fundraiser for the Auxiliary.

From educating our youth and honoring our nation's history to supporting our community, **ALA Unit 219 continues to serve with purpose and make a difference!**



TRANSMISSION RECEIVED UNIT 242 BITHLO



Presentation of checks totaling over \$6,000 presented to Honor Flights of Central Florida Treasurer Tod Colby by Dr. Telka diFate and Ray Weaver.

Pictured: left to right

Dr. Telka diFate, President ALA 242 East Orlando

Center: Tod Colby- Treasurer Honor Flights Central Florida
Ray Weaver- E-Board veteran member American Legion Post 242

American Legion Auxiliary 242 in East Orlando hosted the Treasurer of Honor Flights of Central Florida, Tod Colby, at their September General meeting. Tod spoke about Honor Flight, which is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, which raises funds to send our veterans to Washington D.C. It is

an all-expense paid trip dedicated to providing veterans with honor and closure by visiting their national memorials. It is a way for Americans to honor veterans with gratitude through community support.

Presently, Honor Flights of Central Florida sponsors two flights per year with the first one in April or May each year. The next flight is October 17, 2026. That flight plans to be a special one since three WWII veterans, each over 100 years old, will be attending. Veterans fly out of Sanford International Airport early in the morning and return at 10:00 p.m. to a hero's welcome. At the May airport reception over 400 people from the community welcomed our veterans back with a band, flags, and banners.

Since 2005 the Honor Flight Network has flown over 295,000 veterans to W.D.C. and currently operates from 44 states with 124 regional hubs. The Central Florida hub has been operating since 2012 and has flown over 1000 veterans to Washington D.C. This is all sponsored through volunteer donations.

Members of the American Legion Auxiliary 242 spent the last 6 months raising over \$5,000 for Honor Flights of Central Florida. Then, the Legionnaires of Post 242 chipped in another \$1,000. Each flight costs over \$60,000. Funds raised will all go towards providing our veterans with a special day they will never forget. If all the Florida Auxiliaries, Legionaries, Sons and Rider groups donated funds then thousands more veterans could attend these worthwhile trips to see the memorials dedicated to them.

Serving Remembering and Coming Together

American Legion Auxiliary Pine Castle Memorial Unit 286

September was a busy month for American Legion Auxiliary Pine Castle Memorial Unit 286, filled with creativity, fellowship, and remembrance. We are also looking forward to a full October of fun, service, and community support.

Poppy Crochet Party - Learning Fellowship and the Next Generation

On September 12, our Unit hosted a successful Poppy Crochet Party, bringing members together to learn how to crochet poppies in support of the Department of Florida's M.A.S.H. (Mission Auxiliary Serving Heroes) initiative. Whether picking up a crochet hook for the first time or sharing their experience with others, members enjoyed an afternoon of learning, creativity, and fellowship.



There was also discussion about hosting a follow-up event where members could learn how to turn their crocheted poppies into bracelets and headbands to help raise funds in advance of Veterans Day.

The September 12 Poppy Crochet Party invited everyone to learn, including beginners.

Special Guests and Future Auxiliary Leaders

We were especially honored to welcome Department Poppy Chair Virna Luke and Department Public Relations Chair Eileen Scates. Department 3rd Vice President Penny Kanbara, who is also one of our own Unit 286 members, joined us as well. It was also wonderful to have two of this year's Girls State delegates join us. Sarah is also a Junior member of Unit 286. Seeing the younger generation learning alongside our members was a great reminder that the future of the Auxiliary is in good hands. Thank you to everyone who helped make the event such a success!



Members shared tips while learning how to crochet the poppy, Unit 286's 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents share a smile with a fellow member during the Poppy Crochet Party, and Girls State delegates brought plenty of smiles and enthusiasm.

Unit 286 members and guests gathered for creativity, conversation, and fellowship.

THE ORBIT

MONTHLY MISSION REPORT
DISTRICT 6

TRANSMISSION RECEIVED UNIT 286 PINECASTLE



September 11 - Honoring Our Heroes and Remembering Their Sacrifice

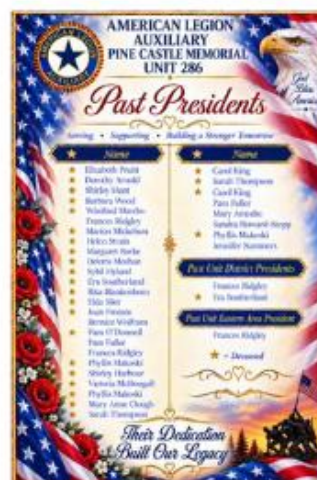


Our Unit took time to remember September 11 and honor those who lost their lives, the first responders, and the many heroes who answered the call. The Honor Guard participated in the remembrance, and we were especially proud to have our own Auxiliary member Terri serving as a member of the Honor Guard. Seeing one of our Auxiliary members take part in this meaningful tribute was a proud moment for our Unit. Unit 286 Auxiliary member Terri, far left and the only woman pictured, proudly served with the Honor Guard during the September 11 remembrance.

Honoring Our Past Presidents - Their Dedication Built Our Legacy

We would also like to recognize and thank the Past Presidents of Pine Castle Memorial Unit 286. Their years of dedication, leadership, and service helped build the foundation of our Unit. We are grateful for their contributions and the legacy they created for those who continue to serve today.

Unit 286 proudly honors the Past Presidents whose leadership and dedication built our legacy.



Sock Hop for a Cause - Dancing Giving and Making a Difference

On Saturday, October 3, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., the Post 286 family will host a Sock Hop Cancer Awareness Benefit. Dust off those poodle skirts, pull out your craziest socks, and join us for live music by Feels So Right, a ham dinner, bake sale, horse races, bar bingo, our infamous jail, and plenty of contests and prizes. All proceeds will benefit local cancer patients and their families. Come have a great time while supporting a wonderful cause!

Sock Hop Cancer Awareness Benefit: Join us October 3 for a fun-filled evening supporting local cancer patients and their families.

Something Spooky Is Brewing at Post 286

Then, on Friday, October 23, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., things will get a little spooky at American Legion Post 286. Join us for our Spooky Halloween Party and Costume Contest. Start planning those costumes now because we cannot wait to see what everyone comes up with!

Spooky Halloween Party: Get your costumes ready for an evening of Halloween fun and a costume contest on October 23.

From honoring our heroes and supporting veterans to enjoying fellowship and helping our community, Unit 286 continues to demonstrate the spirit of the American Legion Auxiliary. We look forward to seeing our District 6 family at our upcoming events!

For God and Country
American Legion Auxiliary
Pine Castle Memorial Unit 286



TRANSMISSION RECEIVED UNIT 347 LADY LAKE



911 Memorial Wall Unveiling

On Friday September 11th there was a Memorial Wall Unveiling. A quarter century after September 11, 2001, attacks, 100 million Americans are too young to remember the day that changed our nation forever. It is up to us, those that lived through this day to never forget, so those born after 9/11 learn of its significance and enduring legacy. The American Legion Families are very proud of our displays honoring those that protect us and continue to give us our freedom.

Pamela Pierson was a ground zero photographer who brought the framed pictures to the Post and after the dedication ceremony, she informed Commander Burgess that she wanted them to stay at Post 347 for all the members and guests to experience.



Pictured:

AL Chaplain Post 347 Larry Miller, Jerry Pierson, AL Commander Post 347 and Auxiliary VA&R Tina Burgess, Pamela Pierson (Ground Zero Photographer), and U.S. Navy Captain Retired Gene Haplea, guest speaker.

Unit 347 Supports the 911 Remembrance Dinner

Unit 347 had the pleasure of being a sponsor at the United Neighborhoods Alliance, Inc., 13th Annual 9/11 Remembrance Dinner. This group grew out of a very small 9-hole tournament in 2014. The purpose of the tournament was to honor the memory of the fallen on 9/11.

With the help of several large local social groups, this group grew significantly over the last decade and now organizes and produces the largest 9/11 remembrance event in the Villages. It is a 501C3 organization. The ultimate goal of this group is to provide aid to veterans, first responders, low-income schools and other local charities to assist in improving the financial, moral, educational and social conditions of its beneficiaries. Our donation assisted Jeff Cabral/US Marine Corps Veteran and Business owner; Patrol Officer and Community Outreach Alex Dickson of Wildwood PD; Anthony Fogarty Street Crimes Unit of Wildwood PD; Tom Laflamme/US Coast Guard Veteran and Public Service Professional.

To date, they have raised over \$340,000 and helped over a dozen honorees, including combat veterans and first responders and their families. It is an honor for ALA Unit 347 to support this group through our National Security Program.



Pictured:

Tom Lombardo, Event Coordinator, ALA National Security Chair Susan Duncan and American Legion Post 347 Sons Commander Danny Roe



TRANSMISSION RECEIVED UNIT 347 LADY LAKE



Six Degrees of Separation



Recently ALA Unit 347 President Pat Morrow and American Legion Post 347 Commander Tina Burgess were elected to lead the Unit and Post. They discovered that they both had something in common...Wilkes College (now Wilkes University).

During a random scrolling on Facebook, Tina found Pat's profile in her feed under "People who you may know" with Wilkes University listed. She immediately reached out to Pat with a simple question, "Are you really a Colonel?" Wilkes mascot.

They discovered they graduated a year apart. It truly is a small world!

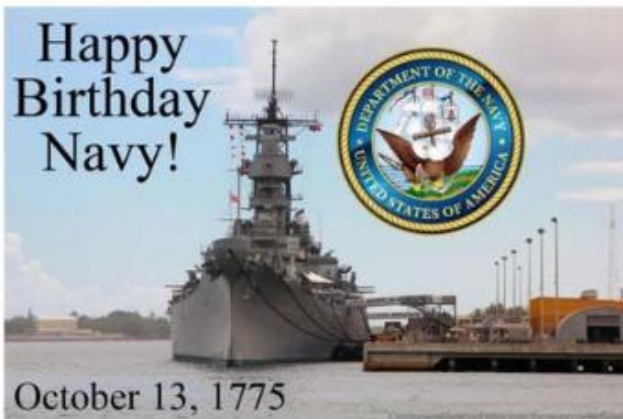
These women exemplify great leadership, and together, they lead one of the largest American Legion Family Posts in the World as Commander and President. Each have their own style...fresh with new ideas and working together as a team. The American Legion Post 347 Families have an exciting year ahead of them.

ALA Unit 347 Hit 50% of Membership Goal



Member-at-Large JoLinda Spear reported that we have reached 50% already with 1,450 renewals since August 3, 2026. Department has a goal of 35% by September 17, 2026, which we have already met. National has a 50% goal by November 11, 2026, which we have also met. Member at Large JoLinda Spear was recognized at our General meeting for the incredible job she has done with the renewals, and she thanked all that have given her hand in achieving this

momentous task. Let's keep the renewals coming in.



October 13, 1775

WHAT DID YOUR UNIT DO LAST MONTH?

**Send your articles to
necolbert @ usa.net**

**BY the 20th of every month
To be included in next month's
newsletter**

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

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

Email - FLAD6ORG@gmail.com



THE ORBIT

MONTHLY MISSION REPORT
DISTRICT 6

★ MISSION STATUS: IN ORBIT ★

BEACON OF HOPE CHAPLAIN'S REPORT



Hello D6 Chaplains!

We are a few months into our tenure as Auxiliary Chaplain.

Happy Fall Ya'll!

As we approach the very busy holiday season, please keep in mind it can be a difficult season for our veterans. One of our members approached me recently to discuss the difficulties they have been dealing with since the passing of her brother in an accident more than a decade ago. Her parents were so distraught with grief, it caused a rift in their marriage. I reached out to our Service Officer, and he referred me to a counselling service called "TalkSpace.com." It would be free to Veterans and minimal payments through insurance for others. You can sort by the issue so the individual can be referred to a counselor with experience in the specific area they are dealing with.

If you have additional resources, please feel free to reach out to me at Alafldistrict6chaplain@gmail.com.

As a reminder, our goal this year is to apply for the MAE NALLY PRAYER BOOK award by submitting a D6 Chaplains Prayer Book! This is the 250th birthday of our country! I am asking each Unit to submit a prayer for our country. I need them submitted by January 15th so I can compile them into a prayer book before the deadline. We have 17 Units in our District. I know we can do this! I am so excited to read your prayers! Let me know if you have any questions!!

Additionally, I am still building our Chaplain group e-mail so we can share prayer requests, get support from each other, ask/answer questions, share updates and the like. Please send me an email with your name, phone number, and Unit. I will also put together a group text message for a quicker turnaround.

Please also remember to forward your Deceased Member forms to me for our reporting and document the number of cards, flowers, hospital/home visits as you provide support to your Unit.

May God bless each of you in your own "unexpected ministry."

A prayer for you:

"Father, thank You for the beauty and lessons of this season. As autumn begins, fill my heart with gratitude, steady me through change, bless my home, work and Unit and give me peace as the days grow shorter. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen"

A verse for you:

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." Ecclesiastes 3:1

God Bless.

Your D6 Chaplain"

Yvonne Hargis

407-405-6258

Alafldistrict6chaplain@gmail.com

Serving Together Always Ready (STARS)

"I can do all things through the Christ who strengthens me!" Phil 4:13



More Than Membership: A Mission That Matters

Strengthening our community, supporting veterans, and preparing the next generation to serve

Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary is more than belonging to an organization—it is a commitment to honoring service, strengthening our communities, and carrying forward a proud tradition of patriotism. Every member brings unique talents, experiences, and ideas to a shared mission: serving veterans, military families, and the next generation.

Why Membership Matters

When we welcome a new member, we gain more than another name on a roster. We gain a new voice, a new set of hands, and a new connection to the community. Members help organize service projects, support veterans and military families, promote patriotic education, mentor young people, and preserve the stories of those who served.

- **Purpose:** Turn gratitude for veterans into meaningful service.
- **Connection:** Build friendships with people who share a spirit of service.
- **Growth:** Develop leadership, communication, and event-planning skills.
- **Impact:** Support programs that reach veterans, military families, youth, and local communities.

There Is a Place for Everyone

Service can look different for every member. Some lead committees or coordinate events. Others make phone calls, prepare care packages, share information, recruit friends, or volunteer when their schedules allow. Whether someone can give an afternoon, a few hours each month, or simply help spread the word, every contribution matters.

One Invitation Can Make a Difference

The most effective way to grow our membership is personal: invite someone. Tell a family member, friend, neighbor, or colleague why the Auxiliary matters to you. Bring a guest to a meeting or service project. A sincere conversation can help someone discover a meaningful way to serve—and can give our unit the energy and ideas needed for the future.

I am sure everyone is confused about the new membership eligibility requirements for joining the Auxiliary.

The flyer below may help clarify this more for you. As always, if you have questions regarding this, please feel free to give me a call and I will be happy to assist in any way possible.



ALA MEMBERSHIP Eligibility Changes

SAME MISSION. MORE FAMILIES. A STRONGER TOMORROW.

More Families Can Belong!

WHAT'S NEW?

These family relationships are now gender-neutral and may be male or female.

- Grandmother → Grandparent
- Mother → Parent
- Sister → Sibling
- Daughter → Child
- Granddaughter → Grandchild

Adopted relationships are eligible.

WHAT STAYS THE SAME?

- LIVING VETERANS**
The veteran must still be a member of The American Legion.
- DECEASED VETERANS**
The veteran must have served during an applicable War Era and been honorably discharged or died in service.
- FEMALE VETERANS**
May join under their own service without being a member of The American Legion, unless someone is joining under their service (the Living Veteran requirement applies).
- SPOUSES**
Male or female spouses of veterans remain eligible (since 2019).

STILL NOT ELIGIBLE

- Male veterans under their own service.
- Nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles.
- Sister or brother-in-laws are not eligible.

TWO DEGREES OF CONSANGUINITY MEANS:

Great-grandparents, great-grandchildren or any further generations are not included. This is per IRS requirement 2019.

APPLICATION VERIFICATION

6/3/26
The American Legion Auxiliary Unit Secretary or other unit officer may verify the eligibility of a potential member and sign the application.

GET THE UPDATED MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Visit the ALA Department of Wisconsin website
www.amlegionauxwi.org
→ Programs → Membership → New Member: Application

SERVICE • ADVOCACY • COMMUNITY • TOGETHER FOR VETERANS

American Legion Auxiliary MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name	(First)	(M.I.)	(Last)
Address			
City	State	ZIP	
Home Phone	Cell Phone	Email Address	
/	/		
☐ Birth to 17		☐ 18 and over	
Date of Birth (Required)	Unit #	Location	
Have you been a member previously? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If yes, fill in below.)			
Previous Unit City/State		ALA ID # (if known)	
		/ /	
Signature of Applicant (or legal guardian if under 18)		Date	

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Eligible Through—Name of Veteran (Female Veterans: List Your Own Name)

If Living: American Legion Member ID # (Required) Post # City State

☐ Deceased—If veteran is deceased, contact ALA unit about the necessary military records.
For Veteran's DD214 Discharge Papers: www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records

Veteran Served:

☐ WWI (4/6/1917-11/11/1918)

Anytime After 12/7/1941 (check all that apply):

☐ Global War on Terror	☐ Panama	☐ Vietnam	☐ WWII
☐ Gulf War	☐ Lebanon/Grenada	☐ Korea	☐ Other Conflicts

Applicant's Relationship to the Veteran:

☐ Spouse	☐ Parent	☐ Sibling	☐ Grandparent	☐ Grandchild
☐ Child	☐ Self (Veteran or Current Servicemember)			

To be Completed by an Officer of The American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary

I certify that the above named individual served at least one day of active duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or is still serving honorably.

Officer Membership Verification	/ /	Date
---------------------------------	-----	------

HELP US GET YOU CONNECTED!

I am interested in learning more about:

- ☐ Volunteering for Veterans, Military, and Their Families
- ☐ Youth Activities, Including ALA Girls State, Junior Member Programs, and Scholarships
- ☐ Member Discounts and Services
- ☐ Other

Please contact the following individual about volunteering or joining the American Legion Auxiliary:

Name	Phone	Email
Name	Phone	Email
Name	Phone	Email
Recruiter's Name	Unit/Post #	City State

Submit this application to the ALA unit you wish to join. If unit is unknown, contact National Headquarters at (317) 569-4500 for assistance. Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. **Membership pending approval of application.**



This is the 20th year that Give 10 to Education has been around. National President Coral May Grout first started this program 20 years ago. she has changed it to Give 20 to Education to celebrate its 20th year.

The ALA's Give 20 to Education program collects needed items in multiples of 20 — 20 notebooks, 20 rulers, 20 glue sticks, or anything a school may need. Teachers spend a lot of their own money on supplies,

so they appreciate all our donations. The certificate and flyer can be found at www.legion-aux.org. Also, the school supplies that are supplied do not last all year. Continuing to donate supplies throughout the year is always appreciated.

Charlotte Bass, Southern Region Education Chair



Give 20 to Education

Every ALA member
can get involved
with 2026-2027
Give 20 to Education.



The ALA's Give 20 to Education program collects needed items in multiples of 20 — 20 notebooks, 20 rulers, 20 glue sticks, or anything a school may need.

LEARN
MORE



www.ALAforVeterans.org/scholarships | Education@ALAforVeterans.org

© American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters. All rights reserved. 04/2024

The Red Poppy: A Symbol of Remembrance, Service, and Hope



How the American Legion Auxiliary honors sacrifice and supports veterans through a small but powerful flower.

Each year, the bright red poppy appears in American communities as a quiet invitation to remember. It honors those who gave their lives in military service and reminds us of our responsibility to support veterans, servicemembers, and their families. For the American Legion Auxiliary, the poppy is more than a flower. It is a visible expression of gratitude, sacrifice, and the promise that those who served will not be forgotten.

From the Battlefields of World War I The Auxiliary's Poppy Program

Today, American Legion Auxiliary units distribute millions of red crepe-paper poppies, especially around Memorial Day and Veterans Day. The flowers are offered rather than sold, allowing each person to give from the heart. National Poppy Day®, observed on the Friday before Memorial Day, provides another opportunity to wear a poppy, share its story, and honor both the fallen and the living who have worn our nation's uniform.

The program also carries the message of remembrance to new generations. Local units involve young people through school poster contests, coloring activities, and Junior Auxiliary programs. These efforts help children understand that gratitude is not limited to a holiday—it can be practiced through learning, service, and respect throughout the year.

Turning Remembrance into Help

Donations received through poppy distribution help the Auxiliary serve veterans, active-duty military personnel, and their families. Depending on approved program uses, these funds can support care and comfort for hospitalized veterans, practical assistance for veterans in need, community outreach, and national mission activities. The poppy therefore connects memory with action: a simple act of giving can provide comfort, dignity, and encouragement to someone who served.

Wear the Poppy. Share the Story.

When an Auxiliary volunteer offers you a poppy, pause to remember the lives behind the symbol. Wear it proudly, make a donation if you are able, and tell someone what it means. By doing so, you help keep faith with those who sacrificed for our freedoms and strengthen the American Legion Auxiliary's continuing mission of service—not self.

Unit 286 Pine Castle hosted a Crochet Poppy bracelet class. It was a great success and great fun. I have included the written instructions if anyone would like to crochet bracelets!



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

★★—UNIT 55—★★

DARTS

✦ AIM • COMPETE • SUPPORT ✦



1063 WEST DESOTO STREET
CLERMONT, FL 34711



DATE:
1ST AND 3RD THURSDAY
OF EVERY MONTH



TIME:
SIGN UP @ 6:30PM
STARTS @ 7:00PM
AFTER QUEEN OF HEARTS DRAWING



ENTRY FEE:
\$10.00

★ **PAYOUT:** ★

1ST, 2ND AND 3RD PLACE
BASED ON NUMBER OF PLAYERS.



PARTNERS ARE
CHOSEN BY
BLIND DRAW
AT SIGN IN



★ *All Proceeds Will Go To* ★

PATRIOT PAWS

HELPING VETERANS AND THEIR PETS



LEARN MORE ABOUT PATRIOT PAWS
www.patriotpaws.org

SCAN ME!

TO VISIT THE WEBSITE



Thank you for supporting our heroes—two and four-legged! ❤️



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Chapter 183 - Fern Park

IS HOSTING A

BIKE NIGHT

OCTOBER 3, 2026
6 PM - 9 PM



**FUN, MUSIC,
AND GAMES**

SERVING FROM THE GRILL

**HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS,
& CHICKEN SANDWICHES
AND FRIES**

\$8



EVERYONE IS WELCOME

You don't have to ride a motorcycle to join in!



2706 Wells Ave, Fern Park, FL

AMERICAN LEGION POST 286 FAMILY

SOCK HOP

CANCER AWARENESS

Benefit

TOGETHER
WE CAN
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE!

WEAR
YOUR
CRAZIEST
SOCKS!

DANCE

DONATE

SUPPORT

HOPE

CURE

LIVE MUSIC
by

Feels
So Right

BEST DRESSED
CONTEST!

CRAZY
SOCK
CONTEST!



SATURDAY
OCTOBER 3, 2026



5:00 PM – 9:00 PM



AMERICAN LEGION
POST 286

529 E FAIRLANE AVE.
ORLANDO, FL 32809



TOGETHER
WE CAN
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE!

HAM DINNER



\$15

BAKE SALE



HORSE RACES



BAR BINGO



JAIL



RAFFLE



DOOR PRIZES



BEST DRESSED
CONTEST



CRAZY SOCK
CONTEST



★ ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT LOCAL CANCER PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES. ★

SUPPORT ♥ HOPE ♥ STRENGTH ♥ CURE

AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY

Lite Bites & Shoots

*Sponsored by ALA Unit 219
3rd Friday of Every Month
at Post 219
194 Fountain Street
Fruitland Park*

** 5:00 p.m. - Lite Bites & a
Homemade Meal*

** 6:00 p.m. - Shoots Game
Play 30 games for just \$10.
Cash Prize of \$5 per game*

*Shoots is a game similar to Bingo only using a deck
of cards. You select 3 cards as your "bingo card",
when the "caller" goes through the deck when your
cards have been drawn - You Win!*

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



DISTRICT 6 UNITY RIDE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

DIFFERENT BIKES ★ SAME MISSION

— RIDING TOGETHER —

*Good
Riders
Stronger
Together*

VETERANS
COMMUNITY
BROTHERHOOD
A STRONGER
TOMORROW

GOOD
PEOPLE
GREAT RIDES
BRIGHTER
DAYS



STARTING AT AMERICAN LEGION POST 10

205 Lakeview Dr., Kissimmee, FL 34741

POST 10 PHONE: 407-847-4193

MEET • 7:00 AM

SAFETY BRIEFING • 7:50 AM

KSU • 8:00 AM

— RIDE ★ RESPECT ★ RECONNECT —



SCAN FOR MAP & ROUTE

QUESTIONS & INFO

D6 ROAD CAPTAIN – RAUL PIZARRO

203-805-2466

The background of the poster is a dark, atmospheric illustration. At the top, a large, full moon is partially obscured by the silhouettes of a gothic-style castle and several flying bats. The scene is framed by ornate, dark purple and black scrollwork. On the left and right sides, there are stone pillars topped with lanterns that have a warm orange glow. A spiderweb is visible in the upper left corner, and a small spider hangs from a thread nearby. At the bottom, two carved jack-o'-lanterns with glowing orange faces are flanked by lit candles and purple roses. The overall color palette is dominated by dark purples, blacks, and oranges.

SPOOKY HALLOWEEN PARTY

AMERICAN LEGION
POST 286

529 E Fairlane Ave.,
Orlando

FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 23, 2026

FROM 5 TO 9 PM

COSTUME CONTEST

PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE



TEAMWORK & DESIGN®

★ *It's time for the* ★
Annual Peanut Butter Drive
to benefit our local food bank
Beyond The Walls.



This is held in conjunction with National Make-A-Difference Day
being held October 24, 2026.

Let's show our community that the 219 Family
CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Donate

PEANUT BUTTER
by October 24th!



NOTE: If you want to donate but don't want to do the shopping,
donate cash or make checks payable to "Unit 219"
& leave in the lounge for Diane Rousseau,
Community Service Chairman!

Last year we collected
over **650** jars!

Can we do it
again this year? ♥

★ Coordinated by John Gella Memorial Unit 219, American Legion Auxiliary
AND **MORE IMPORTANTLY** supported by the whole 219 Family ★

PATRIOT FEST

★★★★★ HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

American Legion Post 35 Mount Dora

— IN PARTNERSHIP WITH —
FLORIDA VETERANS COALITION

★★ BE THE ★★
BEACON

A COMMUNITY UNITED. A NATION THANKFUL.



SATURDAY, 4PM - 6PM
NOVEMBER 7, 2026

920 S HIGHLAND AVE, MOUNT DORA, FL

**4:00 PM -
6:00 PM**

OPENING CEREMONY & VENDORS

Benediction, Flag Raising, National Anthem,
Family-friendly activities, community booths,
Legion Kitchen & Bar *Open to Public*

4:30 PM

GUEST SPEAKERS, SPONSOR & VENDOR RECOGNITION

5:30 PM

AWARDS & RECOGNITION, CLOSING CEREMONY

Honoring Veterans and Community Supporters

6:30 PM

EVENING CONCERT

LIVE music at the Post 35 indoor stage!

GET INVOLVED

★★★★★



Contact:

Lynda Fleming, Chairman
512-835-8227

PRESENTING SPONSORS



**RICHARD
TRZASKOMA**

HICKORY HILL REALTY



Christian Brothers
Automotive®

Contact:

Lynda Fleming, Chairman
512-835-8227

For More Information



COMMUNITY SPONSORS



Sowka Psychotherapy
& Consultation



DATA GRAPHICS
PROMOTIONS



BOBS
AIR CONDITIONING

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



★ MISSION STATUS: IN ORBIT ★

★ DISTRICT 6 COMMAND DIRECTORY ★

★ DISTRICT 6 OFFICERS

President	Anita Truman Hutchinson	District6president@alafl.org	847-707-5242
Vice President	Carol Pirone Udell	Nycarol2u@aol.com	914-373-9947
Secretary	Patsy Sewell	Patsysewell13@gmail.com	407-670-8905
Treasurer	Nikki Johnson	NRJohnson825@gmail.com	352-531-6927
Chaplain	Yvonne Hargis	Vonhargis@bellsouth.net	407-405-6258
Historian	Dara Oliver	Alamemberdoliver@gmail.com	321-543-1069
Sergeant-at-Arms	Adrienne Jones	Adej528@gmail.com	689-250-6773
Parliamentarian	Treva Kay Wildrick	Tkwildrick612@gmail.com	407-462-0173
Newsletter Editor	Nell Colbert	Necolbert@usa.net	321-303-7445

★ MISSION SPECIALISTS

Americanism	Wendy Lavery	Wlavery23@yahoo.com	321-662-5120
AEF	Marilyn Hench	Mwhench@yahoo.com	407-810-7615
Children & Youth	Penny Kanbara	Gatorpenny@icloud.com	407-879-2528
Community Service	Diane Rousseau	Fifrogs@aol.com	352-430-4714
Constitution & Bylaws	Nell Colbert	Necolbert@usa.net	321-303-7445
Education	Patricia Halliday	Phalliday0602@icloud.com	863-513-7656
Girls State	Treva Kay Wildrick	Tkwildrick612@gmail.com	407-462-0173
Junior Activities	Dara Oliver	Alamemberdoliver@gmail.com	321-543-1069
Leadership	Anita Truman Hutchinson	District6president@alafl.org	847-707-5242
Legislative	Penny Kanbara	Gatorpenny@icloud.com	407-879-2528
Membership	Patsy Sewell	Patsysewell13@gmail.com	407-670-8905
National Security	Steve Oder	Smoder@gmail.com	727-403-8565
Past Presidents Parley	Carol Pirone Udell	Nycarol2u@aol.com	914-373-9947
Poppy	Patsy Sewell	Patsysewell13@gmail.com	407-670-8905
Public Relations	Penny Kanbara	Gatorpenny@icloud.com	407-879-2528
VA&R	Charlotte Bass	Cmariebass27@outlook.com	407-738-3356
Project Vet Relief	Penny Kanbara & Anita Truman Hutchinson		

★ D6 STARS ★ *Serving Together Always Ready* ★ *Semper Supra* ★