



The Sunset

“PASS IT ON”

Issue 11, April 20, 2015 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 273 Madeira Beach, Florida 33708



Message from the President

Before we wrap up the year, I would like to thank everyone for all of their hard work, dedication and volunteering. Without each one of you, our Goals for the year would not

have been met.

If you haven't been thanked personally by a Veteran or an Active Duty serviceman, I extend their gratitude to each of you. We are very much appreciated.

If you have any suggestions as to how you see the ALA being the best we can be, please let me know. I will still be your President until June when our new President, Janice Hill will take over. Please thank Janice when you see her she already knows how tremendously grateful I am.

We have Officers who are willing to serve in our 2015-2016 year.

Please thank our amazing **Nominations Team:**

Kate Mills-Baldi
Mary Lou Kohler
Marilyn Murphy

Please welcome our **NOMINATED OFFICERS:**

President - Janice Hill
1st Vice President - Katie Gabehart
2nd Vice - Mary Lou Kohler
Treasurer - Linda Newkirk
Chaplin - Janet (Jan) Hendrick
Sargent at Arms - Laura Abrams
Assistant Sargent at Arms - Wendy Donnelly

Historian - Kate Mills-Baldi

EXECUTIVE BOARD (E-Board):

3 year Member at Large - Peggy Burke
2 year Member at Large - Sharon Abbotts
1 year Member at Large - Kitty Krzeski

Thank you all who served during our 2014-2015 year and for making me look GOOD.

Be Safe,
Cathy
klarkin2gal@gmail.com, 727-392-1700

POCKET FLAG FOLDING



Twelve Unit 273 volunteers worked hard to fold 300 pocket flags that are given out to our deployed service men and women. It's not easy to fold those little flags. Thanks to all.

THE SUNSET NEWSLETTER

If you would like to publish an event, article, photo, etc. in the newsletter the deadline is the 10th of every month. To send what you would like to have published or for more information please contact Pat Thoman at moimaid2@aol.com.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 5, 2015, 11am, voting for new officers.

STAND DOWN FOR HOMELESS VETERANS HELD AT C.W. BILL YOUNG VA MEDICAL CENTER



Twenty-two volunteers helped on Saturday, April 11th to distribute containers filled with toiletries, bottles filled with laundry detergent, beef jerky, towels, socks, etc. to help homeless veterans at the Stand Down held at the C. W. Bill Young VA Medical Center. The names of these volunteers are: Pat Gordy, Steve Gordy, Nancy Byler, Kate Mills-Baldi, Sandy Black, Joan Campano, Ernie Campano, Linda Delaney, Brian Delaney, JoAnn Derer, Katie Gabehart, Lynda Hardison, Janice Hill, Jane Larkin, Linda Newkirk, Theresa Penrod, Cathy Larkin-Richards, Betsy Sweet, Alice Wallace, Randall McNab and David Posey. Thanks to all.

UNIT 273 NEW MEMBER INITIATION



New Member Initiation ceremony is performed by Unit 273 officers from L to R, Sgt-at-Arms, Susan Romero; Chaplain, Janet Hendrick; 1st Vice President, Kate Gabehart; 2nd Vice President, Rhonda Brailey-Maurer; Treasurer, Linda Newkirk; Past President, Charlotte Mahoney; and President Cathy Larkin-Richards.



Unit 273 new members watch the initiation ceremony and wait to be initiated. Each new member will receive a poppy, a copy of the Constitution, an American flag and an Auxiliary pin.

GUEST SPEAKER JUDY FIELDING FROM PROJECT LINUS



Guest speaker Judy Fielding gave a motivational speech and showed a DVD informing all our auxiliary members how much Project Linus contributes to the children in need in our communities and veterans by providing them with homemade blankets. Judy has been Florida's West Central Coast Coordinator for Project Linus for the last ten years and recently appeared on **Bay News 9's Everyday Hero's** for her efforts. Over the past ten years, Judy and her "blanketeers" have donated over 27,500 homemade blankets. Unit 273 presented Project Linus with a check for \$500. For more information on Project Linus go to: www.projectlinus.org.

NEWS BRIEFS

T-Shirt Sales: Hey Everyone, You haven't heard from me in a while, and I may not have had a chance to say "THANK YOU" to each and every one of you for your time and devotion this year. Our 2014-2015 T-shirt sales have been a record breaking success, WOW simply amazing. I am so proud to have had the chance to work with each one of you and have enjoyed our times together, what a great way to make new friends.

As I get ready to pack it up and head north for 6-7 months, I want to announce that **Pat Thoman** will now head up the T-shirt team along with **Mary Lou Kohler** assisting her. The season is not over quite yet, as they will announce some new and exciting things coming up in the next few weeks. Here is their contact information:

Pat Thoman; 727-612-1333; moimaid2@aol.com

Mary Lou Kohler; 727-851-9190;

mlkopher3@gmail.com

I wish you all a fun and relaxing summer, and I will miss seeing your smiling faces, but as I leave you can bet I am doing the happy dance!

With much appreciation,

Rhonda Brailey-Maurer

727-546-2526

603-455-3868



EVENTS

MAY 5th Voting of Auxiliary Officers

MAY 10th Mother's Day

MAY 16th Armed Forces Day

MAY 18th Victoria Day (Canada)

MAY 22nd and 23rd Memorial Day T-shirt Sale

MAY 25th Memorial Day

JUNE 14th Flag Day

JUNE 21st Father's Day

JUNE 25th-28th 2015 Department of FL Convention

HUGS FROM MOM!



Unit #273 Ladies Auxiliary

BLANKET BRIGADE!

If You Crochet, Knit, Sew, or Quilt, Please Join us. We're making afghans, blankets, etc. You choose the project. We will raffle off these beautiful handmade "Hugs From Mom" in October. Win a blue ribbon and join the fun as we raffle them with proceeds funding our female Veteran's Christmas Party. Need not be a member. Call Wendy 920-629-2101 or email donnellytw@gmail.com for details.