



The Sunset

“PASS IT ON”

Issue 12, May 12, 2015 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 273 Madeira Beach, Florida 33708



Message from the President

It is Official!
Meet your new **ALA Unit 273**
Officers for 2015-2016:

President: Janice Hill
1st Vice President: Katie

Gabehart

2nd Vice President: Mary Lou Kohler

Treasurer: Linda Newkirk

Chaplain- Janet (Jan) Hendrick

Sargent-at-arms: Laura Abrams

Asst. Sargent-at-arms: Wendy Donnelly

Historian: Kate Mills Baldi

Executive Board Members:

3 year Member at Large: Peggy Burke

2 year Member at Large: Sharon Abbotts

1 year Member at Large: Kitty Krzeski

Please lend your support to our new team.

Our Veterans needs never go away so we will be called upon to assist them in the generous ways we always have assisted.

Our last meeting of the year will be June 2, 2015 at 11 a.m. Come and join us and watch me wrap up my 3 years as your ALA President. It has been my pleasure to walk hand in hand with each of you toward our shining light Beacon. The joys and tears are our armor and we will always get stronger with every volunteering step we take.

Walk proudly as we are the safe keepers of our Veterans, their families, Active Duty, their families and our Community.

Enjoy the two months- July and August- off from the ALA for the summer. Enjoy your family and loved ones and hug a Veteran.

Be Safe and Know I thank everyone for their enormous contributions to our goals.

Cathy Larkin-Richards, soon to be PAST PRESIDENT PARLAY
klarkin2gal@gmail.com, 727-392-1700

PAST PRESIDENT CHARLOTTE MAHONEY STEPPING DOWN



Past President Charlotte Mahoney gave a moving step -down speech and thank to all for their help in all her years that she has served Unit 273...but don't worry she'll still be with us, just sitting at one of the tables watching instead...thank goodness.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 2, 2015, 11am. This will be our last meeting for the year until Tuesday, September 1, 2015, 11am.

WWII NAVY WAVES GUESTS AT UNIT 273 MAY MEETING AND ATTEND SERVICE AT BAY PINES



WWII Waves Viviane Cunningham and Adeleide Coffin.



WWII Waves Adeleide Coffin and Viviane Cunningham with Randall McNabb attending the Funeral service for the Unattended on May 5th. Prior to the service they both spoke about their service as WWII Waves at the ALA Unit 273 meeting and had lunch at the Post 273 Legion.



Viviane Cunningham with Randall McNabb at Bay Pines.



Adeleide Coffin arriving at Bay Pines.

EVENTS

- MAY 16th** Armed Forces Day
- MAY 16th** Blood Drive, 10:30am – 2:00pm
- MAY 18th** Victoria Day (Canada)
- MAY 22nd and 23rd** Memorial Day T-shirt Sale
- MAY 25th** Memorial Day
- JUNE 14th** Flag Day
- JUNE 16th** USO Orientation
- JUNE 21st** Father's Day
- JUNE 25th-28th** 2015 Department of FL Convention



**MEMORIAL
DAY**

**SPECIAL
MEMORIAL DAY
T-SHIRT SALE
MAY 22ND AND 23RD
1PM TO 5PM EACH DAY**

LISA TRONZO FROM HANNAH'S HOMELESS SPEAKS AT UNIT 273 MAY MEETING



Lisa Tronzo from Hannah's Homeless gave an emotional speech as to how Hannah's Homeless was started. Hannah's Homeless is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization working to help people struggling with homelessness and/or addiction or mental health issues. They also provide clean clothes, use of the phone, hygiene items, non-perishable food items, and resources to help with finding jobs, places to live, etc. If you would like additional information on Hannah's Homeless or would like to help or donate, go to <http://hannahshomeless.org/>

NEWS BRIEFS

NATIONAL SECURITY: The next **USO Orientation** is scheduled for Tues., June 16th, 6-8pm; contact Carrie Harper if interested @ charper@usocentralfloida.org or 813-676-4311.

NEW MEMBERSHIP TOTALS: Kate Gabehart has reported our new membership totals as:

Membership Goal: 2331
Current: 2382
102.19%

Rejoin Goal: 2107
Current Rejoins: 2134
101.28%

IMPORTANT: ALA ADDRESS CHANGE

Please note that effective May 15, 2015, our

address will change. All Unit #273 American Legion Auxiliary mail should be sent to:

**American Legion Auxiliary Unit 273
American Legion Post 273
600 American Legion Drive
Madeira Beach, FL 33708**

Membership questions, (eligibility, applications, renewals, address changes, lost cards, etc.): We Hope to Have an Auxiliary Member on-site in the Banquet Hall, Monday – Friday, 9:30–11:00 a.m. Or email the Membership Chairperson at unit273aux@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED

PROJECT MEMBERSHIP: We need your help. American Legion Auxiliary Members Wanted to Sort and Process Mail and answer questions at the Legion, Monday–Friday, 9:30–11:00am. Sign up for a day per week or more if your schedule allows; must be reliable; and we will train you. Come as a team if you'd like and enjoy being a pioneer of this exciting new program.

Want to help but don't have free mornings? Volunteers needed for renewal processing over the summer, details to follow. Or be a "Big Sister" – sign up to greet our new members and serve as a resource for making them feel welcome and getting involved in our wonderful programs.

Interested in any of the above activities? Please call Membership Chairperson Wendy Donnelly, at 920-629-2101 or email unit273aux@gmail.com . We really **need** you – please help us build a stronger auxiliary for our veterans and military **that didn't have a reason to not help us.**

HUGS FROM MOM

Do you Crochet, Knit, Sew or Quilt? Don't think your Auxiliary is off-duty over the summer! We're making blankets, Afghans, lap warmers...warm and cozy "mom hugs". Choose a project and make something beautiful. We'll show off our work at the October meeting, judge for that coveted "Best Mom Hug" winner and raffle them off during a fundraiser event one weekend in fall. Proceeds will help fund our Christmas party for female Veterans. Please contact Wendy Donnelly, at 920-629-2101 or email unit273aux@gmail.com.

A BIG THANK YOU TO JERRY DE CLERCQ FOR MAKING SURE OUR MEETINGS RUN SMOOTHLY.



ALA Unit 273 President Cathy Larkin-Richards and Treasurer Linda Newkirk present Jerry DeClercq with a Certificate of Appreciation and a new crisp \$100 dollar bill for his help in making sure all the speakers, mikes and the video system is set up for every one of our meetings. A Big Thank You Jerry for all that you do for us.

Share Your Story. Share Your Power. Save Lives.

BLOOD DRIVE

"It feels good knowing that what I am doing is giving others the chance to live."
Mike — Fr. Walton Beach, Florida

One Donation Can Save Three Lives!

American Legion 273
Saturday, May 16, 2015
10:30 AM - 2:00 PM

All donors will receive a T-shirt and a wellness checkup including blood pressure, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening!

Help us better serve you! Make an appointment online at www.oneblooddonor.org and use sponsor code #11690

1.888.9.DONATE (1.888.936.6283)
oneblood.org Picture ID Requested. **oneblood** Share your power.

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.

HUGS FROM MOM!



www.VectorsOf.com · 680

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 donnelytw@gmail.com for details.