



The Sunset

“PASS IT ON”

Issue 16, October 22, 2015

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 273 Madeira Beach, Florida 33708



Message from the President

What a wonderful turnout we had at our October meeting. Welcome to all the new members, we are so happy that you choose to join our unit. As the attendants on the airlines often say "we know you had other choices, thank

you for choosing us." Learn about our service to our community and veterans; volunteer for a committee-every day is a good day to give of yourself and make a difference in the world around you.

The high school seniors - our Girl State young ladies - shared their experiences through their stories about the weeklong event in Tallahassee. Some of the stories were funny but the girls all expressed appreciation for the opportunity we provided to them to attend. Thank you Kate Mills-Baldi, Sharon Abbott, and Theresa Ferrari, we appreciate you for the time and extended effort you made to provide the government-inaction learning program for the girls a memorable event.

Auxiliary members volunteered at the One Community Now STAND DOWN No One Left Behind held at the Veterans Memorial Park in Hudson. We were excited to work with and reach out to homeless and at risk veterans from Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Hernando counties. We served meals, provided medical services, worked and played with children while their parents were getting dental services, medical and mental health services, court services, and much more. Thank you to Kate Gabehart, Karen Braughton, Theresa Penrod, and Connie Russell who joined us from Unit 114.

As the holiday season is upon us we have many events planned for veterans and their families. Please calendar as many of them as you can make. Halloween is just around the corner and the children are eager to stock up on candy, play games, craft activities -sign them up - for the Halloween party Saturday, October 31 at 11:30 at the banquet hall (the sign- up sheet is on the board in the post hall). We will be sharing Poppies for a donation. Attend the Boat Parade on November 7, the Veterans Day ceremony at 1:00 on November 11, watch for the collection box at the hall for food donations to families for Thanksgiving.

Our brand identity is the personality of our organization. It is who we are, what we do, and why it matters. Share your special talents with us, tell us your passion, we have so many opportunities for you at Unit 273.

Janice B Hill

From The Service Of One Comes The Support Of Many

We are the largest American Legion Family Membership in the world!

president@alaf1273.com ,
727-580-5930

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, **November 3, 2015** at 11 am. Bring food for needy families, see page 4.

DON'T FORGET!! Daylight Savings Time ends November 1st so fall back 1 hour.

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. Please send what you would like to have published to Pat Thoman at moimaid2@aol.com .

ALA UNIT 273 2015 GIRLS' STATE LUNCHEON HELD OCTOBER 6th AFTER UNIT MEETING



2015 Girls State Delegates from right and around: Sashinya DeSilva, Admiral Farragut; Kollyne Thomas, Admiral Farragut; Jhonnelle Young, Admiral Farragut; Lauren Clendening, Northside Christian; Leah Sink, Northside Christian; Channing Shettle, Northside Christian; Mara Lameyer, Northside Christian; and Amanda Cabrera, Keswick Christian sitting patiently awaiting their lunches.



Mara Lameyer gives a great review about her week at Girls State.

The luncheon gave the girls the opportunity to share their Girls' State experiences with Unit 273 member and also how much they all benefited from the trip to see our state government in action.

ALA UNIT 273 MEMBERS DO MORE THAN VOLUNTEER...WE'RE SAILORS TOO



From right to left: Sashinya DeSilva; Kollyne Thomas; Unit 273 President, Janice Hill; Kate Mills-Baldi; Jhonnelle Young; and District 16th President, Dee Bell pose for a photo for Admiral Farragut Academy.



ALA Unit 273 Secretary Pat Thoman on the right in the red shirt assists boat docking at the legion when they were having some difficulty docking due to higher winds kicking up. Goes to prove the Auxiliary is always there to help.

EVENTS

OCTOBER

SATURDAY, October 24th ABC School Auxiliary
Basic Concept School
SATURDAY, October 31st, Kids Halloween Party

NOVEMBER

SATURDAY, November 7th, Veterans Boat Parade,
opening ceremony, 10:30am.
WEDNESDAY, November 11th, Veterans Day,
Ceremony at 1pm
FRI., SAT. & SUN NOVEMBER 13-15 – ALA,
Department of Florida, 2015 Fall Conference, Orlando,
FL.
SAT. & SUN., NOVEMBER 14-15, “HUGS” Quilt Raffle
tickets will be sold, drawing, 5pm on Sunday.
SUNDAY, November, 15th, Breakfast Buffet, 8:30am-
11:15pm.
FRI., SAT. & SUN NOVEMBER 20-22 – Riders Bake
Sale
SATURDAY, November 21st – **BLOOD DRIVE**
SUNDAY, November 22nd, Riders Pancake
Breakfast, 9am
THURSDAY, November 26th, Special Thanksgiving
Menu, Noon-7pm, \$11.00 per person

DECEMBER

MONDAY, December 7th, Pearl Harbor Day.
SUNDAY, December 13th, Breakfast Buffet, 8:30 to
11:15am.
SUNDAY, December 13th, Seminole Christmas Parade.
SUNDAY, December 20th, Riders Pancake Breakfast,
9am.
SATURDAY, December 19th, Children’s Christmas
Party.
THURSDAY, December 24th, Amateur Celebrity
Bartenders, Post Kitchen Closed.
FRIDAY, December 25th, Veterans Christmas Dinner,
11am-1:30pm
THURSDAY, December 31st, New Years Eve Party.

BLOOD DRIVE **SATURDAY** **NOVEMBER 21st**

For more information contact Rhonda
Brailey-Maurer at rjbm@hotmail.com or call
603-455-3868 for an appointment time or just
show up as a walk in, we will also need your
“blood” type.

UNIT 273 MEMBERS VOLUNTEER AT PASCO COUNTY STAND DOWN



ALA Unit 273 President Janice Hill takes a break for a photo with 1st Vice President Katie Gabehart and her sister, the new Unit 273 Historian, Karen Braughton.



Volunteers Connie Russell; ALA Unit 273 President, Janice Hill; 1st Vice President Katie Gabehart; Historian, Karen Braughton, Theresa Penrod and District 16th President Dee Bell getting ready to serve meals to the many homeless vets that came to the Pasco County Stand Down.

Our Unit 273 members volunteered all day Saturday, October 3rd, at the Medical Tent, Children’s Tent and the Food Service Tent.

**WANTED
WANTED
WANTED**

HUGS FROM MOM!



**Unit #273 Ladies Auxiliary
FUND RAISER**

Support our Vets

**All Proceeds go toward an
Event for Female Veterans**

If You Knit, Crochet, Sew or Quilt
Please Choose a Project, Any Color, Any Size to Donate

Raffle tickets will be sold November 14th and 15th and the raffle
drawing will be on Sunday, November 15th at 5pm.

Please Call or Email: Wendy (920-629-2101) unit273aux@gmail.com
You Don't Have to be a Member of the Auxiliary to Participate!

Please Help Us Celebrate Our Female Heros!

Let's all congratulate National Security Chairman Rhonda Brailey-Maurer on completing her volunteer orientation and training with Operation Homefront even while she's up in New Hampshire.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

NEEDED: FOOD TO FEED FAMILIES FOR THANKSGIVING

Please bring in food to our November meeting or to our drop off box on top of the T-Shirt display case at the Post to help us feed our less fortunate families for Thanksgiving. Suggested needed items: Cranberries, canned vegetables, stuffing, boxed mashed potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, turkey gravy, cake mixes, and frosting. Every little bit helps feed a family for Thanksgiving. For more information on this upcoming event, please contact Sharon Abbotts at 727-343-5405 or Email her at gaga1700@yahoo.com. **There will be another food drive for families again for Christmas so be on the watch for more information.**

“Marilyn Murphy Angel Tree” Look for our Angels on the Christmas tree that will be put up in the Legion Lobby. Please take an Angel and make that child's wishes come true for Christmas. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer your help, call Chairman Sharon Abbotts at 727-343-5405 or Email her at gaga1700@yahoo.com.

JANUARY BAKE SALE AND RAFFLE: Members, please start bringing in bottles of wine and or any liquor you would like to donate to our November, December and January meetings. We need to start working on our “Baskets of Cheer” to Raffle. Any gift donations that anyone can get to fill our baskets would be very much appreciated as well. Also if anyone would like to put together a basket to raffle off can do that as well. Thank you, Chairman Sharon Abbotts. Any questions you can call me at 727-343-5405 or email gaga1700@yahoo.com.

WAYS & MEANS:

T-Shirt Sales: Chairman, Pat Thoman reported September Sales were \$3,477 with a total of 184 hours. She also mentioned to be on the lookout for some new merchandise that will be available soon.

CHECKOUT THE NEW ALA UNIT 273 WEB SITE
www.alaf1273.com/

MEMBERSHIP:

ATTENTION UNIT 273 AUXILIARY MEMBERS...IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

2016 Membership Cards are Now Available, Good for all of 2016. Dues are \$25.00, Payable by Cash or Check.

Take Advantage of our Convenient Member Services: Monday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. – Noon in the Post Banquet Hall. Pay Your Dues and Take Your Card. Lamination service is also available for \$1.00.

WANTED: Members Wanted to Help Process Renewals, in the Banquet Hall Weekdays between 10am and 12pm. Work in Teams of 2+. Greet Members, Collect Dues, Hand Out Membership Cards. We Will Train You.

Help Your Auxiliary And Your Post And Make New Friends!

If interested call 727-317-3974 or email: membership@alaf1273.com

NATIONAL SECURITY:

Coupon Cutters Monthly Totals:
August: \$30,468.00 Hours: 332
September: \$102,601.93 Hours: 1,116

We have an open invitation for anyone interested in joining this fabulous group of devoted cutters, every Saturday 11am-1pm, in the main post hall.