

As our Auxiliary year comes to an end, I reflect on what we have accomplished over the past year. Your Auxiliary had another outstanding year, raising funds and providing goods to our Veterans and their families, providing assistance to those in need in our County, and participating in our Auxiliary programs.

May is our closing month. I delayed publication of this Newsletter until after our election of officers at our May 12, 2022 meeting. Your new officers for the 2022 – 2023 year are:

Lynda Anderson, President
Eileen Wilson, First Vice President
Mitzi Moscovitz, Second Vice President
Annette Snyder, Secretary
Claudia Fischer, Treasurer
Joanne Holobinka, Chaplain
Loretta Pittides, Historian
Lorraine Feirman, Sergeant-at-Arms
Nancy Shaffer, Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms
Members-at-Large – Executive Committee
Carolyn Anderson, Kate Norris
Gladys Stover, Doris Webster

First, I want to thank everyone who came out and supported American Legion Auxiliary Department President Wanda Brandt on her recent visit to our District. It was a pleasure having her join us at our luncheon and exchange thoughts, ideas and proposed plans for the future of our organization.

The months of March and April continues to be busy for our Auxiliary. At our February General Meeting we selected our Nominations Committee. The members are actively seeking Auxiliary sisters to hold office for the 2022 – 2023 Auxiliary year. Please consider serving. It is a most

worthwhile, informative and interesting venture. If you are interested in a position and would like additional information, please contact Nominations Chair, Annette Snyder, her committee members, Joanne Holobinka and Carolyn Anderson, or me. We are all I am more than willing to help! Our election (if needed) will be held at our May General meeting.

Our Girls State Chair, Eileen Wilson, has received applications for Girls State to be held in June, 2022. She and her committee will be interviewing the applicants from our local high schools and selecting two candidates as well as two alternates to attend this year's session. If you are interested in assisting with this project, please contact Eileen.

The next District 15 meeting, for all Legion families, will be held on March 12, 2022 at Post 111. Sign in is at 9:00 am with the meeting starting at 10:00 am. All members are invited to attend the meeting. Auxiliary members car pool to the host Post. If you are interested in attending, please contact me. My phone and e-mail are listed above.

Our Scholarship program is underway and we are expecting to receive applications from the five local high schools. Application information has also been posted on our face book page at **American Legion Auxiliary Unit 186, Florida**. During April we will review, judge and select our recipients. Scholarships will be awarded at the high school award ceremonies in May 2019.

In April we will begin our Children & Youth school supply collection. We hope the Post members will continue to be as generous as they have in the past.

The Veterans Pantry continues to need

replenishing. Last fall we were preparing approximately 20 veteran food boxes per month; in February we prepared 70 food boxes that were picked up and delivered by the VA Case Counsellors. Due to HIPPA laws, we are do not know the identity of the veterans we are helping but, rest assured, all the veterans we work with are vetted by the VA, and associated with James A. Haley Veterans Hospital, and are assigned to and working with a case counsellor. In addition to food, we provide starter baskets, including cleaning supplies, dishes, linens, etc., for homeless veterans transitioning into housing. We also accept furniture, in very good condition, realizing that these veterans have nothing at the time they are initially housed. We appreciate all the assistance our Auxiliary and Legion family members give us.

Upcoming Auxiliary Events:

- Friday, March 4 - Weeki Wachee Swamp Fest
- Saturday, March 5 Legion Family Event

- Sunday, March 6 Membership Drive/at 9:00 – 5:00 daily
- Thursday, March 10 Auxiliary Meetings Executive Comm.
2:00 pm
General 3:00 pm
- Initiation
- Saturday, Mar. 12 Fifteenth District Meeting, Post 111
Registration 9:00 am Meeting at 10:00 am;
- Saturday, April 23 Military Child Ceremony
Post 186 Pavilion 3:30 pm
- Thursday, April 14 Auxiliary Meetings Executive Comm.
2:00 pm
General 3:00 pm Initiation

Check our Auxiliary Boards at the Post for updates or changes to events.

For God and Country,
Lynda Anderson