

CHARLES E. MURRAY UNIT 186

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2022

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Lynda J. Anderson

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While our Unit does not meet during June and July, our work continues through the summer months. In early June we started our school supply collection. This year we selected Moten Elementary School, Pre-Kindergarten through 5th Grade. This was a coordinated effort, working with Our Unit 186 Children and Youth Chair, Patti Motzer, West Tampa Memorial American Legion Auxiliary Unit 248 President Mary McColgan, and Moten Elementary PTO President Amanda Rud. Amanda coordinated with the school guidance counselor who identified children in need. We accepted the challenge of filling 73 backpacks with teacher specified school supplies. Thank you to everyone that donated school supplies or money that we could use to purchase them; to our team of packers, Lorraine Feirman, Claudia Fischer, Mary McColgan, Mitzi Moscovitz, Patti Motzer and Gladys Stover; and thank you to High Point Community for allowing us to use their Community Center to get this project completed. Delivery to the school was made on Monday, August 1, 2022, and the selected students had their packed book bags ready to go on their first day of school, August 10, 2022

Our first meeting of the 2022 – 2023 year was held on August 11, 2022. Prior to convening our meeting, we draped our Charter in honor of our Auxiliary sisters Ellen Wiggins and Virginia Aldrich. We extend our deepest sympathies to their friends and families.

Membership Chair Eileen Wilson is now accepting membership renewals for 2023. Please keep in mind that due to increases in dues at the National and Department levels, our Unit dues have increased to **\$45.00**. Dues must be paid before the end of October, 2022 in order to qualify for the Early Bird Dinner, which is currently scheduled for November 5, 2022.

At our September 8, 2022 meeting, Patti Motzer, Children & Youth Chair, stated that she has put together a raffle basket, the focus of which is a tablet, with case, Microsoft 365 one-year program subscription, numerous related items, gift cards, lottery tickets, cash and several bottles of liquor. Tickets are \$5.00 each, three for \$10.00, and are on sale at the Post Canteen. You will also find Patti Motzer, Joanne Holobinka and various other Auxiliary members seated at the front table at the Post, encouraging members and guests, as they enter, to buy tickets for this worthwhile cause. The drawing will be held at the Veterans Day Picnic, November 11, 2022. The proceeds of the basket raffle will benefit our Angel Tree Christmas Project and Food Giveaway. Also, on Veterans Day, the Auxiliary will hold its annual Raffle Basket Silent Auction, and we are seeking donations for this event. Please donate if you are able to do so. We will also distribute poppies and collect donations prior to and on Veterans Day. The

proceeds of the Silent Auction and Poppy donations will benefit veterans and their families.

The Veterans Pantry continues to need help and donations. Last year we were providing approximately 20 food boxes to veterans each month. Over the past year, the need has grown enormously. This month, September 2022, we are providing food boxes to 22 veteran families and 56 single veterans. That's 100 filled food boxes. The cost of food to fill those boxes runs between \$2,000.00 and \$2,500.00 per month. In addition, we are preparing starter baskets with cleaning supplies, linens, kitchen utensils, etc., and accepting donations of furniture to provide to homeless veterans transitioning into permanent housing. Food donations can be left in the red tote in the entrance to the Post. Donations for pickup of gently used furniture can be arranged by contacting President Lynda Anderson, 352-596-4436, or Lynda6260@aol.com, or Unit 248 President Mary McColgan at mmccolgan13@hotmail.com. All of your donations are very much appreciated.

Congratulations to our Unit officers who have accepted District Chairs. Annette Snyder, Unit Secretary, is serving as District Constitution and By-Laws Chair and Past Presidents' Parley Chair, and Patti Motzer, our Unit Children & Youth Chair is serving as District Children & Youth Chair. Thank you, ladies, for all you do.

I want to thank our active members who support the Auxiliary by stepping up and serving as an Officer or Program Chair, or just offering a helping hand. Our list of Officers and Program Chairs is posted on our Auxiliary Board. If you are interested in helping out

with a program, please contact the Program Chair, or President Lynda Anderson for more information.

Upcoming Auxiliary Events:

Fri. Sept. 16	3:00 pm	POW/MIA Ceremony
Wed. Sept. 21	3:00 pm	Service for the Unattended; FNC - Bushnell
Sat. Sept. 24	9:00 am	15 th District Meeting at Post 111; registration at 9:00 am; Meeting at 10:00 am
Wed. Sept. 28	12:00 noon	Auxiliary Social Luncheon at Post
Thurs. Oct. 13	2:00 pm	Auxiliary Executive Committee Meeting, followed by 3:00 pm Auxiliary General Meeting at 3:00 pm
Wed, Oct. 26	12:00 noon	Auxiliary Social Luncheon, Post 186
Sat. Oct. 29	7:00 – 10:00	All Family Halloween Party Bring Snacks to Share 3 Costume Prizes - \$25.00 gift card; donated by Legion, Auxiliary, Sons Band 7:00 – 10:00.

Please note these dates. A great deal of information can be gleaned at our Unit and the District meetings.

Unit 186 ROCKS!.

For God and Country,
Lynda Anderson





