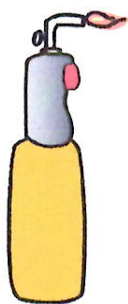




Our *House Building* Auxiliary—Nell Colbert



As you've already heard, our Auxiliary theme chosen by our newly elected Department President, Charlotte Bass, for the 2024-2025 program year is:

"Securing our Foundation to Build a Stronger Future."

#MembershipsTheKey in our goal of **#BuildingTheHouse**.

We kicked off our membership drive as of July 1st and we are thrilled to report that not only do we lead the Units in the 6th District in membership, but we also lead the entire Department of Florida with the highest percentage of renewed members to date! So far, 23 of our members (79.31% of our membership goal) have already paid their 2025 dues!

Our challenge this year is to grow our unit. We finished last year with 26 paid members, but our goal this year is to bring our membership to 29. The more members our Unit has, the better we can serve the Veterans in our Post along with working and even expanding what we do as we work the Auxiliary programs.

So what have we been doing recently?

In June, Marge, Debi, and Nell attended the Department Convention. And our June meeting

featured the election of our 2024-2025 officers. Again, congratulations to President Marge, Vice President Terry, Secretary-Treasurer Nell, Chaplain Debi, Sgt at Arms Laurel, and Historian Madelda.



Our July meeting featured the installation of our 2024-



2025 officers along with the officers for the Post and SAL. Special thanks to District President, Penny Kanbara and her team for supporting our Unit. Pictures below are the officers for Post and Squadron 112.



Also in July, Nell attended the Department Workshop and picked up lots of valuable information that will help our Unit as we work the Auxiliary programs. Our Post Adjutant also attended the Workshop and found lots of interesting information that can help our Post.

In August we joined the Post for updates from our Girls State delegate and the Boys State delegates. Pictured below is one of our delegates receiving her medal from Marge.



Our August 20th meeting will be a calendar planning session. Please join us on Zoom!

We welcome all Veteran spouses along with the mothers, sisters, grandmothers and granddaughters of Veterans who would like to actively support our military, our youth and our community through our community service projects. To become involved, please call Nell at 321.303.7445.

Check out our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/ALA112FL>

or our website at:

www.AmLegionAux112FL.com



Our House Building Auxiliary—Nell Colbert



Congratulations to our very own Vice President, Terry Berrios-Guariglia on her marriage in early October. On the beach in Asbury Park, NJ. Please join us as we wish Terry and

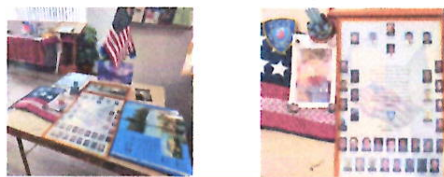
Frank a very "happily ever after."

And congratulations to our Unit for overachieving our membership goal. As of October 20th, we have 30 members for 2025, bringing us to 103%. Please welcome our newest members:

Paula Hedge
Patte Kayne
Janice Pizzurro
Clara Tickal
Joyce Ungerman



In September, your Auxiliary supported the Legion Family's 9-11 Ceremony. President Marge set up a wonderful display of memorabilia from the World Trade Center and we streamed the recent *60 Minutes* special about the tragedy.



Also in September, Marge and Nell presented our annual check

to one of the Eastbrook Elementary teachers so she could continue the Scholastic Books program for her students this year. For \$10 per student, Scholastic Books will provide one book per month for each student in her class for the entire school year.



And more September news, Marge attended the post 243 Boys State dinner meeting where two of our Girls State delegates shared their experiences this past summer. Marge presented the girls with their certificates and their medals that they can wear at graduation this May.



So what's coming up next? In early November, Unit members will be grocery shopping for the holiday food baskets that we deliver to the Lake Baldwin VA for distribution to some of their Giving Tree families as well as shopping for our annual Eastbrook Elementary backpack project. The VA food baskets and the school backpacks provide all the non-perishable food items families can use to make a

complete Thanksgiving dinner.

On November 8th, we will participate in the schools veterans Day program and deliver the backpack food items after the program ends. Since we do have to RSVP to the school to let them know how many of our members would like to attend the program, please email Nell at necolbert@usa.net ASAP. All Unit members are welcome to attend and help us with our membership table where we will give out Poppies and small American flags to all the Veterans who come to the school for the program.

We will also be assisting legion members with their shopping for their Giving Tree adopted family.

On December 13th, we hope all our Unit members AND their spouses can attend the Legion Family Holiday Party. See the flyer on page 9 and RSVP ASAP.

Are you on Facebook? Please like our page and join our group. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/165411620378> and <https://www.facebook.com/ALA112FL>

We welcome all Veteran spouses along with the mothers, sisters, grandmothers and granddaughters of Veterans who would like to actively support our military, our youth and our community through our community service projects. To become involved, please call Nell at 321.303.7445.

Check out our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/ALA112FL> **or our website at:** www.AmLegionAux112FL.com



Our House Building Auxiliary—Nell Colbert

For our Give Ten to Education project, we donated \$250.00 to an Eastbrook class so that they could receive one book each to keep every month throughout the school year. Below is our adopted class with their very first book for this year.



In November, Marge, Debi, and Nell shopped for our Eastbrook Backpack project and our Veterans Holiday food baskets that go to the Lake Baldwin VA.



Marge and Nell also gave out small American Flags and Poppies at Eastbrook's Veteran's Day program. Post Adjutant, Bob, visited with

the Veterans attending the breakfast and the program that followed.



After the Veterans Day program, Nell, Marge, and Bob helped unload all the food for the backpacks that will go out with all the non-perishable food items for a great Thanksgiving meal.



In early December Nell and Marge helped the Post with their Giving Tree shopping after which we delivered our three huge Veteran Holiday food baskets to the Lake Baldwin VA that will be given to three Giving Tree families.

Of course we had a great time at our Legion Family Holiday party with Marge, Nell, Debi, Laurel, Ross, Coleen, Victoria, Braelyn, and Brynlee. See the pictures on pages 13 and 14.

We supported Wreaths Across America this year by sponsoring six wreaths for Pinewood Cem-



etry located in Winter Park near the old Navy Base and the Lake Baldwin VA. Nell, Bob, and Post Chaplain, Billy Dover,



represented the Winter Park Legion Family. After the very moving ceremony, we assisted by placing a wreath at Veteran graves after saying the Veterans' name before each wreath was placed.

We have lots coming up including judging of our Americanism essay contest entries and the selection of our Girls State delegates coming in February. Check your email for more information.

We welcome all Veteran spouses along with the mothers, sisters, grandmothers and granddaughters of Veterans who would like to actively support our military, our youth and our community through our community service projects. To become involved, please call Nell at 321.303.7445.

Check out our Facebook page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/ALA112FL>
or our website at:
www.AmLegionAux112FL.com



Our House Building Auxiliary—Nell Colbert

After a very busy November and December, our Unit took a minute to regroup before beginning work on our spring projects.

Marge was hard at work contacting our local high schools to obtain their top candidates for our Girls State interviews. By the time you see this newsletter, our selection committee will have interviewed about eight amazing candidates. Pictures of our candidates and the delegates we selected will appear in the next newsletter. Thanks to the help from the Oviedo American Legion Post 243, we were able to select one over-quota delegate and one alternate in addition to our delegate and alternate. We will have at least two of our young ladies attend the 2025 Girls State program and we hope that both of our alternates will be picked to attend as well. Over the years, we have had great success with having our alternates picked up by other Units around the state who paid for someone to attend but who did not have any girls from their high schools interested in attending.

Nell was also busy in January contacting our elementary schools about our annual Americanism Essay Contest. The theme this year was "What does America the Beautiful mean to me (regarding veterans and our military)?" We received entries from Eastbrook and Dommerich Elementary Schools and we judged the essays submitted at our February meeting.

Also in February, Debi, Lisa, Christine, and Nell attended the Post 112 Four Chaplain's ceremony that was held at the First Baptist Church of Winter Park.



Our very own Chaplain, Debi Shannon participated in the ceremony as one of the Four Chaplains.

About one-hundred people Attended: American

Legion Family members from several Post's as well as members of the church community in addition to our Winter Park Legion family. Pictures from our ceremony can be found on page 9 in this newsletter.

For anyone wanting to learn more about the Four Chaplains and their unselfish acts during WWII, please see:

<https://fourchaplains.org/the-four-chaplains/>

March will see the beginning of our process for the election of officers for the 2025-2026 Auxiliary year with the formation of our Nominating Committee. The task of this important committee is to select candidates to fill our leadership roles for the upcoming year. The slate of officers will be presented at our April meeting where nominations from the floor can be accepted. Elections

will be held during our May meeting per our Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules. These governing documents can be found on our website at:

<https://amlegionaux112fl.com/official-stuff/>

Our installation is usually held as a joint Legion Family event in July.

April brings the Scholastic Achievement awards that fall under our Education program. Nell will be contacting our elementary schools requesting the names of one boy and one girl from the 5th grade class to be recognized as of Scholastic Achievement award recipient for 2025. At the end of May we will need help from our members to present these awards as the schools hold their awards/graduation ceremonies for their students moving to middle school on essentially the same days, usually the last few days of school. If you would like to help make these fun presentations, please contact Nell by email or phone.

We welcome all Veteran spouses along with the mothers, sisters, grandmothers and granddaughters of Veterans who would like to actively support our military, our youth and our community through our community service projects. To become involved, please call Nell at 321.303.7445.

Check out our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/ALA112FL>
or our website at:
www.AmLegionAux112FL.com