



American Legion Auxiliary
2009-2010 Dept President
Patricia Moore



“Beautiful
Things
Happens
To those who
Believe”



National Guest At Mid-Winter Conference



Rita Navarrete
2009-2010 National President

It is my honor to have this opportunity as National President to visit with the members of West Virginia as well as members throughout our organization. I want to share with you all a unified message that emphasizes our need to ***Reconnect with our heritage to strengthen our future!***

Ninety years of service what a milestone! I am truly moved when I reflect on all the American Legion Auxiliary has accomplished since its inception as a grassroots organization under The American Legion, on November 10, 1919. Let me state clearly that I fully support The American Legion Family and will continue to work hand in hand in supporting their programs and promoting good working relationships at all levels.

From the early years of developing a program to meet the urgent needs of WWI veterans, their wives and orphans, to the present year of serving National Guard and Reserve military families, our organization has met new challenges and remained ready to serve. Today we face a dilemma: our organization is not growing. How will we reach new members? How will we be able to serve the needs of our current military forces? What will be our plan? Where will we be in the next ten years?

Your passion in serving the organization will inspire others to recognize the importance of moving from status quo to status growth! We must move forward with innovative ideas if we are to reconnect with our members and focus on those we serve. We must honor our commitment, provide leadership, and bring a new vitality and sense of seriousness to our actions. Now is the time: it is the right thing to do!

I would like to thank all of you for allowing me to visit your beautiful state of West Virginia and experiencing the warm hospitality of the West Virginia Legion Family.

Is the snow ever going to slow down a little. I am sure hoping that everyone is surviving the snow and the cold temperature and icy roads. I have been stuck in Pa. at my daughters two extra weeks—trying to get home to West Virginia. I enjoyed the time there with my daughter and my two grand-daughters but I had work needing done here in West Virginia.

With Mid-Winter coming around in 3 weeks I sure hope that every unit is planning to attend. Our National President Rita will be here for her visit. Paulette has planned a great program for us, with a little fun. Ladies don't forget your comfort items, Silent Auction, Door prize. Lets all bring some green money to participate in our programs to help support our welfare fund and our Auxiliary. If you are unable to attend then please send items with someone that is coming. We must always support our Veterans for what we have today in America

Membership is slowing down. We are in last place in Central Division and 37th in the Nation. Congratulation to the units that are goal. Some of our units may need only one or two. So keep up the great work I am proud of your work. Our membership is what counts when we go to Washington.

We also need door prizes. We are going to have a 90th. Birthday Party. So bring your gifts and lets all join together with National President Rita and have some fun.

Department Chaplain Lisa will be waiting for lots of poppy corsages to be judged so don't forget them. That money also goes in to the welfare fund to help our Veterans.

Remember our Four Chaplains Services in our units and our Post for February. Americanism is one of our programs for February and there is so many things that we can do on Americanism.

Before I close I would like to Thank the Gift Shop Ladies for a very outstanding job that you do in the Gifts Shops. I am very sure that every Veteran loved their gifts for their families. When they received their gifts and leave with tears in their eyes I know that the love for program that you do for them is appreciated. I would like to say I am sorry to Clarksburg, VA gift shop for not being able to be there. You can only be at one place at a time, When there is two the same day it is hard to attend both. Hope to have some pictures to display of the Gift Shops at Mid-Winter.

So in closing take care keep warm. Thank a Veteran for the freedom in America. See you at Mid-Winter at Lake-View. Always remember there is always an Angel near by.
Patricia Moore, Department President

Department Headquarters — “the Garden Center”

Mandatory Funds Make sure your Unit sends in by deadline of June 9, 2010 in order to be seated at State Convention.

Poppy Orders Make sure you have your poppies in time for your Poppy Day set up. Use your poppies all year round and the big thing with this program is setting up POPPY DAY for distributing in community for **a donation** not for selling!!!!

Mid-Winter— will be held February 5 –6, 2010 at Lakeview in Morgantown WV. Tentative Schedule has been included in this SPIRIT. The Housing Form, Pre-Registration Form, Luncheon Registration and Junior Registration Form is now posted on State Web Site at www.wvaux.org for Mid-Winter. Registration is —advance \$15.00 or at door \$20.00. **ALL Legion, ALA(Seniors) & SAL must register for Mid-Winter** to attend all activities. Juniors do have separate registration and this money will go directly into the Junior Account for Junior Activities projects.

Membership— 2009 Membership Cards are now expired. 2010 dues is now PAST DUE. 2nd Notice has been mailed out by National. There may be a problem with these notices. The notice is just a Post Card that doesn't have the usual information on it. The card states:

If not paid dues, please send 2010 dues now by simply:

- 1) using the previously mailed renewal notice
- 2) Contacting your local Unit, or
- 3) Contact your Department Headquarter at: Dept of West Virginia
RR1 Box 144A
Proctor WV 26055
304-455-3449

This office has already had 3 plus calls. I did a spread sheet with all Units, their dues, and their contact so I have this ready for maybe the many calls I will be receiving. I don't know how you on Unit level will handle this. There is no dues amount on card, no Unit contact information so the members will not have this information unless they have the 1st notice yet.

Comfort Items are being collected again this year. Everyone is to bring the comfort items to Lakeview Resort. There will be a sign outside to mark door that items can be taking into the Comfort Item Room. There is a listing of items that may help you in what to bring and the list is also in this

SPIRIT. Please continue supporting this project. All items are divided between the 4- VAMC Hospitals and the WV Veterans Home in Barboursville. Help us exceed the donations of last year— make it the best year ever.

STATE WEB SITE: Is updated and there is much information on this site just at your fingertips 24 hours a day. January SPIRIT had an Index for the site. It is a map of what is available for you at this site and may save you time looking everywhere for something you need. The Girls State Tab at top of Home Page is being set up right now. Hopefully this will be complete by 1st of February. This site will have orientation information and good information for any student to obtain anytime. This will be good for those last minute students that doesn't receive their packet in time or unfortunately those that receive NO orientation. PLEASE make use of this site. If you have any problems with the site—let this office know so I can correct/ edit/add etc. or it may even be something that Jacob our webmaster has to do for us. He is working on some things for me right now. I want this sight to be as simple and user friendly as can be. Hopefully the “Index” will be of help for you. You may find some things listed that are not on the site yet but will be very soon. I want to do an updated “Index” and have for you at/ or after Mid-Winter.

Haita Disaster— National is encouraging all Units and their communities to help in any way they can. National has suggested donations to UNICEF or USO. *Just be careful who you donate to.* Unfortunately there are scams out there that want to make a buck in anyway they can no matter how bad the disaster. Especially on the internet— you will see all kinds of ways to help. Make sure it is legit before acting.

2011 DUES — I will be mailing to all Unit Contacts the UNIT DATA FORM for information on the 2011 dues notices. I will need this information by 1st of March so your UNIT will need to act on this in February at your Unit meetings. Some Units may make NO changes and other may have to increase their dues. 2011 dues to Department will be: \$10.00 for Seniors and \$2.50 for Juniors. You may have to adjust your dues accordingly. ALSO I will be mailing in this notice a listing of Juniors and their Dates Of Births that is on computer. Some Units have no juniors but the ones that do have Juniors — you need to make sure each one has a DOB of file. This is needed for the new membership system that will be activated

in May 2010. I am sure all Units will make effort to update this request for all your Juniors. Thank you .

990 e—Postard (990N) must be filed by all Units. It is on internet and very easy to do. On web site there is filing instructions and is also available from this office upon request at 1-888-604-2242. This MUST be done each year and this is the last year that IRS is giving everyone time to get on line with this if you have not done so already. *****REMEMBER***** make sure you have recorded in your Unit file your Unit Login ID# and Login Password. You will need this information each year to get into the system for your Unit. If the person that does this next year changes — the new one will need to know this information. You may want to add a Standing Rule to your Unit Standing Rules to routinely file this 990N each year in what ever month you do it (like October, November, etc.) This is so if officers change they know that this MUST BE DONE— PER IRS RULES!!!!

Department Endorsements
2010-2011 year
Received in Office to date

Dept President — Sharon Glassford, #71
Dept 1st V-Pres — Dortha Parsons, #13
Dept 2nd V-Pres — Lisa Cadwallader, #71
Dept Sec/Treas — Mary Rose Yoho, #28

1st District Pres — Susan Wade, #86
10th Dist V-Pre — Michelle Hart, #71

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

Office Hours: Monday -Friday
9:00 - 2:00

Answering Machine and Fax -
24 hours

Office (304) 455-3449

FAX (304) 455-5825

Toll Free (888) 604-2242

Auxiliary E-mail:

mryoho@rcvideo.com

Legion E-mail

wvlegion@suddenlinkmail.com

State Web Site: wvaux.org
National Web Site: legion-aux.org

Articles for the SPIRIT must be received in Dept. Headquarters by
15th of each month

2010 Membership— “Reaching for the “Stars” Using our “Hearts” to stay on “Track”



2009-2010 Department Target Dates		
Target #1	40%	August 15th
Target #2	50%	September 15th
Target #3	60%	October 15th
Target #4	70%	November 15th
Target #5	75%	December 15th
Target #6	80%	January 15th
Target #7	85%	February 15th
Target #8	87%	March 15th
Target #9	90%	April 15th
Target #10	95%	May 15th
Target #11	100%	June 15th
Target #12	101%	July 15th

STARS

Hi Shining Stars!!!!

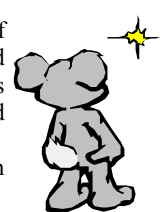
Wow! You are doing awesome with the membership. The Stars are 79.85% and the Hearts are 72.72%. You are adding more bright stars. The membership has been slow for both the Stars and the Hearts. Make sure you send them in as soon as you receive them, as I know you are doing. Jan. 15 target is 80%.

Congratulations to the following units who have reached this target of 80% plus: Cameron #18, Follansbee #45, Paden City #86, Wheeling #89, Chester #121, Parkersburg # 15, Sistersville #67-103.85%, Parkersburg #104, Ripley #107, New Haven #140, Williamstown #159, Gary #38 - 100%, Cowan # 62- 102.27%, Richwood #97, and Pickens #122. There are many units that are close or getting very close. I know you can get the membership done. You are very good at this job. So keep up your work that you are doing. Lets see how many more Goal Units we can gain. You do above and beyond the job for membership, I am very proud and thankful for your work. I am still smiling over the great job!!!



Remember Membership Chairman Ann's challenge for Dortha and I. Highest % of membership by Jan. 30, 2010 and then highest % of membership by June 30, 2010.

Dortha & I challenge each other to highest % of membership by June 10, 2010, for Units 10-200 and 201 & up. This is wear the "Sugar Plum Dress" comes into play with the Red and Blue Wig. Dortha would look much better then I would!!!! Right Dortha??



Hope to see you at Mid-Winter. Thank you again very, very much, I applaud you for job you are doing. God Bless America. Always thank the Veterans.

Sharon Glassford
Happy Shining Star



Ladies, 2010 is now going in full force.

I hope that the cold weather has not stopped you and your unit from working on Membership. Now, is the toughest time of the 2009-2010 to get members to pay their dues. Please don't stop contacting those who have not renewed (don't forget our Juniors) and make new contacts with potential members.

Congratulations to those that reached the 80% target for January 15.

- District 1: Cameron 18, Follansbee 45, Paden City 86, Wheeling 89, Chester 121
- District 3: Buckhannon 7, Clarksburg 13, Mannington 40, Philippi 44, Jane Lew 166
- District 4: Parkersburg 15, Sistersville 67, Parkersburg 104, Ripley 107, New Haven 140, Williamstown 159
- District 5: Milton 139
- District 6: Gary 38, Fayetteville 149
- District 8: Charleston 20, St. Albans 73, South Charleston 94
- District 9: Cowen 62, Lewisburg 69, Belington 96, Richwood 97, Pickens 122
- District 10: Franklin 30, Keyser 41, Piedmont 52, Moorefield 64, Charles Town 71, Charles Town 102, Kirby 134, Keyser 152, Riverton 183
- District 4 with 80.78%, District 8 with 96.62% and District 8 with 87.62%

The STARS have 79.85% and the HEARTS have 72.72%.

Reminder this is the 90th Birthday of the American Legion Auxiliary. I hope that each unit is planning some way to celebrate this special year. Please let me know how



your unit is celebrating. I want to recognize the units that have a special celebration.

Please give me your information. You can use email, US mail, give it to me at the Midwinter Conference or at your District Conference. We will be having a birthday party at the Membership Luncheon at Mid-Winter. Come join us and celebrate. There will be fun and fellowship for all.



Reaching for the STARS using our HEARTS to stay on TRACK with MEMBERSHIP.

Ann C. Buchanan, Membership

Hearts

Hello everyone! Do you think we can get warm after these cold days! It has been a very long time since I have been this cold! The wind is trying to blow us away.

Membership has really slowed down—we need members to pay their dues. We cannot afford to slow down as we need to make President Moore proud. The year of 2009 has come to a close and 2010 is upon us. Please contact your members and get those dues paid.

We have some Heart Units that are Goal and I am so proud of you!! And we have some Heart Units with just a few short of being Goal. We can do it, we can do it!!! So come on Hearts and get those dues in and get ahead of those Stars. I know we can pass them in membership.



Mid-Winter Conference is coming upon us. Remember to bring warm clothes. We Hearts will be there; letting them Stars know we are still around. Stars face it—just watch; as we Hearts gain in membership.

Remember our veterans wherever they may be. Say a prayer for them. We have our freedom because of our veterans.

Until next time,
Dortha Parsons
Second Vice President

AMERICANISM

We should of completed many Americanism programs by this time of our year. The start of January 2010 is here. I received one report for the mid-year. Thanks Paula Booth.

Salute to Hospitalized Veterans is coming in February. Visit a veteran in the hospital or nursing home and present them with a flag for their wall or one for the night stand. They would love to get a visit and a big hello and a smile.

We will be celebrating President Washington and Lincoln's Birthday in February. Have a program during your monthly meeting for these great presidents. The weather is still cold outside; visit a class room and present the children with an American Flag.

God Bless America and keep our troops safe.
Dortha Parsons
Americanism Chairman

POPPY

"The Measure of a Man...

...may be his willingness to serve his country."

"The Measure of a Country...

...may be its willingness to honor those who served."

Ladies be sure to wrap up all those little petals and keep them warm on their way to Mid-Winter. I am hoping to see many corsages and items for the poppy special project. Remember this is one of our oldest and most beneficial programs. The donations go to the Welfare fund to help Veterans. This is the reason we are here. Everyone attending Mid-winter please be sure to stop by the poppy table to vote for best corsage and to bid on special project items. Remember to take pictures for the new poppy scrapbook. Don't forget this was something new this year we were going to try.



I hope many of you are getting out into the schools and churches with poppy poster information and rules. These will be due before you know it. This is also a great opportunity to share the poppy story! Don't forget to take pictures for the new poppy scrapbook. You should also be working on the Miss Poppy scrapbook. If you have not already selected your Little Miss Poppy and Miss Poppy, time is getting away, the year is half gone.

Check out the Poppy information and Downloads on the state website www.wvaux.org

Stay Warm!

Lisa Cadwallader

42 Trout Circle, Kearneysville, W.V. 25430
(304) 725-1170 CADWALL1@Westat.com

Chaplain Corner

A Prayer For Today

This is the beginning of a new day. God has given me this day to use as I will. I can't waste it --- or use it for good, but what I do today is important, because I am exchanging a day of my life for it! When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever, leaving in its place something that I have traded for it. I want it to be gain, and not loss; good, and not evil; success, and not failure; in order that I shall not regret the price I have paid for it. Author Unknown

Submitted by: Tallulah Simpson



Hello Ladies,

I hope everyone is surviving this winter and the really cold temperatures. I think we need everyone to pray for dry weather for Mid-Winter. I hope to see many of you there. It sounds like it should be a lot of fun and packed full of information.

My mid year report has been sent on to National. However, I will be mailing the prayers received for the National prayer after Mid-Winter, so please bring prayers, inspirational poems and hymns with you if you would like to submit any. I will continue to take prayers, inspirational poems and hymns for the Department prayer book until May 2010.

The first Sunday in February is Four Chaplains Sunday and the first week after the first Sunday is Religious Emphasis Week. I hope units are working with Legionaries on a program, or doing their own ceremony. The service can be found in any of the Legion or Auxiliary Chaplains Manuals. For information about the Four Chaplains Memorial Foundation go to www.FourChaplains.org or you can request a free copy of the Saga of Four Chaplains from American Legion P.O. Box 1055 Indianapolis, IN. 46206 or emailing acy@legion.org.

Please keep our service personal, veterans and children in your thoughts and prayers.

God Bless

Lisa Cadwallader

42 Trout Circle, Kearneysville, W.V. 25430
(304) 725-1170 CADWALL1@Westat.com

Huntington VAMC Gift Shop

The Huntington VAMC Gift Shop was held on December 1. There was about 55 veterans at that time. We wrapped their gifts and took them to their rooms as most of them can't come down. Department President Patricia Moore and 1st Department 2nd Vice President Dortha Parsons came to visit. They helped with the gifts and helped carry to their rooms. Huntington Unit #16 had 5 members in attendance and Ceredo-Kenova \$93 had 4 members all there to lend a helping hand. Thanks to all that came to help. A good time was enjoyed by all and the veterans were very grateful for our kindness.

Katena Karnes

Gift Shop Chairman

West Virginia Veterans Home

Barboursville Veterans Home held Bingo for the Veterans in December. Hundred Post #120 hosted it by sending us \$200.00 to put on a Christmas Party for them. We had 44 veterans come and play. We served them tacos, cup cakes, chips, pop and gave them bags of fruit and candy. They were very please with the treats that they were given. Huntington Unit #16 members comes and help with the monthly bingo and they help serve. The monthly bingo is put on by the Department of West Virginia Auxiliary and Chairman Katena Karnes. There are 3 that help — Barboursville Unit #177, Huntington Unit & Post SAL #16 We do this on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. If any of the other Units would like to help just send your money to Katena Karnes at 721 10th Avenue, Huntington WV 25701 and she will put a Bingo on in your Unit's name.

Katena Karnes, Chairman, Peggy Roberson, Mary Waybright and Ann Buchanan, Committee members

Community Service

Hello Ladies:

I still need some units to send me their Mid Year Reports. I still can send them in but I need them before the end of the month. I know that you have completed items in your Community, so lets show National all that we have done. Please make sure you include how you help celebrate Martin Luther King Day. Don't forget about the Annual State Wide Comfort Drive at Mid-Winter. There is a list in the January Spirit. Keep up the good work and please send me a short note, e-mail so that I can finish up my report.

Remember, that March is Community Service Month. Should you need help. Please call or e-mail me.

Thank you so much for your volunteer work for Community Service. Keep up what you are doing because it is very important for your Community in which you live. Always be proud of what you do because you are doing great!!!

Thank You Again,
Sharon Glassford
Department Community Service Chairman

Public Relations

PR is everyone's responsibility to help promote our organization and the activities we do for our posts and communities. Making sure the public is aware of upcoming events and then the results of that event. Good public relations help the Auxiliary in recruiting new members and motivating the members to become active members. What you do in the community, your dress and appearance reflects upon The American Legion Auxiliary.

Every committee chairman should be doing something to promote their specific programs. I encourage you to write articles and place them in your local newspapers. I do know that some problems exist with the local press. Unit members must create positive relationships with their local media. If your local paper does not put your article in the paper, contact the editor and ask if they received your article; if they did, what was wrong with the article and ask how to correct it to get published? Remember the five Ws in writing articles: Who, What, When, Where and Why?

There are many media modes we have available: cable news channels, radio, web-sites, flyers and bulletin boards that can help us with public relations.

Has your Unit donated a subscription to the *National News* to your local public libraries or even the school libraries?

I will have a certificate for all of those who helped promote PR this year. Please send articles from your local papers that include the date, name of paper and page number to me at 103 East Tenth Ave., Ranson, WV 25438-1458.

Lynda Lancaster, Chairman
Department Public Relations

Education



"There are more than 1.2 million children of warriors and many are in need of financial assistance to further their education.... The sacrifices of our military personnel are great but their children's shouldn't be."

National President's Scholarships are awarded to children of veterans who served in the Armed Forces during the eligibility dates for the American Legion. The American Legion Auxiliary offers fifteen scholarships. Three scholarships will be awarded in each Division of the American Legion Auxiliary; one in the amount of \$2,500; one in the amount of \$2,000 and one in the amount of \$1,500. Candidates should be direct descendants, step-children or step-grandchildren of U.S. wartime veterans who served during one or more of the periods of war officially designated as eligibility dates for membership in The American Legion. All are gift scholarships and not loans.

Some of the requirements...

Applicants must be in their senior year of high school. Previous scholarship recipients are not eligible for further consideration. No Unit may enter more than one candidate to Department. Each Department is restricted to submitting one candidate to the Divisional competition. The scholarship must be used within twenty-four months of the date the winner receives notification or the scholarship will be forfeited. Applicant must complete fifty hours of volunteer service within the community, verified by the recipient organization. Applicant must submit completed packet to Unit President on or before March 1, 2010. The winning entry for each Unit shall be certified and verified by the Unit President and mailed to the Department Secretary; to be received on or before March 15, 2010.

Application Packet Requirements

Four letters of recommendation...

- Principal or guidance counselor
- One letter from a clergyman/woman
- Two letters from adult citizen, other than relatives
- Original written article of no more than 1000 words.....

"Answering the Call to Serve My Community and Our Veterans"

- Verification of 50 hours of voluntary service
- Certified transcript or photocopy of high school grades
- Copy of ACT or SAT scores
- Copy of FASFA
- Brief statement of military service of eligible veteran

Judging is based on the following...

Character/Leadership	20%
Essay/Application	20%
Financial Need	20%
Scholarship	40%

Half the award will be paid directly to the school for the first semester upon notification from the school that the student has registered. The balance of the award will be paid to the school upon notification from the school that the student has registered for the second semester. No cash award will be paid directly to the student. If a student discontinues their education before completing either semester, the balance of the scholarship will be forfeited.

With the rising cost of education and our country's financial issues, members and Units can help not only with a donation but with encouraging those students who meet the qualifications, to apply.

A significant investment in the future can be made with a donation. Your challenge...make a donation, challenge members of your Unit, your friends, co-workers and family to match your donation. With your imagination, I am sure you can find ways to make donating fun. Consider making a donation in memory of someone or as a gift for a birthday or holiday. You can honor a veteran by making a donation in their name.

Remember...Five becomes ten...Ten becomes twenty...Twenty becomes forty...I know you get the picture. Remember your donation is like the energizer bunny...it keeps giving and giving. You can make donations online at www.legion-aux.org/donate.

We look forward to your donations and applications from deserving students

Further information...all rules, deadline dates and scholarship application form can be found on the Auxiliary's web site at www.legion-aux.org.

Dede Kelly
Education Chairman
229 Jefferson Street
Bridgeport WV 26330
dedekelly@verizon.net

Ways and Means

Judy Casteel	038	Cedar Bluff	VA	12/01/2009	\$25.00
	319			12/02/2009	
Ginnie Byrd	003	Welch	WV	12/03/2009	\$25.00
	069			12/04/2009	
Bo Arvin	327	Martinsburg	WV	12/05/2009	\$25.00
Tasha Taylor	188	Moorefield	WV	12/07/2009	\$25.00
	660			12/08/2009	
	994			12/09/2009	
Lacey Ramage	687	Lumberport	WV	12/10/2009	\$25.00
Charles Harman	491	Ripley	WV	12/11/2009	\$25.00
	094			12/12/2009	
Kathleen Dudley	506	Welch	WV	12/14/2009	\$25.00
Charlotte Meade	190	Fairmont	WV	12/15/2009	\$25.00
Jessica Sovel	436	Bridgeport	CT	12/16/2009	\$200.00
Ila Shaffer	168	Romney	WV	12/17/2009	\$25.00
	141			12/18/2009	
Lisa Haines	889	Romney	WV	12/19/2009	\$25.00
Roxie Nicholson	515	Shinnston	WV	12/21/2009	\$25.00
Sharon Glassford	274	Charles Town	WV	12/22/2009	\$25.00
Barry Hogue	592	Clarksburg	WV	12/23/2009	\$25.00
Jim Dotson	167	Bluefield	WV	12/24/2009	\$25.00
Pete Reed	710	Welch	WV	12/25/2009	\$25.00
Patricia Phillips	595	Beckley	WV	12/26/2009	\$25.00
Sondra Lucas	399	McMechen	WV	12/28/2009	\$25.00
Anita Ratliff	055	Romney	WV	12/29/2009	\$25.00
Katena Karnes	658	Huntington	WV	12/30/2009	\$25.00
Sherri Nichols	492	East Bend	NC	12/31/2009	\$25.00

This is only Fundraiser Department has to help with Budget & Programs. Each Ticket is good for everyday of the 2010 year (1/1 to 12/31). We ask each Unit to please support this program. They make wonderful gifts. Cost is \$20.00 per ticket.



Tickets for "2010" Year are available. PLEASE let me know if you need some. There are still extras for anyone to buy. PLEASE if anyone wants some to sell let me know. Once you sell your tickets return all stubs with money to me. If you have tickets not able to sell also please return those tickets. There is always someone wanting more tickets. Remember they make wonderful gifts. Good all year long. You have a chance of winning multiple times.

"Thanks for your Continued Support"

Beth Wolfe
 Ways & Means Chairman
 109 Logan Street
 McMechen WV 26040
 233-3338
 (E) bethwolfe45@comcast.net

HISTORIAN

Hello Stars and Hearts:

I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and enjoying all the "SNOW". December is always a busy month for all of us. I have been working on the History Book for the Department of West Virginia. I need lots of information from you ladies in your end-of-year reports. I hope to see and talk to all of you at Mid-Winter Conference in Morgantown.

I really did enjoy helping with the Beckley Gift Shop at Beckley VAMC. The veterans were so nice and some even wanted to help. God bless and take care of all our veterans all over the world.

I have enjoyed working on the Department History for 2009-2010 for West Virginia. I will find this time also to say that I will not be running for Department Chaplain for 2010-2011. I can do much better for the American Legion Auxiliary when I work in my Unit and in my District. Good luck to all who are running for office. It is a wonderful organization to be a part of.

I hope this finds everyone in good health and high spirits for our upcoming Conference.

November 10, 1919—November 10, 2010 — 90 years of service not self. That is a strong statement, but all is so true.

Rita Alley
 Department Historian

State Bowling Tournament

Bowling News:

Due to low numbers of teams we made changes.

Some of the Auxiliary members were asking if they could bowl in the American Legion Bowling Tournament. Some teams were having a hard time finding five bowlers and some teams wanted to use friends of veterans. Both requests have been answered. (Yes to both)

We have made the American Legion State of West Virginia Bowling Tournament a family affair. Before you had to be a Legionnaire or SAL and now we have included the ladies of the Auxiliary of West Virginia and friends of veterans.

Each team must have at least three members of the Legion, Sons of the Legion or the Auxiliary to bowl. It can be one Legionnaire, two Auxiliaries or one Legionnaire, one Auxiliary and one SAL. The other two bowlers can be a friend of the veterans.

This year's tournament will be March 27th and 28th, 2010 in Clarksburg WV.

More information will be on its way. If you have any question and/or comments, feel free to call me at home. The number is 740-439-4583.

Thanks for your help,
 Jim Davis
 Bowling Chairman

*** 49th Annual WV Legionnaire Bowling Tournament Entry Form is on the State Web Site at: www.wvaux.org or call 1-888604-2242 for a copy of the form.

Team — \$75.00
 Doubles — \$30.00
 Singles — \$15.00

Remembering Our Friends

PDP President Marlene Bonar fell on the ice a few weeks ago and was in hospital for awhile. She is now home recuperating. Get Wells Cards can be sent to her at 316 Poplar Avenue, Moundsville WV 26041. Keep her in your prayers.

Trent Shaffron, who was Dept Music Chairman for many years is now living with her daughter in New York due to health problems. Get well cards can be mailed to Trent at c/o Debbie & Richard Shellenback, 17 Emmons Drive, Clifton Park, NY 10565



First District President

Hello ladies of 1st District:

2010 year seems to be rolling right along. Mid-Winter is just around the corner. Hope to see many in attendance especially from 1st District. The program sounds like lots of fun and fellowship to be enjoyed by all.

It won't be long we will be making plans for Spring Conference. Chester Unit #121 will be busy making preparations for our visit to their Post Home on April 25, 2010. Please all Units of First District have members attend. I would like to have a 100% Unit attendance at my last District Conference as your District President.

At this Conference Chaplain Fran Rayl will be conducting memorial services. All Units need to send their deceased members for 2009-10 to Fran by April 16th. Also send your deceased members to Department Chaplain Lisa Cadwallader for the State Memorial Service held at State Convention in July.

Elections for District President and District Vice President will also be held for the 2010-2011 year. Received endorsement from Susan Wade, Unit #86 for District President—need someone to be endorsed by their Unit for District Vice-President. Please get it in by 1st of April so we have a slate of officers.

April Postlethwait
1st District President

4th District President

Greetings to members of 4th District and All Auxiliary Members. I hope that all of you had a wonderful holiday season.

Congratulations to all units that met Target #6 1-15-10 80% Parkersburg Unit 15, Parkersburg Unit 104, Ripley Unit 107, New Haven Unit 140, and Williamstown Unit 159, And a Big Congratulations goes to Sistersville Unit 67 for being Fourth District first Goal Unit. Then everyone keep up the good work on membership.

Fourth Districts Spring Conference will be hosted by New Haven Unit 140 on April 11th 2010. I will have more information in next Spirit. Units will need to be sending their deceased members to District Chaplain Helen Leasure, 519 44th Street Vienna, West Virginia 26105, So she can start working on our District Memorial Service for our Spring Conference.

Mid-Winter is being held in Morgantown this year. Do to my health I will not be attending. I hope that everyone who attends has a great weekend. Until next month stay well and warm!

Nancy Sundstrom
Fourth District President

1st Dist. Vice President

Hello to all you beautiful "star" ladies of 1st District!!

I hope all of you are enjoying this winter weather.....I know I am ready for spring!!! I pray for good weather for Mid-Winter so we will have a great turnout. I know that it is going to be an awesome week-end!

I want to congratulate the following Units that have reached Target #6- Cameron Unit #18; Follansbee Unit #45; Paden City Unit #86; Wheeling Unit #89; and Chester Unit #121. Great job ladies! We have some Units that are so close!! The STARS are still ahead of the HEARTS and we want to keep it that way.....sorry Dortha, but I know you will look great in that "red dress"!! We are also ahead of 10th District but not by much! Remember we want that box of diapers!!

I can not emphasize enough how important Membership is! I hope we all do our part in getting those renewals in and also new members. I want to encourage each and every one of you to try your best! Please remember my challenge on doing a report on your Units Membership Drive. I need the report the first part of April and the winner will receive a special gift at our Spring Conference. I ask each Unit to please make an effort to turn in a report. The report can be brief, just enough to let me know what your Unit did to get Membership!!

I hope to see many of you at Mid-Winter!! God Bless You All and God Bless America!!

Susan Wade
1st District Vice President

Eighth District

Congratulations to Charleston Unit #20 and St. Albans Unit #73 for reaching Goal! I hope Charleston Unit #57 will get their dues collected and turned in to Department. Perhaps, we will make Goal for the District.

Our 8th District Spring Conference will be hosted by St. Albans #73 on Saturday, April 17th. Registration starts at 9 a.m., and the cost is \$6.00. Please RSVP to Janet Durbin at 2741 Lincoln Ave., St. Albans, WV 25177-2176. Phone: 304-722-5446. Also, please turn you names of deceased in to Ilene Stanley, District Chaplain, 1832 Rt. 21, Kenna, WV 25248.

God Bless all our troops
Mary Bess
8th District President

NINTH DISTRICT

Happy Winter to all District 9 Members!!

The snow is brilliantly white and piled up where I live but the sun is breaking through some today. Oh well, what can we expect for mid-January?? I hope this article doesn't end up in Mary Rose's "SPAM can" this time! (*Funny Paula—Mary Rose*)

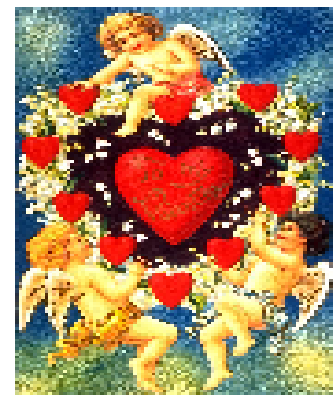
February is upon us and this will be a good month to re-evaluate where our Units are as far as our plans for the year. Use these cold days to read up on policies, procedures, programs and to make phone calls to arrange outreaches to our Veterans and communities.

District Program Chairmen, don't forget to call or somehow contact each unit in the district to bring them up to date on your particular program and see what they have been doing in that program so far. Remember Department President Patricia wants you to submit a good report near year-end to your District President so I can include it in my year-end report. Be Unit specific—let me know what each Unit has been doing.

Our membership is still gaining some—Target goal is 80% and so far this has been met by District 9 80.61%, Belington 104.55%, Cowen 102.27%, Lewisburg up to 97.94%! , Richwood 93.75%, and Pickens 85.71%. Make a real effort to call or visit those members who have not yet renewed and always be on the lookout for new members. I still have high hopes we can have a Goal District this year—you girls are doing great!!!

Remember your shut-ins, pray for our troops and their families, and pray for our Nation.

Love to all,
Paula Booth, 9th District President



Children and Youth

As we receive a reprieve from the snow fall of early January, I hope you are rejuvenated and looking forward to the coming months and all the activities they hold for each unit. Remember, April is Children and Youth month and I hope each unit is planning a special activity during this time. I will have information at Mid-Winter and am looking forward to hearing what your unit is planning.

I have asked for updates from each unit and would like to share with you what some of the units across this great state of ours are doing for the children and youth of their community.

Belington Unit 96 has a new C&Y Chairman who is learning and interested. She has been to the local Elementary School to arrange and then pick up pictures the children drew to cheer up the Wounded Warriors at Bethesda Naval Hospital and sent them to the Admiral there to be distributed. Mary Lou Murphy of Unit #96 is also working on some ideas for the month of April.

Everyone keep up the great work for your youth in your community.

Beth Kilgore
Department Children & Youth Chairman



Rhododendron Girls State



Plans are now swinging into full gear for the 2010 Rhododendron Girls State. I hope that contact has been established with your schools and financial contributors.

Packets will be distributed at the Midwinter Conference. I will be asking that the person picking up unit packets sign their name, so I will know who has the packet for each unit. Those packets not picked up will be mailed the week following Mid-Winter.

We do have a few changes this year (dress code and college credit), please read your information when you get it. Please call if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support of this very worthwhile program.

Ann C. Buchanan, RGS Chairman

Leadership

Hello to All Units!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and is now ready to get back into the Leadership program.

I would like to see each unit represented at this Mid Winter Conference in February.

Please remember to bring a \$10.00 Door Prize. Bring your pads and pens as there will be small quizzes, scavenger hunt and skits to enjoy. Let us show our National President that our Department supports our programs and we strive to be LEADERS!!!

Are you using your Unit Activity Sheets to fill out everything your members have done? Are you using your certificates to give "A Salute To Your Auxiliary Members"? They deserve the recognition for what they do in your programs and your unit.

Do you, as President, have an agenda planned ahead of your meeting and follow it during your meeting? Do you check with your recording secretary on the unfinished business to report at your meeting? This written agenda would guide you at your meetings. Checking with your recording secretary would keep you from leaving anything out of your meeting that needed to be discussed. This doesn't take long to do, and this should be done at every meeting. This is another "Leadership Tool".

See you at Mid Winter!
Paulette Anderson
Leadership

2010 Rhododendron Girls State

June 13—18, 2010

Wheeling Jesuit University

Irene Weber, Directory

Renie895@cs.com

304-258-1036

State Web-Site — www.wvaux.org

Rhododendron Girls State District Representatives

1st Dist — Jill McCallister

205 Grant Ave
Moundsville WV 26041
845-5928

3rd Dist — Tallulah Simpson

512 Worthington Dr Apt 13
Bridgeport WV 26330
838-1593

4th Dist — Susan Hall

P O Box 95
New Haven WV 25265
882-3602

5th Dist — Katena Karnes

721 10th Ave
Huntington WV 25701
525-5634

6th Dist — Peggy Swartz

P O Box 124
Gary, WV 24836
448-2394

8th Dist — Mary Bess

215 N. Pinch Road
Elkview, WV 25071
965-3192

9th Dist — Sandy Grahame

P O Box 503
Elkins WV 26241
636-7855

10th Dist — Lynda Lancaster

103 E. 10th Ave
Ranson WV 25438
725-4370



28th Annual Mid-Winter Conference American Legion Auxiliary Program Lakeview Resort, Morgantown WV

Friday, February 5, 2010

3 – 7 p.m.	Registration	Ballroom Foyer
3:00 P.M.	Girls State Executive Board Meeting.....	Seminar Rooms 1 & 2
7:00 P.M.	Opening Joint Session.....	Governor's Ballroom
9:00 P.M.	Dance.....	Reflections Ballroom

Saturday, February 6, 2010

8 A.M. – Noon	Registration	Ballroom Foyer
8:30 A.M.	Opening Session	Governor's Ballroom #1—4
	Welcome	Patricia Moore, Department President
	Call to Order.....	Paulette Anderson, Leadership Chairman
	Advancement of Colors	
	Invocation /Moment of Silence	Lisa Cadwallader, Department Chaplain
	Pledge of Allegiance.....	Dortha Parsons, Americanism Chairman
	National Anthem	Tallulah Simpson, Music Chairman
	Preamble of Constitution	Roxie Nicholson, Constitution/Bylaws Chairman
8:45 A.M.	Presentation of Distinguished Guest -----	Patricia Moore, Department President
	Rita Navarrete 2009-2010 National President Department of New Mexico	
9:15 A.M.	Chapel of 4 Chaplains Service	Lisa Cadwallader, Department Chaplain
9:30 A.M.	Folding of the Flag	Cowen Unit #62
10:30 A.M.	Girls State	Irene Weber, Girls State Director
		Ann Buchanan, Girls State Chairman
		Department Officers
11:00 A.M.	Fashion Show	
11:15 A.M.	Music	Tallulah Simpson, Music Chairman
11:30 A.M.	Program Quiz	Paulette Anderson, Leadership Chairman
12:00 P.M.	Lunch -----	Governor's Ballroom #5 & 6
1:30 P.M.	Reconvene.....	Governor's Ballroom
	Leadership Tools.....	Patricia Moore, Department President
2:00 P.M.	Americanism Skit	Past Department Presidents
2:30 P.M.	Unit Mock Meeting	
2:45 P.M.	Junior Report	Debbie Fox, Junior Activities Chairman
3:00 P.M.	Announcements	
	Report on Poppy Corsages	
	Report on Silent Auction	
	Report on Comfort Items	
3:15 P.M.	Wrap Up	Patricia Moore, Department President
3:30 P.M.	Prayer for Peace	Lisa Cadwallader, Department Chaplain
	Retirement of Colors	
	Adjournment	
4:00 P.M.	Joint Religious Service	Chestnut Ballroom
6:00 P.M.	Reception	Governor's Ballroom
9:00 P.M.	Dance	

Everyone have a safe trip home.

- ** Comfort Item Room ----- Seminar Room #4 (Lower Level)
- ** Silent Auction ----- Ballroom Foyer
- ** Poppy Corsage Contest --- Ballroom Foyer





BE A CARE BEAR!



**Make a Valuable Contribution to
West Virginia Veterans!**

Donate items for the Mid-Winter Conference

SILENT AUCTION

February 6, 2010

Lakeview Resort, Morgantown, WV

Patricia Moore, Department President

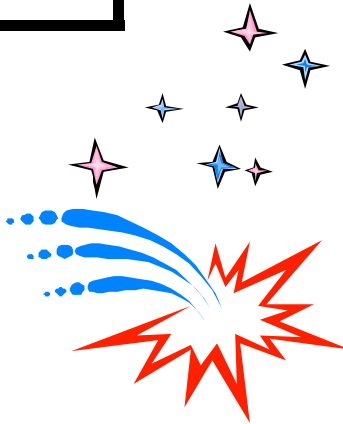
MEMBERSHIP — 2009-2010

Target #6 January 15, 2010 — 80%
 Total to Date — 6988 (73.62%)
 2010 National Goal — 9491
 Headquarters Unit #200 — 64

Posted
 1/15/10

District 1

Unit	2010 Goal	2010	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	30	5	16.67
Moundsville #3	318	250	78.62
McMechen #5	New Unit	34	
Weirton #10	89	55	61.80
Cameron #18	206	179	86.89
New Martinsville #28	158	125	79.11
Wellsburg #34	49	33	67.35
Follansbee #45	49	41	83.67
Benwood #46	172	112	65.12
Pine Grove #81	102	79	77.45
Paden City #86	132	108	81.82
Wheeling #89	51	42	82.35
Newell #114	59	26	44.07
Hundred #120	146	113	77.40
Chester #121	195	170	87.18
TOTALS	1756	1372	77.69

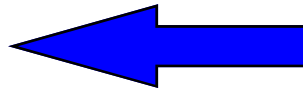


STARS

Goal — 4556
 To Date — 3638
 (79.85%)

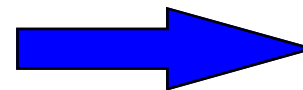
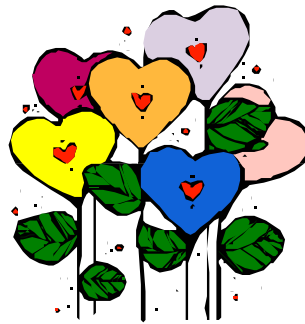
District 4

Unit	2010 Goal	2010	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	1084	878	81.00
Spencer #21	80	62	77.50
Pt Pleasant #23	309	216	69.90
Sistersville #67	130	*135	103.85
Parkersburg #104	18	15	83.33
Ripley #107	25	21	84.00
New Haven #140	223	179	80.27
Williamstown #159	176	146	82.95
TOTALS	2045	1652	80.78



District 6

Unit	2010 Goal	2010	% of Goal
Welch #8	110	63	57.27
Bluefield #9	34	22	64.71
Beckley #32	58	43	74.14
Gary #38	55	*55	100.00
Beckley #70	18	14	77.78
Fayetteville #149	52	42	80.77
TOTALS	327	239	73.09



HEARTS

Goal — 4539
 To Date — 3301
 (72.72%)

District 9

Unit	2010 Goal	2010	% of Goal
Elkins #29	221	173	78.28
Cowen #62	44	*45	102.27
Lewisburg #69	97	95	97.94
Belington #96	22	*23	104.55
Richwood #97	16	15	93.75
Pickens #122	28	24	85.71
TOTALS	428	375	87.62

District 3

Unit	2010 Goal	2010	% of Goal
Weston #4	29	17	58.62
Buckhannon #7	60	53	88.33
Grafton #12	62	22	35.48
Clarksburg #13	164	140	85.37
Shinnston #31	362	283	78.18
Gassaway #33	38	28	73.68
Mannington #40	24	23	95.83
Philippi #44	70	56	80.00
Kingwood #56	11	1	9.09
Bridgeport #68	80	17	21.25
Jane Lew #166	66	*66	100.00
TOTALS	966	706	73.08

District 5

Unit	2010 Goal	2010	% of Goal
Huntington #16	338	255	75.44
Logan #19	30	21	70.00
Ceredo-Kenova #93	670	374	55.82
Hamlin #111	89	54	60.67
Milton #139	123	109	88.62
Barboursville #177	225	151	67.11
TOTALS	1475	964	65.36

District 8

Unit	2010 Goal	2010	% of Goal
Charleston #20	77	*81	105.19
Charleston #57	13	0	0.00
St Albans #73	130	*132	101.54
South Charleston #94	17	16	94.12
TOTALS	237	229	96.62

District 10

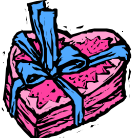
Unit	2010 Goal	2010	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	150	78	48.75
Franklin #30	20	*21	105.00
Keyser #41	57	48	84.21
Piedmont #52	23	*27	117.39
Berkeley Springs #60	281	192	76.04
Moorefield #64	191	154	80.21
Charles Town #71	244	198	81.15
Petersburg #78	100	74	74.00
Romney #91	348	243	69.83
Charles Town #102	11	*11	100.00
Paw Paw #128	84	61	72.62
Kirby #134	57	*57	100.00
Ridgeley #136	107	80	74.77
Capon Bridge #137	119	90	75.63
Keyser #152	58	*58	100.00
Riverton #183	11	10	90.91
TOTALS	1861	1402	74.89



**American Legion Auxiliary
 Department of West Virginia
 Patricia Moore, President**



February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
					28th Mid-Winter Conference Lakeview Resort, Morgantown	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Four Chaplains' Sunday					Lincoln's Birthday	
					Mail Call To Units	
————— Religious Emphasis Week —————						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
 Valentine's Day	President's Day		Ash Wednesday			
	Office Closed					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Washington's Birthday				Mail Call To Units	10th District Spring Conf. Martinsburg
28						
NEC meetings Washington DC Feb 27—28	Awareness Assembly Washington DC Feb 28—March 3, 2010		<u>Programs of Month</u> Americanism Chapel-4-Chaplains			

V. A. & R.

Happy New Years to All:

Thanks for all you have done at the VA facilities for the Christmas Gift Shops and other programs. You've made a difference in the lives of those who have helped the rest of us have the freedoms we enjoy. Our Central Division Chairman Carollee Junge has asked us to please make a New Year's resolution to try to increase the volunteers at our VA facilities. Consider tapping into the high schools and any college in your community. Many have to have volunteer hours to graduate with the honors and degrees they want and/or for their college applications. We have service personnel returning from Iraq and Afghanistan every month who need our volunteers.

As I have told you, the American Legion Auxiliary continues to be the Host Sponsor for the Creative Arts Festival. I have been informed at the Awareness Assembly, National President Rita will be accepting donations from each Department. It would be embarrassing if our Department President Patricia did not have anything to present, so won't you please make your donations and get them into Department headquarters.. There will be an award for the Department in Central Division that turns in the highest donation.

I hope you sent me a short report on your unit's activities to date - - email if you wish -- mwaybright@yahoo.com - - I needed to do a mid-year report by January 10th.

Look forward to your many donations for the Comfort Drive held in Morgantown the first weekend in February. Also, Department Chairman - - have you lined up someone to deliver back the comfort items to your Veterans Hospital and to the WV Veterans Home? I am counting on you to have someone with enough car or truck space to get it back to your facility.

Mary Waybright,
VA & R Chairman

Tenth District

Hello Tenth District Hearts,

Here we are at Midwinter time already. It sounds like Department President Patricia Moore and Leadership Chairman Paulette Anderson have an exciting program planned for us at Lakeview in Morgantown on February 5-6. I hope that every unit from tenth district can have a representative at the conference.

Like I said earlier here we are at Midwinter time getting ready for Tenth District Spring Conference. I guess I'll never understand the reasoning for having a spring conference in the middle of winter.

Lets face it we are woman and we can handle wearing a nice spring dress with snow boots.

The registration and credential forms have been sent out along with the first draft of the Tenth District Constitution, By-laws and Standing Rules. When ask why are we doing this the answer

is we are just trying to comply with the department? We are the only district in WV and one of a handful nationwide without Constitution and By-laws.

The Spring Conference will be February 27,2010 at Berkeley Unit #14 Post in Martinsburg. Registration will be 8-9AM with the meeting starting promptly at 9AM. Send names of deceased members to District Chaplain Bea Taylor at 25 Endler Ave, Romney WV 26757.

That evening will be the District Birthday Dinner at Berkeley Post # 14. Hope to see everyone there.

Our membership has slowed down but I'm sure we all want to be a goal unit by Department Convention. We did win our challenge with First District to have the most goal units by Dec 31,2009.

Tenth District President,
Debbie Fox

Flag Alliance

I still have not received any information from National. With all that is going on in Washington , this has probably been put on hold with more important issues they are working on. Still we must keep reminding them that we feel strongly about protecting our flag.

Fly your flag properly and proudly where ever you can. When anyone needs to replace their flag remind them to turn the old one into the American Legion Post for proper disposal.

Keep the flag flying high and always show respect for it.

Leona Kidwell
Flag Alliance Chairman

MUSIC

Start practicing. We will be singing at Mid Winter.

Music Chairman
Tallulah Simpson
304-838-1593

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

Hello Hearts and Stars,

I can't believe that this year is half over. We still have so many things that we want to accomplish before this term comes to an end. We have done so many exceptional things. We've worked on care packages for our troops and emergency preparedness kits for

our homes. We made a visit to a VAMC and delivered comfort items donated by units through out the state. We have come so far and we can't stop the momentum.

Now is the time to start on our Children and Youth part of our Plan Of Action. On February 06, 2010 we will be allowed to experience something that some people will never be permitted to do their entire lives. The Juniors from the Department of WV will tour the WVU Children's Hospital in Morgantown, WV. Each Junior that intends to make the trip must have a permission form completed before leaving Lakeview Resort. I'll be at the resort early afternoon on Friday 05,2010 with plenty of forms. Normally I would ask the Juniors to wear a dress or skirt and blouse, since we will be out during the morning I will allow slacks and a top. This must be dress church cloths. NO JEANS PLEASE!!!!

Along with this visit we are wanting to take items for the babies at the hospital. Ages 1 day to 18 months. These must be new items such as baby spoons, bibs, blankets and bottles .NO stuff animals or balloons. A complete list was in the December SPIRIT. The WVU Children's Hospital is looking forward to see all of us. Their only request is that no ill Juniors take the tour. I have a complete agenda for the February 06,2010. The amount of juniors attending will decide how closely we adhere to the plan.

As the second part of our Children and Youth plan is to collect school supplies for needy children/schools. We will also be using this as our July Meeting project. I've noticed that some of the large discount stores have some of their school items on sale now. Anything that you can bring will be greatly appreciated. The amount of items we collect will determine how many children we can help.

Any Junior wanting to attend the Midwinter Conference can pre-registration by downloading a form from the Department web-site This can be sent to Department by February 01,2010 with \$10.00. This registration fee will be given to the Junior Activities Program.

Before long it will be time to start completing your Patch Program Worksheets I need to have the worksheets by June 01,2010. If you have any question about of this please feel free to call me @ 304-258-5804 or 304-268-2353. My email is foxbd@aol.com. I hope to see lots of our Junior leaders at Midwinter.

To Our Young Leaders,
Junior Activities Chairman
Debbie Fox

Annual State Wide Comfort Item Drive

The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of West Virginia is entering its 8th year for the annual Comfort Drive. It will be held at the Mid-Winter Conference same as in the past. All Posts, Units and SAL Squadrons are asked to take part in this project.

The following is a list of various Comfort Items that our Veterans at the VA Medical Centers really enjoys and needs. **Remember some of these veterans are older and have poor eyesight and are not able to hold large items with hands.** All items that are collected by Units, Posts and Squadrons are to be brought to Mid-Winter. We hope there are truck loads of items. All items will be divided among the 4 VAMC's and WV Veterans Home. What a great challenge for our State again this year with this outstanding project. **WE DO NOT WANT CASH!!!!** We want comfort items and the Units can use their Welfare Fund for this project.

1. Small tubes toothpaste
2. Socks
3. flannel shirts
4. pocket T-Shirts
5. trial size shampoos, lotions, bath powder, etc
6. denture brushes (individual wrapped)
7. Polly grip
8. disposable razors
9. combs
10. Shaving Cream
11. Emery boards
12. Stamps/stationary
13. Playing cards
14. Deodorant (Spray or Stick)
15. Electric Pre-Shave
16. Hair brushes
17. Puzzles (under 2000 pieces)(No Used ones)
18. Crafts (kits preferred)
Models (snap together)
Leather
19. Western paperback books
20. **Lg Print Crossword Puzzles**
21. **Lg Print Word Search Books**
22. Toothbrushes (Individual wrapped)
23. Phone cards



West Virginia Veterans Home – (currently one female resident) The following is a list received from the West Virginia Veterans Home. Some of the items are large items but maybe some Units/Posts would like to take these as VA & R projects for the year or just adopt a resident. This facility is a dormaciliary for Veterans (men & women) who can feed and dress themselves and able to get to the Cafeteria. The home provides pleasant rooms, good food, transportation to VA Medical Center and various activities in area. Residents pay a rent based on income and have to furnish their own personal items, do their own laundry, take care of their living area, etc. If it wasn't for this facility a lot of these veterans would have to live out on the streets.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Deodorant | Individual Hot chocolate |
| Foot Powder | Phone Cards |
| Body Powder | Movie Passes |
| Denture Adhesive | Coffee Pots (35 Cup Pots) |
| After Shave | Darts & Dart Supplies |
| Body Lotion | Microwaves |
| Shower Gel/Wash | Refrigerators |
| Mouthwash | Washers |
| Cologne | Dryers |
| Tissues | Radios/CD Players |
| Q-tips | DVD Players |
| Cotton Balls | Movies |
| Bar Soap Cases | Travel Coffee Mugs |
| Double Edge Razors | Linens (pillows, twin sheets, blankets) |
| Shoe Polish | Clothes Hampers |
| Sewing Kits | Laundry Bags |
| Eye Glass Repair Kits | Men's Pocket T-Shirts |
| Wallets | Men's Underwear |
| Watches | Sweat Pants & Shirts |
| Batteries "AAA" & "AA" | Camping Equipment |
| Scratch Pads | Craft Supplies/Kits |
| Coolers | Laundry Powder (if large boxes –powder is divided up in baggies) |
| Instant Coffee | Fishing Equipment |
| Creamer | Cash for trips (tournaments, games, camping) |
| Coffee Stirrers | Individual Microwave Popcorn |
| Tea Bags | Individual Snack Items |



DO NOT BRING

- After Shave (contains alcohol)
- Mouthwash (contains alcohol)

*Any questions about program contact Mary Waybright, VA & R Chr
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