



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 28 January 2015 Issue 6



American Legion Auxiliary 2014-2015 Department President Paula Booth



Upward and Onward For Veterans

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all Grateful Heart Members!

Time is flying by, we've done a lot of work, but still have a lot to do before our fiscal year is over.

Wow! Way to go Paden City Unit 86!! First Unit to make Goal this year. IT CAN BE DONE!!! Congratulations also to those Units with percentages in the 80s and 90s. I know this is a busy time of the year, and some Units are plagued with sickness or disinterest but come on, Gang, surely each Unit has at least one member who can step up and get the ball rolling. Our Veterans always pull through for us—now it's our opportunity to work for them!

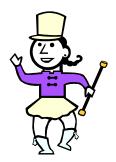
Junior and I visited the Gift Shops at Huntington, Beckley, and Clarksburg--all had an abundance of gifts and smiles for our Veterans and their families. Thanks to all of you for your hard work and dedication! We had to miss the Martinsburg Gift Shop as it was on the same day as Clarksburg.

Lord willing, I plan to see you at Mid-Winter Conference—remember to support the Comfort Drive, Silent Auction, and Membership Luncheon.

See you in 2015!!

Paula Booth

Department President, aka Leader of the Grateful Hearts Band



Department Officers 2014-2015

President—Paula Booth
1st Vice President—Susan Wade
2nd Vice President—Tammy Workman
Sec/Treas.—Paulette Anderson
Chaplain—Ramona Westfall
Historian—Rhonda Best
District Presidents 2014-2015
1st District—Donna Leek
3rd District—Connie Bailey
4th District—Nancy Sundstrom
5th District—Beth Kilgore
6th District—Peggy Swartz
8th District—Mary Bess
9th District—Marion Gregory
10th District—Lisa Turner

District Vice Presidents 2014-2015

1st District—Marlene Stansberry
3rd District—Carla Wilfong
4th District—Cathy Post
5th District—JoAnn Hastings
6th District—Rita Alley
8th District—Rose Reese
9th District—Jeanie Phares
10th District—Sharon Glassford

2015-2016 Candidates for Offices

Department President Susan Wade Paden City Unit #86

Endorsement on File in Office Announcement in Spirit





Department Headquarters— "Ticket Taker"



Mandatory Funds are Bonding, Department Scholarship, Girls State Project, Veterans 1st Fund, Poppy Order & 10% Poppy Proceeds. Make check payable to Department Treasurer, ALA. DUE into Department July 31st to be a Unit in good standing.

Processing Membership:

Make sure your membership is into Department Headquarters by the 15th to be counted for Targets.

Membership:

All applications must have signature of a Post Officer and if they are a Junior member a Birthdate. Unit Membership Chairman should check each application to make sure it is filled out completely including City, Post #, State and zip code. If eligibility is under a Veteran living all information must be filled out before processing into Department Headquar**ters.** If a veteran is living they must hold membership in The American Legion. All unfinished applications will be returned this year. I am receiving too many mistakes on applications. Please check the Birthdates of your Juniors renewing this year. If they will turn 18 years old by December 31, 2014 they are considered a Senior Member. I have had a few Units who has a Debit for this reason.

Remember: if a Woman Veteran joins the Auxiliary under herself you must put on the application at the top "Honor Our Women Veterans" to get the discount from National. Unit Secretary can sign these applications **ONLY**

MAKE SURE THE POST OFFICER SIGNS OTHER APPLICATIONS.

Directory Updates:

Page 20: under 3rd District V A & Rreplace Roberta Hinerman with Nancy Davis, PO Box 2, Enterprise WV 26508, 304-592-3848. Under 1st District Americanism add

Carolyn Yoho, HC 60 Box 215, Pine Grove WV 26419, 304-889-3464; Children & Youth Debbie Morgan 102 Valley Manor, Pine Grove WV 26419304-904-5394; National Security Melissa Yoho, HC 60 Box 215, Pine Grove WV

26419. 304-889-3464: V A & R Paulette Anderson, 1251 Doolin Run Road, New Martinsville WV 26155. 304-771-0984.

Page 21: 10th District Chaplain is Michelle Hart, 67 Augustine Ct., Kearneysville WV 25430, 304-839-3237; Americanism: Linda Ballard, 117 Columbus Ct., Martinsburg WV 25404m 304-267-2640; Children & Youth: Lynda Lancaster, PO Box 1037, Ranson WV 25438, 304-676-3979: National Security: Lisa Cadwallader, 42 Trout Circle Kearneysville WV 25430, 304-725-1170: V A & R: Debbie Fox, 874 Longview Drive Berkeley Springs WV 25411, 304-258-5804.

Cookbooks: we still have about 113 cookbooks to sell. Contact Dept. Headquarters to purchase one. They make wonderful Christmas Gifts. Support our Veterans!!!

Dates To Remember:

December 22nd Office Closed at 12:00 pm for Dr. appointment

December 24th and 25th Closed for **Christmas Holiday**

December 31st and January 1st Closed for New Years' Holiday

February 6th and 7th Closed for **Midwinter Conference**

February 22nd-25th Closed for **Washington DC Conference**

Remember:

Midwinter Luncheon At Midwinter Conference

Restaurant will be closed to the public

Reserve now!!!

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00-4:00

Answering Machine and Fax available 24 Hours Office (304) 455-5007 FAX: (304) 455 5825 Toll Free 1-888-604-2242

Mailing Address: 1251 Doolin Run Road New Martinsville WV 26155-7808

> American Legion Auxiliary **Department Email:** alawvsec@frontier.com

Rhododendron Girls State Website: www.wvgirlsstate.org

The American Legion

Department Email: wvlegion@suddenlinkmail.com

National Auxiliary website:

alaforveterans.org

Remember Our Friends

Roy Simmons, member of Cowen Post #62, passed away at the age of 96 years old. He was the oldest member of Cowen and the oldest veteran in the county. He served in WW II.

I want to Thank each and everyone for their Prayers, Calls, and Cards during my latest cancer surgery and recovery. Yes I am the path of recovery and Monday December 8th I went back to my Volunteer Work at the Clarksburg Veterans Hospital. I was on all the area Church Prayer Chains and Thanks to God I do not have to take treatments. Again Thanks Ladies !!! Dortha Parsons

PDP and Unit 13

Irene Weber, PCDNVP, is home now with a Home Care Nurse coming in. She also is having physical therapy done in her home for now.

"WELCOMING OUR MEMBERSHIP"

Membership Chairman

Ladies:

Wow, New Year already January 2015 is forth coming. I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year.

Now that we are coming on a new year; we can Relax, Regroup, Renew and Rejoin. I want to share some thoughts with you from Central Division Membership Chairman, Donna Ray, Central Division; out of the Division on National Level is in 2nd Place. That is in the Division only. She thanks everybody for their "Terrific Job." Keep up the good work. "We are in to win it."

Donna would like to know of success stories. I need a short email as to how you are working to retain, renew, gain new members. Also, if you plan on doing something in the future let me know about those plans. I will be doing a report for Donna and National Membership Chairman, Anita. December 27th, I need to have those e-mails. NOT LONG, JUST WHAT YOU HAVE

BEEN DOING; FOR MEMBERSHIP. Hopefully, I can report on 100 % for West Virginia. THERE IS NO REPORTING FORM. We are working to meet the 2019 goal of the "Million Member." I know you all are hard working on this project.

WE ARE THE LARGEST PATRIOTIC WOMENS ORGANIZATION IN THE WORLD.

While we start a new Year; we can refresh our Mission. OUR MISSION: "MEMBERS ENABLE US TO CARRY OUT OUR MISSION TO ASSIST VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES, YOUTH AND OUR COMMUNITIES." We are a work in Progress. The membership will lead us to great accomplishments for our Mission. I know tough times are here. We still can do it. Ladies, you always come though and I know you will come though again. You do a great job as always.

CONGRATULATION, PADEN CITY UNIT #86 - 100.88%.

The following units have 80% or Plus: McMechen #5- 84.48%, Beckley #32-84.62%, Gary #38- 85.53%, Clarksburg #13- 89.51%, Morgantown #174 - 91.30%, Franklin #30- 81.82%, Kirby #134- 82.00% and Keyser # 152- 92.16% . Great Job keep on pushing.

Dept. Vice Presidents I need your assistance with the units that have ZERO AND BELOW 50%. The District Vice Pres. need to help you. Right now, we need to have Richwood #97, Grafton #12, and Bridgeport # 68, PAYS DUES ASAP. I NEED THESE DUES TO PAULETTE, BY MONDAY, DECEMBER 22ND, (SOONER). Should you have already sent DUES to Paulette, Thank you? She will keep me updated. Do not hold dues. Dept. Vice Pres. and District Vice Pres. thank you; for your help and assistance. I know this will all come together. Just little more push and we can do this.

Looking forward to having a refreshing 2015.

WISHING for you; SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS. KEEP THOSE FIGHTING FOR US IN YOUR PRAYERS!

GOD BLESS AMERICA FAITH, FAMILY, FRIENDS WE CAN DO THIS (I HAVE FAITH) Sharon Glassford Dept. Membership Chairman



1st Vice President

Hello Ladies!

We are at the end of another year! I can't believe how fast the time has flown by!! There are several Units that need to get dues in ASAP!!

I want to Congratulate the following Units for reaching Target 5 at 80%: Clarksburg Unit 13; Morgantown Unit 174; Franklin Unit 30; Kirby Unit 134; and Keyser Unit 152!!! Great job ladies!! There are some Units so close! Please do not hesitate to contact your District Vice President if you need help!! We really need to let the members know that they are delinquent after the first of the year. Maybe they forgot or thought they had already paid. I know this is a very busy time of the year, but we have to remind those members, especially those that depend on Auxiliary Benefits that they have to be paid to continue coverage!

I hope to see a lot of you at Mid-Winter! I want to remind the District Vice Presidents of the Challenge and the pay offs! Be prepared and ready for a great session!

I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!!! Lets start the new year with getting Membership in and focusing on why we are in this great organization: for our Veterans and their families; our youth and our communities!!

God Bless our Veterans!!! God Bless you All!!!!

Susan Wade AKA The Tablet Writer Department 1st Vice President



2nd Vice President

Hello everyone,

I'll begin by sending each of you a very heartfelt Thank You for all the hard work you gave in 2014. Membership should be the easiest thing we do but it isn't. People forget to pay dues, renewing gets pushed to the back burner; things come up and take precedence over paying dues. Contact those who have not yet renewed for 2015, maybe they needed a reminder, maybe your unit can help some who are having a difficult time.

By this time the majority of our members should have their 2015 cards. Units please do not hold dues!!! This has been stressed uncountable times throughout the department. Some members depend on the benefits, insurances, and discount programs, and if they should ever need to apply to the emergency fund for aid, the first thing National looks at is current status and years of service. We have a responsibility to our members.

The "Flames" are burning a little brighter in Districts 1,4,6, & 9. Congratulations to Paden City Unit 86. They are the first Goal unit in Department and in First District. Way to Go Ladies!!! Congratulations go out to units who made the 5th Target with 80% or higher. 1st District McMechen Unit 5; 6th District Beckley Unit 32 & Gary Unit 38; Fantastic work Ladies.

The Flames still have one ZERO unit. District Vice Presidents and District Presidents please remember to contact your units and report to me before the 15th of each month. I'd like more in my report than so and so doesn't send or call in any reports. It's up to you to call or email me with your reports.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and lots and lots of membership.

Tammy Workman Dept. 2nd Vice President Aka: Torch Lighter



First District President

Hope everyone is enjoying the weather.

Remember to pass some of the Christmas spirit on to the ones that are out in the world. Keep then in your thoughts and prayers. Take some cheer to a person that is shut in, If we would take one gift and pass it on to the homeless, just think of the smile we would put on their face let them know we care.

Keep up the good work in the Unit's and don't forget the Spring Conference it is coming up fast.

Well God Bless you all Dona Leek 1st District President

Third District President

Hi all!

Just a short note to wish everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy and Healthy New Year!

Take a little time to enjoy & be thankful for families & friends this time of year. It is not just the end of a year but the beginning of a new one with the opportunity to make it even better. A good time to renew past membership and make new ones.

During the Christmas season we often overlook reporting the things we do simply from good will. I am sure Elizabeth Vincent would appreciate reports of your Children & Youth activities.

Yours in service Connie Bailey, Dist. #3 President crb1940@3wlogic.net

Third District Vice President

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The Membership is coming in but not as fast as I would hope it would. I have been in contact with the Units needing help and have promises from them. Come on Ladies lets do a better Job and Make this a Goal District and a Goal State.

If any one needs my help, please call me at 304-592-0247 or e-mail me at carlajwilfong@yahoo.com

Merry Christmas Carla Wilfong

Fourth District President

Hello Fourth District

Hope everyone is keeping warm and staying away from the flu bug that is going around. Membership has slowed way down if you have any paid membership dues that you have not mailed to Department yet please do so now.

I would like to take this time to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy and Safe New Year.

I will have more next month because I'm not feeling well at this time.

God Bless You Nancy Sundstrom Fourth District President

Fourth District Vice President

Torch Lighters

2014 is coming to an end, most units are gaining ground, I expect to see several memberships paid before the end of the year.

Please check out our Facebook page WV 4th District American Legion Auxiliary, here we can exchange ideas for membership.

Until next month, Thank a Veteran. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

For God and Country, Cathy Post 304-758-5114

Fifth District Vice President

Hello Ladies.

Hope you all had a happy Thanksgiving. Here it is almost a new year, and Christmas is near.

I know that it's a busy time of the year, and some times we forget to pay our dues. Please send your dues in by the 31st of December and please don't hold the dues, so they will help you meet target. We need you.

Happy New Year...
JoAnn Hastings
Fifth District Vice President

Fifth District President

Happy, happy Christmas, that can win us back to the delusions of our child-hood days, recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth, and transport the traveler back to his own fireside and quiet home!

Charles Dickens

What a joyous time of the year. Remembering days gone by, making new memories each and every day and looking forward to the coming year with renewed hope for a bright and wonderful future. I hope this season has been everything you have dreamed of.

Membership is coming in but it is something we have to work on a continuing basis. Send that membership in as soon as you get it and make the 5th District shine in the Department.

I am so proud of the work each Unit is working on. Your care and compassion for our veterans and the community as a whole is unequaled. Keep up the fantastic job.

I am here for each of you so just give me a call.

Peace, love, and happiness!! Beth Kilgore 5th District President



2014-2015 Honorary Junior Officers

President—Katie Beth Caudill

1st V P— Taylor Bush

2nd V P— Despena O'Neill

Secretary— Lexie Nelson

Chaplain— Courtney King

Historian— Mary Grace Bannon

Sixth District President

Hope this note finds everyone working for the American Legion Auxiliary. Welch Unit 8 has been busy buying toy for the kids Christmas Party on December 20, 2014, at the Post Home. Rita Alley, Reba Honaker and myself went to the VA Hospital on December 3, 2014, to help with the Gift Shop, it was a very exciting time to help the Veterans pick out gifts.

We had 62 boxes of care package to take to the Veterans: these were donated by Montcalm School. Charles Honaker took these to the hospital for us. We also took throw blankets for every patient in the hospital.

The ladies cooked dinner for Post and Unit 8 for Thanksgiving. Now we are getting ready for the Christmas dinner

Beckley Unit 32 hosted a Christmas Bizarre fund raiser to buy individual gifts for the Gift Shop on December 10, 2014. They are putting together comfort items kit for each patient in CLC Unit. These ladies did a terrific job on the Gift Shop. Unit 32 is wanting to make the Christmas Bizarre a yearly thing. Keep up the good work ladies.

Gary Unit 38; we had three people at the Gift Shop Helen Schuler, Marsha Riffe and Judy Chapman that helped the Veterans with picking out gifts, and wrapping. I am not sure of the date but they were coming back another day to bring gifts to the Veterans.

So sorry that Bluefield Unit 9 could not be with us on the 10th of December, maybe next years ladies I am sure they have been very busy working for the ALA.

It was very nice to have our Department President Paula Booth and her husband with us at the Gift Shop.

Hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, if you must travel be safe, and hope Santa brings everyone what they asked for.

Please keep our Veterans in your prayer so until next time God Bless.

Peggy Swartz 6th District President

Eighth District President

The Units have been very busy the last two months, especially with Veterans Day and Christmas. Parades have been participated in along with giving out clothing and food baskets and holding parties for the children with candy, toys and gifts being given to them.

Unit No. 94, South Charleston, will be hosting our Spring Conference. They will be putting out their plans as to the location of the meeting, etc., later. It will be held April 18th with registration being at 9:30 a.m.

I wish the Units a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Mary Bess 8th District President





Have You Ordered

Your 2015

Poppies?

Chaplain

Historian

Leadership

Hello Ladies:

Happy New Year to all. Mid-Winter is just around the cor-

I have received very few Prayers, please send them in and as many times you want. Any Chaplain, District, Unit, any member, I encourage you to send me your prayers. God is foremost on our minds daily, it should be easy to just talk to him and then write it down. But remember to write a special (PPP) Prayer for President Paula,

Hope to see you at Mid-Winter.

May God be with you and keep you well and safe.
Ramona Westfall
Department Chaplain
RamonaLynn60@gmail.com



Hello Ladies,

It is time to Spring into the New Year and create new memories. Please remember to document everything your units are doing this year.

I want to share with our National ALA everything the Department of WV does to help our community and most importantly Veterans and their families.

Be sure to send me the history for each of your units as well.

God Bless, Rhonda Best Department Historian email: rlcbest37@aim.com



National Security

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all the Units in West Virginia!

I hope everyone has had a very successful time at any of the parties you have had for our Veterans.

I know this is a very busy time of the year. So far I have received only one National Security Report and that was from my own Unit. Come on Ladies each Unit should have something to report. Have you not donated blood, anyone in your Unit can report this? Has anyone taken a life saving course? If you belong to a Fire Department I know you have to take courses all the time to keep your Department up to date. Think what can you report. Please send me something by the 29th of December. This is cutting it close for reports to National but we can do it.

If you need my help please call me at 304-592-0247, or you can e-mail me at carlajwilfong@yahoo.com
Carla Wilfong

Poppy

Hello Ladies,

As of today, 12/16/14, I have only received about 6 mid year reports.

The Poppy Poster (the actual poster, no photos) for Mid-winter is to be brought with you or sent with another member coming to the conference in February. They will be judged, just like the poppy contests in previous years by monetary donation by the general public or anyone attending Midwinter conference.

Christmas and New Years is upon us ladies, visit our veterans in the nursing homes and hospitals, give them an poppy. Use our poppies in any way you can.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year Margaret Yost Poppy Chairman mdyost2010@frontier.com The 2014-2019 Centennial Strategic Plan Goal 3 is focusing on developing leadership at all levels of the organization to assist every member in a successful leadership development program. The most valuable investment in our organization is to develop future leaders. The responsibility for this investment lies with every leader in the organization—including YOU. The most valuable investment in our organization is to develop our leaders of tomorrow.

Plans for the Midwinter Conference include ways of making this possible. We want to share with you, but you will need to attend. Leadership involves knowledge of our programs and knowing what is expected of us as a leader. We as leaders today have the responsibility to give the future leaders the opportunity to grow and learn. We have many members who are interested in serving our organization, but need to be encouraged to participate by YOU.

Through strategic planning, we have seen many positive improvements to make our organization stronger. The process will continue from 2014-2019 and show that leadership development needs to be a focus to give every member a chance to pursue a successful leadership development program. It will be exciting to see our membership grow to over one million members with a larger group of new and seasoned leaders.

Training is a valuable means to ensure that our members know our mission and vision, programs and procedures. It can ensure that members are successful in their participation. Plan to attend and participate at the Midwinter Conference. We would like to share with you and your unit.

I urge each department, district, and unit chairman to check out the E-newsletter found under the Media tab at the national website.

www.alaforveterans.org_There is a lot of information each month from the National Committees. These are written by members on the committees and are easy to follow. Don't forget to register with your name and ID number to be able to access the MEMBERS ONLY information.

I wish for each of you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Ann Buchanan Leadership Chairman



Children and Youth

It is the #1 objective of the Children & Youth program to develop, implement, and monitor programs and activities that contribute to the physical, mental, and emotional health and wellness of children and youth of military families and veterans' families.

The American Legion Auxiliary needs to be a strong source of care and support for military families.

Suicide and depression have become real problems among military children. Military children whose parents are deployed are using mental health services at a rate three and a half times higher than their civilian counterparts. Who better to adopt these military families than a force of ALA members who are experts on life as a family member of a veteran? What can you do?

1. Increase community awareness and help to build public support.

Facilitate and host a community meeting. Invite all local groups or organizations that can be identified as community partners or stakeholders. Invite Family Support Groups and

Family Readiness Groups from the National Guard, local Reserve units or military bases or installations.

Invite school counselors and teachers along with military families. Work together to find ways to support these children and their families.

Increase community awareness using your Auxiliary or Legion website. Provide links to the American Legion Auxiliary's Resources for Veterans and Military Families and other organizations that provide services to support the wellbeing of military children.

Download and distribute The American Legion publications Warning Signs of Youth Suicide and Gateway Drugs available at www.legion.org/publications, and order Bullying

Prevention comic books from Emblem Sales.

2. Develop relationships between Legion Family members and military children and families, and children of veterans.

Create a one-on-one mentoring program for military and veterans' children.

Contact your local Big Brothers Big Sisters. Tell them you are interested in setting up a meeting between them and local military and veterans' children and families to create a mentoring program specifically designed for these children. Invite your post, unit, and SAL members to attend. Invite local military and veterans' families by promoting the meeting. Be creative: Use church bulletins, brochures sent to Guard and Reserve units, posters in grocery stores, editorials in newspapers, etc.

Use the meeting as a forum to increase awareness of the unique needs of these you can use the Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring model to connect with these children.

Reach out to local Boys and Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) to find out if they have a military program in your area. Set up a meeting. Find out what their needs are and how you can help. Adopt a BGCA military club. Host holiday parties throughout the year.

Beth Kilgore,

C & Y Chairman

Community Service

Ladies,

The weather is getting very cold so let's remember our homeless Veterans and members of the Community that need warm coats and blankets or sleeping bags. Also the food banks are needing some help with supplies this time of the year.

So if your Unit can help with a money donations or food items I know they will be appreciated.

God Bless You Nancy Sundstrom Chairman

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Thank you everyone who sent me a report which is due at National on the 2nd of January.

Happy New Year! Have you made a New Year's resolution to donate to the AEF this year? You could very well be the one later who will need the funds which are available for helping those in need in our Units.

Ideas of fundraising for the Fund are endless—cans in Unit meeting, bake sales, dinners, dances, bazaars, sales of many items which are on the market, etc.

The current application and expedited application for this Fund are available at www.ALAforVeterans.org and the Department website

www.wvaux.org

Be sure to complete the application fully and according to the directions.

Mary Bess, Chairman



My belly is getting fat! Thanks for feeding me with your many coins (and bills). Can't wait until Mid-Winter to find out how much weight I have gained.

Beth Kilgore Child Welfare Foundation



Merry Christmas, Ladies!

I'm sure you all have been busy with different projects for our veterans and their families and in the community this past month. The holidays are a great time for bringing the American Legion Auxiliary name to the public.

Now is also the time that scholarships are being looked at and application forms are being completed. A lot of scholarships require an essay, so early attention to the rules and requirements are important. The deadline for most of the Auxiliary scholarships is the beginning of March.

Let your schools and students know of the scholarships available to them through the Auxiliary. They can be found on the National and Department websites under "Scholarships".

The "Spirit of Youth Scholarship" is one that is awarded in each division of the American Legion Auxiliary. That means that five scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$5,000. The candidate for this scholarship must be a Junior member of the Auxiliary, have held a membership for the past three years, have a current membership in the Auxiliary, and hold a membership for the four-year-scholarship period. She must also be a senior in an accredited high school.

Rules, requirements, the application and the certification form can be found online at the National website www.alaforveterans.org/Scholarships and the Department website. It is also available as part of the 2014-2015 Plan of Action.

If you need help in obtaining this information, let either of the Education Committee members or the Chairman know. We will be glad to help.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Linda Crumm Education Committee Member Linric2@comcast.net 304-810-0540 I know the holiday season is a very busy time of year for our members with all their Auxiliary activities as well as shopping, baking, etc., for Christmas; but at this busy time don't forget our Veterans.

It is very cold, especially at night, so remember our homeless shelters and local mission centers that feed and house veterans. Has your unit done a "Buddy Basket", bedding and blanket and/or food or coat drive? The bedding or coats do not have to be brand new but should be clean. In some communities local dry cleaners will clean coats for free for the disadvantaged.

Our Department Comfort Drive for our 4 VA hospitals, and the WV Veterans Home in Barboursville and nursing home in Clarksburg will end at Midwinter Conference. I need someone to deliver back to the VA hospitals in Huntington, Beckley, Clarksburg, and Martinsburg, as well as the WV Veterans Home. I especially need someone with a truck who can deliver back to the WV Veterans Home who had been able to pick up in the past. I have requested units who wish to do so to deliver their local VA facility or the WV Veterans Home before Midwinter Conference. Send me a report. The form is in the Spirit. Use this for the boxes, and also to report to me.

Remember, if you haven't done a Mid-Year report I need it so I can get it to The Central Division Chairman by January 2, 2015. Information needed specifically is how many members will earn the new Service To Veterans pins in our Department; how many quilts were made and donated to the "Quilt of Valor"; how many units participated in "Caregiver Support" with the Elizabeth Dole Foundation.

Happy Holidays to all and may 2015 be a great year for you and your Unit. Mary Waybright V A & R Chairman Hello Ladies,

I hope you a wonderful Thanksgiving and I'm sure got your fill of Turkey like the rest of us.

As we move into the busier holiday season let's not forget to let the PUB-LIC know who we are and the wonderful things we do. I know several of you do many great things during the holidays and the cold winter months but make sure you share that on social media and in your local newspapers. If you out in public, schools, gift shops, the VAMC or any place your are doing good work in the name of the American Legion Auxiliary, wear something that says where you are from, hang a sign, etc. but let's others know. And don't forget to let me know, so I can take track for the ring your bells contest. I have not heard from too many of you.

Have you read your November Auxiliary magazine? It has some great public relation information and a good section on reporting. Speaking of reporting, if you have not yet sent me your mid-year report, please do so ASAP. I need to have mine from the Department written and into National for Public relations by Dec. 31st. And I don't want to not have anything to report on. This year the National President has requested a list of Departments not reporting. I don't want West Virginia on that public relation list and hope West Virginia doesn't appear on any of the programs list. So please let me know the great ways you are using public relations, so I can report on it.

Please remember to send me a copy of your published articles for Department President Paula's Press Book. As I write this, I still have only received 2. I know with the big push to get the word out about, who we are, what we do and why it matters, we surely have more articles out there that just haven't been turned in yet.

I wish each and every one a safe and Happy Holidays!! Lisa Cadwallader, Chairman LisaC.ALA71@GMail.com



Rhododendron Girls State

The holidays are upon us! Plans for the 2015 Session of Rhododendron Girls State are well underway. Thank you to those Units' who sent in a midyear report.

Please contact your schools and let them know who you are and identify yourself as a contact for the American Legion Auxiliary.

Girls State will be held June 22-27, 2015 at Wheeling Jesuit University in Wheeling, WV. Please be contacting your local businesses and organizations securing funding for the upcoming session.

If we can be of assistance to you please contact your District Representative or myself.

May you and your family have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Lynda Lancaster Girls State Chairman

Girls State Representatives

1st Dist. — Susan Brown 2172 Grandview Rd. Moundsville WV 26041 845-5122

3rd Dist. — Mary Jo Thomas RR6 Box 232 Fairmont WV 26554 366-2912

4th Dist. — Nancy Sundstrom 1307 23rd Street Parkersburg WV 26101 422-1263

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. — Paula Booth RR1 Box 222 Belington WV 26250 823-3251

10th Dist.— Lynda Lancaster PO Box 1037 Ranson WV 25438 676-3979



Rhododendron Girls State

Girls State Session June 22— June 27, 2015

Wheeling Jesuit University

Wheeling West Virginia

Start Lining Up Sponsors now for your Unit
Applications given out at Midwinter Conference

Department Ways & Means

2014 November Ways & Means Winners

Hello Ladies,

If you have not gotten your new 2015 Ways-n-Means ticket, then please purchase one now. You could be the next winner.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to the entire Auxiliary Family God Bless, Rhonda Best

Ways-n-Means Chairman



Convention Chairman

Wishing all "A Very Merry Christmas and A Wonderful New Year"

Look forward to seeing Our American Legion Family and Friends at Mid Winter Conference in Martinsburg.

Thanks,
Vickie Luttrell
Convention Chairman



	T			
NAME	LOCATION	WINNING #	DATE	AMT PAID
Peggy Shreve	Buchannon, WV	978	11/1/14	\$25.00
		990	11/3/14	
Nancy Chambers	Paden City, WV	237	11/4/14	\$25.00
		419	11/5/14	
		205	11/6/14	
		439	11/7/14	
		337	11/8/14	
Patricia Moore	Coolville, OH	793	11/10/14	\$25.00
		144	11/11/14	
Melissa Stani- slawczy	Keyser, WV	120	11/12/14	\$25.00
		047	11/13/14	
Kimberly Frum	Paden City, WV	956	11/14/14	\$25.00
		375	11/15/14	
		143	11/17/14	
Jean Plants	Ellicott, WV	398	11/18/14	\$25.00
		509	11/19/14	
		011	11/20/14	
ALA Unit # 16	Huntington, WV	534	11/21/14	\$25.00
Michael Pearce	Severna Park, MD	966	11/22/14	\$25.00
		835	11/24/14	
Karen Rolls	Keyser, WV	889	11/25/14	\$25.00
Terry Lupton	Augusta, WV	053	11/26/14	\$25.00
ALA Unit #81	Pine Grove, WV	225	11/27/14	\$25.00
		752	11/28/14	
Kelly Gaudio	Wheeling, WV	903	11/29/14	\$25.00

MEMBERSHIP 2014-2015 "Welcoming Our Members"



Target 5—December 15th—80%

Department Goal—7271 National Goal—8083
Department Membership to Date—4757 (65.29%)
Unit #200—82 Active Units in Department—65
National %== (58.85 %)



District 1			
Unit	2015 Goal	2015	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	21	11	52.38%
Moundsville #3	305	191	62.62%
McMechen #5	58	49	84.48%
Weirton #10	80	42	52.50%
Cameron #18	200	110	55.00%
New Martinsville #28	140	103.	73.57%
Wellsburg #34	32	22	68.75%
Follansbee #45	58	28	48.28%
Benwood #46	99	66	66.67%
Pine Grove #81	90	53	58.89%
Paden City #86	113	114	100.88%
Wheeling #89	36	16	44.44%
Newell #114	49	25	51.02%
Hundred #120	77	59	76.62%
Chester #121	150	88	58.67%
TOTALS	1280	895	69.92%

District 4			
Unit	2015 Goal	2015	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	859	664	77.30%
Spencer #21	59	38	64.41%
Pt. Pleasant #23	345	218	63.19%
Sistersville #67	184	83	45.11%
Parkersburg #104	15	11	73.33%
New Haven #140	159	73	45.91%
Williamstown #159	180	119	66.11%
TOTALS	1801	1206	66.96%

% of Goal 78.05% 58.82% 84.62%
78.05% 58.82% 84.62%
58.82% 84.62%
84.62%
85.53%
78.79%
% of Goal
62.14%
66.00%
69.20%
62.86%
0.00%
46.43%
59.06%





"Torch Lighter" Goal—-3737 To Date—2534 (67.81 %)





"Tablet Writer"
Goal—-3539
To Date—2141
(60.50%)



District 3			
Unit	2015 Goal	2015	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	61	47	77.05%
Grafton #12	26	1	3.85%
Clarksburg #13	143	128	89.51%
Shinnston #31	307	203	66.12%
Braxton Co. #33	31	21	67.74%
Mannington #40	23	18	78.26%
Philippi #44	34	27	79.41%
Bridgeport #68	47	2	4.26%
Jane Lew #166	52	25	48.08%
Morgantown #174	23	21	91.30%
		·	
TOTALS	747	493	66.00%

District 5			
Unit	2015 Goal	2015	% of Goal
Huntington #16	264	201	76.14%
Logan #19	16	7	43.75%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	418	147	35.17%
Hamlin #111	54	30	55.56%
Milton #139	84	34	40.48%
Barboursville #177	167	91	54.49%
TOTALS	1003	510	50.85%

District 8			
Unit	2015 Goal	2015	% of Goal
Charleston #20	49	14	28.57%
St Albans #73	70	45	69.23%
South Charleston #94	26	18	69.23%
TOTALS	145	77	53.10%

District 10				
Unit	2015		2015	% of Goal
	Goal			
Martinsburg #14	1	55	96	61.94%
Franklin #30		22	18	81.82%
Piedmont #52		60	26	43.33%
Berkeley Springs #60	2	255	132	51.76%
Moorefield #64	1	24	69	55.65%
Charles Town #71	2	250	188	75.20%
Petersburg #78		95	64	67.37%
Romney #91	2	259	182	70.27%
Charles Town #102		20	13	65.00%
Paw Paw #128		74	40	54.05%
Kirby #134		50	41	82.00%
Ridgeley #136		99	60	60.61%
Capon Bridge #137	1	30	85	65.38%
Keyser #152		51	47	92.16%
TOTALS	16	644	1061	64.72%



American Legion Auxiliary





January 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	ram of The Mon ational Security Legislative			1 Closed New Year's Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Mail Call	10
11	12	13	14	15 Target #6 85%	16	17
18	19 Spirit Articles Due Martin Luther King's B Day		21 Spirit and Hospital Checks Out	22	23 Mail Call	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



34th Annual Mid-Winter Conference American Legion Auxiliary Conference Program Holiday Inn Martinsburg WV

Friday, February 6, 2015

8:00 am Comfort Items Open	Shenandoah Room
3 - 7 pm Registration	Prefunction Room
2:00 pm Girls State Executive Board Meeting	Salons CD
7:00 pm Opening Joint Session	Foxcroft Ballroom
Saturday, February 7, 2015	
8:00 am -12:00 pm Registration	Prefunction Room
8:00 am –2:30 pm Silent Auction	Prefunction Area
8:30 am Opening Session & Introductions	Salons CD
Call to Order	Paula Booth Department President
Advancement of Colors	Katena Karnes and Lisa Turner
Prayer	Ramona Westfall, Chaplain
Moment of Silence	
Pledge of Allegiance	,
National Anthem	• •
Preamble of Constitution	, ,
8:45 am Chapel-4-Chaplains	•
9:00 am Information on Events & Schedule	, , ,
Poppy Contest	_
Silent Auction Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Comfort Items	• •
9:20 am Membership	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
9:50 am Juniors Information	• •
10:10 am Children & Youth	
10:30 am Girls State: New Information	_
Rhododendron Girls State Governor	-
11:25 am Announcements	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
11:30 am Recess	
11:45 am Membership Luncheon "Welcoming Our Membership" Share	on Glassford and Membership Team—Restaurant
1:00 pm Reconvene——-Guest Speaker: Laura Mosby	
Central Division National Vice	President
Department of Misso	uri
1:30 pm Centennial Strategic Information	Committee
2:00 pm Duties and Responsibilities of District Officers & Chairmen	Paulette Anderson, Secretary/Treasurer
2:30 pm Leadership (Duties & Responsibilities of Officers & Chairmen)	Lisa Cadwallader, Central Division Leadership
Silent Auction Closes	·
3:00 pm Questions & Answers Session	Ann Buchanan, PDP
3:30 pm Reports from	
Poppy	, ,
Silent Auction V A & R	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Ways & Means	
3:50 pm Announcements	Miona best, chairman
Benediction	Ramona Westfall, Chaplain
Retirement of Colors	•
Adjournment	
4:00 pm Joint Chapel Services	
6:00 pm Commander and Presidents Reception	Foxcroft Ballroom
9:00 P.M. Karaoke/Music	

2015 Midwinter Membership Luncheon

February 7, 2015

Holiday Inn Martinsburg WV

Cost————-\$15.00

Menu

Ham and Cheese Deli Stack Sandwich

Pasta and Fresh Fruit Garnish

Regular and Decaf Coffee, Hot or Iced Tea

Reservation Deadline—		January 23, 2015
Send Check and Enclose Form to	: Department Treasurer, ALA	
	1251 Doolin Run Road	
	New Martinsville WV 26155-7808	
UNIT NAME AND NUMBER		_
NAMES OF ATTENDEES:		
		_
	(ATTACH LIST OF NAMES IF NEEDED)	
NAME OF PERSON SENDING IN: _		
ADDRESS:		
-		
-		•
AMOUNT INCLOSED:	_(CHECK MUST ACCOMPANY FORM)	
	NO RESERVATIONS AFTER THE 23RD O	F JANUARY.

Annual State Wide Comfort Item Drive

The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of West Virginia's annual Comfort Drive items listed below. 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 you may take your items to your local VA Hospital instead of bringing to Martinsburg, but need to fill out the Comfort Items Sheet provided. 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. 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/envelopes
- 13. Playing cards

- 14. Deodorant (Spray or Stick)
- 15. Electric Pre-Shave
- 16. Hair brushes
- 17. Puzzles (under 2000 pieces) (No Used ones)
- Crafts (kits preferred)
 Models (snap together)
- 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 Donation List

While we always appreciate ALL donations, there are some things our Veterans need more than others... if you have questions, please call 304-736-1027.

For the Recreation Dept.

Cash/Check Donations

TTA Bus Tickets (\$5 increments)
Adopt-A-Care Package Program

Tickets to Sporting Events NFL/NASCAR/Baseball Items Gift Cards (ex. Wal-Mart)

International Phone Cards

Movie Passes

Camping & Fishing Equipment Sporting & Exercise Equipment Archery Arrows & Pool Cues

Remoté control cars & planes

Bookshelves

Oil/ Acrylic Paints & Brushes

Hand Tools & Craft Supplies

Darts and Dart Supplies

Small Folding Tables

Digital Picture Frames

DVD Players

Metal Detectors

Movies & Music

Surge Protectors

Individually Wrapped Snacks Individual Microwave Popcorn

Individual Hot Chocolate

Coffee, Creamer, & Tea Bags

Garden Items (Pots & Plants)

Holiday Decorations

Shuffle Board Table

Magazine Subscriptions

Bottled water & Gatorado

We are seeking sponsors for future field trips @ Sponsors for Care Packages to our troops overseas-(\$12,50 each)

For the Veterans

Pen Pals Cologne

Body Wash

Bar Soap Cases

Hand Sanitizer

Shoelaces

Hats, Gloves, & Jackets

Combo Shampoo & Conditioner

Hard & Body Lotion

Sewing & Eyeglass Repair Kits

Wallets & Watches

Batteries (AA, AAA, c, & d)

Laundry Detergent

Dryer Sneets

Radios/ CD Players

TV Sets & DVD Players

Clock Radios/ Alarm Clocks

Bedside Lamps

Laundry Bags

Men's Pocket T-Shirts, esp. XXL/

XXXL sizes

Diabetic Socks

Men's Underwear, Pajamas

Sweat Pants & Shirts

Depends (All sizes)

Plants (indoor)

Pillows & Twin Sheets

Musical Instruments

Guitar Strings & Musics

Coffee Mugs

Cards & Board Games

American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia

Comfort Item Drive

UNIT/POST/SQUADRON #	
LOCATION	
PERSON IN CHARGE	
ADDRESS	4.7
ITEMS DONATED	
	7/
VALUE OF DONATION \$	
**** turn this form in with your of (s) of donations. Make sure your given credit of donation.	lonation or tape to your box name is on box so can be
THANK YOU,	¥X
Mary Waybright	
Department VA & R Chairman	

Huntington Gift Shop December 2014









Why We Matter!



The 2013 estimated value of one hour of volunteer service is \$22.55, according to the Independent Sector, a coalition of charities, foundations, and corporations that publishes research important to the nonprofit sector. American Legion Auxiliary members have volunteered more than 9.3 million hours for a collective value of service to our veterans, service members, and their families of more than \$2.1 billion. That's quite a global impact, and a powerful number that accentuates who we are, what we do, and why we matter!

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP

CHALLANGES

REACH THE TARGET DATE FOR FEB. BY JANUARY 30, 2015

PAYOUTS OF DISTRICT VICE
PRESIDENTS WILL BE ONE OF
THE FOLLOWING, OR A DONATION TO DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS' PROJECT: COMFORT
WARRIORS

- 1. CHICKEN DANCE
- 2. SING TO PAULA
- 3. SING DO RA ME
- 4. DRESS UP LIKE THE
 STATUS OF LIBERTY
- 5. MAKE A HAT OUT OF

 PRESIDENT PAULA

 ALL AROUND THEME
- 6. DRESS UP A VALENTINE
- 7. GIFT PACKAGE OF JOSH TO HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN
- 8. DO THE ELECTRIC SLIDE

REACH THE TARGET DATE FOR FEB. BY JANUARY 30,2015
This will be done at the Midwinter conference
Challenges:

5th District challenged 4th District that Loser will make a "Gift Package" or "Medical Josh" to give to children in the hospital.

9th District challenged 3rd District that Loser will pay \$25.00 to the Department President's Special Project.

If any other Districts did a challenge please email me what the Loser will have to do.

Paden City Unit #86 Proudly Presents

Susan J. Wade

as a Candidate for the office of

Department President

American Legion Auxiliary

Department of West Virginia

for the year 2015-2016

2015 Silent Auction

Held at Midwinter Conference

Saturday February 7th

8:00 am to 2:30 pm

Bring a Basket of goodies,

New Items, Homemade Items,

Collectables, Theme Baskets



To Auction Off!!





All Proceeds To Benefit

Department

Welfare Fund



State Newsletter "Auxiliary SPIRIT"

MAIL TO: The American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia 1251 Doolin Run Road

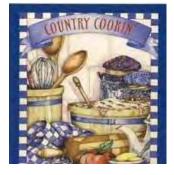
New Martinsville WV 26155

Purchase/Renew Your Subscription!

Make check payable to: **Dept. Treasurer, ALA**

NAME:					
STREET ADDRESS OR PO BOX:———————					
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:			
E-MAIL ADDRESS (FREE ISSUE)				_	
WHO RECEIVES SPIRIT: Emailed to all Unit Contacts and any Unit Officers with an email address. It is emailed to All Depart-					

WHO RECEIVES SPIRIT: Emailed to all **Unit Contacts** and any **Unit Officers** with an email address. It is emailed to **All Department Officers**, **Department Chairmen**, **District Presidents/Vice Presidents**, **Past Department Presidents** with emails. Spirits are posted monthly on the website: www.wvaux.org Unit Presidents with no email contact will receive a free copy.



Cookbook sales are an ongoing project that will continue to put much needed dollars into the Veteran's Fund. Get your cookbooks today! Buy some as gifts! The recipes are the best kind – Tried & True!

I want to purchase	_cookbooks and have the cookbooks	mailed to:

Make checks payable to: **Department Treasurer, ALA**

Mail to: ALA Department of WV 1251 Doolin Run Road

New Martinsville WV 26155 -7808