



# The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 28 October 2014 Issue 3



American Legion Auxiliary 2014-2015 Department President Paula Booth



# Upward and Onward For Veterans

A warm 'Hello' to all of our American Legion Auxiliary members!

Our Fall Workshop was packed with members and information and we sincerely hope all attendees take back to your Units things you learned while there. I want to thank all members for your attentiveness and our Department Officers and Chairmen for doing an excellent job!

Our trip to National Convention was exciting and uplifting as usual. Our new National President is Janet Jefford from Connecticut and her theme is Faith, Family, and Freedom. Her membership theme is "One in a Million" with tag line "It Can Be Done!"

Paden City Labor Day Parade had good Legion Family participation with both Department Commander and President and spouses, SAL, Legion Riders, and local Post and Unit members. We showed off our Brand and the hospitality was great!

I look forward to visiting all Fall Conferences with the possible exception of one (two are scheduled for the same day at present and no one has taught me how to be two places at one time!)

Commander Fred's Homecoming will be October 4 at Huntington Post 16 and my Homecoming will be October 25 at Elkins Post 29. We both have tickets available and are looking forward to seeing you there!

Paula Booth Department President



#### **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

Remember Our Friends

Alice Detore had fluid removed from your lungs, and had a heart catheterization. Results were good, she is at home resting.

Cards may be sent to:

Alice Detore. PDP

714 1/2 Gorman Avenue Elkins WV 26241-3124



### Department Headquarters— "Ticket Taker"



<u>Mandatory Funds</u> 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 before processing into Department Headquarters. 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.

# MAKE SURE THE POST OFFICER SIGNS APPLICATIONS.

<u>Directory Updates</u>: Page 8: Janet Durbin PDP city should be listed as St. <u>Albans</u>.

Page 21: under 10th District officers/ Chairman: Chaplain-Michelle Hart, 67 Augustine Ct., Kearneysville WV 25430, 304-839-3237, email:

#### shellhart86@gmail.com

Americanism-Linda Ballard, 117 Columbus Ct., Martinsburg WV 25704, 304-267-2640, email: <a href="mailto:lvdowning@aol.com">lvdowning@aol.com</a> 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, email:

#### CADWALL1@westat.com

VA & R-Debra Fox, 874 Longview Dr. Berkeley Springs WV 25411, 304-258-5804.

Page 23:

Under Martinsburg VA Medical Center: Timothy J Cooke for <u>Medical Center Director</u>.

Page 25:

Under New Martinsville Unit #28: remove Paulette Anderson as President. Unknown at this time.

Email contact is

49rosie72@frontier.com

If you missed the Membership/ Leadership Training Workshop you missed information regarding the new membership year, information for the District Presidents/Vice Presidents, Unit Presidents/Secretary/Treasurer. A good workshop. Thanks to Department President Paula, Membership Chairman Sharon and Department Chairmen for a good workshop. If you filled out your critique sheet and didn't turn in, please forward to Department President Paula Booth. This sheet gives the present Department President an idea how her workshop was, and in coming Department President for next an idea how she can improve it.

<u>Cookbooks:</u> we still have about 118 cookbooks to sell. Contact Dept. Headquarters to purchase one. They make wonderful Christmas Gifts. *Support our Veterans!!!* 

**Dates To Remember: 2014 Dates** 

**Fall Conferences Posted in Spirit** 

Commander Fred Buchanan Homecoming Saturday October 4th Huntington Post #16

President Paula Booth
Homecoming Saturday October 25th
Elkins Post #29

#### **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 Auxiliary Email:

alawvsec@frontier.com

alawvsec@frontier.com

**Rhododendron Girls State Website:** 

www.wvgirlsstate.org

Legion Email:

wvlegion@suddenlinkmail.com

Auxiliary website: <a href="https://www.wvaux.org">www.wvaux.org</a>
<a href="https://www.wvaux.org">National Website</a>: alaforveterans.org</a>

## Fall Conferences

#### **1st District**

Weirton Unit #10 November 9th

**3rd District** 

Gassaway Post #33 (Joint)

**Braxton County Senior Citizens** 

October 25th

4th District (Joint)

Sistersville Post #67

October 12th

5th District (Joint)

Ceredo-Kenova Post #93

Sunday October 5th

**6th District** 

Beckley Unit #32

1708 Kanawha Street

September 27th

8th District

Charleston Unit #20

October 18th

Mayberry's Restaurant

1010 6th Ave. St. Albans

Dutch Treat: Reg. 10:30 am -11:00 am

9th District (Joint)

Elkins Post #29

October 25th

10th District (Joint)

Charles Town #71 October 18th

# "WELCOMING OUR MEMBERSHIP"

#### Membership Chairman

Hi ladies:

I hope that all went to the workshop was able to gain great information. There were 80 people and a lot of new faces. That was fantastic!!!!

For those of you that were unable to attend; we are working towards million members by 2019. We need your help in reaching this goal.

Ladies, we need to address that we are all working for the same purpose. No we all do not get along. But we need to work together and when differences come about; we need to work it out for the good of our programs. Ladies, we need to need to leave our negative outside the door. We need to continue to work together for the goodwill of the American Legion Auxiliary. All of us do not do things the same way; that is good. Life would be a trip if everybody was the same.

Let's remember when our Auxiliary Members come in to help out; no matter how they slice a tomato, etc. As long as we get the same results and get the job done it does not matter how one cuts a tomato. WE ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS; THAT IS THE BEST HELP YOU CAN HAVE. Make sure when you ask for Volunteers, that you have something for them to do. Once you say no, we have enough that member may leave and not come back.

We have 65 Active units. We need to increase the numbers in some of those units.

The programs we have cannot survive if we don't put our differences aside. We need to get those members to come back. One thing we will be doing is to contact these members, by phone. Remember, that our Hero's wear Dog Tags.

PLEASE DO NOT HOLD YOUR APPLICATIONS. WE HAVE SO MANY DEADLINES AND PEOPLE WE NEED TO CONTACT.

Please try and attend your Fall Conference, there will be more information at that meeting. Challenges, Paulette will put them in the Spirit. Also, YOU can do a MONTARY DONATION; TO PRESIDENT PAULA'S PROJECT. During our MID-WINTER LUCHEON WE WILL DO OUR CHALLENGES. FUN. Please do remember Pres. Paula's Project.

I will be giving more information regarding getting our past members to come back. One way you can do this: Tell them our programs are for the Veteran's, Communities, and their families. Look at the men carrying men that have been hurt, soldiers crying over a loss in their division, seeing a child crying at a parents funeral, soldiers carrying injured children. They are doing this so that we can keep our freedom, and keep America safe. I know that you can do this; increase West Virginia's membership.

Should you have any questions, please call me 304-725-2784 or e-mail me <a href="mailto:scoobysharon@frontiernet.net">scoobysharon@frontiernet.net</a>.

Thank you for all you are doing for American Legion Auxiliary and our Veterans.

"Faith, Family, and Freedom" this is what it is all about.

God Bess our Troops and Country Sharon Glassford Membership Chairman AKA: "Park Ranger" Searching for members









#### 1st Vice President

Hello Ladies!

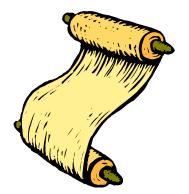
I want to thank all of you that were able to attend our Membership Workshop! Thank you to our "Park Ranger" Sharon for doing a great job!! We had a lot of information given out and those that could not be there will receive their info at the Fall Conferences.

I want to Congratulate the following Units that have reached Target #2: Clarksburg Unit #13; Charles Town Unit #102; and Keyser Unit #152. Great job ladies!! We are getting membership in very slowly. The National Dues notices should be arriving any time now. I want to remind all of you: Do Not Hold Dues!

Please work on the renewals and rejoins as well as new members! A phone call is sometimes all it takes or a friendly reminder!

I would like to remind everyone that we are here for our Veterans!! Please advertise our "Branding" when you are out in the community doing our many projects!

God Bless Our Veterans!! God Bless America!! Susan Wade aka "Tablet Writer" Department 1st Vice President



#### 2nd Vice President

Hello everyone,

If you attended the fall workshop you gained much valuable information, so be sure to share that with your unit members.

In membership we now have the "Centennial Strategic Planning Committee (CSPC) in place, and doing everything they can to help us meet the "million member" mark by 2019. We need to remember (CSPC) is a leadership committee to help us; they cannot do our work for us. It is up to each unit and ALL members to work together in retaining our current members, gaining new members, and reinstating past members. This means working together; it means we need to be sure every member feels welcome. Above all, especially in this era, we need to be willing to compromise. As was mentioned during the workshop, there is more than one way to do something, and still have a good outcome.

Congratulation to the following units for meeting, or exceeding, the 50% membership Target for September. 1st District Unit #5, 4th District Unit #104, 6th District Unit #38. Fantastic work Ladies.

We still have zeroes in Districts 1, 4, 6, & 9 which are, 1st District with 5 units, 4th District 2 units, 8th District 2 units, and 9th District with 3 units.

We have more zeroes than targets met this month, which is not good. How are we going to have "flaming torches" if we aren't even getting a little spark? If the unit officers and chairman pay dues now, those zeroes will vanish. We have three months yet to offer earlybird specials, hold membership drives and offer one day only discounts during the drives, (for just a few suggestions.) The ideas are endless and we need membership, it is our foundation. So let's work hard to meet our October target. I sure don't want to report any zeroes in the next spirit. We can do this!!! By getting the flames of the American Legion Auxiliary burning brightly we can also light the way for all the new members we haven't me yet.

I will be checking in with District Presidents and units to see what we can do to help get the smoke rolling.

Tammy Workman

2nd Vice President (aka Torch Lighter)

CHALLANGES

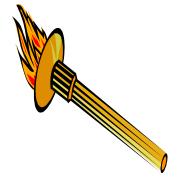
REACH THE TARGET DATE FOR FEB. BY JANUARY 30, 2015

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



Hello Ladies.

Sorry we missed you all at the Fall workshop. We were glad to see 16 first time visitors. Hope you all had a good time and learned something to take back to your Units.

We learned a lot of things on Child Welfare, hope we can help with the VA gift shops, Nursing homes, and all the VA hospitals in WV.

We need to get our orders in for the Poppies.

Don't forget to get out and see what we can do in our communities. Lets try to get out and visit with our schools to work with the children. Let's tell them about our Flag and have them write what America means to them. Have a contest and give a small prize for the best essay.

I will be mailing out the packets to the Units that were unable to attend the workshop. Don't forget to look for the test that's in your packet, please make copies and have your members take it.

Pine Grove Unit #81 in 1st District won the "Traveling History Plaque.

Please take the time to partner with Josh and friends and give comfort to a child that's in the hospital.

Thank you for all the hard work ladies. 1st District President Donna K Leek Hello Ladies.

I was sick last month and didn't feel up to doing a spirit message; all better now.

Fourth District Fall Conference will be held at Sistersville Post#67, 515 Wells Street. On October 12th. Menu is pineapple glazed mini ham loaf, Sweet potato soufflé, Creamed Lima beans w\ corn, Dinner rolls, Cole slaw, and Tiramisu dessert. Coffee, tea and water to drink. Mail registration

fee \$15.00 to American Legion Auxiliary Unit #67, P O Box 105 Sistersville, W.V. 26175. They will need count no later than October 8,2014 thank you.

The Units that didn't attend Workshop I will have your Plan of Works from the Committee Chairmen with me at Fall Conference.

I would like for Fourth District Committee Chairmen to have a 3 minute report to give on their Committee. Americanism—Alice Fought, Children & Youth —Cathy Post, National Security —Judy Trujillo, and V A & R—Helen Leasure.

Unit Presidents don't forget your unit reports. I know all units have been working very hard. Please bring me a copy of your report.

God Bless All Nancy Sundstrom Fourth District President Hello Ladies:

Looks like its time for another article in the Sprit. At this time our goals for 2015 don't look so unreachable. Its tine to pull up our boot straps and get to work. We need to start putting ourselves out there and showing the public who we are. Some of the ways we can do this is to always try to look our best, wear our ALA jewelry, when you have functions try to all wear ALA shirts that match, give out our pamphlets, talk talk talk to people and let then know who we are and what we stand for, and tell them about some of our charities that we raise funds for. Look for events going on in your town and find out if you might speak a.t the event.

Don't forget to get our your unit member list, and go through it and give the people that haven't been at the meetings in a while a call. Try to get them to come back into the unit, or maybe they have let their dues lapse for a few years and you could let them know that they can renew their dues.

I would like to see our District Nine reach all of our goals for 2015. Please if there is any way that I can help you with this let me know. Remember that if you only get one member at a time, it is a goal in itself..

Here is to a successful month. Go Get Em Girls

Jeanie Phares Ninth District Vice President

#### First District Vice President

Auxiliary Members in 1st District:

Congratulations to McMechen Unit #5 for reaching and going over the 50% target for September. We have 3 units who weren't far behind.

We still have 5 units with no membership turned in. I hope to see this number come up in the next Spirit.

I know we have just begun getting our membership in, and some units are waiting for the renewal notices to come out. Soon as you can send your dues into Department.

Please work to get our renewals and rejoins in your Unit. I know sometimes it is hard to get the rejoins, but a phone call might just do the trick.

I will be visiting the units in 1st District along with District President Donna this year.

Until next month, keep working membership!!

Marlene Stansberry, 1st Dist V P



#### Fourth District Vice President

#### HELLO TOUCH LIGHTERS,

As we strive to make target each time, let us not forget to have your membership Chairman make those much needed phone calls to remind our ladies. Our total goal is 1801 for 2015. Congrats and appreciation for those working hard and I'll be your biggest cheerleader and "guide you on this tour". For those of you that want, I will entertain an invitation to at least one meeting with each Unit in the near future to discuss ways of getting new members, reaching out to our "ladies of Liberty" female Veterans, and renewing and reinstating those that have slipped from our grasp. Our Veterans have earned this

privilege for each of us to be who we are. Let's not let them down. PLEASE do not hold your dues, try to send in every week.

Thank you to Sharon Glassford for a wonderful Membership Workshop. Don't forget Thank a Vet.

Cathy Post 4th District Vice President

#### **Third District President**

#### Greetings All

Very important change--3rd Dist. Conference changed FROM Oct 25th to NOV.1st. Hope to see a good attendance. Registration & Credential Certification forms were mailed to all Dist.#3 Unit Secretaries last month. Any Unit that did not receive them please contact me ASAP.

If you were not at Fall Workshop you missed a good one. It was full of information & fun!! It is always a side benefit to see so many good friends and make new ones.

We all need to help build our membership to help meet the needs of our veterans. New members & new ideas are an asset to the growth of any organization. There is strength in numbers. Never say "can't" always:TRY"

\*DATE CHANGE only.

Dist. #3 Fall Conference

Place; Unit #33

Braxton County Senior Ctr. Suttton, WV

\*Saturday, Nov. 1st.

Registration 9:00-10:00am

Registration \$10.00

Yours in service

Connie Bailey, 3rd District President

#### Third District Vice President

I hope everyone enjoyed Fall Workshop this past weekend in Bridgeport. Everyone should have come away with a lot of information.

District three Units now is the time for everyone to get out there and start getting new members to join or get the members that have dropped out to rejoin. Put old differences in the past and start with a new out look. Be sure to keep your mind open to new suggestions.

To the 7 Units in our District who have not sent in any membership, I will be contacting you to see why not. Be expecting phone calls, emails or written letters from me. If you need my help, call me at 304-2186, or 304-592-0247, or you can email me at:

carlajwilfongyahoo.com

Carla Wilfong
3rd District Vice President

#### Fifth District President



wow!!

What a wonderful and informative Leadership Workshop was held in Bridgeport this past weekend. If you missed it, you missed a great time of fellowship with good friends and ton of valuable information on the programs for the coming year. I will be in touch with those units from the 5th District not in attendance.

5th District Fall Conference will be held Oct 5th at Ceredo-Kenova Post 93.



Hope you can join us.

Oct 5, 2014 Registration 9:00 am

Meeting begins at 10:00 am Ceredo Kenova Post 93 \$10.00 includes lunch.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Beth Kilgore 5th District President 304-654-7750

#### Fifth District Vice President

Hello Ladies,

Just got back from the work shop in Bridge Port and it was very informative. Ladies we really need to work on memberships. I am going to start calling ladies in the fifth district that are not paying dues and find out why and if I can help and to tell them we need them, they are our life of the ALA with out them we can't make it.

Please get your dues in and don't hold the dues back. I have so much more to say but it would be hard tell you it all on paper, so please fill free to call me anytime I will try to help you to the best of my abilities.

God bless each and every one of you.

JoAnn Hastings Fifth District Vice President

#### **Eighth District Vice President**

I want to thank those from the District who attended the State Workshop at Clarksburg this past weekend. I am sure much was learned about all of the programs.

The Fall Conference of the Eighth District will be Saturday, October 22nd to be hosted by St. Albans Unit #73 at their Mayberrys' Restaurant. Registration will start at 10:30 am The fee is Dutch Treat. The meeting will then take up at 11 am.

Unit No. 73 is busy making plans to hold a hot dog, bake sale and yard sale later on. In October they are planning a Trunk or Treat for Halloween for the youth. In November they are planning a bean and corn bread luncheon on Veterans Day which will be open to all veterans.

Unit No. 20 is making an attempt to re-organize.

Unit No. 94 is furnishing coffee, etc., to the Veterans Clinic in Kanawha City.

Until next month, do what you can for veterans and our youth especially.

Mary Bess President 8th District

#### **Eighth District Vice President**

Ladies,

I am proud to be 8th District Vice President this year. As you know, I need to stress membership to our District. We need to get our membership in as soon as we collect it. Don't hold your dues--get it in soon to make our District look good. We want to show Department President Paula Booth and the membership team that we can do it.

If you need help from me, you may call me at 1-304-937-3621.

See you on Oct. 22nd at our 8th District Conference.

Rose Reese, 8th District Vice President

#### Tenth District President

Hello Ladies,

I just returned from this year's membership workshop in Bridgeport. I wish you all could have been there. It was very informative.

Ann Buchannan – our Department Leadership Chairman - gave us a wealth of information about the American Legion Auxiliary Leadership course that can be taken online. This course teaches every member about the Auxiliary. It has information on our history as well as how to attend and conduct meetings.

The leadership course is open to all members. It is an online course that you can take by signing up on the national Website. Once you register you can go to the Members only area and look under leadership. They have a number of versions of the course.

If any member of my District wants to take the course, but is unable to access it via computer, please contact me and I will get you a printed copy of the course.

Once you take the course there is an open-book test. Once you complete the test you send it to Ann Buchannan. Assuming you are successful you get a completion card and the satisfaction of knowing a lot more about the Auxiliary than you did before.

On another subject – our District Fall Conference is on October 18th in Charles Town. Registration opens at 8:30. I hope to see a lot of you there. Quote of the Month:

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

John Quincy Adams

Lisa Turner 10th District President



#### **American Legion Auxiliary**

#### **Department of West Virginia**

#### **5th District Fall Conference**

Date: Sunday, October 5, 2014

Where: Ceredo-Kenova Post 93

Time: Registration 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Joint Meeting with Legion and Auxiliary 11:00 AM

Cost: \$10.00

Lunch: Meatloaf, Au Gratin Potatoes, Peas, Slaw, Rolls, and Dessert

To Pre-Register send to American Legion Post 93, P.O. Box 26, Kenova, WV 25530 Attention: Becky Millne.

#### PADEN CITY LABOR DAY PARADE

#### SEPTEMBER 1, 2014

#### **DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT PAUL BOOTH**



CHILD

Welfare Foundation



The Liaison to American Legion Child Welfare Foundation's goal is to educate members and the general public

about the Child Welfare Foundation (CFW) and its mission, and to provide financial assistance to The American Legion in their efforts to award grants to youth-serving nonprofit organizations.

Did you get your

at Leadership Workshop this past weekend? If you were unable to attend, your District President should have one for your Unit. I also have additional pigs if you would like to fill one up on your own. Fill it up and bring your change to Mid Winter. You can refill for State Convention. The monies collected will be used for the Child Welfare Fund and will go to a worthwhile cause. Give me a call if you have any questions.

Beth Kilgore 304-654-7750

#### Chaplain

Hello Ladies;

Hope everyone enjoyed the Workshop, there was a lot of fun and informative information on Membership. I found this session very uplifting.

I put information for Chaplain in the Districts, Unit folders along with my personal information for each Unit to receive, hope all that were at the Workshop picked these up and ones that were not there, Districts please forward these to your Units. I attached a card with all my information, please read the back of the card, I asked that you send as many prayers as you can, and also I asked that you send me a PPP, this is President Paula's Prayer. Please send me a prayer entitled President Paula's Prayer.

You will hear a lot about Membership and the strategic plan and the million member march. This is serious Ladies. I Pray and ask that you seek Unity within your Units, and put aside any petty feelings you may have with anyone within the organization and that we get back to basics of why we are members and what we are to do as members.

We are to Love, Honor and Support our Veterans and much more, how can we achieve this if we are not in Unity with each other, respect and love each other as sisters in the Organization.

One of Gods Ten Commandments, Love Thy Neighbor, he also wants us to Love Our Enemies so lets show Love towards one another to save our Organization and for the betterment of our Veterans.

Until next month May God be with you! Ramona Westfall Department Chaplain





#### Historian

Hello Ladies,

I really enjoyed seeing and talking to everyone at the Auxiliary Workshop. Very good information was given during our round table session. For members that were unable to attend the workshop the Historian Plan of Works was placed in each unit's folder as well as in the District's Folder. Please keep documenting your unit's history. Until next month I hope everyone succeeds in everything you do.

God Bless, Rhonda Best Department Historian



#### **National Security**

I hope everyone came away from the Fall Workshop this past weekend with a lot of good information.

There is always something that each one of us can do for our community to help if we have a National Emergency. If you have can goods stocked up, donate some. Work with your local food pantry's so they will be well stocked.

Remember next Friday, September 19th is POW-MIA Day. Observe it by wearing a Yellow Ribbon.

If you need my help please call 304-592-2186 or 304-592-0247. You can email me at: carlajwilfong@yahoo.com

Carla Wilfong Chairman

#### Children and Youth

Did you make it to the Leadership Workshop this weekend? If you were unable to attend, you missed an informative and fun time. Thank you to all who worked who hard putting the workshop together. Well done!!

Over the next several months, I will highlight different aspects of the Children and Youth program and all your unit may benefit from.

Imagine being able to instantly help hundreds of children right in your own community!



Every hour, every day, a child enters the hospital. They are scared. They are worried and they are thrust into an often cold environment far from the comforts of home. That's why nothing compares to seeing the wide, grateful eyes of a child receiving their very own Josh puppy and I'll be O.K. book when they enter the hospital. The first-hand experience is unforgettable.

Anyone can write a check. Anyone can donate to a charity. However, there's immediate satisfaction in writing a check that will immediately impact the life of a child in your own community. The Impact is undeniable.

Become part of the many success stories. Become a Josh and Friends partner today and experience the joy of touching a child's life!

For more information about Josh and Friends, visit their website at <a href="http://joshandfriends.com">http://joshandfriends.com</a> or give me a call and I will get you information needed. Make a difference in a child today.

Beth Kilgore Children & Youth Chairman 304-654-7750

#### **Education**

Hello Ladies.

The Fall Workshop was a huge success. I especially enjoyed the breakouts. If you missed it you missed a good learning experience for your Unit.

As you know, we're preparing for another year in promoting education and scholarships for our youth.

I hope you have participated in the Give 10 for Education program. I challenged our Unit members, and others on Facebook, to collect items for school and take to their local Auxiliary Unit or school to help provide needed items for the classroom and children. The Give 10 is a great program to start the year off with. Students and teachers, alike, can always use extra supplies.

The Veterans in the Classroom is great, also. Although this is usually done close to Veterans Day, it's not too early to start making plans for it.

The September "Spirit" gave ideas on how to implement these programs and others. You may need to check with your county Board of Education office on how to contact your schools and/or distribute material.

Scholarships are another part of Education. Inform your schools and students of the scholarships available through National, Department, and your Unit (if you have a scholarship fund). I've included the American Legion scholarship information with the paperwork I've sent and taken to school guidance counselors. They all benefit members and/or family members of veterans and active duty personnel. All National scholarship applications are available at the National website <a href="www.alaforveterans.org">www.alaforveterans.org</a> under Scholarships. The applications and the guidelines can be downloaded and printed by you, the counselor, teacher, or student. The Department Scholarship application and guidelines will be available on the Department website <a href="www.wvaux.org">www.wvaux.org</a> under General Downloads.

Publicizing through local media and your Unit or Post newsletter is another way of making the scholarship information available. Always make note of the deadlines for the applications to be sure they are received in time and of the information needed from the winner for distribution of the funds. Some scholarship funds in the past have not been distributed because of the lack of this information.

The Auxiliary's role in the Education Program is providing quality education for children and adults through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion and support of education beyond high school, especially for military and veterans' children. Units and members can further their relationship with the community, children, and schools by their participation in these programs.

Linda Crumm Education Committee member

#### **Rhododendron Girls State**

Happy Fall!

What a great turn out we had at our Fall Workshop. The Girls State plan of action was put in every Unit and District folder.

As I stated in the breakout sessions. Please start working on securing the funding for 2015 Girls State Session. Many businesses are finalizing their budgets this time of year.

Please note the 2015 Girls State Session will be begin on Monday, June 22 – Saturday, June 27, 2015 at Wheeling Jesuit University with the same cost of \$200 per citizen. Contact your schools to let them know you are the contact person and your information.

If you have any questions contact your district representative or myself.

Lynda Lancaster Chairman Rhododendron Girls State

#### **Auxiliary Emergency Fund**

I passed out the Department Plan of Works at the Fall Workshop to all Units. Also, thanks to Paulette, ALA Emergency Fund brochures were given out. Please share these with your members in your Unit and study the eligibility criteria for a grant.

Some more ideas for fundraising include taking donations on an I-phone or a gift card from Walmart or other merchants in your area and/or placing a container to collect donations each meeting. Perhaps you could solicit donations from merchants and people outside your Unit or Post.

In an application is needed by a member, you can go on line and download the regular form or the expedited form if a dire emergency exists. Also, you can contact the Department for help getting either form.

Please get started collecting in order to donate soon.

Mary Bess, Chairman

#### **Americanism**

At our work shop this past week-end Plan of Action was given out to All units and District Chrm. District Chairman your job is to write letters to all of the units in your District on Americanism. Keep in contact closely with the unit Americanism Chrm. Have her report back just what there unit is doing on Americanism.

GOTV; As you might know Election will be coming up in November. I am asking all units hold a public forum or debate for all candidates. Remind volunteers of the need for assistance. Wear your Auxiliary Pin. Don't wear any political items.!!!!!! Report your successful results of your unit's GOTV to the newspaper. The American Legion Auxiliary shall remain nonpolitical and will not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of any candidate, At our work shop GOTV

November 11th Hold a service at a memorial plot; place a wreath; have a guest speaker get with the city council and work with them. Have a parade thank a Veteran for their service. Their so many things that you can do for our Veterans. Have a Dinner for the Veterans to Thank them.

Patricia Moore Americanism Chairman

#### Leadership

Ladies.

I am still excited about all the learning that I saw at the Fall Workshop. I saw Department Chairmen sharing information about their programs and members asking questions and making comments and suggestions. It was very inspiring to watch. If your unit had no representative at the Fall Workshop; the Unit President needs to make sure that your unit gets the Plan of Action from our Department Chairmen and that your unit takes the time to review the suggestions for activities on the programs during the year.

The big emphasis this year is on MEMBERSHIP, but membership goes hand in hand with leadership. We are the leaders of our units and our communities and those around us are watching. If we show that we are willing to be good leaders in our communities and on our programs and projects, then they will see that our organization is worthy of their consideration for membership.

Please take the time to go to the American Legion Auxiliary National website and sign up for the Members Only section. The website is alaforveterans.org. If you click on Members Only you will be given the opportunity to register or logon. In order to register please have your membership ID number ready as you will need it to complete the registration. Under the Members Only tab you will find information on all the American Legion Auxiliary Programs.

I hope you will complete American Legion Auxiliary Leadership Course during the coming year. In the forms you received at the Fall Workshop you will find the form for taking the course and the answer sheet on the back. This course included the History of the American Legion Auxiliary and its programs. I am happy to report that there are four (4) additional courses if you completed this course last year. Online at this time you will find two (2) of the courses: Duties and Responsibilities of Officers and Protocol. Please check out these courses and submit your answers with your name, unit and membership ID number to me as soon as you have completed any of the courses. A certificate and card will be given for the ALA Leadership Course and a certificate will be given for the other courses. Two additional courses will be added Parliamentary Procedure and Civility as soon as they are completed.

Remember that we need to have knowledge in order to be a successful leader. Our membership will grow as our leadership and communication grows. We need to train leaders on all levels and we need to start with the members in our unit. If your unit or your district needs to have any training, please do not hesitate to contact me. We are here to assist and help you in any way that we can, but your need to let us know. Ann Buchanan

Leadership Chairman



#### **Community Service**

Hello Ladies

I think Fall is here so now is the time to volunteer for a Veteran or a Veterans

family and members of our community; by planting fall flowers, shrubs or trees, cleaning yards or raking leaves. Help in parks and clean our memorials. Now is the time to start your community fundraisers plan dinners, bingo and raffles to sponsor your community food banks and pantries, homeless shelters and homeless Veterans and people of our communities. With food, paper products, toiletries, warm clothing, coats, blankets and

sleeping bags, etc.

Remember to wear a shirt with the American Legion Auxiliary Name and Emblem; be an Advocate for the American Legion Auxiliary. When you are out volunteering in your community be proud and let people know you are a proud member of such a great

organization.

Nancy Sundstrom

Department Chairman

nancy-sund-ala@hotmail.com

#### Veterans' Affairs & Rehabilitation

It's a rainy day in Huntington with fall on the horizon. But as I write this message I am looking forward to our Membership/Leadership Workshop this coming weekend. Hope I have imparted some information or answered some questions that might help units want to do more for our veterans, military, and their families.

If you are one of the units fortunate enough to have an active post try to work with your Post Service Officer. Working with you post service officer might help veterans attain benefits through referrals or give a veteran information on the VA Health Care System and its services. Remember our women veterans and tell any that might want to check the VA Health Care Hotline for women veterans (888-VA-WOMEN) or (855-829-6636). If you have a Gung Ho Post Service Officer set up a veterans job fair in your community. Your unit might set up a table with your post if a Job Fair for veterans is held in your town. People needing jobs would probably include many veterans.

I don't want to overload you with ideas, but one thing that National will be asking me is how many units participate in caregiver support with the Elizabeth Dole Foundation. To find out more about this program that assist and support caregivers of veterans, go to <a href="https://www.elizabethdolefoundation.org">www.elizabethdolefoundation.org</a>

Don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of any help in developing your V A & R program or answer any questions you might want answered. I don't have all answers but will find someone to help if I can not answer your questions.

Mary Waybright V A & R Chairman



#### **Public Relations**

In the past two months we talked about who we are and what we do. This month, let's touch on why it matters. Why it matters? It matters because we make a difference in the lives of our veterans, military, their families, our communities and our youth. When working your public Relations (PR) program please present us correctly, in a positive manner that will influence the public opinion.

Congratulations to one of West Virginia's SAL members, Jacob D. McCarty for his Public Relation work. He won an award and was recognized at the National convention. The Award was presented by the National American Legion Press Association. The award won was the Robert Morrill Media Award Category 7-A, First Place The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State, The American Legion Department of West Virginia Administrator: Jacob D. McCarty.

I hope you received lots of good information during the fall work shop to take back and share in your Units. It was good to see so many come out and so many new faces. During the round table discussions the posters I showed can be down loaded from the national website, https://www.alaforveterans.org/ under the member's only, member's resources, marketing templates & promotional materials. You do have to join, but that is easy enough, you need you name, a user's name and password and your membership id # found on your Auxiliary member ship card. I was also asked about where to locate a template or letter example. These can also be found following the path stated above, and then going to media templates and samples. There are letters to the editor, new release templates and speeches for various patriotic holidays. I will include, some place in the sprit an example Letter to the editor for national POW/MAI day.

It was approved during the executive board meeting to give a small cash donation to the winner of the unit press book competition, the break down is a small cash award to the winner in units of 10 to 200 members and another small cash award to units with over 200 members, who submit a press book. Details will be in the awards manual.

As you work on your PR, please remember to send anything you would like me to include in President Paula's Press Book. Remember to Ring your bells, start saving copies of articles, pictures of Unit members wearing Auxiliary apparel, times, dates and station information of when your unit was mentioned, anything that make the public aware of the Auxiliary. These will earn you points. More details on this at Workshop. Hope to see many of you there.

Lisa Cadwallader Public Relations Chairman, 240-271-8385 CADWALL1@Westat.com

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR - POW/MIA DAY

#### To the Editor:

More than 80,000 men and women from World War II to the present day are still unaccounted for. Their families have not been able to lay to rest a loved one, nor have they been rid of the worry that still remains.

The third Friday in September is National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Please join me and the other members of American Legion Auxiliary Unit [INSERT NAME/#] in taking a moment to remember those who are lost but never forgotten.

I would also like to invite you to attend a local POW/MIA remembrance service. Whether or not you are a servicemember, veteran or loved one of either, witnessing the service in its entirety is a touching, solemn occasion — a yellow ribbon represents that they are properly accounted for; an empty chair and table awaits their return; the tablecloth is white to show the purity of their intentions; a red rose symbolizes the blood shed; salt sprinkled on a plate reminds us of tears shed; a slice of lemon represents a bitter fate; an inverted glass shows they cannot toast with us; and a single lit candle is the hope that illuminates the path of their return.

We will never forget those who have not returned home.

American Legion Auxiliary members have dedicated themselves for nearly a century to meeting the needs of our nation's veterans, military and their families both here and abroad. They volunteer millions of hours yearly, with a value of nearly \$2 billion. As part of the world's largest women's patriotic service organization, Auxiliary volunteers across the country also step up to honor veterans and military through annual scholarships and with ALA Girls State programs, teaching high school juniors to be leaders grounded in patriotism and Americanism. To learn more about the Auxiliary's mission or to volunteer, donate or join, visit www.ALAforVeterans.org.

[INSERT YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAME HERE]

[INSERT YOUR LOCAL ALA UNIT TITLE (EXAMPLE: PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, MEMBER, ETC.]

[INSERT YOUR LOCAL ALA UNIT NAME HERE]

#### **Junior Activities**

#### Happy Fall Y'all!

I hope everyone is having a great first few days of Fall and enjoying the last of summer. There are many opportunities this fall to get your Juniors involved. Don't have a Juniors unit? Never fear! Here are some things that you can do to include your junior members in your community service projects:

- host a Halloween party for children or elderly in community
- organize a Fall Cleanup of your post home, veterans, or community
- participate in a Veterans Day program

The most important thing to remember is that your juniors WANT and NEED to be involved. Many people say that the Junior members are the future of our wonderful organization. I challenge each of you to take a step back and think of it this way: "If we don't take care of them right now in the here and present, then we will not be able to become our future leaders!"

Laura Kilgore Junior Activities Chairman Kilgore.laura@yahoo.com

#### **2014 August Ways & Means Winners**

NAME	LOCATION	WINNING #	DATE	AMT PAID
		051	8/1/14	
		964	8/2/14	
		853	8/4/14	
Minnie Crouse	Berkeley Springs	004	8/5/14	\$25.00
ALA Unit #31	Shinnston	841	8/6/14	\$25.00
Josh Neff	Paden City	378	8/7/14	\$25.00
		782	8/8/14	
		729	8/9/14	
Joanna Casto	Paden City	626	8/11/14	\$25.00
		297	8/12/14	
Charlotte Bowens	Wheeling	130	8/13/14	\$25.00
Miles Epling	Charleston	613	8/14/14	\$25.00
Tony Link	Romney	160	8/15/14	\$25.00
		861	8/16/14	
Nancy Slack	Williamstown	188	8/18/14	\$25.00
Connie Fox	Cameron	767	8/19/14	\$25.00
Steve Estep	Friendly	950	8/20/14	\$200.00
Linda Pringle	Philippi	986	8/21/14	\$25.00
Miles Epling	Charleston	613	8/22/14	\$25.00
Debbie Fox	Berkeley Springs	851	8/23/14	\$25.00
		297	8/25/14	
		860	8/26/14	
Diana Glover	Alvy	354	8/27/14	\$25.00
		757	8/28/14	
Roxie Nicholson	Shinnston	816	8/29/14	\$25.00
Rebecca Crites	Fisher	317	8/30/14	\$25.00



## Girls State Representatives

# 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

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 Garv. 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

# MEMBERSHIP 2014-2015 "Welcoming Our Membership"



### Target 2—September 15th—50%

Department Goal—7271 National Goal—8083
Department Membership to Date—1215 (16.71%)
Unit #200—12 Active Units in Department—65



District 1			
Unit	2015 Goal	2015	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	21	0	0.00%
Moundsville #3	305	30	9.84%
McMechen #5	58	46	79.31%
Weirton #10	80	0	0.00%
Cameron #18	200	19	9.50%
New Martinsville #28	140	47	33.57%
Wellsburg #34	32	3	9.38%
Follansbee #45	58	0	0.00%
Benwood #46	99	13	13.13%
Pine Grove #81	90	10	11.11%
Paden City #86	113	55	44.25%
Wheeling #89	36	4	11.11%
Newell #114	49	18	36.73%
Hundred #120	77	0	0.00%
Chester #121	150	0	0.00%
TOTALS	1280	245	19.14%

District 4			
Unit	2015 Goal	2015	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	859	171	19.91%
Spencer #21	59	13	22.03%
Pt. Pleasant #23	345	9	2.61%
Sistersville #67	184	13	7.07%
Parkersburg #104	15	8	53.33%
New Haven #140	159	0	0.00%
Williamstown #159	180	0	0.00%
TOTALS	1801	214	11.88%

District 6				
Unit	2015 Goal	2015	% of Goal	
Welch #8	82	C	0.00%	
Bluefield #9	34	10	29.41%	
Beckley #32	39	C	0.00%	
Gary #38	76	54	71.05%	
TOTALS	231	6	2.60%	
District 9				
Unit	2015 Goal	2015	% of Goal	
Elkins #29	206	13	6.31%	
Cowen #62	50	11	22.00%	
Lewisburg #69	79	0	0.00%	
Belington #96	35	9	25.71%	
Richwood #97	27	7 0	0.00%	
Pickens #122	28	0	0.00%	
TOTALS	425	33	7.76%	





"Torch Lighter" Goal—-3737 To Date—648 (17.34 %)





"Tablet Writer"
Goal—-3539
To Date—555
(15.68 %)



District 3			
Unit	2015 Goal	2015	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	61	0	0.00%
Grafton #12	26	0	0.00%
Clarksburg #13	143	93	65.04%
Shinnston #31	307	138	44.95%
Braxton Co. #33	31	10	32.26%
Mannington #40	23	0	0.00%
Philippi #44	34	0	0.00%
Bridgeport #68	47	0	0.00%
Jane Lew #166	52	0	0.00%
Morgantown #174	23	0	0.00%
TOTALS	747	241	32.26%

District 5			
Unit	2015 Goal	2015	% of Goal
Huntington #16	264	62	23.48%
Logan #19	16	0	0.00%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	418	0	0.00%
Hamlin #111	54	4	7.41%
Milton #139	84	11	13.10%
Barboursville #177	167	0	0.00%
TOTALS	1003	77	7.68%

District 8				
Unit	2015		2015	% of Goal
	Goal			
Charleston #20		49	0	0.00%
St Albans #73		70	0	0.00%
South Charleston #94		26	0	0.00%
TOTALS		145	0	0.00%

District 10				
Unit	2015	2	015	% of Goal
	Goal			
Martinsburg #14	15	5	27	17.42%
Franklin #30	2	2	9	40.91%
Piedmont #52	6	0	0	0.00%
Berkeley Springs #60	25	5	27	10.59%
Moorefield #64	12	4	0	0.00%
Charles Town #71	25	0	94	38.00%
Petersburg #78	9	5	4	4.21%
Romney #91	25	9	58	22.39%
Charles Town #102	2	0	11	55.00%
Paw Paw #128	7	4	12	16.22%
Kirby #134	5	0	13	26.00%
Ridgeley #136	9	9	0	0.00%
Capon Bridge #137	13	0	18	13.85%
Keyser #152	5	1	44	86.27%
TOTALS	164	4	317	19.28%
·				



# **American Legion Auxiliary**







# October 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Mail Call	4 Depart. Commander Homecoming Post #16
5 5th District Conference Ceredo- Kenova #93	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 4th District Conference Sistersville #67	13 Columbus Day	14	15	16	17  Mail Call	18 10th District Conference Charles Town #71
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 9th District Conference/Dept. Pres. Homecoming/Elkins #29
26	27	28	29	30	Halloween  Mail Call	*

## **Department of West Virginia**

## 2014-2015 Commander's Homecoming

**October 4, 2014** 

The Homecoming Dinner for the 2014-2015 Department Commander Fred B. Buchanan, 2014-2015 will be held on October 4, 2014 at The American Legion Huntington Post 16, 1421 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Huntington, WV at 6:00 PM with dinner at 7:00 PM.

Cocktail Hour with Finger Foods starting at 6:00 PM

<u>Menu</u>

**Beef Brisket or Parmesan Chicken** 

Parsley Potatoes

**Vegetable Medley** 

Salad

Dessert

Coffee, Tea, or Lemonade

Tickets will cost \$20 and will be available after July 25, 2014 from Ann Buchanan. Make checks payable to Ann Buchanan.

You can send check to Ann Buchanan

105 Cheyenne Trail Ona. WV 25545

Reservation can be made by contacting Ann at:

304-654-9932 or by email <a href="mailto:AnnBuch@aol.com">AnnBuch@aol.com</a>

Hotel Rooms have been blocked at

Hampton Inn, 177 Kinetic Drive (on 16<sup>th</sup> Street Road at I-64 Exit 11) at a rate of \$87 + tax and includes a hot breakfast.

Double Queen Beds or one King Bed are available.

Call 304-528-8800 for reservation – (American Legion Homecoming)
Rooms will be released to public on September 20, 2014



## YOU ARE INVITED!!

# THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S HOMECOMING!!

October 25, 2014

H.W.Daniels Post 29 326 Railroad Avenue, Elkins WV

Social Hour 6 pm: Dinner 7 pm Followed by Cin's Karaoke til ???

Menu
Baked Steak or Ham
Mashed Potatoes/Gravy; Green Beans, Corn
Tossed Salad
Roll
Desserts
Coffee, Lea, Water and Soft Drinks

Tickets \$20.00

(May be ordered by calling 304-823-3251

Or mailing check to Clarence Booth, 2031 River Road, Belington, WV 26250)

Hope to see you there!!

# 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:————————————————————————————————————
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E-MAIL ADDRESS (FREE ISSUE)
WHO RECEIVES SPIRIT: Emailed to all <b>Unit Contacts</b> and any <b>Unit Officers</b> with an email address. It is emailed to <b>All Department Officers, Department Chairmen, District Presidents/Vice Presidents, Past Department Presidents</b> with emails. Spirits are posted monthly on the website: <a href="www.wvaux.org">www.wvaux.org</a> Unit Presidents with no email contact will receive a free copy.
COUNTRY COOPING
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 purchasecookbooks and have the cookbooks mailed to the recipients! Cookbooks X \$15.00 = \$ + appropriate postage (see below) \$ = total of \$enclosed  I wantCookbooks mailed to me! (1 cookbook = \$5.00 postage. 2 to 6 cookbooks = \$11.00 total postage Cookbooks X \$15.00 = \$ + appropriate postage (see above) \$ = total of \$enclosed  Make checks payable to:  Department Treasurer, ALA
Phone:Email