



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 29

February 2016

Issue 7



American Legion Auxiliary
2015-2016
Department President
Susan Wade



***Our Veterans
"Depend" on You***

Hello Ladies!

I want to Thank all of you that sent cards to me and kept my family in your prayers. The passing of my Sister-in-law was a very difficult time for my family. I want you all to know how much I appreciate your thoughtfulness!

I hope to see a big turnout for Mid-Winter Conference! I know the weather will be a big factor on the attendance. I pray for decent weather and safe travels for all planning on attending!

We do not have very many responses on the Membership Luncheon as of today. I need to remind you that the deadline is January 29th. We need an accurate count for the hotel. I know some of you are not thrilled about attending but the Department Membership Team is working hard to have a very nice luncheon. A lot of thought and preparation goes into this and I feel the least we can do is support our Membership Team. We are a Team and we need to work together to accomplish our Goals!!

I want to remind everyone about the Comfort Item Drive.

I want to remind everyone about the Auction on Friday evening after Joint Session. All proceeds will benefit the Mountaineer Boys State and Rhododendron Girls State Programs.

The Silent Auction on Saturday will benefit the Welfare Fund.

I want to thank all those that are working on Membership. I appreciate those District Vice Presidents that are working with the Department Vice Presidents! Remember we are a Team and we need to work Together!

God Bless Our Veterans!
God Bless Each of You!

Susan Wade
Department President



Department Officers 2015-2016

President—Susan Wade
1st Vice President—Tammy Workman
2nd Vice President—Lisa Cadwallader
Secretary/Treasurer—Paulette Anderson
Chaplain—Rhonda Best
Historian—Irene Weber

District Presidents

1st District—Donna Freeland
3rd District—Carla Wilfong
4th District—Cathy Post
5th District—Beth Kilgore
6th District—Peggy Swartz
8th District—Mary Bess
9th District—Susan Cook
10th District—Sharon Glassford

District Vice Presidents

1st District—Donna Leek
3rd District—Roxie Nicholson
4th District—Nancy Sundstrom
5th District—JoAnn Hastings
6th District—Rita Alley
8th District—Rose Reese
9th District—Pat Calain
10th District—Sharon Kauffman

Remember Our Friends

Connie Pyles' husband passed away this past month. Connie is a Past Department Historian, and member of Kirby Unit #134.

Condolences may be sent to Connie at:

*Connie Pyles
848 Rock Oak Road
Rio WV 26755*

Department Headquarters—Juggler



Mission Statement

In the spirit of Service Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

Mandatory Funds: Bonding, Education, Girls State, Veterans 1st Fund, Poppy Order, and 10% Poppies Proceeds. They are due each year by July 31st to be a Unit in good year. Make checks payable to **"Department Treasurer, ALA"** Units that haven't paid their 2015 Mandatory Funds are: Mannington Unit #40, Lewisburg Unit #69.

Membership Remember to put Junior Birthdates on new applications. All applications must be signed by Post Adj. NOT MEMBER OR SECRETARY). Only exception is if a female veteran is joining the Auxiliary under herself. THEN the Secretary may sign the application. National is waiving the \$9.00 fee again this year for New Female Veterans. You must put "Honor Our Women Veterans" at top of application to get the credit for your Unit.

On February 1st if you send in dues for 2015 only, they will be counted for 2016 year. This comes from National.

Please limit your article to no more than 250 words as you have only one column to use. Spirit is limited to 20 pages (including front and back) to send. At times I have to add different pages (ex. quarterly reports, forms, etc.)

Spring Conferences

**3rd District—Joint
Shinnston Post #31
March 12, 2016**

**10th District—Joint
Berkeley Springs Post #60
April 2, 2016**

**5th District—Joint
Ceredo-Kenova Post #93
April 9, 2016**

**4th District—Joint
Parkersburg Post #15
April 10, 2016**

**8th District
South Charleston Unit #94
TBA
April 16, 2016**

**6th District
Bluefield Unit #9
TBA
April 23, 2016**

**1st District
Cameron Unit #18
TBA
April 24, 2016**

**9th District—Joint
Elkins Post #29
May 7, 2016**

Please Mark Your Calendars

Department Headquarters

Office Hours: Monday-Friday
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Office Phone 304-455-5007
Toll Free 1-888-604-2242
Fax: 304-455-5825
Available 24 hours

Mailing Address

1251 Doolin Run Road
New Martinsville WV 26155-7808

Department Headquarters Website

www.wvaux.org

Email: alawvsec@frontier.com

Rhododendron Girls State Website

www.wvgirlsstate.org

Department American Legion

wvlegion@suddenlinkmail.com

National Auxiliary Website

alaforveterans.org

2016-2017 Department Candidates

President—Tammy Workman

1st Vice Pres.—

2nd Vice Pres.—

Sec/Treas.—Paulette Anderson

Chaplain—

Historian—

2016-2017 District Candidates

1st Dist. Pres.—

Vice Pres.—

3rd Dist. Pres.—

Vice Pres.—

4th Dist. Pres.—

Vice Pres.—

5th Dist. Pres.—

Vice Pres.—

6th Dist. Pres.—

Vice Pres.—

8th Dist. Pres.—

Vice Pres.—

9th Dist. Pres.—

Vice Pres.—

10th Dist. Pres.—

Vice Pres.—

*Happy
Valentines
Day*

Filling The Big Top With Members



Membership Chairman

Happy Valentine Day!

Which is our next target date of 75% goal "I promise to show my love for our veterans". We have 5 units that are showing their love already, and 4 units that are a cat whisker short of reaching 75%. We have a month yet to work on getting that membership in.

The next Department award from National of \$500.00 is Valentine Day which is 85% of Renew/Rejoin. This money is to be used on mission outreach or membership efforts, plus a special recognition at 2016 Washington D.C. conference. As of January 13th Department is at 73.41% Renew/Rejoin. Keeping work that membership. Wheeling #1 we are waiting for you to join us.

At this writing second dues notice are being sent by mail from National. National will not be emailing any notices to members. Department Secretary Paulette will have the postcard past due notice with her at Mid-Winter. Get at least one then you can make your own and send out to your delinquent members in late February, if there no response from the National notice.

Have a great day and see you at Cheat Lake.

Susan Brown, PDP
Membership Chairman



1st Vice President

Hello Everyone,

Over here in our "Lion Keeper" den our District Vice Presidents have been doing a great job with the monthly contact and reporting. We understand everyone is busy but please take a few minutes to return their calls or to send them an email to let them know how your units are doing with membership. I know this may seem like an inconvenience, doing it every month, but the results have been very beneficial.

We have one Goal Unit, Charles Town #102, Fantastic job Ladies!!! We also have a few units who have already met Target #5 with 75% or more, Unit #166 Jane Lew, Unit #94 South Charleston, and Unit #152 Keyser. Awesome work Ladies!!! The majority of our units in Districts 3, 5, 8, & 10 are above 50% right now and several are very close to meeting target #5. This is fantastic!!! There is still a little time before the February 14th target date, so send in dues as soon as you get it. I know you can do this!!!

We have a few who need to work a little harder to catch up. Please remember that by now you must have 10 senior members paid to be a unit in good standing. All officers and chairman should be paid. Remember there is no (I) in Team! So if your membership secretary needs help or if she is sick or going out of town make sure the unit will have someone available to process membership and send it to department.

I hope to see everyone at Mid-Winter Conference. Our membership team will be doing a 'Circus' act at the luncheon. **District Vice Presidents** remember to bring your clown gear. If our District Presidents or any junior members would like to join in with our clown act bring your clown gear and a small bucket or box, decorated if you want. We can meet for a short briefing on Friday evening directly after the joint opening session so we can do a quick walk through of the plan. The whole thing might take ten minutes but I know it's going to be fun!

1st Vice President
Tammy Workman
(Lion Keeper)



2nd Vice President

Hello Ladies,

I'm proud to say we are ahead of the lions in both numbers and percent. Please keep up the good work. Our next target date is Valentine's Day for 75%.

We really need to get units who have 0 members updated. At this point those units are not in good standing. If you are having problems getting membership, please let your District Vice or myself know so we can help.

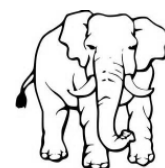
Vice's from the Elephant side, I look forward to seeing you in your clown gear for our Mid-Winter luncheon. You don't need to go all out, a wig, or red nose, some make up, old clothes, a stick with bag, any of these work, just a little fun.

I'm sorry to say no district met the challenge of the first district to reach 75% by Jan. 1, would be presented an item to raffle during your Spring conference. I'm including the "Keeping the promise" for Feb. - March from National:

February: I promise to show my love for our veterans Membership for Life: Show your love for our veterans for life. Get your Paid Up for Life (PUFL) Membership today! Membership Awards Deadlines: 85% Renew/Rejoin Achievement Award by February 14, 2016 Promise Date: Valentine's Day, February 14, 2016 - 75%

March: I promise to breathe life into our organization Members Helping Members: Spring is in the air! And so are spring storms! The American Legion Auxiliary Emergency Fund offers assistance to members whose lives are affected by natural disasters. Donate today to help fellow auxiliary members in need! Promise Date: Legion Birthday, March 15, 2016 - 80%

Lisa Cadwallader
2nd Vice
240-271-8385
Lisac.ala71@gmail.com
The Elephant Keeper



3rd District President

Good Evening to all the Auxiliary Members. I know it is a cold and blustery day all over West Virginia, but we need to focus on Membership. So far Third District is still ahead in Membership; let's keep it that way.

A couple of our Units are struggling in membership, come on ladies we can do better. Surely you know someone that is eligible to be a member. Just the other day I handed out an Auxiliary and two Sons of the American Legion membership forms to a State Police Officer. You never know until you start talking to them, ask questions, they may turn into a new member.

Third District Vice-President Roxie and I will be starting to visit Units in our District before too long, that is if we manage to stay healthy and the weather holds out.

If you need my Help I am just a phone call away, you can reach me at 304-592-0247 or you can e-mail me at carlajwilfong@yahoo.com

Stay safe and warm. Hope to see you at Mid-Winter.

God Bless America

God Bless our Troops

Carla J Wilfong

Third District President

5th District Vice President

Hello Ladies,

I hope each and every one of you had a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

It's another year now and it's time to work on membership. I know the ladies in the Fifth District are working real hard trying to get new people into the Aux. Please try to explain to them what we stand for. It's very important to tell them that we help Veterans and their families.

It has come to my attention that some of the units are holding the dues back and not sending them in, please don't do this.

Thank you all for returning my calls back when I wanted to know how you was doing.

Thank you

JoAnn Hastings

Fifth District Vice President

5th District President

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 doing.

Your care and compassion for our veterans and the community as a whole is unequalled. Keep up the fantastic job.

During these cold winter months, please check on your neighbors and the elderly during this time. Check on our veterans (especially the homeless) and do what you can so they have as warm place to lay their heads at night.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the Mid Winter Conference, Feb 5-6th in Morgantown.

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

Service not self!!

Beth Kilgore

5th District President

10th District Vice President

I know everything is running slow. Should start to pick up again.

Here are some ideas that might help:

*Sending your members a card just to say hi or a birthday card

*Stopping by to visit

This is what Unit 14 is starting to do. We also are sending a schedule of events to them in the mail, due to a lot of people not having the Internet. I thought I would share this with you.

Hope to see everyone at Midwinter. And as always if you need any help please call.

Sharon Kauffman

10th District Vice

4th District President

Welcome to Winter!

I look forward to seeing representatives of all 4th Districts Units in attendance at Mid-Winter; hopefully we don't experience weather like the last time in that area.

I am happy to report that one unit has been realigned and on their way to future success, and we continue our vigilance in starting up another unit.

Make sure you have your reservations for conference in order, all your auction items and comfort items. We have experienced several losses recently in our families; my prayers go out to all.

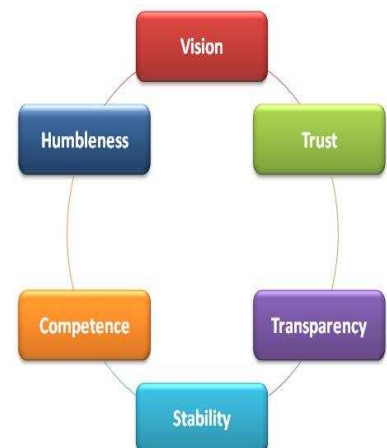
Again I remind you of Ms. Ann's Challenge of wearing red, white and Blue on Saturday at Midwinter.

Please visit our page on Face book and advise us of your activities, and accomplishments. I would enjoy partaking in these with you. Please contact me for any help that I might offer. Looks like Ms. Nancy our Vice President/membership chairman is seeing a great increase in dues being paid. Congratulations!!! See you soon.....

Service not self

Cathy Post

4th District President



10th District President

Hello Ladies:

I hope you are planning to come to come to Mid-Winter. A reminder it will be held at Lakeview Resort, Morgantown. It will be held Feb. 6th though 7th. That is a Friday and Saturday. In saying that; Please remember:

1. Comfort Item Drive; there is a form in the Jan. Spirit to fill out, make sure you turn in the form to Mary Waybright so your donation can be credited.
2. PDP Rosie Nicholson will be doing the Silent Auction, this benefits the WELFARE FUND.
3. On Saturday will be the Membership Luncheon, deadline Jan. 29th. Send form to Paulette with your \$18.50.
4. There will be a Boys State and Girl State Auction. Jim Davis, Director of Boys and Michelle Sirbaugh will be accepting new and slightly used item. This will take place after Friday's Meeting.
5. On Saturday, I will be going over the Junior Leadership Course with everyone, then together we will take the course.

Keep up the great work on Membership. I know it is tough just keep doing your best as always. Hopefully, some of the members that have not renewed will do so.

The Culture of Good Will is important to all but most important to the Veteran's.

Looking forward to seeing you at Mid-Winter.

Sharon Glassford
10th District President

Poppy

I hope everyone is staying warm and safe during this cold weather we are having. I wish to thank the 3 units that took the time to send a Mid-Year report. I was glad that I had a report to send to the Central Division Vice President.

I hope all of you are working on the Poppy Posters and getting ready to bring to Mid-Winter. I will look forward to seeing you and the posters there.

Keep working on the Poppy program and do the best you can, that's all I'm asking.

See you soon
Roxie Nicholson
Poppy Chairman



American Legion Auxiliary

Department Chaplain

Hello Ladies,

I know we are at a very busy time of year now. However I want to remind all members to forward any prayers and poems to me for our Department President Susan Wade's Chaplain Book. Also I want to inform all members that are on facebook I am a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Chaplain's page. This page is just for prayers needed. If you would like a prayer request, then let me know and I will post it on the Chaplain's Page.

God Bless and Be Safe,
Rhonda Best
Department Chaplain



Auxiliary Emergency Fund

You ask, why donate? Here is a good example, just before the holidays, a local veteran to my area and his family fell on hard times. They lost everything they owned except the clothes they had on. He is working on getting his DD214, certificates, and metals replaced. These are some of things that means a lot to him and can be replaced. There were a number of items that can never be replaced. Our unit adopted them for Christmas, hoping we helped them have a better Christmas. Think about it, what if you lost everything, how would you feel, how do you get back on your feet, want to admit it or not, you would need help, all the help you could get. Unfortunately, they were not members and could not take advantage of this. However, had they been eligible, this would have helped them that much more. So see, anyone of us could find ourselves in need of this kind of help. Please consider making a donation today!

Lisa Cadwallader
AEF Chairman
LisaC.ALA71@gmail.com
240-271-8385

Americanism—Program of Month



We have some very important dates to remember this month. February 3, 1870 brought us the 15th amendment with the right to vote, regardless of our race, color or previous condition of servitude.

I encourage ALL to cast your votes in the upcoming elections, so much is on the line. On this date we celebrate an extraordinary act of heroism with the Four Chaplains aboard the Dorchester. Feb. 6, 1933 the 20th amendment set the date for Presidential Inauguration as Jan 20th. Birthdays of two of our most highly regarded president's fall this month, Lincoln and Washington, these dates have been combined into one day Feb. 15, 2016. Also on this date is Susan B. Anthony's birthday who worked tirelessly for women suffrage (right to vote).

This year is Leap year and that gives us one more day to go into the schools and work with our young Americans the importance of these dates and our Constitution. Teach our children to honor our veterans and show their Americanism with Valentine coloring pages and send them to the VA Hospitals and all local nursing homes. Apples4teachers web site offers a patriot heart for them to color.

Don't forget to pick up your instructions to meet your challenge of Mission Restore Bronze at Midwinter, there will be one set for each unit. I have sent your Mid-Year Americanism report in, sadly there was only one. Let's do better for the next time.

For God and Country,
Cathy Post
Americanism Chairman

Public Relations

I want to thank the Units that have sent me Public Relations articles for Department President Susan's PR Book! I hope to receive many more!

I am unable to attend Mid-Winter Conference, but please feel free to bring any items for the PR Book and give to Department President Susan and she will pass them on to me!!

I know that all Units have done something in their respective communities, and I hope you shared this with your local newspapers.

Edna Travis
Public Relations Chairman

Children and Youth

Hello Ladies,

As our year is in full swing many of our programs only get focused on during their designated month.

However Children and Youth Program should be a full year program. Something can be done each month. We collaborate with so many different programs such as The American Legion Children Welfare Foundation, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys and Girls Clubs of America and Give an Hour. American Legion Auxiliary always cooperates with other organizations but we also work the programs within our program such as Youth Hero / Good Deeds Awards, Star Spangled Kids, Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2 (KDH2) and G.I. Josh dogs. This makes it easy to see how something can be done each month of the year.

At Midwinter Conference we'll collecting funds for Child Welfare Foundation from piggy banks. I'll also be talking more about our collaborations and our programs within our program.

Hope everyone can make the trip to Morgantown and I'll be praying for good weather.

Until Next Time
Debbie Fox
C & Y Chairman

Constitution & Bylaws

Did anyone take the C&B test? I have not heard from any unit asking for the answers. I will have the answers with me at Mid-Winter. Also no one pointed out some screwy spelling. Do you really read your Spirit?

As a committee we have received 2 units and 1 district changes, and will be addressing them at Mid-Winter. All sixty-four units as of this date should have the revision to member complete, and sent to Department Headquarters. Are you in compliance?

Have a great February, and see you at Cheat Lake.

Susan Brown, PDP
C&B Chairman

Community Service

Hello Ladies,

I wish to thank the 3 units that sent me their mid year reports.

Just remember to get out in the community to help with projects and while you are out in the public wear the American Legion Auxiliary brand.

Hope to see everyone at Mid-winter next month.

Please stay warm!!!
Margaret Yost
Community Service Chairman

Education

Hello Ladies,

I hope you are getting the wonderful scholarships we offer out to the schools. If not, now is the time to do so! They are due in to the units by March 1.

Earlier I notified you about some changes, here is some more details.
1) The "Veterans in the Classroom" program will now be called "Veterans in Community Schools". This title more accurately covers things such as volunteering in various ways in addition to single classroom programs. We are encouraged to tutor, share flag education etiquette, assist with field trips, etc. etc. and be a visible presence in our schools. The new title will encompass "all" of those activities rather than just appear to focus on single classroom presentations. This came from an approved resolution from the Legion.

2) The American Legion still has the "School Medal Award Program" and has an updated and modernized brochure for it. You can down the brochure from <http://www.legion.org/publications/229474/school-award-medal-program>

3) The American Legion has developed an "Education Development Guide" which will be published sometime in November, 2015. I do not believe this guide has been released yet. I will let you know when it has and where to find it.

Lisa Cadwallader
Lisac.ala71@gmail.com

Leadership

Hi Ladies:

I hope that many will be attending Morgantown for Mid-Winter.

REMEMBER Units to be in good standing; MANDATORY DUES are do by July 31st each year. They are: Bonding, Education, Girls State, Veterans 1st Fund, Poppy Order, and 10% poppies. 10 Senior Members in good standing is needed for all units.

To include in your Leadership Program, Mission Statement which Paulette spoke about in her article under Mission Statement. Please add this to your unit meetings. This is not our Preamble. The statement tells who we are and what we do. (I will have copies at Mid Winter of Mission Statement.)

Here are a few more items you can go over. These are words that you hear in unit and District, Dept. and National.: ratify, ex officio, majority, tellers, protocol.

I will have all the information prepared for the Junior Leadership Course for everyone. This way we can discuss each of the questions and answers.

See you at Lakeview Resort
Sharon Glassford
Leadership Chairman

Legislative

I hope everyone is inside and staying warm on a cold night like tonight. While staying inside and warm this is a good time to contact your Senators, State Senators, House of Representatives, the Governor, and any local Official on any matter that is connected with our Troops and their safety.

I hope that everyone who submits an end of the year report, also sends a narrative with it. I did not contact Paulette about this so I am letting everyone know now.

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

I hope to see several people at Mid-Winter. Until then stay Safe and stay warm.

God Bless American
God Bless our Troops
Carla J Wilfong
Legislative Chairman

National Security

ALA MILITARY FAMILY READINESS ACTION

Since 1919, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) has dedicated itself to our nation's veterans, service members and their families. A century later, our organization remains a fundamental component of the nation's military readiness system. Auxiliary members, operating at the community level, are integral to the system of support for our service members and their families. Armed with personal experience and an understanding of military culture, Auxiliary members can and do direct military families in need to resources and services in their communities, including to Legion Family programs. Also, Auxiliary members, as current or former military family members, provide a level of empathy and care to their military peers that large institutions will never match.

Throughout its long history, the ALA has stood as an example of service to others. We cannot rest on our laurels. We have a responsibility to continue our efforts to ensure that the service members who protect us may remain assured that their families are also supported. The National Security Committee, through its annual Plan of Action, suggests that ALA members take the following actions to support military families:

*Support active, reserve and transitioning service members and their families by matching ALA units to a Family Readiness Group or to an individual military family in need.

*Refer service members and their families with practical needs to The American Legion's Family Support Network.

*Assist Legion departments and posts in raising funds for Operation Comfort Warriors and Heroes to Hometowns.

*Greet service members and families as they deploy and/or return from a deployment, including through local Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Programs and welcome-home events.

*Identify and present Blue Star commemorative materials to individuals and businesses.

*Identify and present Gold Star materials.

*Collaborate with other organizations relied upon by the military community, such as the American Red Cross Service to the Armed Forces, Operation Homefront and USO.

Beth Kilgore,
Chairman

Parliamentarian



Parliamentary Points to Ponder

Minutes

Based on Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (11th Edition)

THEME: Minutes are a record of what was done at the meeting NOT what was said by members or guests.

INCLUDE:

- ☐ First Paragraph:
 - o Kind of meeting (regular, special, adjourned)
 - o Name of board
 - o Date and time of meeting
 - o Place of meeting, if varies
 - o Fact that Chairman and Clerk were present or name of substitute
 - o Whether minutes of previous meeting were read and approved
- ☐ Separate paragraph for each subject matter with name of mover:
 - o All main motions or motions to bring a main question again before the assembly (except any withdrawn, see below) stating
- ☐ The wording in which adopted or disposed of
- ☐ The disposition of motion (including amendments or motions)
 - o Secondary motions that were not lost or withdrawn
 - o All notices of motion
 - o All points of order and appeals, whether sustained or lost
- ☐ Last Paragraph:
 - o Hour of adjournment
- ☐ Number of votes if count ordered or ballot vote
- ☐ Names and votes if roll call vote
- ☐ Signature of Clerk ("Respectfully submitted" unnecessary)

DO NOT INCLUDE:

- ☐ Secunder's name
- ☐ Remarks of guest speakers
- ☐ Motions that were withdrawn (see RONR § 48, page 469 for exceptions)
- ☐ Personal opinion on anything said or done

Jim Slaughter, Certified Professional & Professional Registered Parliamentarian
336-378-1899(W) 336-378-1850(F) web site – www.jimslaughter.com

Ann Buchanan
Parliamentarian

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Winter has finally arrived if the cold weather we have been having is any indication.

I hope your unit is geared up for our Department Comfort Item Drive.

HOSPITAL CHAIRMEN: I am counting on you or someone you designate to deliver the items back to the Veterans Hospital in your area. Please don't let me down! I will try to pack in smaller boxes so that they will not be so hard to carry.

If anyone wishes to volunteer to help me with the Comfort Item Drive, I will not turn down the help.

As I mentioned, it's cold outside," so remember the homeless veterans in your community. Now is the time to hold a drive at your Post home or meeting place to collect new or cleaned used coats, blankets, etc. for the local shelter or city mission in your community. If you have such a facility in your area, please ask them what they need. Don't forget "Buddy Baskets" for those homeless veterans transitioning into housing. My home unit has been doing three or four or more each year.

If you have any spare time (which could be as little as an hour or two) check with your local VA facility, which could be either a hospital, clinic or nursing home in your community to see what you can do to volunteer. I call patients for three separate clinics at the Huntington VAMC, but maybe that is not something you would enjoy. Maybe you would prefer to work with patients or residents in VA facilities or nursing homes directly. I am sure those in charge can find something you would enjoy. Volunteers are always needed and very welcome.

I want to remind you if your unit has delivered comfort items or will deliver comfort items prior to our Comfort Item Drive in early February, send me one of the Comfort Item Drive sheets as you will find in the last few Spirit editions. If not, place one of the sheets on the boxes you bring or hand sheet to me when you get to Lakeview.

Thank you for all you do for our veterans.

See you at Lakeview
Mary Waybright
V A & R Chairman



American Legion Auxiliary WV Rhododendron Girls State

Girls State Chairman

Greetings Ladies,

It is hard to believe Mid-Winter is right around the corner! Just wanted to remind everyone of the Boys State and Girls State Auction on Friday night, February 5th. If you are able to bring a new or slightly used item with you for the auction, it would be most appreciated as this auction benefits both programs. A special "Thank You" to Jim Davis for organizing this auction.

In addition, we cannot forget to bring an item for our Silent Auction on Saturday, February 6th with all proceeds going to the Department Welfare Fund.

Registrar Ann Buchanan and I have been working on Girls State forms. Packets will be mailed to the high schools on Tuesday, January 19th. Unit packets will be handed out at our Mid-Winter Conference. If your Unit did not submit your Girls State Chairman's name to Secretary Paulette Anderson, your packet will be given to your Unit President.

Tuition will remain at \$200 per citizen this year. Just a reminder, registration fees cannot be paid for by an individual. However, they may make a donation to the Unit, and in turn, the Unit can pay the registration fee.

More Girls State information will be forthcoming. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, Registrar Ann Buchanan, RGS Chairman Irene Weber, or Department Secretary Paulette Anderson.

Look forward to seeing each of you at Mid-Winter!

Sincerely,
Michelle Sirbaugh
Director

Rhododendron 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

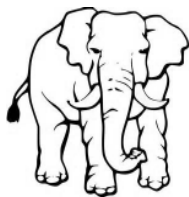
8th Dist. — Mary Bess
215 N. Pinch Road
Elkview, WV 25071
965-3192

9th Dist. — Paula Booth
2031 River Road
Belington WV 26250
823-3251

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



Membership 2015-2016 Filling The Big Top With Members



Target 5—February 14th—75%
National Goal—8487
Membership To Date—5215 (61.45 %)
Department Unit #200—73
January 19, 2016

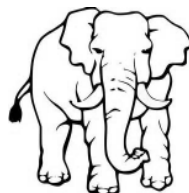


| District 1 | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|------|-----------|
| Unit | 2016 Goal | 2016 | % of Goal |
| Wheeling #1 | 26 | 0 | |
| Moundsville #3 | 365 | 240 | 65.75% |
| McMechen #5 | 68 | 34 | 50.00% |
| Weirton #10 | 77 | 36 | 46.75% |
| Cameron #18 | 230 | 128 | 55.65% |
| New Martinsville #28 | 163 | 131 | 80.37% |
| Wellsburg #34 | 32 | 25 | 78.13% |
| Follansbee #45 | 51 | 32 | 62.75% |
| Benwood #46 | 117 | 72 | 61.54% |
| Pine Grove #81 | 111 | 53 | 47.75% |
| Paden City #86 | 146 | 91 | 62.33% |
| Wheeling #89 | 40 | 14 | 35.00% |
| Newell #114 | 50 | 31 | 62.00% |
| Hundred #120 | 107 | 58 | 54.21% |
| Chester #121 | 192 | 114 | 59.38% |
| TOTALS | 1775 | 1055 | 59.44% |

| District 4 | | | |
|-------------------|-----------|------|-----------|
| Unit | 2016 Goal | 2016 | % of Goal |
| Parkersburg #15 | 1011 | 691 | 68.35% |
| Spencer #21 | 66 | 43 | 65.15% |
| Pt. Pleasant #23 | 423 | 284 | 67.14% |
| Sistersville #67 | 159 | 70 | 44.03% |
| Parkersburg #104 | 14 | 10 | 71.43% |
| New Haven #140 | 174 | 116 | 66.67% |
| Williamstown #159 | 202 | 127 | 62.87% |
| TOTALS | 2049 | 1341 | 65.45% |

| District 6 | | | |
|---------------|-----------|------|-----------|
| Unit | 2016 Goal | 2016 | % of Goal |
| Welch #8 | 87 | 56 | 64.37% |
| Bluefield #9 | 34 | 19 | 55.88% |
| Beckley #32 | 50 | 28 | 56.00% |
| Gary #38 | 90 | 53 | 58.89% |
| TOTALS | 261 | 156 | 59.77% |

| District 9 | | | |
|---------------|-----------|------|-----------|
| Unit | 2016 Goal | 2016 | % of Goal |
| Elkins #29 | 215 | 149 | 69.30% |
| Cowen #62 | 54 | 30 | 55.56% |
| Lewisburg #69 | 76 | 47 | 61.84% |
| Belington #96 | 42 | 23 | 54.76% |
| Richwood #97 | 22 | 19 | 86.36% |
| Pickens #122 | 26 | 19 | 73.08% |
| TOTALS | 435 | 287 | 65.98% |

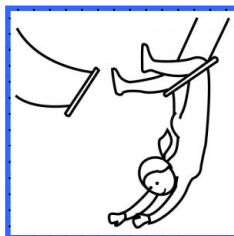


Elephant Keeper

Goal—4520

To Date—2839

(62.81 %)



Lion Keeper

Goal—3824

To Date—2303

(60.23 %)

| District 3 | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|------|-----------|
| Unit | 2016 Goal | 2016 | % of Goal |
| Buckhannon #7 | 66 | 46 | 69.70% |
| Grafton #12 | 26 | 13 | 50.00% |
| Clarksburg #13 | 180 | 133 | 73.89% |
| Shinnston #31 | 358 | 249 | 69.55% |
| Braxton Co. #33 | 32 | 19 | 59.38% |
| Mannington #40 | 22 | 12 | 54.55% |
| Philippi #44 | 39 | 6 | 15.38% |
| Bridgeport #68 | 56 | 35 | 62.50% |
| Jane Lew #166 | 46 | 39 | 84.78% |
| Morgantown #174 | 35 | 16 | 45.71% |
| TOTALS | 860 | 568 | 66.05% |

| District 5 | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|------|-----------|
| Unit | 2016 Goal | 2016 | % of Goal |
| Huntington #16 | 302 | 201 | 66.56% |
| Logan #19 | 19 | 7 | 36.84% |
| Ceredo-Kenova #93 | 451 | 196 | 43.46% |
| Hamlin #111 | 61 | 38 | 62.30% |
| Milton #139 | 82 | 54 | 65.85% |
| Barboursville #177 | 168 | 91 | 54.17% |
| TOTALS | 1083 | 587 | 54.20% |

| District 8 | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|------|-----------|
| Unit | 2016 Goal | 2016 | % of Goal |
| St. Albans #73 | 77 | 36 | 46.75% |
| South Charleston #94 | 24 | 19 | 79.17% |
| TOTALS | 101 | 55 | 54.46% |

| District 10 | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|------|-----------|
| Unit | 2016 Goal | 2016 | % of Goal |
| Martinsburg #14 | 153 | 78 | 50.98% |
| Franklin #30 | 22 | 10 | 45.45% |
| Piedmont #52 | 34 | 16 | 47.06% |
| Berkeley Springs #60 | 251 | 169 | 67.33% |
| Moorefield #64 | 131 | 68 | 51.91% |
| Charles Town #71 | 305 | 200 | 65.57% |
| Petersburg #78 | 108 | 54 | 50.00% |
| Romney #91 | 310 | 188 | 60.65% |
| Charles Town #102 | 22 | 22 | 100.00% |
| Paw Paw #128 | 70 | 47 | 67.14% |
| Kirby #134 | 54 | 39 | 72.22% |
| Ridgeley #136 | 118 | 61 | 51.69% |
| Capon Bridge #137 | 144 | 96 | 66.67% |
| Keyser #152 | 58 | 44 | 75.86% |
| TOTALS | 1780 | 1093 | 61.40% |

February 2016

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|----------------------------|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | 1 | 2 <i>Groundhog Day</i> | 3 | 4 <i>Office Closed</i> | 5 <i>Midwinter Conference Morgantown</i> <i>Office Closed</i> | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> | 11 | 12 <i>Mail Call</i> <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i> | 13 |
| 14  <i>Valentine's Day</i> | 15 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Presidents Day</i> | 16 <i>Spirit Articles Due</i> | 17 | 18 | 19 <i>Spirit Out</i> | 20 <i>Leave for DC Conference</i> |
| 21 | 22 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Washington DC Conf. ***</i> <i>Washington's Birthday</i> | 23 | 24 | 25 <i>Office Open</i> | 26 <i>Mail Call</i> | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | <div> <i>Programs of The Month</i> <i>Americanism</i> <i>Chapel 4 Chaplains</i> </div> | | | | |

| DECEMBER 2015 WAYS-N-MEANS WINNERS | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| NAME | LOCATION | WINNING # | DATE | AMT PAID |
| Clara Smith | Bridgeport, WV | 067 | 12/1/15 | \$25.00 |
| | | 512 | 12/2/15 | |
| | | 591 | 12/3/15 | |
| Jean A. Pyle | McMechen, WV | 522 | 12/4/15 | \$25.00 |
| | | 121 | 12/5/15 | |
| | | 680 | 12/7/15 | |
| | | 245 | 12/8/15 | |
| Jessica Judy | Shanks, WV | 124 | 12/9/15 | |
| | | 278 | 12/10/15 | \$25.00 |
| | | 822 | 12/11/15 | |
| | | 291 | 12/12/15 | |
| Robin Weaver | Springfield, WV | 180 | 12/14/15 | |
| | | 045 | 12/15/15 | \$25.00 |
| | | 131 | 12/16/15 | |
| Miles Epling | Pt. Pleasant, WV | 271 | 12/17/15 | \$25.00 |
| | | 604 | 12/18/15 | |
| | | 004 | 12/19/15 | |
| Peggy Rund | Stevensville, MD | 829 | 12/21/15 | \$25.00 |
| | | 619 | 12/22/15 | |
| | | 714 | 12/23/15 | |
| Diana Teter | Capon Bridge, WV | 887 | 12/24/15 | \$25.00 |
| Rita Sedosky | Moundsville, WV | 330 | 12/25/15 | \$25.00 |
| | | 758 | 12/26/15 | |
| Sharon Childress | Romney, WV | 414 | 12/28/15 | \$25.00 |
| Roger Reed | Welch, WV | 185 | 12/29/15 | \$25.00 |
| | | 995 | 12/30/15 | |
| Karen Sears | Shinnston, WV | 634 | 12/31/15 | \$25.00 |

2014-2015 Ways & Means

Hello Ladies,

I want to thank everyone that participated in The Department's Fundraiser for the year 2014-2015.

God Bless
Rhonda Best

Scrapbook

I have received very little for Department President Susan's Scrapbook. I guess it's a good thing that she has given me pictures and articles.

I will not be able to attend Mid-Winter Conference so if anyone would like to bring anything for the scrapbook, you can give them to Susan to give to me.

Jennifer Yeater
Scrapbook Chairman

2016 Ways & Means

2016 Department Ways and Means year has begun and we already have 7 winners as of January 16th. January listing will be in the next Spirit.

The Ways & Means Account is turned over and checks have been mailed to winners. If you have a check for the **2014-15 year** still out, **cash it now**, so it can clear the bank.

A reminder: make sure the addresses are complete, with zip code. Make sure the seller's name is on the ticket. You want to get the credit.

Remember you can sell them all year long, you don't have to send in your unsold tickets now.

I will have a report at Midwinter on number of tickets sold, and number of tickets out. If you have sold any, send them in to be counted. It would be sad if you had a winner, and they couldn't be paid due to seller not sending in their stub.

Until Next Month
Paulette Anderson
Chairman



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!

\$16.00 per year

Runs August through July Each Year

Make check payable to:

Dept. Treasurer, ALA

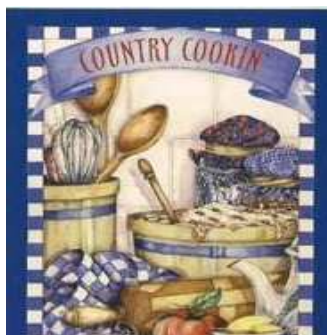
NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS OR PO BOX:-----

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS For FREE ISSUE _____

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.wvauux.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!

Cookbooks are \$15.00 plus \$4.00 (S & H)

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

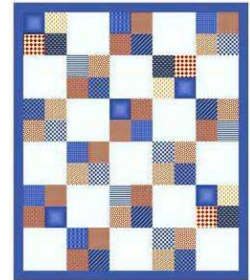
Make checks payable to: **Department Treasurer, ALA**

Mail to: ALA Department of West Virginia
1251 Doolin Run Road
New Martinsville WV 26155 –7808

***SILENT AUCTION
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2016
MIDWINTER CONFERENCE
LAKEVIEW RESORTS MORGANTOWN WV***

Roxie Nicholson will be Handling the Silent Auction

***ITEMS CAN BE SPECIAL BASKETS—
VALENTINES, ST. PATRICK DAY, FOOTBALL, MOVIE THEME, ETC.***



***WREATHS, FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS, QUILTS,
GIFT CARDS, BAKED GOODS, AFGHANS, ETC.***



***BRING ON SATURDAY MORNING
IF WRAPPED, INCLUDE LISTING OF WHAT IS INSIDE***



A SPRING THEME BASKET WILL BE RAFFLED OFF AT THIS AUCTION



PROCEEDS BENEFIT DEPARTMENT WELFARE FUND

***American Legion Auxiliary
Department of West Virginia***

Comfort Item Drive

UNIT/POST/SQUADRON # _____

LOCATION _____

PERSON IN CHARGE _____

ADDRESS _____

ITEMS DONATED _____

VALUE OF DONATION \$ _____

****** turn this form in with your donation or tape to your box
(s) of donations. Make sure your name is on box so can be
given credit of donation.**

THANK YOU,

Mary Waybright
Department VA & R Chairman



35th Annual Mid-Winter Conference American Legion Auxiliary Conference Program Lakeview Resort, Morgantown WV

Friday, February 5, 2016

| | | |
|----------|--|--------------------|
| 8:00 am | Comfort Items Open..... | Ballroom Five |
| 3 - 7 pm | Registration..... | Ballroom Foyer |
| 1:00 pm | Strategic Committee Meeting..... | Chestnut Room |
| 2:00 pm | Girls State Executive Board Meeting..... | Chestnut Room |
| 7:00 pm | Opening Joint Session..... | Governors Ballroom |
| | Boy State/Girls State Auction (After Joint Session)..... | Governors Ballroom |

Saturday, February 6, 2016

| | | |
|-------------------|--|--|
| 8:00 am -12:00 pm | Registration..... | Ballroom Foyer |
| 8:00 am -2:30 pm | Silent Auction | Ballroom Foyer |
| 8:30 am | Opening Session | Chestnut Room |
| | Call to Order | Susan Wade, Department President |
| | Advancement of Colors..... | Sgt. at Arms |
| | Prayer..... | Rhonda Best, Chaplain |
| | Moment of Silence | |
| | Pledge of Allegiance..... | Cathy Post, Americanism Chairman |
| | National Anthem..... | Kitty Kelly -Smoot, Music Chairman |
| | Preamble of Constitution..... | Susan Brown, Constitution & Bylaws Chairman |
| 8:40 am | Welcome | Susan Wade, Department President |
| 8:45 am | Chapel-4-Chaplains | Rhonda Best, Chaplain |
| 9:00 am | Leadership Program..... | Sharon Glassford, Leadership Chairman |
| | Junior Leadership Course..... | Sharon Glassford |
| 10:30 am | Children & Youth..... | Debbie Fox, Department Chairman |
| 10:50 am | Introduction of Girls State Governor..... | Michelle Sirbaugh, Director |
| 10:55 am | Rhododendron Girls State Governor Katie Mossburg Bridgeport Unit #68 | |
| 11:25 am | Announcements | |
| 11:30 am | Recess | |
| 11:45 am | Membership Luncheon..... | Lakeview Restaurant |
| | Susan Brown and Membership Team | |
| 1:00 pm | Reconvene | |
| | Membership Challenges..... | Chestnut Room |
| 1:15 pm | Guest Speaker: | Lynda Lancaster Central Division National Vice President Department of West Virginia |
| 1:45 pm | Guest Speaker: | Katie Beth Caudill Central Division Honorary Junior Vice President |
| 2:00 pm | Year End Reports | Sharon Glassford |
| 2:30 pm | Silent Auction Closes | |
| | Reports from: | |
| | Ways & Means..... | Rhonda Best, Paulette Anderson |
| | V A & R..... | Mary Waybright, Chairman |
| | Poppy Posters..... | Roxie Nicholson, Chairman |
| | Silent Auction..... | Roxie Nicholson |
| 3:00 pm | Questions & Answers..... | Sharon Glassford |
| 3:30 pm | Announcements | |
| | Benediction..... | Rhonda Best, Chaplain |
| | Retirement of Colors | |
| | Adjournment | |
| 4:00 pm | Joint Chapel Services..... | Governors Ballroom |
| 6:00 pm | Commander and Presidents Reception..... | Reception Room |
| 9:00 P.M. | Karaoke/Music..... | Reception Room |



8th MID-WINTER JUNIOR AGENDA

Saturday, February 6, 2016

Registration 8-9 Registration fee \$10 Meeting starts at 9

1. Order of Business
2. Call to Order
3. Prayer
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. National Anthem
6. Preamble
7. Reading and approval of minutes of previous meetings
8. Unfinished business
9. Signing Birthday cards for Veterans

LUNCH

10. New business
11. Craft Project
12. Announcements
13. Remarks by Junior Activities Chairman

Medical Forms Will Be at Midwinter for parents/guardians to sign

2016 Midwinter Membership Luncheon

Saturday February 6, 2016

Lakeview Resorts Morgantown WV

MENU

Grilled Breast of Chicken

(Marinated with a Cilantro Butter)

Soup du Jour

Chef's Choice of Potato

Seasonal Vegetable

Warm Rolls with Butter

Dessert

Coffee, Iced Tea

Reservation Deadline: _____-Friday January 29, 2016

*Send check with list names to: Department Treasurer, ALA
1251 Doolin Run Road
New Martinsville WV 26155-7808*

Cost———\$18.50 per person (MUST PREPAY BY DEADLINE)

Name and Unit #_____

Allergies Please List:

List of Attendees:_____

(Attach List of Names if Needed)

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
Remote 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 & Gatorade

For the Veterans

Pen Pals
Cologne
Body Wash
Bar Soap Cases
Hand Sanitizer
Shoelaces
Hats, Gloves, & Jackets
Combo Shampoo & Conditioner
Hand & Body Lotion
Sewing & Eyeglass Repair Kits
Wallets & Watches
Batteries (AA, AAA, c, & d)
Laundry Detergent
Dryer Sheets
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

We are seeking sponsors for future
field trips & Sponsors for Care
Packages to our troops overseas-
(\$12.50 each)

Revised on September 5, 2014

Clock Radios, Wallets are needed for the West Virginia Veterans Home

VA Hospitals Donations List

| | |
|--|---|
| Nail Clippers | Lap Quilts |
| Deodorant | Socks, T-shirts, Briefs, for Men Veterans |
| Individual Toothpaste (regular size) | Socks, Sport Bras, Underwear for Women Veterans |
| Individual Toothbrushes (regular size) | Puzzle Books, current magazines, and crafts |
| Individual Combs | |
| Individual Razors (Twin Blade) | |