



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 33

December 2019

Issue 5



American Legion Auxiliary
2019-2020
Department President

***“Building Memories for Our Future American Legion Auxiliary
while Loving Our Veterans Everyday”***



**Yellow Rose Represents
Friendship
White Rose Represents
Purity and Love**

Hello Auxiliary Members

First I want to say you are all doing a great job this year, we are at 54.34% from the 2020 membership report. We have 3,179 members to date. We still have some 0's we need to work on them and some under 10's to work on. And looks like we may have several who will meet goal. Thank you again for all your hard work. Make sure to get your mid-year reports in they are important.

With fall conferences finished, thank you all for having me at your conferences. They were all great. I will be looking forward to visiting the Gift Shops.

Remember, with the Holidays coming up for our Veterans, it can be a lonely time for some of them.

I want to thank everyone who came to my Homecoming it was nice to see everyone. Hope everyone had a nice time. Always nice spending time with great people. I would like to thank everyone who donates to the Comfort Items at Midwinter. The Veterans will appreciate it. We will be getting ready for mid-Winter soon.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to my Special Project Gold Star Family Memorial Monument. We will have an update at Mid-Winter of how it is going.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving. If you need me I am a call away.

God Bless
For God and Country
Department President
Sharon Kauffman
304-582-2973



Department Officers 2019-2020

President-Sharon Kauffman
1st Vice President-Cathy Post
2nd Vice President-Savanna Kauffman
Secretary/Treasurer-Paulette Anderson
Chaplain-Mary Jennings
Historian-Beth Kilgore

District Presidents

1st District-Holly Adams
3rd District-Carla Wilfong
4th District-Nancy Sundstrom
5th District-Beth Kilgore
6th District-Peggy Swartz
10th District-Debbie Michael

District Vice Presidents

1st District-Stephanie Handley
3rd District-Roxie Nicholson
4th District-Patricia Young-Greiner
5th District-JoAnn Hastings
6th District-Mary Spence
10th District-Bonnie Wilcox



Department Headquarters



Mission Statement

In the spirit of service, not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and 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 our youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

Mandatory Funds: are Bonding (\$5.00), Education (Scholarship), Girls State Project, Veterans' 1st Fund, (any amount your unit can afford) and Poppy Order, 10% of Poppy Proceeds.

If you would like to receive the Spirit by email, please let me know so I can put you on the email listing. If you want Mail Call by email, I will need that also. You can have both, but if you want just one or other, let me know.

Membership: National is once again honoring our "new" female veterans again this year. Please remember to put **"Honor Our Female Veterans"** at top of application. If a member is rejoining, I don't need an application sent in. You may want one for your records to make sure she is still eligible. If you do send one in, write either "rejoin" or her ID number on the application so she won't be listed as a new member in the system. **Please don't send me the DD214.**

They are for the unit files only. **Post Officer signature** is all I need on application to verify the eligibility. All applications sent to the Department Office needs to be the original. Copies are for you to keep.

Directory Updates: page 9: Please change Sharon Glassford's Room # to Room #135. All else is the same. Page 29: Under Wheeling Unit #89, 2nd Sunday 3:00 pm at Post Home, unit email: cswoo4528@gmail.com President: Connie Woods, 1008 Hil Dar, Wheeling WV 26003 Page 30: Under Pickens Unit #122 Secretary should say Deborah Tunning; email contact is debtunning@gmail.com

Page 32: In Constitution and Bylaws, In Preamble replace "the Great Wars" to "All Wars"

Future Dates To Remember

Gift Shops Dates

***Huntington VA Gift Shop
Set Up December 2nd
Gift Shop December 3rd***

***Clarksburg VA Gift Shop
Set Up December 5th
Gift Shop December 6th***

***Martinsburg VA Gift Shop
December 6th All Day
December 7th until 1:00 pm***

***Beckley VA Gift Shop
December 9th
11:00am—2:00 pm***

***Midwinter Conference
February 7th-8th
Oglebay Resort & Conference Center
All Forms in Spirit***

***Office Closed
Monday December 9th
Tuesday December 10th
Reopen Wednesday December 11th
This is due to National Calling
Secretaries and Finance Chairmen in
for Organizational Effectiveness
Training***

Louis A Johnson VA Gift Shop

Ladies, we have run into a snag for the Gift Shop at Louis A Johnson VA. They double booked the All Purpose Room for Thursday, December 5, we cannot get in the room until 3:00 PM. We have no choice, we must set the room up at that time, we cannot expect to do it on Friday. I need help at 3:00 PM Thursday, also, we can start canvassing the patients at the same time if I have enough help.

Please call me at 304-657-5740 if you can help, I appreciate it.

***Thank You
Roxie Nicholson***

Department Headquarters

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Monday thru Friday
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New Martinsville WV 26155-7808

Department Website:
www.wvvaux.org

Rhododendron Girls State Website
www.wvgirlsstate.org

**The American Legion
Department of WV**
wvlegion@suddenlink.com

**American Legion Auxiliary
National Website**
ALAforveterans.org

Remember Our Friends

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd had neck surgery recently and is home recuperating. Cards may be sent to:

*Lynda Lancaster-loyd, PCDNVP
PO Box 1151
Matthews VA 23109*

Nancy Sundstrom, PDP, will be undergoing a total knee replacement in December. Please keep her in your prayers.

*Cards may be sent to:
Nancy Sundstrom, PDP
1307 23rd Street
Parkersburg WV 26101*

JoAnn Hastings is having some medical problems and had surgery recently. Cards may be sent to:

*JoAnn Hastings
PO Box 95
Proctorville OH 45669*



“Honoring Our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows”

Membership Chairman

Fabulous job ladies – Keep up the great work! Our third membership target date was Nov. 15 with 40% goal.

We have 49 Units that reached this target: #1, #3, #5, #7, #8, #9, #10, #13, #14, #15, #16, #18, #21, #23, #28, #29, #31, #32, #33, #34, #38, #45, #46, #48, #60, #62, #68, #71, #73, #78, #81, #86, #91, #94, #97, #102, #114, #120, #121, #122, #134, #136, #137, #139, #159, #174, #177 and # 152.

Our 5th target date is December 15th with 50% of goal. We already have 36 Units that have reached this. WAY TO GO! Ladies, I know many of your Units are close to reaching your goal. Let's have a couple of goal Units!

We have three Units that have not turned in any membership. All Unit officers' dues were due by NOVEMBER 1st. So, no Unit should have a 0.

As a reminder, Mid-Year reports are due by January 5, 2020. What are you doing for membership? Is your Unit holding a membership drive, how are you encouraging members to renew and join?

Unit Vice Presidents please send your report to your District Vice Presidents who in turn will present the Department Vice President's report. I, in turn will submit our Membership Report on to National.

This is an exciting year for us as we celebrate our Centennial. We will have a renewal drawing for \$50 to a senior 2020 member at our Midwinter Luncheon. Remember, our Recruit/Renew 15 Award form.

Our membership is growing and our greatest asset is our membership. Ladies, we do great things – let us be proud and loud!

I wish for you, a very Happy, Safe and Blessed Holiday Season.

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd
Membership Chairman



Department 1st Vice President

Hey Jitter Bugs!!

Looking through the target sheet, I see we have some units that are still at 0%... Y'all need to shake a leg. Belington #96, Jane Lew #166, and Franklin #30, you should be getting at least officers paid. Logan # 19 South Charleston #94, and Piedmont #52 are under 10 paid members. We have three units that are at 90% or better, WAY TO GO, Keyser #152 @ 91.11%, Bridgeport #68 and Morgantown #174. A few others are under the 40% target for this month, but most other are over the target. Nicely done units.

As of December 31 those not paid will be delinquent, I know you don't want this!! However, the Jitter Bugs are ahead of the Cha Cha's by a smidgeon. Keep em' coming.

Mid-Winter will be here soon, get your reservations in, I've got mine!

I will be at Clarksburg VA Hospital this year for Gift Shop, so looking forward to that.

I want to wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving. Many of our sisters are needing your prayers at this time due to illness and losses.

Until next month, Be thankful for everything.

For God and Country,
Cathy D. Post
1st Vice President



WWII/
Merchant Marines Era
12/7/41-12/31/46

Department 2nd Vice President

Hello My Korea Era Women,

I am so excited to say that our side has no zeros. There are two units with 10 or less so we got to try to get them up. I did send a personal email to the people on my side if there's any thing you need please let me know if you need help, and I will absolutely help.

We are still neck to neck with Cathy's side so please just try your best and get more membership in. All I can say is try, if you try you make me happy. Lets share more smiles, laughs, and positivity.

Thank 6th District Vice Mary for sending me an update on the district. For the 1st and 4th Districts please let me know what's your units in your district are doing. If they need anything, or need guidance I will be happy and help.

Love Your 2nd Vice President
Savanna Kauffman
God & Country



Korea Era
6/25/50-1/31/55



1st District Vice President

Hello 1st District,

Almost every Unit in 1st District has reached Target #3 of 40%! Congratulations and keep working on getting those members. You're doing awesome!

I know it can be frustrating at times to get members to submit dues or to get someone to join our ranks, but keep pushing forward. Let's set our sight on reaching the next target.

Don't forget about the new adjustments to the eligibility to join and make sure you have the new membership application available.

God Bless,
Stephanie Handley

3rd District Vice President

Hello Third District Members,

I certainly hope you are staying warm on these cold days.

I have some good news for some of you. All of our units have made over 40% except for 2. And a big thank you to Belington Unit 96 for sending in dues, so that should just leave 1 unit who has not sent any. And this one, we have to work on at Department level. Also a big thank you to Clarksburg Unit 13 for sending dues in.

I have stressed repeatedly, we do not hold dues, they are to be mailed into Department at least every other week. If your member pays her dues and doesn't get her card, she is either calling Paulette or calling National, and we don't want this. And remember, if you don't send them in as soon as possible after the first of the year, then your member is delinquent and is no longer a member and entitled to no benefits.

I wish everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving and don't eat too much Turkey.

Roxie Nicholson
Third District Vice President
304-657-5740

4th District Vice President

Greetings to Members of the 4th District,

November was an awesome month. We celebrated our 100th Birthday and were in the local Veterans Day parade. Many thanks to Past Department President, Di-anne McClung, for her decorating skills. What an imagination and vision for the future of this organization!

The November 15th Target has been published. Our membership goal was to reach 40%. As of November 15, our statistics are: Spencer #21 at 75.00%; Parkersburg #15 at 62.04%; Tyler County #48 at 61.76%; Pt. Pleasant #23 at 55.20%; Williamstown #159 at 46.56%. Following closely are Sistersville #67 at 39.53%; and New Haven #140 at 36.36%. Congratulations District 4; keep up the good work!

Dues reminders have been sent out. 'Tis the season of giving. Do you have any elderly members your auxiliary can assist by paying their dues?

Our 2019 – 2020 Membership Theme is "Honoring Our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows." Remember to carry a copy of the new ALA Membership applications with you. Invite eligible friends and family to join today.

Remember: **Every Day is Veterans Day!**

Patsy Young-Greiner
4th District Vice President
304-295-8844
Patsygirl2@suddenlink.net

6th District Vice President

Hope all had a great Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. By now you're probably getting ready for the Christmas Season. Happy Holidays to all of you.

It has been a privilege talking with so many of the representatives of Auxiliary Units in District 6. Nearly all units have met their target goals. Remember the target goal for dues collected for December is 50%. We all need to continue to work extra hard in the month of November to reach our December target as the Holiday Season will monopolize most of our time.

My Holiday wish for all of you and your family is Happiness, Health, and Peace for 2020.

Happy Holiday Season.
Mary E. Spence
Vice President
District 6



6th District President

Hello Everyone

Hope everyone is staying well. I have been under the weather and hope to feel better soon.

Welch Unit 8, on the night before Veterans Day had a dinner for the veterans. Unit served approx. 40 people. On Veterans Day we fixed breakfast for the people that was working the parade. We decorated the viewing stand. District President and Vice President were in the parade, our Unit President Lu Dillon also was riding in the parade.

Bluefield Unit 9 had breakfast on Veterans Day for veterans, they also had bingo at Maple Nursing Home plus they helped with an award for citizen of the year.

Beckley Unit 32 made vegetable soup and had chicken sandwiches. They also had cake for desert, serving approx. 100 people approx. 15 veterans from the VA Hospital was in attendance. This was served after the parade in downtown Beckley.

I have not heard from the other Units but I'm sure they did things for Veterans Day. Units please send information to me so I can get it in the Spirit.

If you haven't paid your mandatory funds I hope you are working on this and also membership. Sixth District, let's work on being a GOAL DISTRICT.

Wishing each and everyone a very Merry Christmas. God bless each and everyone and keeping our veterans in our thoughts and prayers.

Peggy Swartz
6th District President

3rd District President

Here it is December already and Mid Winter is just around the corner. I want to remind everyone about there Midyear reports. I know that is something we do not want to think of but we must.

Membership is coming in pretty well. Third District has 2 units at 90% already, congratulations to Braxton County #33 and Morgantown #174. One Unit at 82.93%, Buckhannon #7, at 80.60% we have Bridgeport #68, Shinnston #31 at 72.52%, Pickens #122 at 69.57%, Elkins #29 at 61.07%, and Clarksburg Unit 13 at 47.19%. Belington Unit #96 has sent in membership after this last target. We still have one Unit dragging their feet. I am really proud of the Units this year. lets keep it up and make several goal Units.

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

I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas.

God Bless America and God Bless our Veterans

Carla Wilfong

Third District President

5th District President

Based on the last Target sheet, we have several units doing a great job with membership. St. Albans Unit #73 is leading the district with 74.19% with Milton #139 close behind at 69.35%. Keep those membership coming because Huntington Unit #16 is closing in with 63.16% and Ceredo Kenova is right behind with 55.52 %. There are 2 units in the 5th District whose membership is below 10. We must have 10 members to keep our charter.

With the holidays upon us, there will be many opportunities to increase your membership. Many times there are people who would like to join; they are just waiting to be asked.

When working on all of the holiday projects, remember to wear your ALA apparel so everyone knows what organization you are representing. Also take lots of pictures!!

I am here for each of you so just give me a call at 304-654-7750. I am just a phone call away if I can help you in any way!!

Beth Kilgore

5th District President

10th District President

Hello to everyone,

I hope this finds all of our units busy working on our auxiliary programs. With the holidays upon us, this is probably true.

I hope all the units are working on their own Constitution & By laws and Standing Rules. With all the changes that came from National, every unit has changes to make. I would like ALL units in the 10th District By laws & Standing Rules for any changes you feel should be made. The District Constitution & By laws and Standing Rules Committee will be going forth with this after the first of the year.

Congratulations to all the units who have met the target date for this month. Keep up the good work. Any units who are having any problems with membership, please let our District Vice President, Bonnie Wilcox know. She may be able to help you.

If you are able, please try to help with the Christmas Gift Shop at the V A in Martinsburg on December 6-7. This is a very rewarding experience.

If I can help you or you need to talk, please just let me know.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving.

10th District President

Debbie Michael

katndebbie@gmail.com

304-258-2705

4th District President

Hello Ladies of 4th District,

I wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday. Remember our Veterans and their families in your prayers.

I want to tell each Units Membership Chairman, how proud I am of the job that you are doing. Also a big thank you goes out to the members that have already sent their membership dues in before the end of the year. WOW 4th District we are doing a great job we have reached our 40% GOAL AND ABOVE WITH 55.05% that's something we as a District should be proud of thank you for all your hard work.

Unit President's I'm asking you to write a report on what your Unit has been doing so far this year. So I can do a report for our Department President Sharon, then she can add it to her Mid-Year Report for National. Please try to have them to me by 12-15-19. Thank You in Advance.

Ladies I will be having surgery on 12-11-19 I am going to have a total left knee replacement. So if I don't get to put a message in the Spirit next month I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from my family to yours.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

Nancy Sundstrom

4th District President



Chaplain

If you know of an American Legion family that needs a card, please let me know. My email address is : mkjennings@frontier.com.

As we enter the holiday season: Each day people take pains to make sure they look good on the outside. God knows our beauty is only skin deep. What is in your heart is the true teller of who you are. Spend some time each day shaping your character by following Jesus' example. It'll change your inner and outer life.

Have a wonderful and a Happy Thanksgiving.

For God and Country
Mary Jennings
Chaplain



Historian

With the Auxiliary celebrating their 100 year Anniversary, I have seen so many pictures on Facebook of the various celebrations. I hope you have celebrated or plan to celebrate this monumental event. It is also my hope that you took lots of pictures of your celebration.

Please take pictures of all of all your events and write a brief synopsis of the event for future reference. If we do not record our history, it will die with us. So take those pictures and record all the wonderful things you do to help our communities and our veterans.

Please send me a report of all the things you have done and are planning on doing so I can include in my Mid-Year report. I would hate for it to look like West Virginia is not doing things to help our veterans when I know how hard you work.

If you have any questions, please call me at 304-654-7750.

Beth Kilgore
Department Historian

Community Service

Hope everyone is still working on things in their community. Community Chairman for each Unit please send me what you unit has done. I will need this by December 30, 2019. I need to have my report to the national by January 15, 2020. Where has the time gone. Peggy Swartz
Community Service

Americanism



The Americanism Program is now including The "Star Spangled" Kids. "Star Spangled" Kids is an initiative to educate children and youth in the history of the United States from the aspect of patriotism, Americanism, and the U.S. Constitution. Auxiliary members can partner with the American Legion Family, team with their Education chairman, and bring veterans or active duty military into the classrooms to talk about what their service means to defending the Constitution.

Some ideas for promoting this in schools:
*Create a Unit Citizenship Award for children and youth who have demonstrated the ideals of the U.S. Constitution.

*Team with the Education Chairman to bring Veterans into the classroom to talk about what their service means to defending the ideals of the Constitution.

*Encourage students to test their knowledge of the Constitution.

*Distribute patriotic coloring book pages for children in primary grades.

*Educate high school students to use their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution by participating in the American Legion Oratorical Contest.

I want to remind all Units that I need a Midyear report by the end of the year. My report is due to National by Jan. 5th.

Fly Our Flag Proudly
God Bless America
Susan Wade
Americanism Chairman

Resolution 1 was adopted by the Legion NEC on Oct. 16 which amends the Preamble wording from "the Great Wars" to "all wars." The American Legion Auxiliary needs to follow and amend our Preamble. This takes effect immediately and automatically. Please inform your department and units. We were not aware this was being proposedsorry about the no warning.

*Linda Boone I National Secretary
American Legion Auxiliary National*

Children & Youth

We had our first snowfall of the season the other day and temperatures dropped into the teens. As I stood outside shivering and zipping my coat up, I thought of all the children who do not have a winter coat to get them through the cold winter months.

I am aware of several units who do coat drives for our veterans. I would like you to consider including a coat drive for the children in need. You can check with teachers, principles, or counselors for those who would benefit from a warm coat during the season.

Thank you for all your unit does for the children & youth of our community. Many units are doing food baskets, Christmas parties, ringing bells for the Salvation Army, and many other projects during this time of the year. You are making a difference in the lives of so many.

Beth Kilgore
Chairman

Child Welfare Foundation



With the holidays fast approaching, we all will be spending money on presents and delicious meals to put on the table. While in the holiday spirit, I am asking you to put a little aside for the Child Welfare Foundation.

We will take up another collection at Midwinter Conference. I can feel myself getting fatter each day from the coins and bills you are feeding me. Please keep up the generous donations. I hope to be so fat by Midwinter; I will be unable to walk. Thank you for making me fat!!!

Beth Kilgore
Children & Youth Chairman

Education

The holidays of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Eve are fast approaching, I urge all Units to do something special for their students. Schools need help with programs, celebrations, etc. Whether it is a monetary donation or personal help, let's share the gladness of the season.

Please be sure and take lots of pictures as you work on your Education program. Send copies in with your reports to me. Last year I included pictures from Cathy Post of Tyler County 48 and Shirley Davis of Ceredo-Kenova 93 in my year-end report. Perhaps your pictures will be included in the national report and be shown on the big screens at the National Convention next year in Louisville, KY.

If you haven't already done so, please distribute the National and Department scholarships to your schools. Paulette has them available for you on the WV Auxiliary webpage. If you have any questions regarding the scholarships, please let me know. Be sure and check back with your schools as the deadline dates approach. Perhaps a news article describing their availability would be seen by some in need of assistance to further education. Remember--The Non-Traditional Scholarship is open to the members of our Legion family who are returning to the classroom after some period of time in which his/her formal education was interrupted or who is beginning their education at a later point in life. Distribute copies to trade and technical schools in your area as well as other educational facilities.

Best wishes for the holidays and wishing everyone a HAPPY 2020!

Dianne McClung
Education Chairman

Junior Activities

Hi to all,

This is a perfect time of the year for our Junior members to be really busy. With the holidays coming, there is so much they can help the senior members with.

Don't forget them. They can sign cards, help decorate, bake cookies and so many more things. The most important is to take them with you when you visit those hospitals or nursing homes. Our elderly and our Veterans "light up" when they see our young ones.

I hope you have been "Donating & Sharing". With Thanksgiving in just a couple of weeks, let's donate those items that we don't need or want, to someone less fortunate. It may help them to have something more to be thankful for. And sharing those smiles will certainly brighten up their day!

Reminder: Please make plans to bring your Juniors to the Mid-winter Conference in February.

If you have any ideas that you would like me to carry out with the Juniors or if I can help you in any way, please contact me.

Wishing everyone happiness and good health for a wonderful Thanksgiving!
Juniors~~~~Such a Joy!

Junior Activities
Debbie Michael
katndebbie@gmail.com
304-258-2705

National Security

I want to Wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas.

This is the time of the year that we need to help all our Veterans. You can make and give scarves to help keep our Homeless warm. Check your closets to see if you have a gently used coat that you could donate. Check your shoes, these are really needed.

Visit our Veterans that are in the Hospital or in a Nursing Home. They would love to have a visit. Help with the Christmas Workshops that are coming up.

Remember our Midyear reports are due by the middle of December, please send them to your Chairperson.

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

God Bless America and God Bless our Veterans.
Carla Wilfong
National Security Chairperson

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Fellow Auxiliary Members,

I would like to encourage all units to support this very important ALA program by holding a fundraiser specifically designated for the Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Let your creativity and imagination run wild! Any donation no matter the amount will be greatly appreciated and go a long way toward helping our fellow auxiliary members in their time of need. The recipient of your generosity may never know your name, but they will never forget your gift!

I hope and pray that each of you has a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas!

If I can be of assistance to you or your Unit in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Blessings,
Melanie Shambaugh
AEF Chairman
sham4wv@aol.com

MERRY
CHRISTMAS

100 Years of Celebration 1919-2019



HELLO EVERYONE,

I hope each of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I have been seeing some fantastic pictures and news on our Department Facebook Page as well as on some of our National Facebook Pages. Please remember to use the #100th Year Celebration when submitting these events in order to catch National President Nichole Clapp's attention.

If your unit has not begun the 100th Year Poster for display at Midwinter Conference, then you still have time to get it ready. Keep in mind each unit that brings a poster will receive a little gift.

We are at our Mid-Year timeframe. I will need a report from each unit by the end of this month. I would love to forward on to National all the celebrating our Department is doing.

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!

Until next month be safe and
God Bless!!!

Rhonda Best
100th Year Celebration Chairperson

Past President's Parley

Hello Auxiliary Members,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. This is also a very busy time for each unit. I ask each Past President to become a mentor to the younger and new members. If you have already been doing so, then please keep up the good work. Any unit that does not have a "Past Presidents Parley Club" consider starting one in your unit. If you need any help getting started, then contact me for information and assistance.

It is hard to believe we are reaching our Mid-Year mark this month. Please send me your unit's report by the end of this month. I would love to report everything our Department has done so far.

I want to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!
Until next month be safe and God Bless!
Rhonda Best
Past President Parley Chairperson

Leadership

"We become what we behold. We shape our tools, and thereafter our tools shape us."

Let's pause to think about our toolbox once again and let's make sure we have a mirror in there. Sometimes we need to take a good hard look in the mirror. What we see is what we believe and what we believe is what we see. As a leader, we need to make sure we are always giving our all and doing our best. That does not mean we need to do it all ourselves... in fact if we are doing that we are not really leading. It does not mean that we sit back and just tell others what to do and how to do it... again, that is not leading. Use the mirror to check yourself. Ask yourself if YOU are being the best person you can be, the best member you can be, the best leader you can be. If you don't like what you see... make a change. The other amazing thing about a mirror as a tool... is we can hold it up so others can see themselves in it. While they are looking we should take the time as leaders to tell them what we see in them. Tell them about their potential. Praise them for their success. Let them share frustrations about shortcomings and help them find ways to overcome them. Who you see in that mirror is ultimately who the world will see. Take a look. Make a change. Listen to who others see. Help others see who you see in them. A mirror is a powerful tool. Use it well and use it wisely.

Rosemary M. Thomas, Ed.D.
Leadership Chairman

Rhododendron Girls State

Start securing funding for your citizens by contacting local businesses, banks as well as outside organizations. This is the time of giving for the Season.

Please use your Girls State District Representatives or if I can be of any assistance to you please feel free to contact me.

Have a Blessed Holiday Season!
Lynda Lancaster-Loyd,
Girls State Chairman

Legislative

Department Chairs were asked to let members know that when they join the "ALA Legislative" face book page, there are a few questions that need answered, such as unit and department you belong to. This makes excepting you quicker.

One of the Legion's priorities and more recent change is to eliminate the Retiree Spousal Benefit and Indemnity Compensation offset. (HR553; S 622). Auxiliary and Legionnaires alike have been front and center on the forefront of eliminating what is commonly known as the "Widows Tax". Share this with Unit members and let Congress know how you feel.

Mid-Year reports are due to me Dec. 30, 2019. Include hours spent, number of calls made, letters and emails sent, for which topics, number of members that called or wrote, and if any response was received, if so how and by who. This information is vital for the National Commander when he testifies in front of Congress during the Winter Conference for what is known as "Capitol Hill Day". So please get your Units med-year report in.

For God & Country,
Lisa Cadwallader
LisaC.ALA71@gmail.com

You Light Up My Life!



© wondercliparts.com

National Executive Committeewoman

Hello Everyone,

I hope each of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. It is a very busy time of year for all of us.

I want to remind each unit to update the wording in our Preamble from "The Great Wars" to "All Wars". Also, each unit can be working on their Constitution and By-Laws to be in compliance with all of the changes coming down from National and the American Legion.

At this time, the only update is an updated ALA History Video. It can be viewed at <https://www.alaforveterans.org/100th-anniversary/>

Everyone is encouraged to share this video as well.

I want to wish each of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!!

Until next month be safe and God Bless!
Rhonda Best
NEC

Poppy

Hello Ladies,

I would like to wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday. Please remember to send me your Mid-Year Report by 12-15-19. I need reports so that I can forward a combined report to National.

Be creative with your Poppies, and bring to Mid-Winter for judging. Take a 8x10 picture of your Poppy display. We will have containers available for you to vote for your favorite usage of Poppies. The picture that has collected the most money will go to our Welfare Fund.

I know that things can be very busy this time of the year for everyone, I will make this short for you, so you can concentrate on your Poppy Display.

Ladies I am going to have surgery on 12-11-19 I'm going to have total knee replacement on my left knee. Just in case I don't get to do a Poppy Report next month.

Please don't forget your Poppy Displays for Mid-Year Conference.

I want to take this time to Wish Everyone A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Nancy Sundstrom
Poppy Chairman



Public Relations

On November 10, 2019 The American Legion Auxiliary celebrated its 100th birthday. 100 years of the Auxiliary honoring our veterans and of Service Not Self. Has your unit done anything to celebrate our 100 years? How did you celebrate? How did you get your information out? Did you honor any particular veteran from your area? Remember to document your celebrations. Remember to use branding every chance you get. This is how people learn who we are and what we do.

Remember that mid-year reports are due by middle of December. Looking forward to seeing what everyone has done so far this year.

Honoring our Veterans
Stephanie Handley
PR chairperson

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

We were fortunate that Veterans Day came with great weather in our area, but the day after is another story. Boy is it cold outside!

Don't forget the homeless shelters and facilities that cater to homeless veterans in your area. They have many needs from volunteers to items they need to make life easier for the homeless. Also remember the veterans in nursing homes and care homes. Many do not have families close by or any family.

If you plan to send cards to overseas vets, it might be too late but check with the Red Cross or a military facility in your area.

The Christmas Gift Shops are coming up in the next few weeks. I am sure the Department Chairmen could use any extra income and help they can get. Just check with the chairman in your area to see if you can help.

Are you planning on attending Mid-Winter Conference in Wheeling? I could use some help on manning the Comfort Item Room. Also I am looking forward to receiving many items for our veterans. Don't forget you can deliver directly to your nearest VA facility and report to me a synopsis of items delivered and costs of items delivered.

Happy Thanksgiving to all and remember your many blessings.
Mary Waybright
V A & R Chairman

**Department Headquarters
has about 650 poppies left.
I will be ordering more after the
New Year Holiday.**

**Make sure you send in your
poppy form/order no later than
March 1, 2020 to secure your
poppies.**

**Please mark down the date
you want to have them by:
ex: May 1, 2020. Please make
sure you include the day on this
form, not just the month.**

*Thank you
Paulette Anderson
Dept. Headquarters*



Congratulations to the October winners!! We have two more months (November and December) for the 2019 Fundraiser year.

Ticket sales for 2020 are starting to come in. Remember to get them in by December 31st to be eligible for the January 1, 2020 drawing.

I still have several envelopes with tickets for 2020 in office. If you need more, please let me know and I will mail them to you.

Paulette Anderson



October Ways and Means Winners

Name	Number	City	State	Date	Amount
Anne Quinn	350	Charles Town	WV	10/1/19	\$25.00
	551			10/2/19	
Tom Turman	440	Barboursville	WV	10/3/19	\$25.00
	850			10/4/19	
Sandy Cheves	620	Romney	WV	10/5/19	\$25.00
	860			10/7/19	
	703			10/8/19	
Linda Judy	753	Shanks	WV	10/9/19	\$25.00
	903			10/10/19	
Mildred Barber	074	Gary	WV	10/11/19	\$25.00
	327			10/12/19	
Paulette Anderson	579	New Martinsville	WV	10/14/19	\$25.00
Savanna Kauffman	283	Martinsburg	WV	10/15/19	\$25.00
PDP Club	123	Moundsville	WV	10/16/19	\$200.00
	904			10/17/19	
Jerry Duncan	661	Elbert	WV	10/18/19	\$25.00
Scott Sager	034	Lost City	WV	10/19/19	\$25.00
Art Oger	537	Paden City	WV	10/21/19	\$25.00
Sandra Wolfe	138	Moorefield	WV	10/22/19	\$25.00
Stephanie Gillespie	451	Bluefield	WV	10/23/19	\$25.00
Polly G. Wimmer	941	Bluefield	WV	10/24/19	\$25.00
	793			10/25/19	
	292			10/26/19	
	133			10/27/19	
Joselyn Carroll	580	Princeton	WV	10/29/19	\$25.00
Katena Karnes	721	Huntington	WV	10/30/19	\$25.00
	605			10/31/19	



2019-2020 Membership Theme "Honoring Our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows"



Membership Target Sheet November 15th Target #3—40%

Department Goal— 5616

Membership To Date: 3220

(57.34 %)

Unit #200 Goal— 80

To Date: 67



Savanna

Cathy

District 1			
Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	26	18	69.23%
Moundsville #3	242	137	56.61%
McMechen #5	36	22	61.11%
Weirton #10	52	29	55.77%
Cameron #18	148	71	49.97%
New Martinsville #28	130	93	71.54%
Wellsburg #34	26	14	53.85%
Follansbee #45	41	18	43.90%
Benwood #46	75	51	68.00%
Pine Grove #81	87	43	49.43%
Paden City #86	97	62	63.92%
Wheeling #89	23	9	39.13%
Newell #114	31	18	58.06%
Hundred #120	50	21	42.00%
Chester #121	166	75	45.18%
TOTALS	1230	681	55.37%

**WWII/
Merchant
Marines Era
40's Fashion
Jitterbug Dance**

**Goal 2789
To Date: 1,610
(57.73 %)**

**Membership
Chairman
"Rosie the
Riveter"**

District 4			
Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	548	340	62.04%
Spencer #21	40	30	75.00%
Pt. Pleasant #23	250	138	55.20%
Tyler County #48	34	21	61.76%
Sistersville #67	86	34	39.53%
New Haven #140	132	48	36.36%
Williamstown #159	131	61	46.56%
TOTALS	1221	672	55.05%

District 6			
Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
Welch #8	59	41	69.49%
Bluefield #9	26	21	80.77%
Beckley #32	43	24	55.81%
Gary #38	76	68	89.47%
Cowen #62	27	14	51.85%
Lewisburg #69	42	1	2.38%
Richwood #97	23	21	91.30%
TOTALS	296	190	64.19%

District 3			
Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	41	34	82.93%
Clarksburg #13	89	42	47.19%
Elkins #29	149	91	61.07%
Shinnston #31	262	190	72.52%
Braxton County #33	30	27	90.00%
Bridgeport #68	67	54	80.60%
Belington #96	17		
Pickens #122	23	16	69.57%
Jane Lew #166	32		
Morgantown #174	30	27	90.00%
TOTALS	740	481	65.00%

District 5			
Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
Huntington #16	171	108	63.16%
Logan #19	17	6	35.29%
St. Albans #73	31	23	74.19%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	290	161	55.52%
South Charleston #94	15	6	40.00%
Hamlin #111	49	16	32.65%
Milton #139	62	43	69.35%
Barboursville #177	144	64	44.44%
TOTALS	779	427	54.81%

District 10			
Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	95	75	78.95%
Franklin #30	16		
Piedmont #52	28	1	3.71%
Berkeley Springs #60	187	129	68.98%
Moorefield #64	100	33	33.00%
Charles Town #71	195	101	51.79%
Petersburg #78	75	45	60.00%
Romney #91	221	103	46.61%
Charles Town #102	28	13	46.43%
Paw Paw #128	35	10	28.57%
Kirby #134	41	18	43.90%
Ridgeley #136	83	39	46.99%
Capon Bridge #137	121	94	77.69%
Keyser #152	45	41	91.11%
TOTALS	1270	702	55.28%

**Korea Era
50's Fashion
Cha-Cha**

**Goal 2747
To Date: 1,543
(56.17 %)**

December 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 <i>Office Closed Indianapolis</i> 	10	11 <i>Office Open 12:00 pm</i>	12	13	14
15	16 <i>Target #4 50%</i>	17	18	19	20 <i>Spirit Out VA Checks</i>	21
22  First Day of Winter	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve Office Closed</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day Office Closed</i>	26 <i>Vacation Office Closed</i> 	27	28
29	30 <i>Vacation Office Closed</i>	31 <i>New Years' Day Office Closed</i>	<i>Office Closed New Year's Day</i>	<i>Vacation Jan. 2nd and 3rd. Office Closed</i>	<div> <i>Programs of Month Gift Shops VA & R</i> </div>	

***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

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)
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
Pin Ball Table
Snack, crackers, chips
Chocolates

For the Veterans

Washers
Dryers
Chocolates - individual
Cologne
Bandoliers
Bar Soap Cases
Hand Sanitizer
Shoelaces
Hats, Gloves, & Jackets
Liquid Fabric softener
Hand & Body Lotion
Sewing & Eyeglass Repair Kits
Wallets & Watches
Batteries (AA, AAA, c, & d)
Triple and Quad Blade Razors
Dryer Sheets
Denture Adhesive/cleaner
Radios/ CD Players
TVSets(flatscreen)& DVD Players
Clock Radios/ Alarm Clocks
Bedside Lamps
Laundry Bags
Men's Pocket T-Shirts, esp. XXL/
XXXL sizes - *6X as well*
Diabetic Socks
Men's Underwear, Pajamas
Sweat Pants & Shirts
Plants (indoor)
Pillows & Twin Sheets WHITE
Musical Instruments
Guitar Strings & Music
Coffee Mugs
Keychains
Cards & Board Games
Shower/Pool Shoes

We are seeking sponsors for future
field trips.

Revised on October 10, 2018

Martinsburg VA Medical Center Donation Listing

Triple Blade Razors	Chap Stick
Shaving Cream	Postage Stamps
Shampoo for Sensitive Skin	Tampons
Conditioner for Sensitive Skin	Adult Coloring Books & Pencil Sharpeners
Deodorant	Notebooks or Journals
Jogging Pants	Gas Cards
Liquid Bath Soap	NO HAND SANITIZER
Socks—Men	Lotion—Bottle
Underwear—Men	
T-Shirts—Men	
Hair Brushes— Men and Women	
Combs— Men and Women	

Clarksburg VA Medical Center Donation Listing

Sweatshirts All Sizes
Sweatpants All Sizes
T-Shirts Medium—2XX
Underwear Medium-2XX
Body Wash
Stick Deodorant for Men
Dish Liquid
Laundry Detergent Pods Only **No Hand Sanitizer**

Hershel “Woody” Williams VA Center Listing

In addition to list please add: Travel Size: **razor shaving cream, deodorant, combs** (Not Motel Size)

*CANCELLATION MUST BE
48 HOURS IN ADVANCE
TO RECEIVE REFUND*

YOU ARE INVITED
TO THE 39TH ANNUAL
MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 7-8, 2020

OGLEBAY RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTER
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA

ADVANCED REGISTRATION - \$25.00
AT DOOR REGISTRATION - \$30.00

RETURN BOTTOM PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT

I AM SENDING \$ _____ FOR _____ ADVANCED REGISTRATION(S).
PLEASE ATTACH A LIST OF INDIVIDUALS FOR WHICH YOU PAYING.
SPELL NAME AS IT IS TO APPEAR ON NAME BADGE DURING CONFERENCE

NAME (S) _____

TITLE: _____

ADDRESS _____

POST/UNIT/SAL NO. _____

MAIL TO: THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA
PO BOX 3191
CHARLESTON WV 25332

DEADLINE DATE: JANUARY 31, 2020

39TH Annual Mid-Winter Conference
2020
ADVERTISING FORM

The American Legion
Department of West Virginia, Inc.

I hereby authorize the following advertisement to be placed in the official program of the 39th Annual Mid-Winter Conference of The American Legion, Department of West Virginia, Inc., scheduled February 7-8, 2020, at Olgebay Resort and Conference Center, Wheeling, West Virginia.

Date: _____, 2019/2020

Name of Post/Unit/SAL

Please specify exactly how your ad should read. Only the information you supply will be published. An attached copy of your ad is very helpful. Be sure to state if Legion, Auxiliary, or SAL Emblem is requested.

Ad should read as follows:

Authorized Signature: _____

Price List:	Full Page	\$100	Full Page (Color)	\$160
	Half Page	\$60	Half Page (Color)	\$100
	Quarter Page	\$35	Quarter Page (Color)	\$70
	Eighth Page	\$25	Eighth Page (Color)	\$ 50

Please send your ad along with a check made payable to: **The American Legion**
P.O. Box 3191
Charleston, WV 25332

Ad and Payment Deadline is January 10, 2020.
No Deviation

**2020 DEPARTMENT MID-WINTER CONFERENCE
RESERVATION FORM**

February 7-8, 2020
Oglebay Resort and Conference Center
465 Lodge Road
Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

\$79.00 per night room rate (plus 12% tax & 3% Historical Fee & Service Fee 1.80 Daily)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Arrival Date _____ AM PM Departure Date _____

Room Type: (circle one) Doubles King (Additional charge of \$10 for a King)

Non-Smoking Facility

Handicap Room: (circle one) wheelchair oxygen tank other

If you circled "other", please explain. _____

*Members with wheelchair disabilities will receive first priority.

One night's deposit must accompany this request to reserve a room. Any form, without a deposit will be returned.

Enclosed, please find one night's room deposit of **\$79.00** (plus 12% tax & 3% Historical Fee & Service Fee Daily \$1.80) = \$92.18 per night

(circle one)

check cash credit card
_____ credit card # _____

type _____

expiration date _____

Your credit card may be charged for the one night's room deposit.

Mail to: Oglebay Resort and Conference Center

ATTN: Cynthia Johnson

465 Lodge Road

Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

Cancellation, at least 48 hours in advance

This form must be mailed to reserve a room at Oglebay Resort and Conference Center. (No phone calls for rooms will be accepted.)

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER EARLY- THANKS!

General Fund -----Balance August 1, 2019-----		\$30,108.17	
Income		Expenses	
Bonding	\$30.00		
Donations:		Utilities (3 mo)	\$90.00
President's Project	\$110.00	D & O Insurance	\$561.17
Girls State Project	\$100.00	Fire Insurance	\$527.89
Dept. Scholarship Fund	\$145.00	Copier	
AEF	\$34.00	Lease	\$930.00
ALCWF	\$ 20.00	Rental Tax	\$55.80
		Service Contract	\$211.75
USA Credit Card Royalty	\$102.00	Unit ALAMIS	\$20.00
Spirits Subscriptions	\$126.00	Membership Mission Expenses	\$117.00
Interest	\$254.89		
Membership	\$34,438.90	Membership	\$5,376.00
Online Dues	\$2,976.40	Officers Compensation	\$1,043.90
		2018 Pres. Proj & ALCWF Donations	\$1,058.75
Fall Meetings		Fall Meetings	
Registration	\$615.00	Meeting Room	\$720.00
Raffles	\$75.00		
Chinese Auction	\$1,060.00	Travel	
Other Income		District Vice Presidents	\$347.80
Unit ALAMIS	\$ 20.00	Finance Meeting	\$362.00
USAA Royalties	\$ 102.00	Executive Board Meeting	\$994.60
Starter Money	\$525.00	Secretary Travel Fall Conferences	\$320.40
Refunds		Starter Money	\$525.00
USAA	\$525.00	Supplies	\$61.85
Refunds		Recorder Supplies	\$25.42
941 Penalties	\$110.99	941 Penalty Reimbursement	\$110.99
Supplies	\$263.30	Payroll Expenses	\$15,280.00
		Workforce	\$45.00
		Salaries	
		Secretary/Treasurer	\$2,403.00
		Office Assistant	\$255.00
		Postage and Shipping	\$434.20
		Telephone & Internet	\$ 688.02
		Toll Free #	\$46.27
		2018 year prizes & awards	
		Goal Ribbons & Americanism Plague	\$132.02
Total Income	\$41,633.48	Total Expenses	\$32,743.83
Balance.....10/31/1.....		\$38,997.82	
Welfare Fund -----Balance -----		8/1/19 --- \$33,977.09	
Income		Expenses	
10% Poppy Proceeds	\$193.87	Poppy Supplies	\$520.00
Poppy Orders	\$304.00	Cheer Parties	\$1,485.00
Poppy Kits	\$286.95	Postage for Mailing of Poppies	\$38.25
Veterans/ Welfare Fund	\$157.00	Gift Shops	\$5,200.00
Poppy Donation	\$50.00		
Interest	\$18.87		
Total	\$1,010.69	Total	\$7,243.25
Balance.....10/31/19.....		\$27,744.53	

Rhododendron Girls State, Inc -----		Balance -----	8/1/2019 -----	\$77,111.06	
Income			Expenses		
Interest		\$80.87		Girls State Fall Board	\$1,058.90
		\$80.87		Total Expenses	\$1,058.90
		Balance -----	10/31/19 -----	\$75,633.03	
			(Includes \$5,250.00 GS Sponserhips from Contributors)		
Scholarship Fund.....		Check Book Balance.....	8/1/2019.....	\$3,702.82	
Income			Expenses		
Interest		\$0.47		Governors Scholarship	\$500.00
Total Income		\$0.47		Total Expenses	\$500.00
Balance.....			10/31/2019.....	\$3,203.29	