



The Auxiliary Spirit









Volume 39 February 2025 Issue 7





American Legion Auxiliary 2024-2025 Department President

"For the Heart of the Matter"

Colors—Purple (Represents Ambition & Determination); Accent Color(s) Pink, Yellow, Blue (Represents Fun & **Energy**

Flower— Daisy (Represents New Beginning & Cheerfulness)

Hello West Virginia! The outside temps may be frigid, but the Department is heating up! I am so excited to see all of you at Mid-Winter Conference in Wheeling the weekend of February 7th! National President Trish Ward will be "Leading the Way" with her Department Excellence Initiative. Your Leadership Chairman, Dr. Rosemary Thomas, will be sharing insightful information, and we will be celebrating membership achievements!

PLEASE NOTE: In last month's Spirit, I asked everyone to bring a centerpiece to represent your districts to Mid-Winter. We are NO LONGER asking you all to bring a centerpiece as it was a last-minute request.

We can still have a little fun though! 1st, 4th, and 6th Districts are encouraged to dress up as Fun Dip and/or bring Fun Dip to share with everyone at your table. Likewise, 3rd, 5th, and 10th Districts are encouraged to dress up as Laffy Taffy and/or of course, bring Laffy Taffy to share! BE CREATIVE and HAVE FUN!!

Remember, Membership in the ALA is Sweet!

For the Heart of the Matter,

Laura Clark

Department President (aka Willy Wonka)

"We are the music makers, and we are the dreamers of dreams"- Willy Wonka

Department Officers 2024-2025

President-Laura Clark 1st Vice President-Kim Mellie 2nd Vice President-Stephanie Handley Secretary/Treasurer-Susan Brown Chaplain-Peggy Swartz Historian-Rebecca Farley

District Presidents

1st District-Paulette Anderson 3rd District-Margaret Yost 4th District-Patsy Greiner 5th District-Beth Kilgore 6th District-Peggy Swartz 10th District-Diana Teter

District Vice Presidents

1st District-Christy Bland 3rd District-Sandra Harper 4th District-Rebecca Farley 5th District –Lisa Harbour 6th District-Mary Spence 10th District-Jill Davis





Department Headquarters



Mandatory Funds: (Unit's General Fund)- Bonding (\$5.00), Education (Scholarship), & Girls State Project (any amount the unit can afford or wish to donate);

Unit's Welfare Fund - Veterans' Welfare Fund (any amount the unit can afford or wish to donate), & 10% of Poppy Proceeds. If your unit has a little extra money please consider donating to the Cheer Parties and Gift Shops.

THE UNIT'S MANDATORY FUNDS HAVE TO BE PAID TO KEEP THE UNIT IN GOOD STANDING WITH DEPARTMENT. IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF YOUR UNIT'S STATUS CALL THE OFFICE—Thank you

Directory Update: Cowen Unit #62

Secretary—Connie Thompson PO Box 516

Cowen WV 26206 304-573-7213

Treasurer—Sharon Stewart 14 Fairhill Dr Cowen WV 26206

423-383-6864
Follansbee Unit #45—Please mail all

communications for Carla Lada-Hull

to the Unit's Post Office Box. Carla Lada-Hull PO Box 31 Follansbee WV 26037

ALA MIS payments are not due to Department until you receive an invoice from department. Please do not pay early—Thank you

Full access or Write users I do not need new applications that have been entered by these users. They are for your records.

ALA MIS system—it is not mandated by National nor Department that a Unit MUST use the system. A Unit needs to make a request to Department for usage. The Department will take it under consideration whether the Unit will be give permission.

Reminder—The Unit's membership count for 2025 restarts on August 1, 2024, not on January 1, 2025. If you have done this. You need to update the Unit's information. Thank you!

National Membership will be sending a "We Miss You" email to expired senior members (with email address) on January 15th. They will be sending a "We Miss You" to all senior former members (with email address) on January 22nd. The expired and former members will be given the phone number of Department and Department email address.

American Legion Auxiliary's Salute to Servicemembers Award is now open. A simple narrative (no more than 1000 words), a picture of the person, and the endorsement from their command group are the only requirements. The goal is to have at least one submission per Department. Website for submitting is: https://www.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicewomen-Award. For further information contact Lisa D Williamson @ williamsonlisad@gmail.com.

New members—when sending in a new application please make sure they are completed. If you are unable to read the new application, how am I suppose to read it. Please clarify illegible writing. The ON-LY time that the unit secretary can sign an application is when a female veteran is joining under herself—No Exceptions! Applications will be returned.

Reminder—Constitution Article VIII, section 4—All Department officers, Department Executive Committee and Chairmen of Standing Committees must be in good standing in their Units. Dues shall be paid to Department by November 1st.

Just a small note; Posts and Units may meet on the same day. They just do not hold their business sessions together.

Mail Call

Roxie Nicholson, PDP mother received her wings. Cards can be sent to PO Box 14 Shinnston WV 25431 Plus a thinking of you card for Roxie's recent injury.

New address for Nancy Sundstrom, PDP 1408 Avery St., Parkersburg WV 26101 email—nancy.sundstrom15@yahoo.com Phone number 304-422-1263

Department Headquarters

Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:30am-3:30pm

Phone 304-845-7410 alawysec@frontier.com

Department Address: 2172 Grandview Road Moundsville, WV 26041

Department Website: www.wvaux.org

Rhododendron Girls State Website www.wvgirlsstate.org

The American Legion
Department of WV
wvlegion@suddenlinkmail.com

American Legion Auxiliary National Website ALAforveterans.org

Spring Conventions
1st District
3rd District—Shinnston #31, 3/8/25
4th District—Pt. Pleasant #23,
3/22/25
5th District
6th District—Welch #8, 4/6/25

10th District-Capon Bridge #137,

322/25



Chester WV Unit 121 PO BOX 121 Chester WV 26034

RE: Endorsement for Department 1st Vice President

January 2, 2025

A regular meeting of American Legion Auxiliary Chester Unit 121, Chester WV was held on Jan. 2, 2025 at 7:00PM at the Post home. The Unit unanimously endorsed Stephanie Handley for the office of Department 1st Vice President for the administrative year of 2025-2026.

Stephanie joined our Unit in 1996 through the eligibility of her Grandfather Carl A. McCurdy who was a WWII veteran. She has been an active member of our Unit since joining and very proud to be part of a family that has three generations of veterans. Stephanie's Grandmother, Belva Morris, was a PDP and her Mother-in-law, Patricia Emmerling, is a past District President.

Stephanie has served as Secretary, Treasurer and President in our Unit and is currently serving our Unit as Membership Chair. She is currently Department 2nd Vice President and has served as Department Historian and Chaplain. She also has served as 1st District President and 1st District Vice President. She has served on various committees over the years. She has always been proactive with all of our projects and very dedicated to serving our Veterans in our local community.

We are very proud to present Stephanie Handley as our candidate for Department 1st Vice President for the 2025-2026 administration.

Our Very Best Regards,

Holly Adams

President Chester Unit 121

Cindy Gadd

Treasurer. Chester Unit 121



Unit 1 45 Sycamore Avenue Wheeling, WV 26003

On January 7, 2025, at 7 PM, during a regular meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 1, Wheeling, WV, the members unanimously endorsed Michelle Powell for the position of 2025-2026 Historian for the Department of West Virginia.

Powell is eligible for membership through her husband, John A Powell, who served in the United States Navy from 1978 to 1998. John retired as a Chief Petty Officer. John and Michelle have been married for 17 years and have four children, eight grandchildren, and five greatgrandchildren.

Powell joined the Auxiliary in 2014 and has been active in ALA Unit 1 serving in the positions of Sergeant at Arms (1 year), Treasurer (5 years), Secretary (1 year), and President (2023-2024 and 2024-2025). She has been on the ALA Department of WV's Constitution and By-laws committee (2 years) and Standing Rules committee (1 year).

Powell is also a charter member of the Upper Ohio Valley American Legion Riders. She has served as the treasurer (10 years) and secretary (5 years).

For 12 years, Powell has been employed at the Ohio County Assessor's Office as the Chief Deputy Assessor. She is looking forward to retirement in February 2025.

ALA Unit 1, Wheeling, is honored to recommend Michelle Powell as a candidate for 2025-2026 for the Department of West Virginia Historian.

Unit 1 First Vice President

Unit 1 Secretary/Treasurer

~~~~Membership in the American Legion Family...How Sweet It Is!!!~~~~~

Membership Chairman

Ladies, I hope everyone is staying warm and safe as we endure this winter weather. We need to take care of each other so that we can assist our veterans. Our units and members are definitely working on membership; we now have 27 units with above 75%. We now have to strive for 100%.

Congratulation to: Over 100% Bridgeport 68-117%, Wheeling 1- 108% Morgantown 174 – 105% Between 80% and 99% Buckhannon 7 – 98% Capon Bridge 137 – 90% Barboursville 177 – 89% Berkeley Springs 60 – 87% Wellsburg 34 – 87% New Martinsville 28 – 84% Braxton County 33 – 84% Gary 38 - 82% Piedmont 52 – 82% Petersburg 78 – 82% Weirton 10 – 81% Parkersburg 15 – 81% Cowen 62 – 80% Above 75% - Moundsville 3, Martinsburg 14, Point Pleasant 23, Shinnston 31, Charles Town 63, Moorefield 64, St. Albans 73, Richwood 97, Kirby 134, Milton 139, and New Haven 140.

3rd District leads with 79% Laffy Taffy leads with 76% and Fun Dip has 71%. Let us see what happens before Midwinter Conference.

Ann Buchanan Membership Chairman

Department 1st Vice President

Keep up the great work Laffy Taffy! Stretching membership to its limits! Amazing job Bridgeport 68 with 116% followed my Morgantown 174 with 105%

No one in District 5 has reached 100% yet, but a shout out to Barboursville 177 with 88.5%. St. Albans 73 and Milton 139 are on your tail!
Wonderful job Capon Bridge 137 with 90%! Berkeley Springs 60 and Piedmont 52 are working their way to 90!
Please remember to be kind, check in on your members who have not paid. Kindness goes a long way! Try your best to reach 85% Goal by March 15th! That is also National Shoe The World Day. Should also consider holding a

also National Shoe The World
Day. Should also consider holding a
shoe drive for those in need so we can
make a difference while reaching a goal.
Leadership is about building a team of
stars, not seeking to outshine them!
I am always here if you need anything!
For God and Country,

Kim Mellie Department First Vice President American Legion Auxiliary Department of WV 304-216-9943 kmellie@comcast.net

Department 2nd Vice President

Hello Fun Dips,

I hope everyone is doing well, especially with all this cold weather. Good job on getting membership in and continue doing so, because we have to catch up and pass that Laffy Taffy group. There are still a handful of units that need to work a little harder on there membership. Those that are struggling, have you tried reach out individually to your members who have not paid yet? Everyone continue working on you membership and ways to increase and maintain your numbers.

Look forward to seeing all you Fun Dips at Mid-Winter in February. Stay safe and stay warm.

God Bless,

Stephanie Handley

Department 2nd Vice President

Chaplain

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves'
Roman 12:9-10
Please send prayers for Laura's prayer book send to Peggy Swartz at tenpin@frontiernet.net
Would appreciate your help.
Thanks
Peggy.

Historian

Hello Historians! It's time to come together to preserve and celebrate the incredible work your units have accomplished so far this year. I know keeping up with history can be a challenge, but remember, it doesn't have to be perfect, just start where you are. Your contributions are vital in documenting our legacy as an entire Department and our histories are ensuring the contributions of our members are never forgotten.

Please send a summary of your unit's activities to me via email as soon as possible. Whether it's a quick list or detailed notes, every bit of information helps in capturing the full picture of our collective efforts. To make this process easier, I'm happy to meet with you via Zoom or phone to discuss your history documentation and answer any questions you may have.

Let's keep our history alive and thriving by working together to ensure future generations know the impact of our mission. Your stories matter, and I can't wait to hear them. Thank you for your commitment to preserving the legacy of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Let's write history together!

Rebecca S Farley

dccoachrebecca@gmail.com

1st District Vice President

Happy winter first District! Brrr it's a cold one. I hope everyone is staying safe and warm.

Mid winter is coming up fast upon us. Safe travels to everyone attending. Membership is looking good, keep up the good work!

Just a friendly reminder, this spring will be nominations & elections of District officers. If you're interested but on the fence about it, discuss it with your Unit for feedback. Jump in there and give it a try! District President and Vice President are up for grabs.

Don't forget about the poppy wreath for mid winter. Can't wait to see them all!

God bless and be safe Christy Bland 1st District VP

5th District Vice President

Hello evervone.

I hope everyone is staying warm and safe on these cold snowy days. I know I'm ready for some warmer weather.

Laffy Taffy is still in the lead. Congratulations to Barboursville Unit 177 for their hard work and taking over first place. Milton #139 is in second place followed by St. Albans #73. I appreciate all the hard work everyone is doing. Keep up the great work. The second target date is 85% by March 15th and several are getting close. I know you are tired hearing me say don't hold on to the dues. Please get them in as soon as possible. I can't wait to see everyone at Mid-Winter and hopefully no snow. (I hope I didn't jinx it). I'm excited to see what's instore for us.

If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me. Email or text is the best way to contact me. Keep up the great work and I'm proud of how hard District 5 is working.

Lisa Harbour Vice President District 5 wvbravesfan@gmail.com (304)633-0530

3rd District Vice President

I hope everyone is staying safe and warm, please make sure to check in on the People of your Unit

I am so excited after reading the target sheet that just came out, District 3 aka Laffy Taffy,

YOU GUYS ARE DOING GREAT! Please keep up the good work, I have to give a big shout out to Unit 174, Mountaineer, I asked and they

came thru!
THANK YOU.

I can tell that the units have really stepped up and getting the job done. As long as we continue to grow our Membership we can continue our work to our Values of the American Legion Auxiliary. Justice, Freedom, Democracy, Loyalty. Service to God, our country, its veterans and their families. As an American Legion Auxiliary member, you bring untold value to the organization and America's veterans through your service to our mission.

I look at this as an HONOR!

Sandra Harper District 3VP 304-694-2067 Sandy.harper265@gmail.com

4th District Vice President

Membership is the lifeblood of our organization, and we're thrilled to see so much progress across our units. In our District, leading the charge is Parkersburg, shining bright at 80.58%! Close behind is Point Pleasant with an impressive 75.35%, followed by Spencer at 70%, completing our top three achievers. A big congratulations to these units for their dedication and hard work! For those still working toward their goals, keep processing memberships as soon as possible. Every renewal and new recruit makes a difference and gets your unit one member closer to goal! Here are some ideas to help with renewals and recruiting:

- -A simple phone call or a handwritten note can remind members to pay their dues. Blue postcard reminders can also serve as a friendly nudge.
- -Encourage active members to gift a year of dues to a shut-in or longtime member who might need assistance.
- -Share the Auxiliary's mission to everyone that will listen and invite others to join.
- -Display membership information at all community events to inspire interest and signups.

Together, we can meet and even surpass our membership goals. Every member strengthens our mission. Let's rise to the challenge and make our year one to remember! Keep up the great work! Rebecca S Farley dccoachrebecca@gmail.com 304-674-9908

Hello to our District 6 members. Hoping everyone had a Happy New Year and stayed safe during the Holidays. Hope everyone is surviving the cold temperatures and all the snow. We got approximately 10 inches of snow during our last snow-storm.

I had the opportunity to speak with several District 6 Unit representatives. Our units have been active in collecting dues, scheduling and holding their monthly regular meetings.

Continue to work on collecting your membership dues for the 2025 membership year.

Dates to remember are:

Mid-Winter conference February 7-8/2025 at Oglebay Resort and Conference Center

2025 Rhododendron Girls State will be June 8-14, 2025 Davis and Elkins College, Elkins, WV

Hope all of you have an enjoyable Valentine's Day and that Cupid knocks at your door.

Stay safe.

Pray for Our Country.

Mary Spence

Vice President

District 6

6th District Vice President

Hello to our District 6 members. Hoping everyone had a Happy New Year and stayed safe during the Holidays. Hope everyone is surviving the cold temperatures and all the snow. We got approximately 10 inches of snow during our last snowstorm.

I had the opportunity to speak with several District 6 Unit representatives. Our units have been active in collecting dues, scheduling and holding their monthly regular meetings. Continue to work on collecting your membership dues for the 2025 membership year.

Dates to remember are:

Mid-Winter conference February 7-8/2025 at Oglebay Resort and Conference Center

2025 Rhododendron Girls State will be June 8-14, 2025 Davis and Elkins College, Elkins, WV

Hope all of you have an enjoyable Valentine's Day and that Cupid knocks at your door.

Stay safe.

Pray for Our Country.

Mary Spence

Vice President

District 6

10th District Vice President

BRRR!! I said BRRR!!!! It sure is cold outside, I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays and is enjoying this weather. It will be over soon.

Just like the weather, the membership has been tough this year. I know how rough it can be, keep your head up, stay positive and keep giving it your all. We have 9 units at 75% and above, there are 5 units at 75% or below. Maybe we can pay member dues, have a fundraiser for it, reach out to the member. This is a very tough roll to have, but each unit is doing such a good job! Our next Target date is March 15th; you should have 85% at this time, so there is time to meet the second goal. I would love to see each unit meet this goal in March; I know that it can be done. Hope to see you at midwinter.

Jill Davis 10th District VP

1st District President

Good Day to all 1st District. Remember 1st District will have a hospitality room at Midwinter. Let's support our District by helping out in any way we can.

I see by the target sheet we have 3 units who are still under 10 members. I will be contacting these units by email or phone. Don't forget to pay your mandatory funds! Our Spring Conference is coming up soon. I have been in contact with Edith Mitchell of Weirton Unit #10 and she will get a date at their meeting next Monday. I will shoot an email to the Department Headquarters and units in our District of the date and place. Sorry for any inconvenience this has caused. At this Conference we will be having our Memorial Services, so please send them to our District Chaplain Cindy Gadd before April 15th.

I would like to announce that I will not be running as District President for 2025-2025-2026. It has been great but time has come for new blood.

Until next month,
Paulette Anderson
First District President
pauletteanderson2848@gmail.com

5th District President

I hope your holidays were wonderful. January is upon us in full force and I hope everyone is able to get around with all of the snow and ice and frigid temperatures

National has a goal to have a Good Deed Award and a Youth Hero Award presented to an eligible candidate by each department. At the last count, West Virginia had two Good Deed Awards and no Youth Hero Awards. I would like to encourage all units in the Fifth District to present one or both of these awards to a deserving youth in your community. With the weather that we have had in the last week, it should be easy to find someone who assisted their neighbors or helped in their communities. It needs to be something out of the ordinary, such as shoveling driveways or walkways, taking the neighbor to the grocery store, or helping out with their own families.

You can find forms on the national website for both awards. If you are having trouble, give me a call at 304-654-7750 and I will help you get what you need. Mid Winter is coming up February 7 - 8th at Olgebay Park in Wheeling. I would like to see every unit in the Fifth District represented.

Stay warm And I'll see you in Wheeling!

Beth Kilgore

5th District President

6th District President

Burrr, hope you are enjoying this snow and cold weather for me I will take summer any day over this cold weather. We have been through Christmas and New Year, hope you are enjoying the new year. Our next holiday is Valentine Day hope to see you at Mid Winter and I can wish you a happy valentine day. I know that Gary Unit 38 President has been sick so I will say please get well

been sick so I will say please get well soon Marsha Riffe. I have talked to the other Units everything is ok no Problems or sickness. Welch Unit 8 still cooking monthly for 40/8

cooking monthly for 40/8. Please keep working on membership and

be a Goal District.

This is going to be short but did want to get a little something in the Spirit. Until next time don't forget to keep everyone in

Peggy Swartz, 6th District President

our prayers.

10th District President

Well hasn't this been a cold spell? When you are in an area of cold weather, isn't it a good idea to think warm thoughts?

Imagine the Veteran when protecting our freedom had to endure plenty of cold weather and the only thing they could do was think warm thoughts. Imagine again how difficult that must have been.

When we as a Unit get into cold spells with one another we need to turn up the family heat and warm each other with the good things that can be done to help those in need.

THINK..

Think about the Veteran that may not have a warm place to stay.

Think about the child where the parents are deployed.

Think about the community that needs help to maintain a good environment. We are all worth something and reaching out to others is the best way to show it.

Be kind, be warm, be family. Diana Teter 10th District President

Upcoming Dates in February

February: Americanism Month &
Black History Month

February 3rd - Four Chaplains Day

February 4th - USO Birthday

February 9th-15th – National Salute to Veteran Patients

February 17th - Presidents Day

February 19th – U.S. Coast Guard Birthday

Americanism

Here are important dates for February, have your Units do projects for a date or two.

Teach your Unit of the Four Chaplains Day, if you haven't heard this, it is truly an Excellent story.

Keep in touch with your Schools on the Americanism Essay Contest. Continue teaching Flag etiquette.

If you have not looked this up on Facebook, please do, it is very helpful and informative.

American Legion Auxiliary Americanism Program

EXCITED TO READ ALL THE AMERICANISM ESSAYS DEADLINE FOR ESSAYS TO ME, MARCH 31, 2025.

Sandra Harper Americanism chair 304-694-2067 Sandy.harper265@gmail.com

4th District President

Greetings, Comrades and Sisters!
District Four still struggles to reach its
2025 membership goals. As I reported
last month, we have two new unit membership chairmen in our district. They are
working very hard to bring up our percentages! Membership is something every member can work on for the unit.
Potential members are everywhere!! Carry an application with you wherever you
go. Talk about the American Legion organization. Invite interested people to
attend an event. Recruit, retain and reinstate! We can do this!

Just a reminder February 6 – 7, 2025, we will be holding a Mid-Winter Conference at the beautiful Oglebay Resort in Wheeling, WV. Information is in the January edition of the Spirit. I can't wait to see everyone at this conference! It's a time to share information, to learn, to see old friends and to make new friends! National Auxiliary President Trish Ward from the great State of Kansas will be joining us for the weekend.

Just a little reminder ~ Every day is Veterans Day!

Patsy Greiner 4th District President 304-483-8296 (cell)

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Winter Survival Tips & Tricks for Your Home:

- 1. Do you have a ceiling fan? Make sure it spins clockwise in the winter to push warm rising air back down into the room.
- Did you know that placing bubble wrap between the window & screen helps to insulate the window?
- 3. Keep the house heated to a minimum of 65 degrees.
- 4. Open hot and cold faucets enough to let them drip slowly.
- 5. Make sure to salt paths after shoveling to keep them clear.
- 6. To minimize water freezing in your pipes, wrap each pipe in a blanket of foam insulation.

Blessing, Melanie Shambaugh AEF Chairman sham4wv@aol.com 304-258-3307

Child Welfare Foundation

I will be taking any money given to the child well-being fund at mid winter. If you have canisters on your bar that have not been emptied, now is the time. I will take the change, but would prefer that you deposit it and give me a check or if it's all bills that will be fine. We will have another collection at the Department convention in July. Keep in mind that anytime you wish to make a donation, you can also send it straight to Sue Brown in Dept. head-quarters. If you have any questions, give me a call at 304-654-7750.

Beth Kilgore Chairman

Children & Youth

As we sit in this cold, snowy weather, April seems so far away, but it really is not, it is only 2 1/2 short months away. April is Children & Youth Month. I hope your Unit is planning a special project to honor the children and youth of your community as well as military children. Please let me know what you're doing and send pictures during your event. If you need any help deciding what to do for the children, give me a call and we will go over ideas that fit your unit. You can reach me at 304-654-7750.

Reminder: the national organization has set a goal of at least one Youth Hero Award and one Good Deed Award from each state. Our last notification had West Virginia at two.Good Deed Awards given out from units in West Virginia. I'm sure there is someone in your community who deserves to be recognized in this manner. Look to the recent snowfall and frigid temperatures for ideas.

See you in Wheeling! Beth Kilgore Chairman

Music

Good Day to All,

I hope you are staying warm and safe in this bitter cold, snowy weather. Midwinter will be in 3 weeks and I hope the weather is a lot better. Please practice the Membership song to be sung at Midwinter. Lets all get our beautiful singing voices going for our National President Trish Ward, Department President Laura and the Membership Team!

Paulette Anderson Music Chairman pauletteanderson2848@gmail.com

Leadership

Hello All! Hope everyone's new year is off to a great start and that you are being strong leaders. I am sure everyone was busy through the holiday season and I bet you took time to make sure others feel extra special. Leadership development is one means of life long learning that we can all take advantage of with ALA. It is a gift we can give ourselves. Expand your knowledge. Step out of your comfort zone. Mentor someone who is preparing to take on a leadership role.

Do you know about AUX CARDS? Do you have your deck handy? This is a great way to promote the American Legion Auxiliary and expand our knowledge of this amazing organization.

Get ready to learn a lot when we are together for Mid Winter... it's almost time for our workshop. I am excited and hope everyone is ready to build on what we have done in the past. You can expect some group activities, personal reflection time, quotes to live by, and ways to help others grow as leaders. Please bring ideas to share and questions to discuss. We want this year's workshop to be super interactive and we hope everyone feels like they will have a golden ticket winning idea to take back with them.

Rosemary M. Thomas Leadership Chairman

Legislative

The 2nd Quarter Virtual National Legislative Committee meeting is Jan. 28 at 8pm. It is open to ALL Auxiliary members. The link to register is

https://legion-aux.formstack.com/forms/legislative

The challenge for each department and division to have the highest percentage of correspondence numbers (to the grassroots action center) based on 2025 paid membership began Nov. 10, 2024. Have you been sending your 10 daily emails?

No: Due to the 119th Congress beginning soon....The Grassroots Action Center is not currently running as the Legion has not finalized their top priorities yet. I will let you know when it is up and running and hopefully we can continue the competition of sending daily emails! How many of you knew the site was down? I will keep you posted as I also got invited to the Washington DC Conference February 23-26. I am hoping to have more information to share after the conference.

Questions, concerns, feel free to reach out at anytime.

May God Bless us All and keep us warm and safe

Kim Mellie

Legislative Chair

National Security

I hope everyone has dug out of the Snow of 25! Do you have a plan for Emergencies? Were you prepared for being snowed in for a week? What if it floods? or fire? Go to Make a Plan Form | Ready.gov. The information can help you make a comprehensive plan for your family in the event of a natural disaster.

Hope to see all at Oglebay...stay warm and stay safe! Pray for those affected by natural disasters!

April D. Wallace National Security Chairman aprilwallace0513@yahoo.com

Poppy

This is an important reminder about the Poppy Poster Contest. All entries must have a signed consent form to be judged at the Mid-Winter Contest on February 8, 2025. The consent forms are required by National headquarters and they must accompany the posters.

Remember to bring photos of poppy decorations and activities for the Chairman's Choice Contest. Include photos of Junior Miss Poppy and Poppy Ambassadors. The Central Division Chairman is asking for photos of how units have shown creativity in use of the poppy and participation in poppy activities. Here is a suggestion! When you make a membership centerpiece for the tables at Mid-Winter Conference, add poppies and you have covered two (2) programs!

Contact your local schools and ask if they would be willing to allow your unit to distribute the American Legion Auxiliary Poppy coloring page. The page is included with this month's Auxiliary Spirit. The coloring sheet is geared to early school grades. It explains what the poppy is; why it is important; and what people do to wear the poppy.

The Poppy coloring page is a good way to introduce children and parents to the poppy program. If possible, display the children's coloring sheets.

Shirley Davis Poppy Chairman

Past President Parley

Hello to all!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas. Wishes to all for a great 2025.

Did your unit form a Past Presidents Parley, yet.? Please consider doing this. Past Presidents are filled with great ideas and advice.

Mid-Winter is just around the corner. I am looking forward to seeing you. I hope you are planning to attend.

If I can help you with anything, please contact me.

Love and hugs!

Debbie Michael PPP Chairman 304-839-7721 katndebbie@gmail.com

Mid-Winter Silent Auction

The Past President Club will once again hold their annual Silent Auction at this year Mid-Winter at Oglebay Resort.

Donations will be welcome by all who would like to donate.

The proceeds from this auction is used for the Cheers Parties, Gift Shops and for the veterans in our VA hospitals and Barboursville Veteran Home.

Thank you!

Public Relations

I would love to hear what your unit is doing to promote your incredible work! Are you sharing stories on social media? Partnering with local news outlets? Hosting events that showcase our mission? Let me know what's working for you by emailing your updates and strategies.

Building strong media connections is essential for increasing visibility. If you haven't already, start by creating a list of local media contacts, including newspapers, radio stations, and community bloggers. Introduce yourself, share a bit about the Auxiliary's mission, and provide them with information about upcoming events. Regular communication will establish a relationship and increase the chances of your stories being featured. For every event, draft a press release to share with your media list. Highlight the who, what, where, when, and why of your event, emphasizing its importance to your community.

Don't forget the power of branding in all your media efforts. Use the ALA emblem, colors, and approved messaging in your press releases, flyers, and social media posts to maintain consistency and reinforce our identity. A wellbranded event or story not only promotes your unit but also elevates our entire organization.

Be bold, be visible, be seen, Auxiliary! You've got this!

Rebecca S Farley dccoachrebecca@gmail.com 304-674-9908

Scrapbook

Hello Ladies.

Now is the time to start thinking about the scrapbook for your unit. Remember it is another form of history for the unit. Please pay attention to the instructions in the awards manual when it comes out.

If your unit has a Junior group, get them to do one, because there will be exciting things happening for them at the Spring Conference. More later.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Margaret Yost Scrapbook Chairperson 811 Barbara Hgts Dr. Apt 103 Shinnston WV 26431 304-629-0688 mdyost2010@gmail.com

Junior Activities

Attention ALA Junior members, February is here and we are going to join the senior members for a magical Mid-Year Conference at Oglebay Resort in Wheeling, West Virginia. We need all junior members to attend if possible! As you know, the National ALA President Trish Ward will be visiting West Virginia. She is excited about meeting all the junior members. Honorary President Samantha Walker will preside over the junior members' meeting on Saturday, February 8, 2025.

We will be making cards and sending letters to our adopted active member unit stationed at the United States/Mexico border. They look forward to hearing from us. They also enjoy the special packages we send them with snacks, personal care items, puzzle books, decks of playing cards and other surprises we send them.

For now, be safe and pray for our veterans and military families.

Patsy Greiner Junior Activities Chairman 304-483-8296 Patsygirl2@gmail.com

VA&R

Our Units have been busy doing for our Veterans from Halloween, Veterans day, Wreaths Across America and Christmas. Are you tracking hours, time, number of Veterans, in kind and monetary donations? These items are collected at report time. Now that we are beyond the holidays, have you taken items to the VA? With these cold temperatures, it's a great time to take sweat clothes, hats, gloves, blankets and food for food banks. You can report these and other items on the Comfort Drive form. Bring your completed form and any monetary donations to midwinter. Again this year, I'm asking that you take items directly to your local VA or CBoc's instead of bringing them to mid-winter.

Hope to see you at mid-winter

Lisa Cadwallader Lisac.ala71@gmail.com

Standing Rules

Hello Evervone. Now that we have the Holidays and the Celebration of the New Year Behind us, we can focus on business at hand. Any unit that has not reviewed their Standing Rules should take the time during this half of the 2024-2025 to do so. If any unit is waiting for theirs to be signed and/or returned, then please contact me. I would like to share a suggestion when reviewing the annual dues in your standing rules. You can use the following wording "The annual Senior membership dues of your unit shall not be less than The National and Department per capita, nor to exceed \$10.00 of the amount payable after the Department Convention: Membership Cards shall not be issued until the dues are paid; The Junior dues shall be paid annually or for life, and not be less than The National and Department per capita, nor to exceed \$1.00 of the amount payable after Department Convention". This wording follows close to National and will lessen the requirement to update this section of your standing rules when you increase your dues. If you have any questions or want to discuss this further, then contact me. I appreciate your time. Until Next Month!!! Be Safe and Healthy,

Rhonda Best, Standing Rules Chairman

3rd District President

Hi Ladies, I sincerely apologize for not having a report in last month. I sat down, typed one out and thought I had hit send, but apparently I did not

I wanted to congratulate Bridgeport Unit 68 for being the first Unit in the Third District and the State to make goal for this year. I wish to add Morgantown 174 to that list. Great job ladies. Okay Belington 96 and Pickens 122 we need some transmittal forms with some dues. Please, Please!!!!!!

Now I want to encourage Clarksburg Unit 13 and the rest of Third District to try just a little bit harder on the renewal and new members. I know its hard, but we have to try.

Until next time.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY1 Margaret Yost Third District President 811 Barbara Hgts. Dr. Apt 103 Shinnston WV 26431 304-629-0688 mdyost2010@gmail.com

THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY POPPY

l am a r	ed POPPY.
l am ma	de out of crepe paper.
l am vei	y important.
l honor	the people who fought and died for freedom.
People (give donations to be able to wear me.

Name:	THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O
Age:	Grade:

Membership Song

Membership Song (To the tune of Oompha Loompha Willy Wonka 1971 Movie)

Willy Wonka doesn't ask much
Asking Slugworth to keep in touch
Laffy Taffy and Fun Dip
Asking For Our Membership

What Do You Get When You Work at It
Setting An Example for All to Do
Wonka Bar and Scrumpdiddlyumptious Too
What Do You Think of That?
Working on Our Membership

Oomph Loompha Don't Forget Them
Golden Tickets Ready to Send
Working, Working All Year Long
Runt in Department Keeping It Strong

Membership In The ALA---How Sweet It Is!!!



American Legion Auxiliary WV Rhododendron Girls State

Rhododendron Girls State

Seems just like 2025 started and hard to believe that June will be here before we know it. I hope everyone is working hard on making 2025 Rhododendron Girls State bigger and better than previous years.

Our Girls State Session, June 8 -14, at Davis & Elkins in Elkins, WV. I hope by now you have secured donations and been in contact with your respective schools. The deadline for applications is May 1, 2025.

The impact you have on a deserving young lady is a once in a lifetime opportunity. They will remember attending Girls State for the remainder of their life but only you can help make this happen. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your district representative or myself.

Lynda Lancaster -Loyd Girls State Chairman lancasterl@aol.com or 304-676-3979



MOUNDEVILLE FARMENSONS PARKERSOUNG MONREPHILD OCHARLESTON MARIJINTON MADISON BECKLEY WELCH

District Representatives

1st Dist. — Susan Brown 2172 Grandview Rd. Moundsville WV 26041 304-845-5122

3rd Dist. — Mary Jo Thomas 279 Rock Lake Road Fairmont WV 26554 304-366-2912

4th Dist. — Cathy Post 308 Main Street Middlebourne, WV 26149 304-758-5114

5th Dist.— Ann Buchanan 105 Cheyenne Trail Ona WV 25505 304-654-9932

6th Dist. — Peggy Swartz P O Box 124 Gary WV 24836 304-448-2394

10th Dist.— Debbie Fox 874 Longview Drive Berkeley Springs, WV 25411 304-258-5804

Ways and Means

There were nineteen \$25.00 winners in December and no winner for the \$200 drawing. Congratulation to all the winners.

If you are holding ticket stubs and money, they need to be sent to Department. Thank you

Once again this year the committee will be offering a cash prize for the individual and unit that sells the most Ways & Means tickets.

Please cash your checks! We still have outstanding check from 2024 that have not be cashed. We will be sending out reminder to those that have not cashed their check to do so.

NOTICE—Please mail check and stubs to:

Susan Brown 2172 Grandview Rd Moundsville WV 26041

Check Payable to: ALA Ways & Means

Thanks! Susan Brown Linda Crumm

December 2024 Ways and Means Winners

Name	#'s	City	State	Date	\$\$\$
Tammy Campbell	509	Romney	WV	12/2/2024	25.00
Mike Wallace	824	Buckhannon	WV	12/3/2024	25.00
Icky Hyre	167	Petersburg	WV	12/4/2024	25.00
Jennifer Bland	157	New Athens	ОН	12/5/2024	25.00
	112			12/6/2024	
Kathy McDaniel	279	Wardensville	WV	12/7/2024	25.00
Collin Rock	955	Upperglade	WV	12/9/2024	25.00
George Young	924	Vienna	WV	12/10/2024	25.00
Lisa Graley	708	Groveport	ОН	12/11/2024	25.00
	184			12/12/2024	
Camille Culliton	116	Bluefield	VA	12/13/2024	25.00
	282			12/14/2024	
Sherri Sparks	212	Bluefield	VA	12/16/2024	25.00
	880			12/17/2024	
	628			12/18/2024	
Chuck Pearce, Jr	820	Gore	VA	12/19/2024	25.00
Michelle Dixon	097	Morgantown	WV	12/20/2024	25.00
Bruce Brooks	253	Cumberland	MD	12/21/2024	25.00
ALA—1st District	487	Moundsville	WV	12/23/2024	25.00
Mary Spence	102	Welch	WV	12/24/2024	25.00
	482			12/25/2024	
Rose Epling	065	Reedy	WV	12/26/2024	25.00
Roger Gatts	797	Moundsville	WV	12/27/2024	25.00
	980			12/28/2024	
Manon Hollingworth	486	Keyser	WV	12/30/2024	25.00
Frank Blake	052	Gassaway	WV	12/31/2024	25.00



February 2025

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2	3	4 *USO *	5	6 Midwinter Conference Office Closed	7 Midwinter Conference Office Closed	8
9	10 Office Closed	11	FEBRUARY 12 ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY sheltenthia one -/2014/207	13	14 HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY (9)	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	
			Red Shirt Friday— Every Friday		Programs of America Chapel 4 C	anism

"Membership in the American Legion Family...How Sweet It Is!"

Date 1/15/2025 Department Goal 4923 — Membership to Date— 3543 Department Unit 200 Goal 232 — Membership to Date— 89 Second Target Date 85% - March 15, 2025

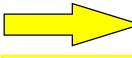
Stephanie

District 1			
Unit	2025 Goal	2025	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	26	28	107.69%
Moundsville #3	265	132	77.74%
McMechen #5	15	8	53.33%
Weirton #10	68	55	80.88%
Cameron #18	125	88	70.40%
New Martinsville #28	113	95	84.07%
Wellsburg #34	23	20	86.96%
Follansbee #45	61	35	57.38%
Pine Grove #81	68	38	55.88%
Paden City #86	77	55	71.43%
Wheeling #89	10	6	60%
Newell #114	20	2	10%
Chester #121	125	90	72%
TOTALS	996	726	72.89%

District 4			
Unit	2025 Goal	2025	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	381	307	80.58%
Spencer #21	30	21	70%
Pt. Pleasant #23	215	162	75.35%
Tyler County #48	45	1	2.22%
Sistersville #67	32	1	3.13%
New Haven #140	124	93	75%
Williamstown #159	74	28	37.84%
TOTALS	901	613	68.04%

District 6			
Unit	2025 Goal	2025	% of Goal
Welch #8	45	33	73.33%
Bluefield #9	23	16	69.57%
Beckley #32	20	11	55%
Gary #38	93	76	81.72%
Cowen #62	20	16	80%
Richwood #97	28	21	75%
TOTALS	229	174	75.98%

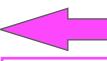




"Laffy Taffy" Team Goal—2565 To Date— 1941 75.67%

STU&WORTH,

Membership Chairman



"Fun Dip" Team Goal—2126 To Date 1513 71.17%



Kim

•				
District 3				
Unit	2025 Goal	2025	%	of Goal
Buckhannon #7	44	43	\top	97.73%
Clarksburg #13	46	8		17.39%
Elkins #29	108	79	\top	73.15%
Shinnston #31	271	212	\top	78.23%
Braxton County #33	32	27	\top	84.38%
Bridgeport #68	66	77	\top	116.67%
Belington #96	16	0	\top	0
Pickens #122	20	1	\top	5%
Morgantown #174	120	126		105%
TOTALS	723	573		79.25%
District 5				
Unit	2025 Goa	1 2025	5	% of Goal
Huntington #16	134	9'	7	72.39%
Logan #19	20	1	1	55%
Charleston #20	28	7		25%
St. Albans #73	33	25	5	75.76%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	212	13	2	62.26%
So. Charleston #94	10	5		50%
Hamlin #111	40	2	7	67.50%
Milton #139	68	53	3	77.94%
Barboursville #177	148	13	1	88.51%
TOTALS	693	48	8	70.42%

District 10			
Unit	2025 Goal	2025	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	68	51	75%
Piedmont #52	22	18	81.82%
Berkeley Springs #60	197	172	87.31%
Charles Town #63	38	30	78.95%
Moorefield #64	84	64	76.19%
Charles Town #71	151	88	58.28%
Petersburg #78	62	51	82.26%
Romney #91	155	113	72.90%
Paw Paw #128	43	19	44.19%
Kirby #134	32	24	75%
Ridgeley #136	69	51	73.91%
Capon Bridge #137	192	173	90.10%
Keyser #152	36	26	72.22%
TOTALS	1149	880	76.59%



43rd Annual Mid-Winter Conference American Legion Auxiliary Conference Program Oglebay Wilson Lodge, Wheeling WV

Friday, February 7, 2025	
8:00 am Comfort Items Open————————————————————————————————————	Seneca Room
12:00-4:30pm Silent Auction Opens-	Ballroom West 3
1:00-7 pm Registration — 12:00-1:00pm Training Committee	Banquet View
12:00-1:00pm Training Committee	Fort Henry Room
1:00-2:00pm Membership —	Fort Henry Room
2:00-3:30pm Policy and Procedure	Fort Henry Room
3:30-5:00pm Girls State Executive Board Meeting —	Fort Henry Room
7:00-9:00pm Opening Joint Session—	Ballroom West 1&2
Saturday, February 8, 2025	
8:00 am -12:00 pm Registration —	Banquet View
8:00-12:00 Comfort Items————————————————————————————————————	—————— Seneca Room
8:00 am –2:00 pm Silent Auction—	Ballroom West 3
9:00 am Opening Session———————————————————————————————————	Fort Henry Room
Call to Order —	Laura Clark, President
Prayer———————————————————————————————————	Peggy Swartz, Chaplain
Moment of Silence—	Laura Clark, President
Pledge of Allegiance————————————————————————————————————	Sandra Harper Americanism Chairman
National Anthem—	Paulette Anderson PDP Music Chairman
Preamble of Constitution—	Junior Auxiliary Members
Mission Statement—	Junior Auxiliary Members
9:15 am Welcome————————————————————————————————————	Laura Clark, President
9:30 am Juniors Session—Excused for their session	Spruce Room
9:15 am Four Chaplain Program————————————————————————————————————	Peggy Swartz, Chaplain
9:30-11:00 National President Trish Ward's Presentation	r eggy 5 wartz, Chaptain
7.30-11.00 Ivational President 111sh ward 5 Heschation	
11:00-Noon Membership—"Membership in the ALAHow Sweet It Is"	
Noon-1:00 No Luncheon—On your own	
1,00 mm Paganyana	
1:00 pm Reconvene	
1:00-2:30 pm Leadership Program ————————————————————————————————————	Dr. Rosemary Thomas, Leadership Chairman
0.20 W. 0.M. 0004 P	
2:30 pm Ways & Means 2024 Report —	Susan Brown, Chairman
2:45 pm Questions & Answers/Table Centerpiece Contest—Department	/National President
3:00 pm Poppy Posters & Poppy Wreath Contest————— Shirle	ey Davis, PCDNVP, PDP, Poppy Chairperson
Comfort Items Report—	
3:00 PM Silent Auction Report and 50/50 Drawing—	Past Department President
3:30 pm Announcements —	Susan Brown, Secretary
Adjournment	Laura Clark, President
4:00 pm Church Services —	Fort Henry Room
6,00 mm. Commonday's and Procident's Persontian	Dallagara Wast 1 2 0 2
6:00 pm Commander's and President's Reception ————————————————————————————————————	
7.00 Din Dance & Naraoke —	———— Ballroom West 1,2,&3

Silent Auction Closes at 2:00 pm on Saturday Please pick up your items and pay for them right after adjournment

Junior Meeting Mid-Winter Conference Wheeling, WV February 8, 2025

8:30 to 9:00 a.m. - Registration... (Fee \$10) - Spruce Room

9:00 to 9:30 a.m. – Joint Opening - Auxiliary Members with Junior Girls

Call to Order

Prayer

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Juniors

National Anthem – Led by Juniors

Preamble of Constitution – Led by Juniors

Mission Statement – Led by Juniors

Four Chaplains

Junior Auxiliary special Presentation to National President, Trish Ward

9:30 a.m. Juniors Business Meeting Spruce Room

9:45 a.m. Snack

10:00 a.m. Special Project for our Adopted Military Unit

10:30 a.m. Craft Project

11:00 a.m. Poppy Program

11:30 a.m. Update on Junior Activities and Badge Program

12:00 p.m. – Adjournment

Agenda may change slightly.

For God and Country

American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia

POPPY WREATH CONTEST

Wreaths are made of styrofoam, available at Wal-Mart, for approximately \$8. The styrofoam wreath is size 2" x 15.6" Flora Craft Flora FM Floral Arranging Wreath in green. If you cannot find the wreath, contact Shirley Davis, psdavis1524@msn.com, or text 304-544-1838. (Shirley bought extra wreaths.)

Rules:

- 1. Wreaths must be made from ALA Poppies
- 2. All tags must be removed
- 3. Other flowers, small amounts of ribbons, tulle or ferns (not to predominate the poppies) may be used.
- 4. The poppy must be dominant. Use a sufficient number of poppies to make a nice arrangement.
- 5. Wreaths must be made by member(s) of the American Legion Auxiliary
- 6. Entries are judged by their Unit and the winner is brought to Mid-Winter to be judged.
- 7. Judging at Mid-Winter is by monetary donations.

Please be sure to tag each wreath with:

Name, Address, and Unit number

Include a description of how wreath will be used afterwards.

CHAIRMAN'S CHOICE CONTEST

Units or individuals are encouraged to submit pictures of how poppies have been used during the year. Photos of decorations, crafts, centerpieces, corsages, tray favors, artistic works, etc. may be submitted.

Photos may be: 3.5 x 5, 4 x 6, and 5 x 7 maximum size.

Please submit highest quality photos. Maximum number of photos that can be submitted is <u>four</u>. Photos submitted should feature different items.

One (1) ticket will be given for each photo submitted—four tickets maximum.

Poppy themed prizes awarded.



American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia, Inc. 2024-2025 POPPY ORDER FORM

Mail to:		
If you are ordering a KIT for you All poppies and kit will be at co ALL PRE-MADE POPPY ORDERS April Must Include This Order	ost plus postage. MUST BE RECEIVE E 1, 2025	ЗҮ
Pre Made Poppies 1000 Poppies——-\$200.00 750 Poppies———\$150.00 500 Poppies———\$ 100.00 250 Poppies———\$ 50.00 100 Poppies———\$ 20.00 Poppy Kits (makes 1000) \$80.00	Quantity	Amount
	tage cost to the Unit e use only)	
Sub To TOTAL	otal - ENCLOSED	
Make check payable to: Mail Order form & payment:	ALA Dept. of WV To 2172 Grandview Ro Moundsville, WV 2	oad

Unit Name & Number _____

WILL DELIVER TO CONFERENCES AND MIDWINTER @ NO CHARGE

Comfort Items List for Midwinter

Grown Up Coloring Books

Colored Pencils

Word Find Books

Crossword Books

Board Games (checkers, chess, other adult games)

Crafts (all styles)

Slippers with non-skid bottoms, (any style with a back)

Belts All Sizes and Adjustable

Winter Coats (all sizes)

Winter Gloves and Knit Caps

Winter Scarfs

Men's Sweatpants Sizes 3X-5X

Unisex sweats size 2X-6X

T-shirts all sizes (including 2X-6X)

Socks for both men and women including Diabetic socks

Underwear for both men and women

Women Sport Bras (all sizes)

Deodorant (men and women)

Shaving cream

Shampoo

2-3 blade disposable razors

Nail clippers and Emory boards

Combs and brushes (individually wrapped)

Toothpaste and Toothbrushes

Liquid Detergent for washing clothes

Fabric Softener

Table fans for COPD patients

Non-perishable snacks

Homeless Veterans:

Non-perishable foods/snacks (soap, Vienna sausages, crackers, bottled water, flavored drinks) Cleaning supplies (floor cleaner, counter cleaner, laundry soap, QS sheet sets)

Fisher House:

Holiday Decorations

Hershel Woody Williams VA Medical Center Huntington WV Needs

For the Nursing Units & RRTP Admission kits & in need;

Tooth brushes & tooth paste

Shaving cream & razors

Tissues

Nail Kits

Deodorant

Lotion

Shampoo

Nursing Units & Outpatient Clinic

Peanut butter & crackers

Snack crackers

Chips

Lunch cakes

Cookies

For Outpatient Veterans with Food Insecurity

Peanut Butter

Saltines

Rice

Ramen

Canned meat, tuna packets

Oats

Frozen Meals

Current Needs

Pre-packaged individual snacks

Clothing sizes (Small—2XL)

T-Shirts

Sweat Pants

Men's underwear

PJ pants

Slippers

Twin or Full size heavy blankets

Gloves and toboggans

Holiday meal for needy Veterans

Thank You!!

American Legion Auxiliary

Department COMFORT ITEMS FORMS

NAME OF UNIT/POST/SAL/RIDERS		
UNIT/POST/SAL/RIDERS Number:		
TOTAL OF ITEMS BELOW:	_ DOLLAR VALUE	
LIST ITEMS		

CANCELLATION MUST BE 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE TO RECEIVE REFUND

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE 44th ANNUAL MID WINTER CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 7-8, 2025

OGLEYBAY RESORT WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA

ADVANCED REGISTRATION - \$30.00 AT DOOR REGISTRATION - \$35.00

RETURN BOTTOM PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT

I AM SENDING <u>\$</u> SPELL NAME A	S IT IS TO AP	FOR PEAR ON N	ADVANCED REGISTRATION(S). HAME BADGE DURING CONFERENCE
NAME (S)			
			FRICAN I EGION

DEADLINE DATE: February 3, 2025

CHARLESTON WV 25332

PO BOX 3191

DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA

44th Annual Mid-Winter Conference 2025 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 44th Annual Mid-Winter Conference of The American Legion, Department of West Virginia, Inc., scheduled February 7-8, 2025, at Oglebay Resort, Wheeling, West Virginia. Date: , 2025 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 Half Page (Color) \$60 \$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 15, 2025. No Deviation

2025 AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONVENTION RESERVATION INVOICE

AUGUST 22 - AUGUST 28, 2025

EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON TAMPA DOWNTOWN CONVENTION CENTER
513 SOUTH FLORIDA AVENUE

TAMPA, FL 33602

NAME(S) OF ATTENDEE(S)

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

E-MAIL:

King/Doubles (\$149 per night plus 13.5 % hotel tax) tax rate subject to change

Parking rate per day—Valet Only \$29 per day

PLEASE MAIL PAYMENT BY MAY 1, 2025

ARRIVAL DATE TO HOTEL			
DEPARTURE DATE FROM HOTEL			
KING OR DOUBLE			
	Quanity		
ONE NIGHT'S ROOM DEPOSIT @	\$169.12	\$0.00	
ADDITIONAL OCCUPANT IN ROOM PER DAY - \$20 Per person; Rollaway N/A		\$0.00	
REGISTRATION FEE @	\$35.00	\$0.00	
NATIONAL COMMANDER'S BANQUET @	\$65.00	\$0.00	
SOUTHERN BLOC BREAKFAST @	\$60.00	\$0.00	
HOSPITALITY ROOM FEE @	\$25.00	\$0.00	
TOTAL		\$0.00	

FIRST NIGHT'S DEPOSIT REQUIRED. We will bill you for other charges.

If arrival date is not provided on form, then arrival date will be August 22th

If departure date is not provided on form, then departure date will be August 28th

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE AND MAIL TO:

Total

THE AMERICAN LEGION PO BOX 3191 CHARLESTON WV 25332

If you have any questions, please contact Department Headquarters at 1-888-534-4667

First Night Deposit Required PLEASE RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE"

THANK YOU

*You will not be charged for the Delegate fee. If you are not elected as a delegate at your District Convention or on the floor at the State Convention,

Department Headquarters will bill you for the \$35.00 registration fee after State Convention.

West Virginia American Legion Auxiliary Department Scholarship 2024-2025 Education and Scholarship Grant

Purpose

To assist direct descendants of West Virginia Veterans, who are in need, to attend college or a school of higher education.

Description

The Department of West Virginia shall award four (4) scholarship grants annually to applicants who meet specific criteria. Each grant of \$500.00 per academic grant must be used for the payment of tuition and necessary fees only. The scholarship grant must be renewed annually with a letter of enrollment and cannot exceed a total of four awards—or a total of \$2,000.00

When a scholarship recipient (s) fails to renew his/her award (leaving that scholarship grant open), the \$500.00 scholarship grants (s) may be awarded to another qualified applicant.

Eligibility

Applicant must be a resident of West Virginia, under 22 years of age when applying for first grant. Must be a high school graduate or in graduating class when applying.

Must demonstrate financial need in order to qualify.

Must achieve qualifying score on Scholastic Aptitude Test for the College Entrance Examination Board of West Virginia Colleges except if the applicant wishes to pursue some other career such as Beauty Culture, Nursing, etc.

Must have 16 credits of A, B, or C grades in last five (5) semesters of high school and must maintain a "C" average to be considered for renewal of grant. Copies of grade transcripts must be submitted to Department Scholarship Chairman each year to be considered for renewal.

Application Procedure

- Application must be submitted prior to March 1, 2025 to Unit President or Unit Scholarship Chairman for thorough investigation as to actual financial need before presenting to Department for consideration.
- A certified transcript or photocopy of the applicant's high school grades.
- Be prepared to submit a Parent's Confidential Financial Statement as evidence of financial need.
- 4. Apply for admission to college or university of your choice in state of West Virginia Only.
- 5. A copy of ACT or SAT tests scores.
- A brief statement of the military service a direct descendant, including the branch of service and dates of service, or a photocopy of discharge papers.

	ation must be submitted to the Unit President of the American Legion Auxiliary in your community in which the nt resides on or before March 1, 2025. Name of Applicant
2.	Home Address
3.	Phone NumberDate of Birth
4.	Name of Parent or Parents by which applicant is eligible
	Living Deceased Divorced
5.	Brief statement of Military Service of veteran including branch of service and dates of service, a photocopy of veteran's DD 214.
6.	Family IncomeMotherFather
7.	Children in Family under 18Over 18
8.	Date of Graduation from High School
9.	LocationNumber of Credits
10.	Rank in ClassGrade Average
11.	Your choice of college or school of higher learning and course of study in West Virginia
12.	Describe your involvement in school, church, and community activities. Use attachment if necessary.
13.	Information as to need of scholarship (use extra sheet of paper if needed)
	Print or type full name Signature of Applicant ***********************************
	THIS PORTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SPONSORING UNIT (PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)
Educati Enterp	nning entry of each Unit shall be certified by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit President and Unit Secretary or ion Chairman and mailed to the Department Education Chairman Carla Wilfong, 139 Wilfong Hollow Rd. orise, WV 26568; to be received on or before March 15, 2025. Should an entry be received and no Unit ion is available, then the application should be judged by the Department Chairman.
	ame and Number
	SS
City, S	tate, Zip
Signatu	ure of Unit President Signature of Unit Secretary or Education Chairman

The SPIRIT is emailed to all **Unit Contacts** and any **Unit Officers or member** with an email address, and has asked for the Spirit to be emailed to them.

All Department Officers, Department Chairmen, District Presidents/Vice Presidents, Past Department Presidents with email addresses. Spirits are posted monthly on the website: www.wvaux.org Unit Presidents with no email contact will receive a free copy by mail.

Subscription will Cost \$18.00

Runs August through July Each Year

MAIL TO:

American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia 2172 Grandview Road Moundsville, WV 26041

STATE:	_