



# *The Auxiliary Spirit*



Volume 39

January 2025

Issue 6



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)**

A new year means new opportunities and endless possibilities. Membership in the ALA is sweeter than ever and now is the time to renew your commitment to ALA and to one another. Several units have already reached the 1st goal of 75% and we have two units who have reached goal of 100% or greater. A HUGE congratulations to Bridgeport #68 who was the first unit to make 100% membership and congratulations to Wheeling #1 who was the second unit to make goal!

Mid-Winter will be held at Oglebay Resort in Wheeling February 7-9th and I hope that you all make plans to attend as National President, Trish Ward will be presenting her Department Excellence Initiative and Dr. Rosemary Thomas will also bring an informative Leadership Workshop.

I need your help with decorating the tables! Have a little fun and be creative with incorporating the Willy Wonka theme. The ONLY rule is if you are in 1st, 4th, and 6th Districts, FUN DIP, must be incorporated in the centerpiece. Likewise, if you are in 3rd, 5th, or 10th Districts, LAFFY TAFFY, must be present in the centerpiece. These will be judged by National President Trish and prizes will be awarded. For the Heart of the Matter,

Laura Clark  
Department President  
Phone/Text: 304-939-3607  
Email: ala.lauraclark@gmail.com

*"A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men!"- 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:**  
**Green-Copeland Unit #63**  
**New Secretary—Patricia Mallet**  
**Greenley, 105 Willowbend Ln, Sum-**  
**merville SC 29485**  
**New Treasurer—Roxanne Sharpe, PO**  
**Box 827, Inwood WV 25428, 304-279-**  
**1275.**

**Jackson-Perks Unit #71—address & phone number change for Jenny Hansen; 2584 S Childs Rd, Kearneysville WV 25430, 304-279-8698**

**Pine Grove Unit #81**  
**New President—Carolyn Yoho, 448**  
**Piney Fork Rd, Pine Grove WV 26419,**  
**304-889-3464,**  
**Email address—**  
**yoholove@yahoo.com.**

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. The Unit needs to make a request to Department for usage. The Department will then decide whether the Unit will be given permission.

The Department has NO Ways & Means tickets available. If your unit has extra tickets I will be happy to take them. I have Units waiting.—Thank you!

If your unit has a change for the remit to person or update address this must be submitted by January 3, 2025. Second dues notices will be going out after that date TBD.

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 ONLY time that the unit secretary can sign an application is when a female veteran is joining under herself—**No Exceptions! Applications will be returned.**

You unit membership count for 2025 year starts on August 1, 2024. Please restart the numbering on the Unit's transmittals, and membership count.

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.

**There was a new Transmittal form given out at workshop. The past due amount for 2024 was not included. Past dues amount to be sent to Department is \$25.00. Please use the new form included in this Spirit.**

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

**SPRING CONFERENCE 2025**  
**March 22nd -10th District—Capon Bridge**  
**#137 (J)**  
**Marsh 22nd—4th District—Pt. Pleasant**  
**#23 (J)**

## Mail Call

Janet Durbin PDP 2002/2003 passed on December 7th. Her wish was for no services.

Debbie Morgan, long time President of Pine Grove Unit #81 passed on December 6th. Please remember her family in your prayers. No address available for her daughter.

Nancy Plants former member of Capon Bridge Unit #137 passed December 13th. She is the wife of PDC Harold Plants (deceased). Cards may be sent to her daughter Lou Ann Crook, 6298 Circle Dr. Chincoteague, VA 23336

## Department Headquarters

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

Phone 304-845-7410  
[alawvsec@frontier.com](mailto:alawvsec@frontier.com)

**Department Address:**  
**2172 Grandview Road**  
**Moundsville, WV 26041**

**Department Website:**  
[www.wvvaux.org](http://www.wvvaux.org)

**Rhododendron Girls State Website**  
[www.wvgirlsstate.org](http://www.wvgirlsstate.org)

**The American Legion**  
**Department of WV**  
[wvlegion@suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:wvlegion@suddenlinkmail.com)

**American Legion Auxiliary**  
**National Website**  
[ALAforveterans.org](http://ALAforveterans.org)

## REMINDER TO ALL DEPARTMENT OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Spirit articles can not be any longer than 200 words. Single spacing and 10 fonts.

Due into Department by the 15th of each month. Exceptions will be made for Department President, Membership Chairman, Department Vice Presidents, and District Presidents and Vice Presidents. Their articles will be due after receiving the monthly target sheet.



American Legion Auxiliary  
Welch Unit # 8  
150 McDowell Street  
Welch, WV 24801

At a regular meeting held November 22, 2024, the members of American Legion Auxiliary Welch Unit 8 unanimously endorsed Peggy Casteel Swartz for the office of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for the Department of West Virginia for the year 2025-2026.

Peggy is a forty (41) year member of The American Legion Auxiliary having served in numerous capacities throughout the years. At the Unit level, Peggy has served Unit President for 2 years; Secretary/Treasure for 15 years. She can be found in our kitchen cooking for American Legion Family events. She loves serving our local veterans and Unit members who are currently in local hospitals and nursing homes. She can be found placing flags on our Veterans graves for Memorial Day.

On the district level, Peggy has served as District Vice President for one year (2001) and District President for twenty-three years. She volunteers countless hours at our Beckley VAMC and Gift Shop.

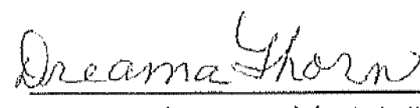
Peggy has been active as well on the Department level. She is currently serving as Rhododendron Girls State district representative for twenty plus years. She served On Community Service Chairman for 2 years. Peggy is now serving as Department Constitution & Bylaws. She has served on Community Service, Education, Poppy, and Public Relations Chairman. She has served as Department Sergeant-at-Arms and Convention personal page to the Department President.

Peggy is a retired nurse after twenty years. She is an avid bowler and recently inducted into the West Virginia Bowling Hall of Fame. Peggy is an active member of Welch Presbyterian Church.

Her eligibility is through her late husband Melvin L. Swartz, an honorably discharged veteran of the U.S. Army during the Korean War as well as her father Carson Casteel, an honorably discharged veteran of the U.S. Army during World War II.

We humbly ask for your support of Peggy Swartz for Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for the ensuing year of 2025-2026.

  
Mary Spence, Welch Unit # 8 President

  
Dreama Thorn, Welch Unit # 8 Vice President

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

**Membership Chairman**

Ladies, I want to wish each of you a great holiday season. As we serve our veterans and our communities, I hope that each of you are filled with the warm glow of the season and with the sharing with others.

Congratulations to those that have reached the goal of 75%. Please do not stop working on membership during 2025. We need members to assist us in our programs and projects.

Congratulations to:

Bridgeport Unit 68 for being first to reach 100% of goal with 103% and to Wheeling Unit 1 for 108% of goal.

Buckhannon Unit 7 – 89%

Capon Bridge Unit 137 – 86%

Morgantown Unit 174 – 83%

Berkeley Spring Unit 60 – 82%

Petersburg Unit 78 – 82%

Cowen Unit 62 – 80%

Wellsburg Unit 34 – 78%

Braxton County Unit 33 - 78%

St. Albans Unit 73 – 76%

Moorefield Unit 64 – 76%

Kirby Unit 134 – 75%

Parkersburg Unit 15 and Gary Unit 38 are so close with 74%

Kim with the Laffy Taffy Team is holding the lead with 64.44% but Stephanie with the Fun Dip Team is pushing upward with 58.51%. Let us keep the fun and excitement in our push to get more members.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at Mid-winter. There will be lots of membership awards.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.  
Ann Buchanan, Membership

**Department 1st Vice President**

Hello all!

Keep on keeping... trying to reach 100% goal!

A huge Congratulations to Bridgeport for being the first unit to reach 100%! Keep up the amazing work. The second unit to reach 100% deserves Kudos as well. Awesome job Wheeling Unit 1! (even though you are Fun Dip) Laffy Taffy is still in the lead at 64%.

All units in the 80's lets strive for 90% Buckhannon 7, Morgantown 174, Berkeley Springs 60, Petersburg 78, and Capon Bridge 137. You are doing amazing jobs as well. Try to reach 90% before Mid-Winter....You got this! All other units, I know it's a busy time of year but try to up your percentage by 10% more before Mid-Winter!

Reach out and be kind and your members will rejoin.

I had the pleasure of helping at the VA Gift shop in Clarksburg. We served over 60 Veterans and my heart was full by the end of the day. Many thank you and hugs were given to the volunteers! It truly is a heartwarming experience to help a deserving veteran! Remember those emotions, put them to good use, be kind and give a selfless helping hand!

Kim Mellie  
2nd Vice President

**Department 2nd Vice President**

To all the Fun Dips,  
Hope everyone has a lovely holiday full of laughter and joy. Congratulations to Wheeling #1 for reaching goal. Good work!! There were a few units close to reaching this months goal of 75% and others not to far behind. Keep working on getting those memberships in. There are a few units that need to really work on getting their numbers up. In District 4, Bluefield is showing 0 members. In District 6, Tyler and Sistersville are only showing 1 and in District 1, Newell, McMechen and Wheeling #89 need to get those memberships in. If you have questions please reach out to either your District President or Vice President or to myself so we can assist you with any questions or concerns.

God Bless,  
Stephanie Handley  
Department 2nd Vice President

**Chaplain**

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord makes his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turns his face toward you and give you peace.  
Numbers 6:24-26  
Please send prayers for Laura prayer book.

Thanks  
Peggy Swartz, Chaplain

**Historian**

Happy New Year Historians, your work is vital to the American Legion Auxiliary's mission to honor and preserve our legacy of service. Every event, project, and accomplishment that your unit achieves contributes to the larger story of our organization's impact. To ensure this rich history is accurately documented, we need your help. Please send your unit's activities and records to me as they happen. Flood my inbox! These reports provide a comprehensive picture of the Auxiliary's achievements across the department and serve as the foundation for our annual history report. By sharing your unit's stories, you play an essential role in safeguarding our legacy for future generations. Whether it's photographs, event summaries, or special projects, every detail matters. These contributions are not just for historical records, they also help inspire others and showcase the incredible dedication of our members. Remember, the Auxiliary's history is written by you. Let's work together to ensure that the efforts of your unit are recognized and celebrated. Please reach out to me with questions and submit your epic events in history as they happen. Thank you for your dedication to preserving the history of the American Legion Auxiliary. Your efforts ensure our legacy of service lives on!

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



## NEC

President Laura went over the national website at workshop a few months ago. If you have not already done so, create an account by joining. You need your membership number from your card. Once you have joined, when logging in, you see more than when your not logged in. Lots of great information, you can reprint your membership card, learn about benefits offered to members, have access to resources and guides, learn about our programs, sign up to receive bulletins from national, take courses offered, watch webinars that were previously offered, sign up for upcoming webinars and so much more. National website: <https://www.legion-aux.org/>

Sometimes the best way to learn is to dive in. Remember the guides are just that, a guide, a suggestion, they are not part of any governing documents.

Governing documents are constitution, Bylaws, Standing Rules, and other things such as policies, whistle blower, etc. They are legally binding documents that set the rules for your Units.

Things in national change more frequently than they use to. You can always find the most current version of guides and documents on their website.

Lisa Cadwallader  
NEC

## 1st District Vice President

Happy holidays 1st District!  
I hope everyone is having a great winter season so far. Congratulations to Bridgeport Unit 68 and Wheeling Unit 1 for already reaching 100% goal. Great job! Hopefully we can all follow along. Mid-winter will be here before we know it. Hope to see all of 1st District Units represented. Don't forget to support the Fighting First District hospitality room.

I know this is a very busy time of year for us all, but, don't forget our veterans, some aren't so fortunate and don't have anyone to spend the holidays with.

If you can be anything... be kind.  
Merry Christmas everyone!  
God bless our troops this season and always

Christy Bland  
1st District VP

## 4th District Vice President

Happy New Year, District 4 Rockstars!  
As we step into another year of service, let's focus on starting strong by encouraging all our members to renew their dues and work toward meeting our membership goals. Membership is the foundation of the American Legion Auxiliary's mission, and every renewal helps us continue making a difference in the lives of veterans, military families, and our communities.

If your members haven't yet renewed, now is the time to reach out! A simple phone call, email, or personal conversation can remind them of the importance of their involvement and the impact they make. Sharing the incredible work, we've accomplished and our exciting plans for the coming year, is a great way to inspire renewed commitment.

This is also the perfect time to set goals for your unit. Let's aim to hit 100% renewals and recruit new members who share our passion for service.

Together, we can make 2025 a year of growth and impact! Let's build on our successes and start the year strong! Renew, recruit, and reach for greatness!

Rebecca S Farley, 4th District Vice President  
304-674-9908  
[dccoachrebecca@gmail.com](mailto:dccoachrebecca@gmail.com)

## 3rd District Vice President

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025 !  
I hope you all had a Wonderful Christmas.

January is here and off and running we go!  
Congratulations to the Units that are 100%

The rest of Us still have some work to do, but we are closing in quickly. It is time to start gearing up for Mid-Winter Conference.

How exciting if the Units all had their Memberships at 100% by then. Make sure to wear your branding when you go out , and smile when you see a new person at your Post and be welcoming.

This will encourage the sign up of new members.

Laffy Taffy we are still leading the way, but no slacking now or Fun Dip will catch Us.

If I can help in any way please let me know .

Happy New Year 2025  
It is going to be a FANTASTIC YEAR

Sandra Harper  
3rd District VP  
304-694-2067  
[Sandy.harper265@gmail.com](mailto:Sandy.harper265@gmail.com)

### 5th District Vice President

Happy New Year Everyone! I hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and enjoyed all the festivities with their family and friends. I want to thank you for all your hard work for our veterans without you, our veterans will not have everything they need. Please keep up the awesome work. Now back to the grindstone – MEMBERSHIP. Keep working hard on those membership. Congratulations to Bridgeport #68 and Wheeling #1 for being the first 2 to reach 100%. In District 5 we are still moving on with St. Albans #93 in the lead with Barboursville #177 and Huntington #16 close behind. I appreciate all the other units working hard to get those memberships in. Our first target date was December 7th with 75%. We now have several auxiliaries that are at 75% and above or very close. Keep up the awesome work.

If I can be of any help, please feel free to contact me and I will do what I can do to help. Please don't feel overwhelmed, we are here to help. Stay warm or cool with this crazy weather.

Lisa Harbour-Adkins  
wvbravesfan@gmail.com  
(304) 633-0530

### 6th District Vice President

Hello to all our District 6 members. Hoping everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Our prayer for 2025 will be that we can all come together as a nation and have a better 2025 year. During our cold winter days we can use that time to contact our members and encourage them to pay their unpaid dues. I had the opportunity to speak with several of District 6 Unit representatives. Good news is that several units have been extremely active in collecting dues, purchasing and delivering gifts to our Veterans hospital, nursing homes, and hosting Christmas Dinner at their post for the veterans.

As you know our 1st target date was December 7, 2024, and at this time Cowen #62 met the 75% goal. Congratulations to Cowen Unit 62.

Hope all had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year with family and friends and that you enjoyed your Christmas Holiday Season.

Stay safe.

Pray for Our Country.

Mary Spence  
Vice President  
District 6

### 10th District Vice President

We have 4 units that are getting really close to making 100%, just a little more and you will have it. 2 units that are halfway there, looks like 3 units that are struggling. I am here to help, in any way. During the Holiday season and every day, we need to keep our brothers and sisters in our prayers, some are fighting different battles.

I would like to Congratulate Bridgeport and Wheeling for making 100% goal. Congratulations on your hard work.

Keep getting those members!!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
Jill Davis  
Pits\_me1@yahoo.com

### SAL Article from NEC Jacob McCarty

While doctors and nurses are busy taking care of patients, coloring books help keep the WVU Medicine Children's patients occupied, distracted from their hospital visit, and on their way to feeling better!

As the SAL is a major contributor to the Children's Miracle Network, the WVSAL would like to answer the call of our local hospital and is holding a Coloring Book Drive

Please bring new coloring books to the Mid-Winter Conference February 7-8, 2025.

We are encouraging all Posts, Squadrons, Units, and Chapters to work together as a Family Unit to support this great cause.

Thank you,  
Jacob McCarty, MSCS, CISSP, CCSP  
National Executive Committee  
Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment of West Virginia  
nec@wvsal.org



### *1st District President*

I received the Target Sheet for December. and want to congratulate Wheeling Unit #1 for achieving Goal. You are the first in our District! One unit, Wellsburg Unit #34, reached over 75% Congratulations! There are 3 units who are under 10 members. Keep working membership! Remember January 1st your unit won't be in good standing if you are under 10 members.

I hope you plan to attend Midwinter in February. The First District will again have a hospitality room and will need food. I know that President Laura and Leadership Chairman Rosemary will have a great Leadership program.

Don't forget your Poppy Wreath to bring to Midwinter. Poppy Chairman Shirley has rules in spirit.

I want to let you know that Debbie Morgan, President of Pine Grove Unit #81, passed away after an extended illness. Let's keep her family in your prayers.

Paulette Anderson

First District President

pauletteanderson2848@gmail.com

### *4th District President*

Happy New Year Comrades and Sisters! District Four did not make the first membership goal of 75% by December 7, 2024. However, we have 2 brand new membership chairmen in our district, and they are working very hard to bring up our percentages! Thank you, Unit #150 and Unit #67. We are here to help! If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. Processing membership can be confusing! Recently there was much to be excited about. December 7th, we celebrated Pearl Harbor Day. On December 14th we participated in Wreaths Across America.

February 6 – 7, 2025, we will be holding a Mid-Winter Conference at the beautiful Oglebay Resort in Wheeling, West Virginia. Information is in this January edition of the Spirit. I look forward to seeing you at this exciting event. Our National Auxiliary President Trish Ward from the great State of Kansas will be joining us for the weekend.

As I look around this country at the population of Veterans, active Military and their families, I am overcome with pride. God Bless and Protect America the United States of America.

Patsy Greiner

4th District President

304-483-8296 (cell)

Patsygirl2@gmail.com

### *5th District President*

It has been such a joy looking at all the pictures of the units in the fifth district participating in Reese across America. Your love and compassion for our veterans is unyielding. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Please send me pictures of your activities during this holiday season. I have seen many pictures of your participating in Reese across America, children's holiday parties, food, baskets, many other Activities you are doing in your community.

Keep those memberships coming in and keep recruiting for the auxiliary. Many people would like to belong to our organization, but just need to be asked. Carry an application with you so you would be prepared when you encounter someone wishing to join. Always remember the reason for the season!

Beth, Kilgore, 5th District President

Happy  
New Year!

### **6th District President**

Hello Everyone

Hope this finds you well, I have been under the weather, but feeling better now.

Would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year, and hope everyone had a great Christmas, and Santa brought you what you wanted.

We have had some cold weather hope everyone stayed warm.

Remember your dues must be paid by the end of December or you will be in arrears.

Mid-Winter is coming up soon hope to see you in attendance would love to see members from Sixth District in attendance'

Will make this a little short so lets keep everyone in our prayers and especially all of Veterans.

Until next time take care.

Peggy Swartz.

6th District President

### ***Child Welfare Foundation***

As your unit is busy with holiday parties, food, baskets, and other projects associated with the Christmas season it is easy to forget about collection for the Child Well Being Foundation. . If you have canisters out on your bar, please check them regularly for donations.. If you've yet to put anything out, please consider doing so in the near future. I will be collecting money at midwinter for those of you that wish to turn it into me. You may also send a check to Sue Brown in the Department office.

Season's Greetings

Beth Kilgore, Chairman

### ***10th District President***

Holidays are both fun and tough. We are happy to be with the ones we love and are nostalgic of those that are gone. When we celebrate these holidays we must always keep in mind and heart there are those that do not see holidays the way we do. This is when we REACH OUT and make someone's day. There are many Veterans young and old, male and female who do not have a family to share time with. This type of giving allows our hearts to be full and cleansed. Try to be someone's smile today.

With the New Year approaching take this feeling with you, share time and give a much needed smile, kind word and deed.

All Units are doing a great job showing this type of atmosphere.

I thank you and so does the Veteran.

May you all be blessed.

Diana Teter

District 10 President

### ***Education***

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. For all Unit Education Chairman, please check with schools in your area

In regards to Scholarships. Check on National Website to get the Scholarship Applications.

I will keep this short. I hope to be at Mid Winter, but it all depends on How my knees are at that time. But in the mean time if you need my

Help just contact me at carlajwilfong@gmail.com, or call me at 304-592-0247. You can also contact Roxie Nicholson, or Katie Beth.

Phone numbers please check directory.

Carla Wilfong

Education Chairman.

### ***Americanism***

National Pledge of Allegiance Day is celebrated on December 28 to commemorate the adoption of the Pledge of Allegiance into the United States Flag Code by Congress in 1945. The Pledge of Allegiance, originally written by Francis Bellamy in 1892, has undergone several changes, including the addition of the words "under God" in 1954 during the Cold War. The day serves as a reminder of the patriotic values and principles that the Pledge represents, such as liberty, justice and unity. It also highlights the historical significance of the Pledge in American Culture and its role in fostering national unity and patriotism. For many of us, the Pledge of Allegiance was something we knew by heart and recited each morning in school. With our right hands over our hearts and our eyes cast upward at the flag on the wall, we were taught to show our patriotism.

Congress formally adopted the Pledge in 1942. One of the more significant changes occurred by 1954 when President Eisenhower asked Congress to add the controversial phrase "under God" to the text. This was an effort to differentiate the American way in communist times.

Sandra Harper

Americanism Chairman

304-694-2067

Sandy.harper265@gmail.com



### ***Children & Youth***

It is a busy time of the year with everything that we have going personally and then add the American Legion auxiliary activities to the list. Know that your effort will be appreciated by those members of your units as well as the children in your community who might benefit from the children's parties that you provide.

The National organization has issued a challenge that every state has a Youth Hero award, and a Good Deed award presented. At our quarterly zoom meeting the Department of West Virginia has two Good Deed that have been presented and no Youth Hero awards. If you need some help with finding those individuals deserving of either one of these two awards, may I suggest several places to look. Check with your police department and fire department to see if they know of any youth that is deserving. You can also check with the schools and churches in your area. For individuals who have performed heroic acts or deeds of kindness, if you need any help, give me a call at 304-654-7750.

I would like to wish you and your family, the merriest of holiday seasons, and a prosperous and joyful new year.  
Beth Kilgore, Chairman

### ***Junior Activities***

Calling all American Legion Auxiliary Junior members! Happy New Year! I hope you are getting excited about our junior activities program. On February 8, 2025, please join the American Legion family at our Mid-Year Conference at Oglebay Resort in Wheeling, West Virginia.

We are planning to join the senior members for the opening of the Conference on Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. Our National President Trish Ward will be visiting West Virginia. Bring your smiles, energy and patriotism for a fun-filled weekend!

There will be time for making a special craft project for our adopted active member unit stationed at the United States/Mexico border. They always enjoy hearing from us! See you all at the Mid-Winter Conference. Be Safe. Pray for our veterans and military families.

If you love your freedom, Thank a Veteran.

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

### ***Legislative***

Time is drawing near! Please log on to <https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home>  
Send 10 emails before coffee!  
Before the end of the year we are asking that you call, text, email to encourage support of the bills!  
Speaker Mike Johnson 1-202-225-2777 call and urge him to vote for HR1572 to recognize the Hello Girls of WW1.

12/13 request is asking that we contact Congress to support the Housing un-housed Disabled Veterans Act! This bill will exempt veterans' disability benefits from counting toward their income through HUD. This will stop disabled veterans from being priced out of the programs through HUD.

Two weeks ago the House passed the Dole Act and it's before the Senate for consideration. The Dole Act is a comprehensive veteran's package that includes several provisions regarding Veteran care!

February 22-26 The American Legion's 65th Annual Washington Conference. try to attend to meet our leaders! We have had Daniel Driscoll an Army Veteran nominated to be the next Army Secretary!

Please log in to the site above and let our support be known for our military! Let me know if I can help in any way.

Kim Mellie  
Legislative Chair  
304-216-9943

### ***National Security***

#### **Salute to Service members Award**

Established in 2003, this award has evolved from honoring women veterans to honoring active duty women, to honoring all enlisted personnel who are currently serving our country in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force and the National Guard/Reserve.

One enlisted service member from each branch of service as well as the National Guard/Reserve will be recognized at the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention. Recipients will attend the National Convention as guests of the Auxiliary.

It is never too early to start preparing for this award.

For the nomination form; go to <https://member.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicemembers-Award-Form>

April D. Wallace  
National Security Chair

### *Music*

I have been working on a Membership song, and was able to put the words to the tune of Oompha Loompha. I will have it at Midwinter for all to sing.

The words can be found in this spirit, and you can go on your browser and put in Oompha Loompha, scroll to the title for the movie Willy Wonka 1971 movie. There you can hit play and practice the song.

Paulette Anderson

Music Chairman

pauletteanderson2848@gmail.com

**WORDS TO THE SONG ON THE NEXT PAGE**

### *VA&R*

It's a busy time of the year, Wreaths Across America, items to help homeless veterans stay warm, gifts and treat bags for veterans just to name a few. You should be tracking hours for each member that helps and in-kind and monetary donations. It all gets included on the report form and used in the narrative reports.

Comfort drive items, again this year I'm asking that you take them to your closest VA, CBOC, or veterans in nursing homes. Keep track, because you will then report it on the Comfort drive form and bring to Mid-winter, or email it to me.

Remember to take pictures and email them to me with a brief description. Every month, I share the wonderful West Virginia does with the Central Division chair and other states with the division. Plus, some of these may later be shared with National.

Thank you for caring for our veterans, keep up all the wonderful things you do and Happy Holiday's

Lisa Cadwallader, Chair

Lisac.ALA71@gmail.com

### *Poppy*

I wish everyone a very happy and safe Holiday Season. It is a busy time for all, so please enjoy your family and friends. Remember in your thoughts and prayers those that cannot be with their loved ones.

Whether they be medical personnel, police and those fighting to keep us safe, remember their sacrifices.

If at any of your celebrations at Legion Posts or your homes, take pictures of decorations that include our poppy. The poppy can easily be included in many holiday centerpieces and decorations. You may send the photos to me and/or bring them to Mid-Winter for the Chairman's Choice Contest.

I hope to have many photos of your creativity to also send to the Central Division Poppy Chairman.

Here is a reminder list of items to bring for the poppy program:

Posters for the Poppy Poster Contest.

Make sure you have the consent forms for the contest.

Wreaths for the Poppy Wreath Contest.

Photos of poppy decorations for the Chairman's Choice Contest. (Prizes will be awarded—photos can be three sizes). Pictures of Little Miss Poppy can also be submitted for this contest.

Shirley Davis, Chairman

psdavis1524@msn.com or text

304-544-1838

### *Public Relations*

As we step into 2025, let's shine a spotlight on the incredible work of the units of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia! "Public Relations" is a powerful tool that helps us share our mission, recruit new members, and showcase the impact of our programs across the department. Each unit has its own unique story of service, stories that deserve to be heard. From community outreach events to veteran support projects, your activities reflect the heart of our mission. Let's make it a priority to share these moments through local media, social platforms, and newsletters. By increasing visibility, we not only honor our members' hard work but also attract others to join in our mission. Remember, effective public relations start at the unit level. Take photos at your events, write brief summaries, and share them on your social media pages. Submit newsworthy items to your local newspapers and department leadership for broader exposure. Reach out to me for additional tips and resources to help promote your unit's activities. Together, we can ensure that the American Legion Auxiliary remains visible, impactful, and inspiring in 2025 and beyond. Let's make this a banner year for public relations! Rebecca S Farley, Department Historian  
304-674-9908  
dccoachrebecca@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 and Gift Shops for the veterans in our VA hospitals and Barboursville Veteran Home.

Thank you!

## 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*

Happy New Year! Hard to believe 2025! Guess what? In six months will be our Girls State Session, June 8-14, at Davis & Elkins in Elkins, WV.

I hope by now you have secured donations from various businesses and organizations. If not, please do so; so many are willing to promote our youth.

Here are some suggested organizations but not limited to: League of Women Voters, Women's Club, VFWs, Elks, Moose, Lions, Rotary Club in your communities. All you need to do is ASK!

The impact you have on a deserving young lady is a once in a life-time opportunity. They will remember attending Girls State for years to come but only you can help secure the funding for them. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your district representative or myself.

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd  
Girls State Chairman



## *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 twenty-five \$25.00 winners in November and no winner for the \$200 drawing. Congratulation to all the winners!

THERE ARE NO 2025 TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE FROM THE OFFICE. IF YOU HAVE TICKETS YOU WOULD LIKE TO RETURN, I WILL BE GLAD TO TAKE THEM OFF YOUR HANDS.

REMINDER—Ticket stubs and money need to be returned to the officer before December 31st for processing.

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 checks from 2023 and early 2024.

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

## *November 2024 Ways and Means Winners*

| Name             | #'s | City             | State | Date     | \$\$\$ |
|------------------|-----|------------------|-------|----------|--------|
| Terry Iser       | 197 | Romney           | WV    | 11/01/24 | 25.00  |
| Lee Anderson     | 838 | Cameron          | WV    | 11/02/24 | 25.00  |
| Sue McCoy        | 751 | Augusta          | WV    | 11/04/24 | 25.00  |
| David Hicks      | 892 | Apple Grove      | WV    | 11/05/24 | 25.00  |
| Robb Hicks       | 586 | Bellaire         | OH    | 11/06/24 | 25.00  |
| Marvin Paxton    | 179 | Spencer          | WV    | 11/07/24 | 25.00  |
| Debbie Fox       | 624 | Berkeley Springs | WV    | 11/08/24 | 25.00  |
| Jeff Wisley      | 056 | Lavalette        | WV    | 11/09/24 | 25.00  |
| ALA—1st District | 264 | Moundsville      | WV    | 11/11/24 | 25.00  |
| David Bailey     | 338 | Bluefield        | WV    | 11/12/24 | 25.00  |
| Sandy Smith      | 618 | Augusta          | WV    | 11/13/24 | 25.00  |
| Jennifer Hause   | 857 | Morgantown       | WV    | 11/14/24 | 25.00  |
| Chantel Ricketts | 399 | Inwood           | WV    | 11/15/24 | 25.00  |
| Charlotte Bowman | 424 | Wardensville     | WV    | 11/16/24 | 25.00  |
| Leslie Jenkins   | 161 | Moorefield       | WV    | 11/18/24 | 25.00  |
| Nina Mason       | 597 | Rio              | WV    | 11/19/24 | 25.00  |
|                  | 690 |                  |       | 11/20/24 |        |
| Rita Alley       | 283 | Cass Grande      | AZ    | 11/21/24 | 25.00  |
| Robert E Robbins | 553 | Wheeling         | WV    | 11/22/24 | 25.00  |
| Linda Ruddle     | 093 | Franklin         | WV    | 11/23/24 | 25.00  |
| Glen Pack        | 105 | Bluefield        | WV    | 11/25/24 | 25.00  |
| Jim Hott         | 403 | Romney           | WV    | 11/26/24 | 25.00  |
| Jimmy Hampton    | 986 | Roderfield       | WV    | 11/27/24 | 25.00  |
| Vicki Hicks      | 499 | Apple Grove      | WV    | 11/28/24 | 25.00  |
| Dwayne Boothe    | 569 | Parkersburg      | WV    | 11/29/24 | 25.00  |
| Cathy Whitt      | 088 | Augusta          | WV    | 11/30/24 | 25.00  |
|                  |     |                  |       |          |        |
|                  |     |                  |       |          |        |



# January 2025

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

|    |                                    |    |                                                                                                            |                                                                    |    |    |
|----|------------------------------------|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|
|    |                                    |    | 1<br><br>Office<br>Closed | 2                                                                  | 3  | 4  |
| 5  | 6                                  | 7  | 8                                                                                                          | 9                                                                  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13                                 | 14 | 15                                                                                                         | 16                                                                 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20<br>Martin Luther<br>King Jr Day | 21 | 22                                                                                                         | 23                                                                 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27                                 | 28 | 29                                                                                                         | 30                                                                 | 31 |    |
|    |                                    |    | Red Shirt<br>Friday—<br>Every Friday                                                                       | <div>Programs of Month<br/>National Security<br/>Legislative</div> |    |    |

# ***“Membership in the American Legion Family...How Sweet It Is!”***

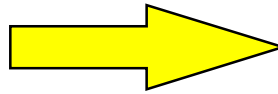
**Date 12/15/2024**  
**Department Goal 4923 — Membership to Date— 2982**  
**Department Unit 200 Goal 232 — Membership to Date— 85**  
**First Target Date 75% - December 7, 2024**

**Stephanie**

| <b>District 1</b>    |            |            |               |
|----------------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Unit                 | 2025 Goal  | 2025       | % of Goal     |
| Wheeling #1          | 26         | 28         | 107.69%       |
| Moundsville #3       | 265        | 132        | 49.81%        |
| McMechen #5          | 15         | 7          | 46.67%        |
| Weirton #10          | 68         | 51         | 75%           |
| Cameron #18          | 125        | 78         | 62.40%        |
| New Martinsville #28 | 113        | 81         | 71.68%        |
| Wellsburg #34        | 23         | 18         | 78.26%        |
| Follansbee #45       | 61         | 28         | 45.90%        |
| Pine Grove #81       | 68         | 36         | 52.94%        |
| Paden City #86       | 77         | 49         | 63.64%        |
| Wheeling #89         | 10         | 6          | 60%           |
| Newell #114          | 20         | 2          | 10%           |
| Chester #121         | 125        | 71         | 56.80%        |
| <b>TOTALS</b>        | <b>996</b> | <b>587</b> | <b>58.94%</b> |

| <b>District 4</b> |            |            |               |
|-------------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Unit              | 2025 Goal  | 2025       | % of Goal     |
| Parkersburg #15   | 381        | 283        | 74.28%        |
| Spencer #21       | 30         | 21         | 70%           |
| Pt. Pleasant #23  | 215        | 122        | 56.74%        |
| Tyler County #48  | 45         | 1          | 2.22%         |
| Sistersville #67  | 32         | 1          | 3.13%         |
| New Haven #140    | 124        | 64         | 51.61%        |
| Williamstown #159 | 74         | 28         | 37.84%        |
| <b>TOTALS</b>     | <b>901</b> | <b>520</b> | <b>57.71%</b> |

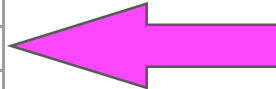
| <b>District 6</b> |            |            |               |
|-------------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Unit              | 2025 Goal  | 2025       | % of Goal     |
| Welch #8          | 45         | 24         | 53.33%        |
| Bluefield #9      | 23         | 0          | 0             |
| Beckley #32       | 20         | 11         | 55%           |
| Gary #38          | 93         | 69         | 74.19%        |
| Cowen #62         | 20         | 16         | 80%           |
| Richwood #97      | 28         | 17         | 60.71%        |
| <b>TOTALS</b>     | <b>229</b> | <b>137</b> | <b>59.83%</b> |



**“Laffy Taffy”  
Team  
Goal—2565  
To Date— 1653  
64.44%**

**SLUEWORTH**

**Membership  
Chairman**



**“Fun Dip”  
Team  
Goal—2126  
To Date 1244  
58.51%**



**Kim**

| <b>District 3</b>  |            |            |               |
|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Unit               | 2025 Goal  | 2025       | % of Goal     |
| Buckhannon #7      | 44         | 39         | 88.64%        |
| Clarksburg #13     | 46         | 8          | 17.39%        |
| Elkins #29         | 108        | 72         | 66.67%        |
| Shinnston #31      | 271        | 187        | 69%           |
| Braxton County #33 | 32         | 25         | 78.13%        |
| Bridgeport #68     | 66         | 68         | 103.33%       |
| Belington #96      | 16         | 0          | 0             |
| Pickens #122       | 20         | 1          | 5%            |
| Morgantown #174    | 120        | 99         | 82.50%        |
| <b>TOTALS</b>      | <b>723</b> | <b>499</b> | <b>69.02%</b> |

| <b>District 5</b>  |            |            |               |
|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Unit               | 2025 Goal  | 2025       | % of Goal     |
| Huntington #16     | 134        | 88         | 65.67%        |
| Logan #19          | 20         | 10         | 50%           |
| Charleston #20     | 28         | 6          | 21.43%        |
| St. Albans #73     | 33         | 25         | 75.76%        |
| Ceredo-Kenova #93  | 212        | 91         | 42.92%        |
| So. Charleston #94 | 10         | 5          | 50%           |
| Hamlin #111        | 40         | 22         | 55%           |
| Milton #139        | 68         | 40         | 58.82%        |
| Barboursville #177 | 148        | 106        | 71.62%        |
| <b>TOTALS</b>      | <b>693</b> | <b>393</b> | <b>56.71%</b> |

| <b>District 10</b>   |             |            |               |
|----------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|
| Unit                 | 2025 Goal   | 2025       | % of Goal     |
| Martinsburg #14      | 68          | 41         | 60.29%        |
| Piedmont #52         | 22          | 0          | 0             |
| Berkeley Springs #60 | 197         | 161        | 81.73%        |
| Charles Town #63     | 38          | 0          | 0             |
| Moorefield #64       | 84          | 64         | 76.19%        |
| Charles Town #71     | 151         | 85         | 56.29%        |
| Petersburg #78       | 62          | 51         | 82.26%        |
| Romney #91           | 155         | 85         | 56.29%        |
| Paw Paw #128         | 43          | 18         | 41.86%        |
| Kirby #134           | 32          | 24         | 75%           |
| Ridgeley #136        | 69          | 46         | 66.67%        |
| Capon Bridge #137    | 192         | 165        | 85.94%        |
| Keyser #152          | 36          | 4          | 11.11%        |
| <b>TOTALS</b>        | <b>1149</b> | <b>761</b> | <b>66.23%</b> |



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                        | 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                                |                                               |
| 11:00-Noon        | Membership—"Membership in the ALA...How Sweet It Is"                        |                                               |
| Noon-1:00         | Membership Luncheon                                                         | Terrace Room                                  |
|                   | Ann Buchanan and Membership Team                                            |                                               |
| 1:00 pm           | Reconvene                                                                   |                                               |
| 1:00-2:30 pm      | Leadership Program                                                          | Dr. Rosemary Thomas, Leadership Chairman      |
| 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                                        | Shirley Davis, PCDNVP, PDP, Poppy Chairperson |
|                   | Comfort Items Report                                                        | Lisa Cadwallader, NEC, PDP                    |
| 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 pm           | Commander's and President's Reception                                       | Ballroom West 1,2,&3                          |
| 9:00 pm           | Dance & Karaoke                                                             | 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*

*Safe Travels Home!*



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](mailto: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 four. 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

Unit Name & Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail to: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are ordering a KIT for your unit you MUST order through Department  
All poppies and kit will be at cost plus postage.  
ALL PRE-MADE POPPY ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY  
April 1, 2025

Must Include This Order Form With ALL Orders

| <u>Pre Made Poppies</u>         | <u>Quantity</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 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 | _____           | _____         |

Postage cost to the Unit  
(office use only) \_\_\_\_\_

Sub Total \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: ALA Dept. of WV Treasurer  
Mail Order form & payment: 2172 Grandview Road  
Moundsville, WV 26041

**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

[illegible]

***Oglebay Reservations Mid-Winter Conference***  
***February 7-8, 2025***

Web Reservations System

Link below for making reservation

Group Name: [WV American Legion](#)

Meeting: Thursday, February 6, 2025 - Sunday,  
February 9, 2025

Group Access:

Group ID: 47947

Password: 936043534

Reservation Manager

Oglebay Resort

Link for reservation:

<https://book.rguest.com/wbe/group/616/Oglebay-Resort/auth?BookID=47947>

Oglebay Resort & Conference Center

Phone number 304-243-4000

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

YOU ARE INVITED  
TO THE 44<sup>th</sup> 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ FOR \_\_\_\_\_ ADVANCED REGISTRATION(S).  
**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: February 3, 2025**



**44<sup>th</sup> 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 44<sup>th</sup> 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: | <b>Full Page</b>    | <b>\$100</b> | <b>Full Page (Color)</b>    | <b>\$160</b> |
|             | <b>Half Page</b>    | <b>\$60</b>  | <b>Half Page (Color)</b>    | <b>\$100</b> |
|             | <b>Quarter Page</b> | <b>\$35</b>  | <b>Quarter Page (Color)</b> | <b>\$70</b>  |
|             | <b>Eighth Page</b>  | <b>\$25</b>  | <b>Eighth Page (Color)</b>  | <b>\$ 50</b> |

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            |  |

|                                                                     | Quantity |  |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--|--------|
| 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**

1. 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.
2. A certified transcript or photocopy of the applicant's high school grades.
3. 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.
6. 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.

Application must be submitted to the Unit President of the American Legion Auxiliary in your community in which the applicant resides on or before **March 1, 2025**.

1. Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_
2. Home Address \_\_\_\_\_
3. Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date 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 Income \_\_\_\_\_ Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Father \_\_\_\_\_
7. Children in Family under 18 \_\_\_\_\_ Over 18 \_\_\_\_\_
8. Date of Graduation from High School \_\_\_\_\_
9. Location \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Credits \_\_\_\_\_
10. Rank in Class \_\_\_\_\_ Grade 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)

The winning entry of each Unit shall be certified by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit President and Unit Secretary or Education Chairman and mailed to the **Department Education Chairman Carla Wilfong, 139 Wilfong Hollow Rd. Enterprise, WV 26568**; to be received on or before **March 15, 2025**. Should an entry be received and no Unit affiliation is available, then the application should be judged by the Department Chairman.

Unit Name and Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature 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.wvvaux.org](http://www.wvvaux.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**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS OR PO BOX: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_