



AMERICAN  
**LEGION**  
AUXILIARY

# *The Auxiliary Spirit*



The American Legion Family



Volume 40

February 2026

Issue 7



American Legion Auxiliary  
2025-2026  
Department President



***OHANA-means family. Family means nobody gets left behind or forgotten especially the men/ women who fought for our freedom!***

Hello all!

District 3 is doing an amazing job! They are at 95%. Morgantown 174 and Buckhannon 7 are both over 100%. Awesome job. Wheeling 1, New Martinsville 28, and Paden City 86 are the top Units that are 100% or more in District 1 which is at 80%! Keep it up! The only other Unit at 100% is Keyser 152! Keep it up. January 31 is the deadline for 100% awards from Nationals.

I tried my hand at something new with DEC. I hope you all liked the voting process. However, the Zoom meeting was an Epic failure. I stepped out of my comfort zone, but it will be better next time. Thank you all for the kind words of encouragement and for understanding.

Always remember, YOU are why this organization is so special to so many!

I hope to see you all at Mid-Winter. Then we begin with Birthday Dinners and Spring Conferences, I truly can't wait to see you all again!

"The World is changed by your example, not by your opinion" Simon Sinek

For God and Country,  
**Kim Mellie**



**Department President**  
**American Legion Auxiliary**  
**Department of WV**  
**304-216-9943**  
**[president@wvaux.org](mailto:president@wvaux.org)**



**Colors— Coral, (as a mixture of red and yellow) & tropical colors (red, yellow, blue, green, purple)**

## **Department Officers 2025-2026**

President-Kim Mellie  
1st Vice President-Stephanie Handley  
2nd Vice President-Peggy Swartz  
Secretary/Treasurer-Paulette Anderson  
Chaplain- Rebecca Farley  
Historian-Holly Adams

## **District Presidents**

1st District-Mary Richards  
3rd District-Margaret Yost  
4th District-Patsy Greiner  
5th District-Lisa Harbour-Adkins  
6th District-Peggy Swartz  
10th District-Jill Davis

## **District Vice Presidents**

1st District-Michelle Powell  
3rd District-Sandra Harper  
4th District-Rebecca Farley  
5th District -Patti Withrow  
6th District-Mary Spence  
10th District-Chantel Ricketts



## Our Mission matters to Navigate Life's Waters

### Department 1st Vice President

Starfish,

All of you are doing a great job on membership. We are ahead of the Sand dollars in percentage but we still have work that needs to be done.

There are a couple of units that seem to be struggling so district presidents please reach out to them if they are in your district and see if they need any assistance with anything.

Congratulations to all the goal units and there are some units not to far from being goal.

Keep pushing forward and keep up the good work. We can't let the Sand dollars get ahead of us.

Stay warm everyone and hope to see you at midwinter!

Stephanie Handley



### Membership Chairman

### Department 2nd Vice President

Hi Sand Dollars

Hope this little note finds everyone well.

Sand Dollars look at the membership data and see how much Starfish are ahead of us, but I think we can catch them if we work just a little harder. I know in my District I have been making phone calls to get members to pay their dues. So with a little bit of calling people we might do better. Thank everyone for their hard work.

God Bless to all  
Peggy Swartz  
2nd Vice President



### HISTORIAN

Get that history down on paper. I see all the great things units are doing please take the time to write it down and give us the full picture in words they explain so much more!

April 15th reports: let us all celebrate our departments history.

Looking forward to see everyone soon in Wheeling.

God bless  
Holly Adams  
Historian  
[Historian@wvaux.org](mailto:Historian@wvaux.org)



### Chaplain

February invites us to pause and reflect on the heart. Not just the symbol we see on cards and decorations, but the heart that carries compassion, kindness, and connection.

As members of the American Legion Auxiliary, we are part of a family. And families are strengthened through love expressed in small, meaningful ways.

This month, I challenge each of us to put our hearts into action. Write a note of appreciation to someone you love. Send a thank-you to a fellow member who quietly serves. Mail a card of cheer to someone who is ill. Celebrate milestones, encouragement, and recovery with a simple message of care.

These gestures do not require special skills or large resources. They only require intention. A handwritten note, a thoughtful card, or a few heartfelt words can lift a spirit more than we often realize.

Valentine's Day may fall in February, but love does not belong to one date on the calendar. It belongs in our everyday actions. It belongs in our units, our communities, and our American Legion Family.

When we share love freely and consistently, we strengthen the bonds that hold us together. May we always lead and serve with open hearts.

Rebecca S Farley  
Department Chaplain  
[chaplain@wvaux.org](mailto:chaplain@wvaux.org)  
304-674-9908



### Across the District Standings:

- District 1: Paden City Unit 86 leads the entire state at 134.33%, followed by Wheeling Unit 1 and New Martinsville Unit 28.
- District 3: Morgantown Unit 174 posts an impressive 122.73%, with Buckhannon Unit 7 also exceeding goal.
- District 4: New Haven Unit 140 leads the district at 76.36%.
- District 5: Barboursville Unit 177 takes the top spot with 82.24%.
- District 6: Bluefield Unit 9 leads at 94.44%.
- District 10: Keyser Unit 152 reaches goal early with 100%.

Department membership overall stands at 77.48%—and there's still room to grow!

Starfish vs. Sand Dollars

The race is tight:

- Starfish: 79.96%
- Sand Dollars: 75.86%

The Starfish hold the lead—but anything can change!

Next Target Date: March 15th

Keep pushing! Every renewal and every new member strengthens your team and your district. Show up strong at Mid-Winter, represent with pride and keep those numbers climbing.

Laura Clark, aka Maui  
[Membership@wvaux.org](mailto:Membership@wvaux.org)



# Department Headquarters

**Hei Hei**



## **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**

**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: If you wish to receive spirit by email, please send me your email to: [department@alawvaux.org](mailto:department@alawvaux.org)  
If you wish to receive spirit by mail please fill out form included, and send \$20.00 to the address listed.

**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.

**Please** use the department email address and phone number for all correspondence, as my personal email and phone number is no longer used for department.

**Remember** Form Stacks are on the National Website for Units to fill out their Narrative Reports to National.

**Member dues** are based on a member age on January 1 of the Membership year. (Example—A Junior member that is 17 on January 1, 2026 will be billed as a junior member for 2026 membership year. If she turns 18 after August 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 she will changed to a Senior member for the 2026 membership year.

**When you receive your new roster make note of any changes to your juniors**

## **Department Headquarters**

### **Office Hours**

**Monday-Friday**

**NEW HOURS: 8:30am-3:30pm**

**Lunch 12:00-12:30**

**Phone 304-398-2070**

**department@wvaux.org**

### **Department Address:**

**1251 Doolin Run Rd.**

**New Martinsville WV 26155**

### **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**

**UNIT MEMBERSHIP DATA  
FORMS ARE EMAILED/MAILED  
TO UNITS FOR 2027 MEMBERSHIP  
CHAIRMAN  
DUE INTO OFFICE APRIL 20TH**

## **2025-2026**

**Endorsements are now open  
to be placed in spirit**

### **Spring Conferences**

**First District: April 25, 2026  
Chester Unit #121 Post Home**

**Third District: TBA**

**Fourth District: March 7, 2026  
Williamstown Post #159 (Joint)**

**Fifth District: March 14, 2026  
Huntington Post #16 (Joint)**

**Sixth District: April 25, 2026  
Beckley Unit #32  
**OR** Welch Unit #8**

**10th District: March 21, 2026  
Berkeley Springs Post #60 (Joint)**

## **Directory Update:**

Page 6: Please mark Miriam Junge Deceased. She was Honorary National President

Page 14: Correct first name of 5th District Vice is Patti

Page 16: Correct first name of PR Chairman is Patti

Page 28: Correct first name of St. Albans Unit President is Patti

Pine Grove Unit #81: Treasurer is Sandi Hurst PO Box 73 Pine Grove WV 26149 Phone # 304-889-3424

Page 29: Belington Unit #96 President Alesia Swartz. Unit Email is barneybabe1959@hotmail.com

Newell Unit #114 Contact: legionaux114@yahoo.com Please delete Mail To: Unit President is now: Michelle Stevens 516 Hasker, Newell WV 26050. Phone is 330-385-0141 Tina Quinn is now both Secretary/Treasurer.

Paw Paw Unit #128: Delete Email. Mail to PO Box 608 Paw Paw WV 25434

### ***1st District Vice President***

Hello District 1,  
District 1 you are doing a great job on their membership. Congratulations to Wheeling #1 (110.71%), New Martinsville #28 (100%) and Paden City #86 (134.33%). Units Wheeling #89 and Newell #114 please reach out to me. I have been trying to contact you with no response. We want you to get your membership into the department to keep your charter. Please don't hold onto your memberships lets make our next goal of 85% by March 15th 2026.

I hope to see you at Mid-Winter.

Michelle Powell  
1st District Vice President  
304-639-5379

### ***5th District Vice President***

A new year and a new page in our West Virginia American Legion Auxiliary history! There are new beginnings on the horizon for everyone in 2026. Now is the perfect time to add new members to your Units.

I'm heartbroken to report that District Five membership has the lowest membership paid in the Department at 68.76%! Also, keep working hard to collect current Unit membership dues.

Reach out to recruit new members at your local organizations, schools, churches and nursing homes, just to name a few places where veterans and their families frequent. Any situation is a good time to share your Auxiliary experience.

Our next membership goal of 85% is on The American Legion's birthday, March 15, 2026. Let's work hard to have all Units reach that goal.

Happy Valentine's Day!  
Patti Withrow  
District 5 Vice President  
304-415-4686



### ***3rd District Vice President***

First and foremost, ALL THE UNITS HAVE STEPPED UP THEIR MEMBERSHIP GAME!! EVERYONE DESERVES A HUGE ROUND OF APPLAUSE!

DISTRICT 3, ALL Units are doing an AMAZING JOB! I am so excited about the target sheet. KEEP up the AWE-SOME JOB!

Mid Winter is just around the corner, let's cover our conference room in STAR-FISH.

At this rate the top is the goal to help put our Dept of WV at the top of the Central Division.

Visit the ALA academy, there is a ton of useful information, you can find this on your membership portal.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO AND SUPPORTING OUR MISSION,

Sandra Harper  
3rd District VP  
[sandy.harper265@gmail.com](mailto:sandy.harper265@gmail.com)

### ***6th District Vice President***

Hello to all our District 6 members.

Hoping everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Our prayer for 2026 will be that we can all come together as a nation and have a better year and settle all the turmoil in our country. 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 next target date is March 15 2026 with target at 85%.

Congratulations to Bluefield Unit 9 with 94.4% membership met! Those below 85% need to work harder to achieve our next target goal.

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

Hope in February you will receive your Valentine's Day flowers or gifts.

Stay safe.

Pray for Our Country.

Mary Spence  
Vice President District 6

### ***4th District Vice President***

February is the month of the heart, and it is a fitting time to reflect on how love shows up in our membership work.

Membership is not just about numbers on a report. It is about people. It is about connection, belonging, and caring enough to reach out.

As we approach the January 31 national deadline for 100% membership, I invite each member of the American Legion Auxiliary to pause and ask a simple question: "How can I help?" That question changes everything.

You do not need to hold a title to make a difference. You can reach out to your unit president or membership chair and offer support. Maybe that looks like making a phone call to a member who has not renewed yet. Maybe it means sending a handwritten note. Maybe it means offering a gift of dues to someone who needs a little help this month. Every act matters.

Membership thrives when it is driven by love, not pressure. When we lead with heart, we strengthen our units, support one another, and ensure no one feels forgotten.

This is not one person's responsibility. It belongs to all of us. When every member asks how they can help, our membership stays strong, and our mission continues to shine.

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

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

Share the love this Valentine's season by sponsoring the membership of one of our elders or family members. Not only does this help us reach our membership goals, it truly reflects the spirit of Valentine's Day and the heart of the Auxiliary.

Don't forget to submit your recruitment award forms! We want to ensure our members receive the recognition they deserve for their hard work and dedication to growing our Auxiliary.

Our next target date is March 15, the birthday of The American Legion, with a goal of reaching 85% membership—a meaningful milestone to honor our legacy through continued service and membership growth.

Chantel Ricketts  
10th District Vice



### ***1st District President***

Happy New Year and Good (Better) Health for everyone!

It is exciting to watch membership goals being met. Great work, everyone!

Midwinter is fast approaching. Hope everyone is working on all their activities and keeping the children busy with planning ahead for their futures. I enjoy seeing membership for the youth increase in the units.

Keep communicating with your community businesses, schools, Senior Services and all other veteran services throughout.

Your district is not a border line. We have veterans world wide that appreciate notes from home, care packages, home town clothing items year round, not just during the Holidays.

Communicate with other units, reach out to other departments for ideas and teams to work with if you feel your unit does not have the manpower or the ideas to move forward.

Review your "SPIRIT", learn, plan and participate in the meetings and enjoy a wonderful winter. Spring is around the corner.

District 1 Spring Meeting will take place at Chester Unit 121 on April 25, 2026 with registration at 9:00 am and the conference will begin At 10:00 am.

Remember your Units list of activities and memorial list.

Mary Richards  
First District President

### ***4th District President***

Hello All,

Thank you to all the units that are doing such a great job posting stories and pictures about the work they are doing for our Veterans and their families.

District 4 membership statistics are increasing daily. Now is the time to retain, recruit and reinstate members. Carry a membership application with you.

Any auxiliary officer who has not paid their annual dues by December 31, 2025, is no longer a member in good standing and is not eligible to hold office in the unit.

District 4 will be holding a Spring Conference, March 7, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in Williamstown at Post #159. There will be an election of officers. We will be electing a president, vice president, we will also need a chaplain and a secretary/treasurer. If you are interested in running for a district or department office, please send your letter of endorsement to Paulette Anderson.

Year-end reports are coming up. Please make sure you submit program reports and include a narrative for consideration of national judging. For God and Country!

Patsy Greiner  
4th District President  
304-483-8296 (cell)  
[Patsygirl2@gmail.com](mailto:Patsygirl2@gmail.com)

### ***5th District President***

Happy Valentine's Day!

With mid-winter approaching, I hope to see everyone who can attend. The conference will be informative and valuable for our organization.

Please submit membership applications promptly. Continue logging your Unit's activities—report time is soon, and we want National to recognize our strong Department. The awards manual and key dates are available on the Department website.

National offers several membership awards. The Recruit/Rejoin 10 award is for those who bring in or rejoin 10 Senior or Junior members; rejoined members cannot have renewed since 2022 or before. The Family 3 award recognizes members who recruit 3 new Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL members each. Units can also earn an award for reaching 100% membership. I hope our district's Units achieve this.

The Fifth District meeting is March 14 at Huntington Post 16, with registration at 9 am and the meeting at 10 am. This meeting will include elections and a memorial service. Please join us to learn more about district and department updates, and to ask any questions.

If I can help in any way, please feel free to contact me.

I hope to see everyone at mid-winter and Spring Conference.

Lisa Harbour-Adkins  
5th District President  
[wvbravesfan@gmail.com](mailto:wvbravesfan@gmail.com)  
(304)633-0530

### ***3rd District President***

Hello Ladies,

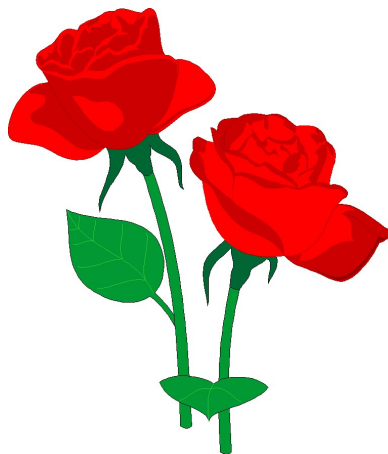
I hope everyone is staying warm on the cold blustery day.

I wish to congratulate all the Units that have reached their goal. I notice that there are three or four units in Third District that are so close, so come on ladies we can do it. We can also make the district a GOAL district if we work at it.

I am waiting to hear from the District Commander as to when our Spring Conference is. I do know it will be at Shinnston Post 31.

So ladies, until next time, stay safe and stay warm.

For God and Country  
Margaret Yost  
Third District President



### ***Risk & Compliance***

On Wednesday, January 14th, during a DEC (Department Executive Committee) zoom, the members of this committee were ratified.

Lisa Cadwallader  
Michelle Powell  
Andrea Snyder  
Beth Rossana  
Lisa Harbour Adkins

National and several other Departments have this committee.

We are just getting started and the committee is new to our Department, so please bear with us as we ask questions, etc.

Lisa Cadwallader  
Risk & Compliance  
Chairman

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

The next target date is March 15th. I hope that everyone can reach the 85% target. Many units have passed that. Congratulations to those units. Those who are close, we still have time. Encourage those members to stay in good standing. There are so many fires and disasters these days, we want to help them through the Emergency Fund. However, if they are not in good standing, they cannot qualify. This may help those members pay. FAMILY- that is what we are supposed to be. Family has arguments, disagreements, and squalls, but we say what needs to be said and get over it and become friends and family again. Try to be that family in your own unit.

We need to remember that in this organization we are VOLUNTEERS! Some can only volunteer time, some money, some ideas, some are unable to volunteer at all. We take what we can get. All units are busy doing what we do best; we need to be kind to each other and not abuse their skills or abilities. We are to work as a Family and try to understand each other. Once you start abusing others' abilities, your members do not want to help anymore. We need to be sure to include everyone (even if you do not care for the person) in everything we do. If you want to get your numbers up in your meetings and in your activities, include everyone! If you need a whipping, I have my belt ready! LOL! Please let's just get along and try our best not to leave anyone out! It is not fair to the wonderful unit or the individual that each of us have.

Hope to see you soon!

Jill Davis

10th District

### ***NEC***

Hope everyone is excited about Mid-Winter, what's planned and what you will take back with you.

Many of us recite our mission statement at each meeting. Have you really thought about what it stand for? It contains the words "Service, Not Self". We all came here to honor and support our Veterans. We do that, yes. However, too many personal things holds us back. Difference and personality issues need to take back burner and so often they don't! Who like, or doesn't like, who seems to roll out in full force. Things get taken personally when they shouldn't. Some get defensive too quickly. Some feel toes are being stepped on. Some find the need to be center of attention. Some make decisions alone. It's the personal things that hinders us from doing more for our Veterans. Remember there is no "I" in team. If we truly followed our mission and remembered why we are here, putting our Veterans before ourselves we could accomplish so much more for our Veterans.

Find the mission, vision, purposes and values here:

<https://www.legion-aux.org/about/mission>

Lisa Cadwallader

NEC

### ***Auxiliary Emergency Fund***

Fellow Auxiliary Members,

Cold weather puts a strain on our bodies, our animals and our resources. Unlike some other natural disasters, forecasts will often give some advanced warning to the possibility of winter storms. Taking precautions will help to keep you warm and safe. Remember to dress warmly and remain dry: Wearing layers will trap warm air and allow for cooling if you get overheated; a water-resistant coat and shoes will help keep moisture out; mittens are warmer than gloves; a hat will help keep heat from escaping through your scalp; a scarf and knit mask will cover your face and mouth; avoid over-exertion that would cause perspiration and undue stress on the heart.

Winter storms can cause a great deal of trouble even when you're safely nestled into your home. An ice storm or heavy snow can take down power lines and knock out electrical service. As always, your first priority is to have your emergency kit stocked with supplies that can sustain you and your household for several days. Having extra blankets and additional heating sources will provide extra warmth, if properly serviced and maintained.

Please take these precautions to remain warm, healthy and safe.

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

Blessings,

Melanie Shambaugh

AEF Chairman

[aef@wvaux.org](mailto:aef@wvaux.org)

### ***Americanism***



As we step into a brand-new year, let's reignite the spirit of Patriotism that binds us together as Proud Americans.

AMERICAN'S 250TH BIRTHDAY in 2026, has begun, and now is the perfect time to start planning for the most EPIC BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION EVER! It is not to late to start planning, Department, District, Units can all join in creating unforgettable events that honor our Nation's history and future.

Please reach out to your schools to keep them working with the students for the Americanism Essay contest:

**"CELEBRATING AMERICA'S  
250TH BIRTHDAY AND THE  
VETERANS WHO FOUGHT  
FOR OUR FREEDOM"**

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY DAY: SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026. This is the perfect opportunity to celebrate our Legion Family, showcase what we do, share WHY we serve the American Legion Auxiliary, Let's open our doors, tell our story and inspire others to join us! (Choose any date that works for your community)

Pick a theme/ Plan activities /Show case ALA Programs / Spread the Word Use social media, local newspapers, flyers.

Excited to see you at Mid-Winter

Thank you,

Sandra Harper

[Amerianism@wvaux.org](mailto:Amerianism@wvaux.org)

### ***Constitution & Bylaws***

The holidays are behind us so let's get looking over your units Constitution and Bylaws.

The committee has reviewed several units that have submitted them to us. If your unit hasn't reviewed them, please review them. There have been several changes in the last few years.

If you would like, you can bring them to Mid-Winter or email.

Stay safe.

Michelle Powell

Constitution and Bylaws Chairman

[mythreelabs@comcast.net](mailto:mythreelabs@comcast.net)

## Children & Youth

With the holidays behind us and spring on the horizon, now is a great time to begin planning your Children & Youth activities for the upcoming season.

Remember, April is Children & Youth Month, a dedicated time to honor and support the young people in our communities—especially those connected to military service.

Mark your calendars for **April 15: Purple Up! Day**, a day to show visible support for military children. Be sure to wear purple, and just as importantly, take a moment to explain why you're wearing it. Sharing the meaning behind the gesture helps raise awareness of the unique sacrifices and strengths of military families.

I hope everyone is staying healthy and energized as we move into the new year.

Looking forward to seeing you at Mid-winter!

Beth Kilgore  
Children & Youth Chairman  
304-654-7750  
[3609mbk@gmail.com](mailto:3609mbk@gmail.com)

## Child and Well-Being Fund

**Bring your coins, bills, and checks to  
Midwinter and turn over to  
Beth Kilgore, Chairman**



## Community Service

Hope everyone is staying well & warm, Looking forward to seeing everyone at mid- winter.

As we start February, let's remember our sweet Veterans for Valentine Day.

Make sure you're wearing your branding for the American Legion Auxiliary when you're out doing things for our American Legion Family.

Make sure we are getting pictures for end of year report.  
Safe travels and stay well prayers to everyone.

Blessing  
Kelli A Immel  
[CommunityService@wvaux.org](mailto:CommunityService@wvaux.org)

## Education

Scholarships help students cover educational expenses, and sharing information about The American Legion Auxiliary's scholarships can reach more eligible applicants. These strategies can boost outreach: Social media: Share clear details about scholarships, including who can apply, deadlines, and benefits, using posts and videos.

**School channels:** Work with school staff to post announcements online, send newsletters, and distribute flyers with report cards or at events.

**Information sessions:** Host webinars or workshops to explain scholarships and answer questions for students and parents.

**Partner with community groups**  
Connect with libraries, youth centers, nonprofits, and cultural and civic organizations to share materials and coordinate presentations.

**Classroom and campus outreach:**  
Teachers and counselors should discuss scholarships in class and display posters in busy areas. Set up booths at school events to increase awareness.

**Navigating ALA Scholarships 101 Flyer**  
To share information about the ALA National Scholarships, visit the Education page on the National ALA website and check out the new flyer. Located in the left-hand column under Education Key Resources, this one-page flyer is easy to understand and offers useful details. <https://member.legion-aux.org/member/committees/education>

Additionally, I have forwarded scholarship information to the West Virginia Home-school Organization for publication on their Facebook page.

Lisa Harbour-Adkins  
[education@wvaux.org](mailto:education@wvaux.org)  
(304)633-0530



## Scrapbook

Hello Ladies,

I hope all units are working on their scrapbooks. Remember this is a history of your units in pictures. It is as important as a written history.

If any units have pictures of President Kim they wish to add to her scrapbook, please either text or email them to me at 304-629-0688 or [mdyost2010@gmail.com](mailto:mdyost2010@gmail.com). Stay safe and stay warm.  
For God and Country.  
Margaret Yost  
Scrapbook Chairman

## Junior Activities

President Kim Mellie has asked for 2,000 cards and or letters for our honor flight veterans. Bring them or send them to Mid-Winter conference. If you have younger junior members they can color patriotic pictures. Let our Veterans know we appreciate their service.

Year-end reports are coming up. Last year there was a lot of confusion regarding reports. This year each chairman has been assigned a dedicated email address to use for the purpose of reporting and communication. If you do not have access to email, you may still mail reports. Feel free to send copies of your reports to Department President Kim Mellie and/or Department Secretary Paulette Anderson.

Mid-Winter conference is coming up. Encourage Juniors to make poppy posters! All Poppy posters must be turned in to Chairman Shirley Davis. The posters will be judged at the conference. Winners will be announced Saturday, February 14, 2026.

Thank you for all you do to support our Junior members. We appreciate you.  
For God and Country!

Patsy Greiner  
Junior Activities Chair  
304-483-8296  
[juniors@wvaux.org](mailto:juniors@wvaux.org)



## National Security

Hello to all!

I hope this finds everyone healthy and happy.

If you haven't started yet, please try to get that Salute to Service nominee. All the information is on the web site.

There is a National Security contest that all units can participate in. I will bring the info with me to Mid-winter.

Don't forget those Blue Star and Gold Families. Help with any Family Readiness groups in your area. And remember to lend a helping hand to any active duty in your area.

I am looking forward to seeing you at Mid-winter. If I can help you, just let me know.

Love and Hugs!  
Debbie Michael  
National Security Chairman



## Leadership

February reminds us that leadership is not only about structure, titles, or timelines. It is about heart.

The strongest leaders are those who serve from a place of passion. When you are doing what you genuinely love, your energy shifts. Your commitment deepens. Your leadership becomes authentic, sustainable, and impactful.

Within the American Legion Auxiliary, there are many programs and opportunities to serve. Not every role will speak to your heart the same way and that is okay. Leadership is not about doing everything. It is about doing something well, with intention and care.

Take time to reflect. Which program resonates with you? Where does your heart feel most connected? Education, veteran's affairs, children and youth, community service, membership, chaplaincy, or another area entirely. When your heart is engaged, you do not just participate, you thrive.

Talk with your unit leadership. Share what excites you. Ask where your passion could best be used. Review the Volunteer Interest Survey and use it as a tool to articulate what is already in your heart. When you align your service with your passion, you turn intention into action. That is leadership.

Rebecca S Farley  
Leadership Chair  
[leadership@wvaux.org](mailto:leadership@wvaux.org)  
304-674-9908

## Legislative

Every Voice Matters!  
Tell Congress What You Think!

Veteran Visibility Day at the West Virginia Capitol is Friday March 13th. This one-day event is a great opportunity to connect with your WV Representatives. This is your chance to talk to your WV Representatives about the Legion Family. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

With a New Year comes the opportunity to start new habits. Daily emails through the Grassroots Action Center would be a great habit to add to your year. It is quick and easy to add your voice to the hundreds of thousands of other Legion Family members already emailing their representatives through the Grassroots Action Center. Follow this link, sign up, and add your voice of support for legislation that impacts our service members, veterans and their families.  
<https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home>

If you need more information about the [Grassroots Action Plan](#) or WV's own [Every Voice Matters! Tell Congress What You Think](#) initiative let me know.

I will have an information table at mid-winter to provide more information and handouts about Every Voice Matters! Tell Congress What You Think and the Grassroots Action Center.

Capito - <https://www.capito.senate.gov/contact/contact-my-office>  
Justice - <https://www.justice.senate.gov/contact/>  
Miller - <https://millerforms.house.gov/contact/>  
Moore - <https://rileymoore.house.gov/contact>

Elaine Sampson  
Legislative Chair  
[legislative@wvaux.org](mailto:legislative@wvaux.org)



## Public Relations

Happy New Year!!

There's a lot of excitement buzzing around the American Legion Auxiliary lately! From the inspiring young voices of the American Legion Oratorical Contest to the connection and camaraderie at our Mid-Winter Convention, our members continue to show up and shine!

With Spring District Meetings right around the corner, don't forget to capture the moments! Photos, quick videos, and social media posts help us celebrate our work and share the Auxiliary spirit far beyond the meeting room.

Mission Training in Atlanta is also on the horizon! It's another great opportunity to learn, grow, and connect, so let's keep the energy going and the posts coming. Thanks for making our mission visible and fun!

Katie Simpkins  
Co-Chair of Public Relations

## 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 14, 2026. The consent forms are required by National and must accompany the posters.

Remember to bring decorated hats for the Poppy Hat Contest and entries for the Chairman's Choice Contest.

The National Poppy Chairman is asking for photos of how units have shown creativity in use of the poppy and participation in poppy activities. Send them to the National Poppy Facebook page. Include photos of your Junior Miss Poppy and Poppy Ambassadors participating in activities during the year. When you decorate a hat for the Mid-Winter Conference, take a photo for the National Poppy Facebook page!

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 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

## VA&R

Hope everyone is gearing up for Mid-Winter! We are just a few weeks away now. If you have taken your comfort drive items directly to your local VA's, please drop off your completed comfort drive form in the comfort drive room. You are welcome to bring items with you, especially for the WV veterans home.

Hour bars and pins have arrived and will be handed out at Mid-Winter.

Please remember to do something this month for VA and Nursing home veterans. They receive lots during the holidays and then not afterwards. This is an easy time for them to become depressed. The treats are gone, visits aren't as frequent and the winter blues set in. Find a small way to uplift them and let them know they haven't been forgotten.

This year's report form has been simplified. Hopefully, this will be easier to fill out and understand.

Hope to see you at Mid-Winter  
Lisa Cadwallader  
VA&R Chair  
[Var@wvaux.org](mailto:Var@wvaux.org)





Chester WV Unit 121  
PO BOX 121  
Chester WV 26034

RE: Endorsement for 2026-2027 Department Chaplain

January 15, 2026

A regular meeting of American Legion Auxiliary Chester Unit 121, Chester WV was held on January 15, 2026 at 7:00PM at the Post home. The Unit unanimously endorsed Holly Adams for the office of Department Chaplain.

Holly joined our Unit in 2013 through the eligibility of her Father Albert M. Ober who was in the Marines during the Vietnam era. She has been an active member of our Unit since joining.

Holly has served as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Secretary in our Unit and is currently serving as President. She has also served as 1<sup>st</sup> District Vice President and 1<sup>st</sup> District President. She has served on various committees over the years and is very active in all committees. 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 Holly Adams as our candidate for Department Chaplain for the 2026-2027 administration year.

Our Very Best Regards,

Kim Elliott

Kim Elliott, 1<sup>st</sup> VP

Chester Unit 121

Cindy Gadd

Cindy Gadd, Treasurer

Chester Unit 121

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

At a regular meeting held December 17, 2025 the members of American Legion Auxiliary Welch Unit 8 unanimously endorsed Peggy Casteel Swartz for the office of First Vice President for the Department of West Virginia for the administrative year 2026-2027.

Peggy is a forty three year member of the American Legion Auxiliary having served in numerous capacities throughout the years. At the Unit level, Peggy served as Unit President for two years; and currently serving her seventeenth year as Secretary. She can be found in our kitchen cooking for American Legion Family events. She loves serving our local veterans and Unit members who are hospitalized, but in or in our nursing homes. She places American Flags on our Veterans' graves for Memorial Day.

On the district level Peggy has served as Sixth District Vice President for one year (2001) and Sixth District President for twenty-five years (2002-2026). She volunteers countless hours at the Beckley VAMC and Gift Shop.

Peggy has been active as well on the Department level. She is currently serving Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and serving as Rhododendron Girls State Board of Directors for twenty-four years. She has also held the office of Department Chaplain. Peggy has served as Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman, Community Service Chairman, Education, Members, Poppy and Public Relations Chairman. She has served as Department Sergeant-at Arms and Convention personal page for Department President (s).

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

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

We humbly ask for your support of Peggy Casteel Swartz for Department First Vice President for the year 2026-2027.

*Mary Spence*  
President Unit #8

*Drema Thorn*  
Vice President Unit #8



Mason County Unit #23  
Point Pleasant, West Virginia

At a regular meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of West Virginia, Mason County Unit#23, held on Sunday, December 21, 2025, at 4:00P.M. at the American Legion Post #23, Epling Hall, Point Pleasant, West Virginia, the membership unanimously approved the endorsement of Rebecca S. Farley for the office of Department 2nd Vice President for the 2025-2026 administrative year.

Rebecca S. Farley is eligible for membership in the American Legion Auxiliary through the military service of her grandfather, George D. Sturm, a World War I I veteran. She joined Mason County Unit #23 in 2022 and has since demonstrated exceptional dedication, leadership, and commitment to the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Rebecca currently serves as Department Chaplain and has previously served as Department Historian.

She has also served as Department Public Relations Chairman and is currently serving as Department

Leadership Chairperson. In this role, she created and launched Lead With Purpose, a twelve-session leadership development series designed specifically for the American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia. This program strengthens leadership skills, promotes collaboration, and equips members at all levels with practical tools to lead effectively.

At the local and district levels, Rebecca serves as Unit President of Mason County Unit #23 and Vice President of District 4. As Unit President, she has worked diligently to strengthen membership, increase participation, and foster a welcoming environment that encourages engagement and service. Her leadership has resulted in successful programs and meaningful service projects benefiting veterans, military families, and the community.

Rebecca remains committed to education and involvement. She regularly attends District meetings,

Department and National conventions, annual mission trainings, completes ALA Academy courses, and has served as a National Page at the National Convention.

Beyond the Auxiliary, Rebecca is active in her community and faith. She serves on the Board of Directors for Main Street Point Pleasant, chairs Organization and Development, is active in her church, and sings in the church choir. She is pursuing the creation of a nonprofit organization to connect veterans with families and is developing a caregiver support project to assist those who care for our nation's veterans. She is the proud mother of three daughters and "Mumzie" to her four grandsons.

We are honored and proud to endorse Rebecca S. Farley for the office of Department 2nd Vice President. Her proven leadership, dedication to the mission, and ability to inspire others make her exceptionally well qualified to serve in this role.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed by:  
*Katie Simpkins*  
EBC8EC6FDA20432...  
Katie Simpkins

Unit 23 Vice-President

Signed by:  
*Andrea Snyder*  
8EEB3FE92DBB43A...  
Andrea Snyder  
Unit 23 Secretary

# February 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1  <i>National Freedom Day</i>	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9  <i>Cheer Party Checks Out</i>	10	11	12  <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i>  <i>Leave For Midwinter</i>	13  <i>Midwinter</i>	14  <i>HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY ♡</i>
15	16  <i>Washington's Birthday Office Closed</i>	17  <i>Target Sheet Out</i>	18  <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	19	20  <i>Spirit Out</i>	21
22	23  <i>1945</i>	24	25	26  <i>R.E.D Fridays Until They Come Home</i>	27 <div><i>Program of Month Americanism Chapel 4 Chaplains</i></div>	28





## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY WV RODODENDRON GIRLS STATE

### *Rhododendron Girls State*

Time Flies and before you know it – RHODODENDRON GIRLS STATE WILL BE HERE!

I hope by now, you have secured your funding or donations by now. This year's girls state session will be held June 7-13, 2026 at Davis & Elkins College in Elkins, WV.

Once again, the registration fee is \$300 per citizen. You provide an amazing once in a lifetime opportunity for your citizen (s) to become a more engaged citizen (s) as they learn and experience hands-on about leadership, patriotism, and more of our democracy, both local, county and state.

We look forward to providing another great and successful year but we need your help in providing the citizens.

It's not too early to contact your school principals and guidance counselors. Introduce yourself and let them know about our extraordinary program that is available.

More information will be given at our Girls State Board of Directors meeting this coming month and will be handed out at Mid-Winter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or your district representative.

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd  
Girls State Chairman



### *District Representatives*

1st Dist. — Christy Bland  
217 Maple Ave.  
New Martinsville WV 26155  
304-771-2253

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

4th Dist. — Patsy Greiner  
708-45th Street  
Vienna WV 26105  
304-483-8296

5th Dist.— Laura Clark  
4023 Piedmont Rd.  
Huntington WV 25704  
304-939-3607

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***

Congratulations to the December winners!

If you haven't sent in your 2026 tickets yet, please do so now. We have had a few winners the first week and a half. So get your tickets in. If you have any Extra Tickets you can't sell, I need to have them sent to Dept. Units are waiting on them.

If you plan to send the tickets and money in the mail, scan you tickets and email to me so I can have them for the system. I will wait to pay the winner when I receive money and original tickets.

Paulette Anderson  
Christy Bland



### ***2025 December Ways and Means Winners***

<b>Name</b>	<b>#'s</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>\$\$\$</b>
Larry Riffe	031	Pineville	WV	12/1/25	\$25.00
Barbara Auer	760	Capon Bridge	WV	12/2/25	\$25.00
Jackie Morgan	898	Rochester	NY	12/3/25	\$25.00
ALA Unit #3	795	Moundsville	WV	12/4/25	\$25.00
Mike Durr	153	Keyser	WV	12/5/25	\$25.00
Nora Lee Condon	940	Kearneysville	WV	12/6/25	\$25.00
David Wagner	217	Welch	WV	12/8/25	\$25.00
Belinda Allen	223	Augusta	WV	12/9/25	\$25.00
ALA Unit #31	722	Shinnston	WV	12/10/25	\$25.00
Stephanie Whitacre	226	Capon Bridge	WV	12/11/25	\$25.00
Robert Houk	235	Premier	WV	12/12/25	\$25.00
Brandy Korzun	323	Romney	WV	12/13/25	\$25.00
Dottie Crabtree	336	Oldtown	MD	12/15/25	\$25.00
Jason Robbins	075	Wheeling	WV	12/16/25	\$25.00
ALA 3rd District	115	Shinnston	WV	12/17/25	\$200.00
Robin Kimble	091	Moorefield	WV	12/18/25	\$25.00
Russell Dotson	332	Cameron	WV	12/19/25	\$25.00
Peggy Swartz	219	Gary	WV	12/20/25	\$25.00
ALA Unit #14	014	Martinsburg	WV	12/22/25	\$25.00
Vernon Hancock	667	Hedgesville	WV	12/23/25	\$25.00
Warren Staley	781	Moorefield	WV	12/24/25	\$25.00
	134			12/25/25	
Joe Young Jr.	773	Old Fields	WV	12/26/25	\$25.00
Helen Sirk-Bell	643	Romney	WV	12/27/25	\$25.00
Helen Sirk-Bell	843	Romney	WV	12/29/25	\$25.00
Evelyn Cullipher	747	Capon Bridge	WV	12/30/25	\$25.00
Beth Rosanna	303	Morgantown	WV	12/31/25	\$25.00



# OUR MISSION MATTERS to NAVIGATE LIFE's WATERS



**TAL Birthday Target Date 3/15/2026 85%**  
**Department Goal 4672— Membership to Date— 3620 77.48 %**  
**Department Unit 200 Goal 149— Membership to Date— 88**  
**Updated 1/15/2026**

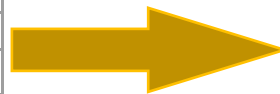


**Peggy**



**Stephanie**

District 1			
Unit	2026 Goal	2026	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	28	<b>31</b>	<b>110.71%</b>
Moundsville #3	260	179	68.85%
McMechen #5	12	9	75.00%
Weirton #10	71	62	87/32%
Cameron #18	118	101	85.5%
New Martinsville #28	107	<b>107</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
Wellsburg #34	21	18	85.71%
Follansbee #45	59	24	40.68%
Pine Grove #81	60	38	63.33%
Paden City #86	67	<b>90</b>	<b>134.33%</b>
Wheeling #89	10	1	10.00%
Newell #114	19	2	10.53%
Chester #121	122	106	86.8%
TOTALS	954	768	80.50%



**Starfish**  
**Goal— 2460**  
**To Date—1967**  
**79.96 %**

**Membership**  
**Chairman**  
**Maui**



**Sand Dollars**

**Goal 2063**  
**To Date 1565**  
**75.86 %**



District 3			
Unit	2026 Goal	2026	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	45	<b>47</b>	<b>104.44%</b>
Clarksburg #13	41	28	68.29%
Elkins #29	98	81	82.65%
Shinnston #31	253	245	96.84%
Braxton County #33	30	14	46.67%
Bridgeport #68	93	89	95.70%
Belington #96	11	10	91.91%
Pickens #122	18	14	77.78%
Morgantown #174	132	<b>162</b>	<b>122.73%</b>
TOTALS	721	690	95.70%

District 5			
Unit	2026 Goal	2026	% of Goal
Huntington #16	127	101	79.53%
Logan #19	12	9	75.00%
Charleston #20	15	10	66.67%
St. Albans #73	31	24	77.42%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	199	118	59.30%
<b>So. Charleston #94</b>	10	1	10.00%
Hamlin #111	40	27	67.50%
Milton #139	67	34	50.75%
Barboursville #177	152	125	82.24%
TOTALS	653	449	68.76%
<b>Charleston 94</b>	<b>In 200</b>		

District 10			
Unit	2026 Goal	2026	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	67	52	77.61%
Piedmont #52	20	0	
Berkeley Springs #60	199	164	82.41%
Charles Town #63	34	28	82.35%
Moorefield #64	86	68	79.07%
Charles Town #71	127	96	75.59%
Petersburg #78	63	43	68.25%
Romney #91	137	87	63.50%
Paw Paw #128	33	22	66.67%
Kirby #134	28	23	82.14%
Ridgeley #136	66	42	63.64%
Capon Bridge #137	198	175	88.38%
Keyser #152	28	<b>28</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
Totals	1086	828	76.24%

District 4			
Unit	2026 Goal	2026	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	380	271	71.32%
Spencer #21	22	8	36.36%
Pt. Pleasant #23	236	176	74.58%
Tyler County #48	37	27	72.97%
Sistersville #67	42	21	50.00%
New Haven #140	110	84	76.36%
Williamstown #159	78	56	71.79%
TOTALS	905	643	71.05%

District 6			
Unit	2026 Goal	2026	% of Goal
Welch #8	40	31	77.50%
Bluefield #9	18	17	94.44%
Beckley #32	12	6	50.00%
Gary #38	87	64	73.56%
Cowen #62	21	16	76.19%
Richwood #97	26	20	76.92%
TOTALS	204	154	75.49%



AMERICAN  
LEGION  
AUXILIARY

44<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid-Winter Conference American Legion Auxiliary Conference Program

February 13-14<sup>th</sup> Oglebay, Wheeling WV

Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Noon	Comfort Items Open	Seneca Room
12-4:30	Silent Auction Open	Ballroom West 3
1:00-7	Registration	Banquet View
1:00-2:00	Membership	Fort Henry Room
2:30-3:00	PPC meeting	Seneca Room
2:00-4:00	Risk and Compliance/Standing Rules/C&B	Fort Henry Room
4:00-5:30	Girls State Executive Board Meeting	Fort Henry Room-
7:00-9:00	Opening Joint Session	Ballroom West 1 and 2

Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026

8:00-Noon	Registration	Banquet View
8:00-Noon	Comfort Items	Seneca Room
8:00-2:00	Silent Auction	Ballroom West 3
9:00am	Opening Session	Fort Henry Room
	Call to Order	Kim Mellie, President
	Prayer	Rebecca Farley, Chaplain
	Moment of Silence	Kim Mellie, President
	Pledge of Allegiance	Sandra Harper, Ameicanism Chair
	National Anthem	Paulette Anderson, PDP, Music Chair
	Preamble of Constitution	Junior Auxiliary Members
	Mission Statement	Junior Auxiliary Members
9:15	Welcome	Kim Mellie, President
9:20	Military Childs Table Ceremony	Patsy Greiner/Juniors
9:30	Four Chaplains Program	Rebecca Farley, Chaplain
10:00	Juniors Excused	Spruce Room
10:00-11:00	Membership	"Navigating Life's Waters one wave at a time"
11-1	Lunch (reconvene at 1)	
1:00-2:30	Leadership Program	Rebecca Farley
2:30	Ways and Means 2025 Report	Paulette Anderson, PDP Chairman
2:45	Q&A, Reporting	
3:00	Poppy Poster and Poppy Hat Contest	Shirley Davis, PCDNVP, PDP, Chair
3:15	Comfort Item Report	Lisa Cadwallader, NEC, PDP
3:30	Silent Auction Report/ and 50/50 Drawing	
4:00pm	Church Services	
6:00pm	Commander's and President's Reception	Ballroom West 1,2,3
9:00	Dance & Karaoke	Ballroom West 1,2,3





## POPPY POSTER CONTEST COVER SHEET

Each year, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) sponsors a Poppy Poster Contest for students in grades 2-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into seven classes. One award in each of the seven classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in the student's name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund. National winners will be posted at [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org) after national convention.

### Poster Classes:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>
I	2 and 3
I	4 and 5
II	6 and 7
IV	8 and 9
V	10 and 11
VI	12
VI	Students with special needs

Class competing in: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sponsoring ALA unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
Due date for student to return to ALA unit: \_\_\_\_\_

### To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street, City, State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

City/State of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Teacher Name and Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered.):

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Unit Poppy Chairman/President: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit winner due to Department on: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Department Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

*Department winner due to National Poppy Division Chairman by June 1*

## Midwinter Silent Auction

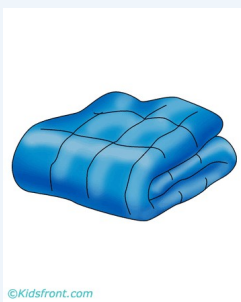
**OPENS FRIDAY FEB 13TH AT 12:00-4:00**

**SATURDAY 14TH AT 8:00-2:00**



Bring your favorite items  
to auction off.

All proceeds will benefit  
our veterans.



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 \$20.00  
Starting with 25-26 Year  
Runs August through July Each Year***

**MAIL TO:**

**American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of West Virginia  
1251 Doolin Run Rd.  
New Martinsville WV 26155**

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

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

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

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

## REGISTRATION/PERMISSION FORM

Please complete the form entirely. Duplicate as needed. Incomplete forms will not be processed.

NO FORMS ACCEPTED VIA FACSIMILE.

Name of Junior \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name on Nametag \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Unit Name & Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Hotel Junior is Staying \_\_\_\_\_

List any Food Allergies/Dietary Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

As a junior member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of West Virginia, I am aware of my responsibility

in attending the \_\_\_\_\_ Junior Midwinter Meeting. I agree to conduct myself in a manner that will positively reflect on my unit, Department, my family and me. I further agree to abide by the rules established by the Junior Meeting. I understand the failure to abide by rules set forth for the Annual Junior Midwinter Meeting will result in removal from all sessions and activities.

### EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Chaperone During the Department Meeting

*Note: Emergency contact person should accompany participating junior member to Registration to provide a telephone and location of contact in case of emergency during the actual time of the meetings.*

Chaperone Emergency Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_



I, the Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Give permission for my daughter \_\_\_\_\_

American Legion Auxiliary Junior member to be photographed for the use by the Department of West Virginia American Legion Auxiliary Junior Auxiliary. ETC. face book, newspaper, (Local and National, newsletters, and any website for the Auxiliary.

Parents OR Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

## CONSENT TO MEDICAL TREATMENT AND HOSPITAL SERVICES

This certifies that we (I) or guardian (s) of \_\_\_\_\_

In Unit \_\_\_\_\_, in event of our (my) child participates in the American Legion Auxiliary Annual Junior Midwinter Meeting held in Wheeling West Virginia at Oglebay Resort, hereby consent and grant permission, should the necessity of medical care arise, to the furnishing of medical treatment and hospital service as ordered or recommended by a qualified physician, including the administration of officers, agents, instructor, and employees from any and all claims, demands, damages, suits, actions, or causes of actions an anesthetic, laboratory procedures, medical or surgical treatments, X-ray examination or other hospital services.

We understand the Unit named above has sole responsibility for registration, housing, food, chaperoning, and emergencies of any nature. We further understand that each junior member attending the Annual Junior Midwinter Meeting, must be chaperoned by someone 21 years old or older.

The chaperone should accompany the junior to registration to provide information on location and telephone number where she can be reached in case of an emergency.

### WAIVER OF CLAIM

This further certifies that we (I) the undersigned in consideration of the benefits to be deprived by our child, in the event that she is a participate of the American Legion Auxiliary Annual Junior Midwinter Meeting held in Wheeling WV, February 14, 2026, (inclusive), do hereby release and discharge the American Legion Auxiliary, its officers, agents, instructor, and employees from any and all claims demands, damages, suits, actions, or causes of actions which we (I), may, can, or shall have by reason of any illness, injury, or accident incurred or suffered by said child while traveling to attendance at or participation in the American Auxiliary Annual Junior Midwinter Meeting held in Wheeling West Virginia, February 14, 2026 from the time of her departure from home until return thereto.

### INSURANCE INFORMATION (to be completed only if parent (s) carry a group medical insurance plan)

Name of parent (s) Group Medical Insurance Carrier \_\_\_\_\_

Policy/ certificate Number \_\_\_\_\_

Parent to Whom Policy was Issued \_\_\_\_\_

Employer to Who Policy was Issued \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Mother or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Mother or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Father or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

## 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]

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!!