



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 40

July 2026

Issue 12



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!

Dear Auxiliary Members,

As my term as President ends, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you. Serving as your President has been a true honor and privilege, and I am deeply thankful for the trust, support, and friendship you have shown me throughout this past year.

Together, we have celebrated successes, faced challenges, and worked toward our shared mission with dedication and compassion. None of what we accomplished would have been possible without the commitment, generosity, and teamwork of our members. I am proud of all that we have achieved and grateful for the opportunity to have served alongside such an outstanding group of individuals. Many thanks and hugs to my Program Chairs.

As I pass the responsibilities of leadership to the next administration, I do so with confidence and optimism. I know the Auxiliary will continue to grow, thrive, and make a positive impact on our community. The strength of this organization lies in its members, and I have no doubt that the coming year will bring new opportunities, meaningful accomplishments, continued success and growth to the Legion Family.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of this journey. The memories and experiences I have gained during my presidency will remain with me for years to come. I look forward to continuing to support the Auxiliary and watching all the wonderful things that lie ahead.

Wishing our incoming officers and all members a successful, productive, and rewarding year. May the Legion Family continue to flourish, and may your efforts be met with great success and fulfillment.

We are holding steady at 96%! Awesome job. Starfish you are 9 people away from 100%, try to get that done before June 22! ALAMIS will be done from June 22-July 6. We can still as a Department reach 100% by July 20th. You got this!

With sincere appreciation, best wishes, and much love,
Kim Mellie



Department President
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of WV
304-216-9943
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

Way to go Starfish!

Starfish, you have done an awesome job at membership. Congratulations to all the goal units, which is a total of 13 units. There are several units very close to reaching goal. We have until July 4th to get there, so don't stop trying. We also have one goal district which is district 3. Great work district 3!

Everyone keep doing the good things you are doing. Your hard work is paying off and you still have time to do more. Go, Starfish, Go!!!!



Department 2nd Vice President

Hello to Sand Dollars

Wishing everyone a wonderful July and hope to see everyone at the convention.

We gave the Starfish a run for membership. They were only 19 members ahead of us, so thank you Sand Dollars for your hard work. I think you did a fine job.

We had 9 Units to be 100 % and others were so close.

So, until next time God Bless.

Peggy Swartz
2nd Vice President



Chaplain

As I write my final Spirit article as your Department Chaplain, my heart is full of gratitude.

This year has been one of tremendous growth for me, not only in leadership, but in service. It has been a beautiful season of transformation through the privilege of serving others, lifting prayers, offering encouragement, and walking alongside so many members across our Department.

Through projects, meetings, celebrations, and difficult moments, I have been reminded time and again that we are part of something far bigger than ourselves.

I have met incredible people across our nation, witnessed kindness in action, and experienced the power of service rooted in compassion and connection.

My prayer for each of you is simple: continue to serve with grace, move with peace, lead with kindness, and never miss an opportunity to lift one another up. We never truly know the impact our words, prayers, and acts of service have on another person.

Thank you for trusting me to serve as your Department Chaplain. It has been an honor and a blessing.

As one final reminder, please send any prayer, devotion, reflection, or inspirational piece you would like included in our Department Prayer Book by **June 22**. After that date, the book will go to print.

With gratitude and love in service.

Rebecca S Farley
Department Chaplain
304-674-9908

Chaplain@wvvaux.org

Membership Chairman

West Virginia continues to shine in membership! We have reached **97.09% of our 2026 goal**, and we have climbed to 9th in the nation in membership!

Congratulations to our current district leaders:

- **District 1:** Paden City Unit #86 – **165.67%**
- **District 3:** Morgantown Unit #174 – **136.36%**
- **District 4:** Point Pleasant Unit #23 – **100.85%**
- **District 5:** Charleston Unit #20 – **186.67%**
- **District 6:** Welch Unit #8 – **107.50%**
- **District 10:** Capon Bridge Unit #137 – **109.60%**

A very special and well-deserved congratulations goes to **Charleston Unit #20**, which continues to hold the #1 membership spot in the Department for more than **three consecutive months!** Their incredible commitment, consistency, and dedication to membership growth have set the standard for excellence across West Virginia. What an outstanding accomplishment—keep up the amazing work!

Special recognition also goes to **District 3**, currently leading all districts at **106.93%**, and **District 1**, which has surpassed goal at **101.78%**.

Due to the scheduled ALAMIS outage from June 22 through July 6, the Department's **100% membership target has been extended to July 20**. This gives every unit additional time to recruit, renew, and process memberships.

If we remain **Mission Focused** and continue working together, there is no doubt that West Virginia can achieve—and exceed—100% by July 20th. Keep processing memberships promptly, keep reaching out, and let's finish this year strong!

Laura Clark (aka Maui)
Email: membership@wvvaux.org
Phone: 304-939-3607





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.

This will be the last mandatory funds listing for this year, in the spirit. If you haven't paid them, and plan to attend Department Convention, send them in NOW.

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
If you wish to receive spirit by mail please fill out form included, and send \$20.00 to the address listed.

ALAMIS SYSTEM: will be down June 22-July 6. No membership will be processed during this time.

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, 2027 will be billed as a junior member for 2027 membership year. If she turns 18 after August 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026 she will changed to a Senior member for the 2027 membership year.

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

Hei Hei



Articrafts

New Members—STARTING WITH THE 2026-2027 MEMBERSHIP

YEAR: when sending in a new application please make sure they are **COMPLETED**. If you are unable to read the new application, I won't be able to read it. Please clarify illegible writing. Applications will be returned if No Signature by either New Member or Post Officer.

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.

This is the last spirit for 2025-2026 year.

New Officers and Chairmen will need to send your Articles after Department Convention. Spirit will go out JULY 21st for August.

Target sheets will remain on the 15th of each month.

Articles will remain on the 17th of each month.

PLAN NOW FOR ARTICLES

Endorsements for Department Officers For 2026-2027

President: Stephanie Handley
Chester Unit #121

First Vice President: Peggy Swartz
Welch Unit #8

Second Vice President: Rebecca Farley
Pt Pleasant Unit #23

Secretary/Treasurer: Paulette Anderson
New Martinsville Unit #28 (3 year term)

Chaplain: Holly Adams
Chester Unit #121

Historian: Andrea Snyder
Pt Pleasant Unit #23

Department Headquarters

Office Hours

Monday-Friday

8:30am-3:30pm

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

Remember Our Legion Family

Department Chaplain Rebecca Farley's father passed away recently in Virginia. Cards can be sent to Rebecca:

Rebecca Farley & Family

22066 Ripley Rd.

Leon WV 25123-6176

Beth Kilgore, Children & Youth Chairman is home from Rehab. Please keep her in your prayers.



Endorsements for 2026-2028 National Committee

Lisa Cadwallader
Jackson-Perks #71

Laura Clark
Huntington #16

1st District Vice President

Hello District 1 members,

I want to say what a great job on membership in the 1st District this year.

I know we didn't make 100%, but I am very proud of each unit's hard work.

I want to say thank you for electing me as your Vice President this year, and I wish you all the best in the coming year. Let's keep up the great work. Remember that branding is a positive way to increase membership.

Serve, Not Self!
Michelle Powell
1st District Vice President

3rd District Vice President

Before we know it, Summer Convention will be here in full swing. I am excited to see everyone there.

THANK YOU TO DISTRICT 3 FOR HAVING ME AS YOUR VICE PRESIDENT THIS LAST YEAR, I TRULY APPRECIATE YOU.

THANK YOU TO DISTRICT 3 FOR THE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE YOU HAVE BROUGHT THIS YEAR; WE ARE STILL THE LEADING DISTRICT IN MEMBERSHIP (106.93%)

I want to give a HUGE shoutout to Mountaineer Unit 174, for leading District 3 in the highest percentage so far, at 136.36%, Bridgeport Unit 68 (119.35%), Buckhannon Unit 7 (106.67%), Shinnston#31(103.95%). All the other Units in District 3 also deserve BIG SHOUTOUT for their hard work in creating numbers in membership that I have not seen before, THIS IS TRULY AMAZING!

If I can help with anything please just reach out to me, I will be glad to do my best to get you the answer you need.

Thank you
Sandra Harper
District 3 Vice President
Sandy.harper265@gmail.com

4th District Vice President

Today, District 4 stands at **821 of 905 members, or 90.72% of goal**, and while that number tells one story, I know the real story behind it, volunteers showing up, leaders carrying the load, and members believing in what we do.

I want to give a special **congratulations** to my **Unit 23, Point Pleasant**, for reaching and surpassing goal at **100.85%**. What an accomplishment and what a reflection of dedication and teamwork.

To those units who have already crossed the finish line, celebrate it. Ring the bell. Take the picture. Be proud. You earned it.

But to those still working toward goal, hear me clearly, do not confuse "not there yet" with "not capable. There is still time. Sometimes membership growth is not a sprint across the finish line. Sometimes it is one phone call, one conversation, one invitation at a time. Keep rowing.

Keep reaching. Keep believing in the mission. Because success in the Auxiliary has never been measured only by percentages. It is measured in veterans served, families supported, communities strengthened, and lives changed.

Thank you for allowing me to serve beside you, learn from you, and grow with you.

To all, keep leading, keep loving, and keep showing everyone exactly what service not self looks like.

With gratitude,
Rebecca S Farley
District 4 Vice President
Dccoachrebecca@gmail.com
304-674-9908

6th District Vice President

Hello to our District 6 members. Hoping everyone had a wonderful Memorial Day Celebration and enjoying the summer weather.

We heard that Girls State was a huge success and we want to say thank you for all the volunteers who helped make this happen.

We want to say congratulations to auxiliary Welch Unit 8 making 107.5%, Bluefield Unit 9 105.56%, and Gary Unit 38 at 85.06%.

Dates to remember: WV American Legion/WV American Legion Auxiliary Summer Convention July 9-11, 2026. If you are planning on traveling for July 4 or for vacation we send you our travel prayers for a safe celebration or vacation. Pray for Our Country.
Mary Spence
Vice President
District 6

10th District Vice President

Thank you for an amazing year as your District 10 Vice President. It has been an honor to serve alongside such dedicated members and leaders.

Congratulations to Ms. Pam Gustines as she begins her journey as District 10 Vice President. I know she will do a fabulous job, and I look forward to seeing all she accomplishes. Congratulations as well to all of our incoming District board members.

To every Unit in District 10, congratulations on your achievements this year. Whether you met and exceeded your goals, surpassed last year's accomplishments, or continued to grow and strengthen your Unit, you should be proud of your efforts.

Success is not always measured by numbers or awards. Sometimes it is found in the new ideas tried, the extra initiatives taken, and the positive impact made in our communities. Every step forward matters.

Most importantly, continue working together and carrying out the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary. Your dedication, compassion, and service make a difference every day.

Please know that you are appreciated, supported, and that your District team is proud of all you have accomplished.

God bless, and best wishes for a wonderful year ahead.

Chantel Ricketts
District 10 Vice President

ALL MEMBERS

IF YOU ARE A DISTRICT PRESIDENT, DEPARTMENT OFFICER, PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT, OR NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PLEASE BE SURE TO BRING YOUR RIBBONS TO DEPARTMENT CONVENTION FOR OPENING CEREMONY ON FRIDAY JULY 11, 2026.

IF YOU ARE AN OFFICER BEING INSTALLED OR A PDP ESCORTING A DEPARTMENT OFFICER ON SATURDAY JULY 12TH PLEASE WEAR A WHITE DRESS, OR WHITE SKIRT, AND TOP.

IF YOUR UNIT HAS A TRAVELING PLAQUE IT NEEDS TO BE BROUGHT TO DEPARTMENT CONVENTION NO LATER THAN THURSDAY BEFORE OR AFTER PRE CONVENTION BOARD MEETING. IF YOU CAN'T ATTEND CONTACT YOUR DISTRICT OFFICER TO HAVE IT TAKEN TO THEM TO CONVENTION ANY RIBBONS MUST ACCOMPANY THEIR PLAQUE

4th District President

District 4 is at 87.85% membership; we had a good year. Thanks to all for your efforts. I am so proud of all the Auxiliary units in our district. We still have until July to reach the 100 % target goal. We are not done yet!

Our focus is on Americanism, Child Welfare, Education, Legislative, Poppy, Public Relations and VA&R. I hope you all made time to create a scrapbook to showcase the activities your unit was involved in this year! Our history is an important part of the work we do for our veterans and their families.

Remember, it is the "Spirit of Service Not Self." For God and Country, we will honor the sacrifices of our veterans, our active military, and their families.

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

5th District President

The Fourth of July is approaching, and with it comes the Department Convention. I hope everyone has submitted their required funds and is prepared for the convention. I look forward to seeing many of you at this year's convention. It is a great opportunity to connect with others, make new friends, and put names with faces.

Your elections should be complete by now, and your officers should be ready to be sworn in. Please email Paulette and me your list of officers as soon as possible. As District President, I plan to send periodic emails to check in, share important updates, and offer support when needed. Laura Clark will serve as my Vice President, and I look forward to working with her and with each and every one of you.

If I can be of any help please feel free to contact me.

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

10th District President

It is HOT outside, I sure hope everyone is keeping hydrated and doing well. Keep checking in on your members and the veterans to be sure they are doing well, too.

It looks as though many if not all elections at the unit level are complete. Congratulations to all new officers and old officers. This is a time to hope that there are people running against you, that way you can help guide them.

Sometimes change is a good thing, but it is also hard to give up positions. If we don't allow others to take positions and learn just as we did, then ALA will die in your unit.

Don't forget to get your paper into Paulette on who is holding chairs for head positions and committees. Also, don't forget to get your Mandatory funds paid.

All units need to remember to work your committees and don't forget to do your year end reports, keep your hours and have what you did with those hours. These are the most important things other than caring for your veterans. The reports and the hours help the veterans as well.

I hate hearing all the good things that your units do but you do not get the credit you deserve. You all do such an AMAZING JOB!! I hope everyone has a fantastic year.

I am so glad that I can be the President another year to help each of you that have questions, those questions help me just as much as they help you. With that being said, do not hesitate to email or call me, I am here to help. There are so many things the past year that I personally have learned because of you. I have mis-quoted some information and want to apologize for that, but I am human as well.

I would like to congratulate the 5 units that made 100% goal at this time. There are still 8 units that are real close, you still have time. Don't hold your memberships, consider signing up for the ALAMIS, online processing, this helps with real time membership. Let us together ROCK out another Great year. We all are a team, there is no I in team! We are here for the veterans, not for our own glory. Remember why you are here in all that you do!

I want to thank President Kim for all she has done this year, all the time that she has spent with me and the whole 10th district. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. You have been so helpful and such an inspiration.
Jill Davis

District Officers for 2026-2027

1st District-President: Rhonda Best, Unit #3
Vice Pres: Susan Bown, Unit #3

3rd District-President:
Sandy Harper, Unit #174
Vice Pres: Kim Mellie, Unit #31

4th District-President:
Rebecca Farley, Unit #23
Vice Pres: Katie Simpkins, Unit #23

5th District-President:
Lisa Harbour-Adkins, Unit #16
Vice Pres: Laura Clark, Unit #16

6th District-President:
Peggy Swartz, Unit #8
Vice Pres: Mary Spence, Unit #8

10th District-President:
Jill Davis, Unit #137
Vice Pres: Pam Gustines, Unit #71



Constitution & Bylaws

Auxiliary Members,

The American Legion Auxiliary was built on principles of patriotism, service, and moral character. Upholding honesty and integrity preserves the legacy for future generations. It reminds members that their actions—large or small—represent not only themselves but the entire organization and the veterans they serve.

Topic : Constitution

Bylaws

Purpose: Defines identity & mission

Defines operations & procedures

Changes: Rare

Every 2–3 years

Covers: Name, purpose, eligibility, officers Duties, elections, meetings, committees

Role Foundation

Framework

What should you do with this information?

- Review your unit's documents yearly
- Compare them to national documents
- Update standing rules as needed
- Teach new members
- Use them to guide decisions

Michelle Powell

Dept. C & B Chairman

Americanism



The purpose of the Americanism program is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship.

The Americanism work of the ALA includes all activities that strengthen American ideals and uphold principles of democracy. The security of America lies in citizens who have a true understanding, love for those ideals, and principles upon which the nation was founded, and a willingness to perform these duties even at great personal sacrifice. The work of the Americanism program is educationally based and divided into three phases: work with youth, work with adults, and work with the community, all matters about the flag or patriotic education are classified as Americanism activities. Every citizen should have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Constitution of the United States. Therefore, the ALA has a very definite goal in emphasizing the teachings of good citizenship.

Cooperative effort in the American Legion Family:

***ALA members can effectively make patriotism a personal matter and select and successfully carry out projects adaptable to the needs of their communities.

***Work as an **AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY**, in schools, throughout your communities.

***Support American Legion Baseball, the Oratorical contest, and Junior Shooting Sports.

Refreshers are always nice every now and then.

Thank you,

Sandra Harper

Americanism Chair

americanism@wvvaux.org

Community Service

Happy 250th Birthday America!

I would like to say thank you to President Kim for letting me be her chairman for this great family we have.

What a blessing we have had this year reading the reports that I got, shows what a great Auxiliary family we have in West Virginia. We have been busy this year.

Hope to see everyone next month and please be safe in traveling. Remember keep track of what we are doing in our community.

Blessing,
Kelli A Immel



VA&R

Reports are done and your working towards the new reporting year. Now is the time to start tracking hours, amounts spent, or in-kind donations. Remember when turning in VA&R hours you need a list for pins and bars that contains the **members name as it appears on the membership roster, their membership number #** and # of hours spent for VA, and # of hours spent for Service to Veterans. This information should be in your report.

Example of List:

Name	membership #	VA hours.	Service to Veterans hours
Pamela Smith	1000123	10.	55

If it is in the VA/for the VA, its VA hours, all others are Service to Veterans. Also your **must** take the orientation at the VA.

Lisa Cadwallader

Var@wvvaux.org

Education

Happy 4th, everyone.

This is my last column as Department Education Chairman, and I appreciate each of you who listened and supported me along the way. As you look ahead to the next few weeks, please consider beginning your school supply collection now while prices are lower than they typically are in September. If possible, pick up a few extra items to donate in January.

In the Education Newsletter, Vice-Chair Judy Ackerman encourages units to begin reviewing their scholarship applications, judging criteria, and essay requirements. For example, you may want to compare your application with one from another unit to determine whether it collects all necessary information while remaining straightforward for students to complete. Consider whether any questions are outdated, unclear, or redundant, and update the judging criteria as needed so they are clearly written, easy to interpret, and aligned with current priorities and goals. This is also a good time to evaluate whether students should continue submitting a financial statement and whether the essay requirement is clear, relevant, and the most effective way to gather the information you need.

Again, thank you for everything.

Lisa Harbour-Adkins
education@wvaux.org
304-633-0530



**DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR
DONATIONS TO
DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
OR IF YOU WISH SEND A
CHECK TO
DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS AND
EARMARK
CHILD WELL-BEING FUND**



Junior Activities

The ALA Convention and Junior Girls Convention is held in July at the same time, in the same hotel. The junior girls will hold an election of honorary officers on Friday, July 10, 2026. Senior auxiliary members will install the new honorary officers. This is an exciting time for all junior auxiliary members.

Special thanks to everyone who supported the 265 West Virginia junior girls. There are 44 Junior girl's units. I received reports stating we have 11 new Junior members this year. We received 9 junior activities reports. Units reported a total of 1,168 hours of activity. Two units submitted candidates for "Junior member of the year."

I rarely hear about Junior girls' activities during the year. After reading all the wonderful reports senior members submitted, I am encouraged by the activities and photographs that were submitted. Junior members are the future members of this organization, please include them in meetings and events your auxiliary units are involved in.

Patsy Greiner
Junior Activities Chairman
304-483-8296 (cell & text)
Patsygirl2@gmail.com



Leadership

As we close out the 2025–2026 administrative year, I want to simply say thank you.

Serving as your Department Leadership Chair has been one of the best experiences of my year. I have thoroughly enjoyed growing alongside each of you and finding meaningful ways to help our units **Lead with Purpose** across our Department. Leadership is not just another program. Leadership is the foundation that supports every program, project, and mission we accomplish. Strong leadership creates clarity, builds momentum, inspires service, and allows our units to operate effectively while developing the next generation to carry our mission forward.

One huge highlight of this year for me was creating and delivering the **Lead with Purpose** series. This special project was designed to provide practical tools, encouragement, and inspiration for leaders at every level. My sincere hope is that each participant found at least one session that challenged you, encouraged you, or created positive change within your unit.

If you completed all 12 sessions, please email me a brief combined review or recap of your experience. It does not need to be session-by-session. Please also include your **first and last name exactly as you would like it spelled on your certificate**. Certificates will be presented at Department Convention, and I would love to celebrate your accomplishment with you.

Additionally, don't forget our **ALA Academy Challenge 2.0!** The member completing the most ALA Academy classes will receive a curated leadership basket. Text or email your number of classes taken between February 10 - July 8.!

If you nominated a **Unit Member of the Year**, please encourage them to attend Department Convention as we will be recognizing all nominees.

Lead with purpose. Serve with heart. Continue building leaders wherever you go.

Rebecca S Farley
Department Leadership Chair
305-674-9908
Leadership@wvaux.org

2026 Convention Chairman

Hello ALA Department of WV,

We're only one month away from department convention. A couple of things for your attention.

***First all units **must have** their mandatory funds paid to seated at convention.

***All members **must have proof of membership**. Which means bring your **current membership card 2026**.

***I will be needing volunteers for the registration table on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

***We'll be needing **door prizes**. Lots of door prizes.

If you have any questions feel free to call 304-268-2353.

Until July,
Debbie Fox
Convention Chairman

Poppy

Poppies and patriotism should be celebrated especially on July 4, 2026 which is the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America. Parades, picnics, and poppies are a great way to celebrate.

On July 4, go to a local park and give out poppies to those celebrating. Explain what the poppy means—a remembrance of those who fought and died for our country and freedom.

Display poppies in American Legion Posts. Celebrate the day with a birthday cake for 250 years of freedom! Make a big bouquet of poppies to display along with the cake. There are so many ways to celebrate.

Remember, poppies can be distributed all year long.

The purpose of the poppy program is to honor veterans for their service by circulating the poppy, educating all people of the poppy's history, and the financial benefit to veterans as the result of poppy distribution.

Honor the sacrifice of those who served, enhance the lives of veterans, military and their families.

Shirley Davis
Chairman



Legislative

Every Voice Matters!

Tell Congress What You Think!

With the new reporting year underway it is more important now than ever before to educate your Units on the Grassroots Action Center. With just a few minutes of effort each member can send several emails to their representatives. There are two new pieces of legislation listed in the Grassroots Action Center. If you have not visited for a while, take a look and see what is new.

Recently, the Department of West Virginia was #3 out of 55 Departments. As a Department we have never been that high before. Keep up the great work and we can get there again. This is a huge accomplishment for our Department. As one of the smaller departments we are making our presence known on the Legislative stage.

The two new items in the Grassroots Action Center are the Support the Veterans Community Care Scheduling Improvement Act and the Veterans' Transition to Trucking Act. The Community Care Scheduling Act is particularly important to rural states like West Virginia, where wait times to see specialists can be long.

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



National Executive Committee

Continuing with ideas and topic discussed in the strategic planning committee focus group. Overall National heard lots of suggestions, got lots of ideas, and are working on trying to improve learning tools, making large documents more doable instead of overwhelming and there was even discussion about the possibility of National getting back out and going to District and/or Departments to train. However, keep in mind, it at the local level to promote, gain, and retain members.

In a recent NEC Meeting the following Standing Rules were voted and approved..

XI. Units, Section 6. Membership eligibility through the service of a living veteran may be established by presentation of a current The American Legion card. Membership eligibility through the service of a deceased veteran may be established by certification by the post adjutant or other post officer or by the unit secretary or other unit officer of the deceased veteran's proof of military service. Joining online requires an affidavit of eligibility; the Unit may request a copy of the veteran's proof of military service.

Note: Unit officers may only do this for a deceased Veteran.

I. National Org. Annual program reports to national chairmen are due **June 1**. The annual Department Impact Report is due to National Headquarters by **July 1**.

V. Executive Committee #10 is too much to list. However, it provides a standardized process of appeals and complaints to the NEC are handled.

Lisa Cadwallader
NEC
Lisac.ala71@gmail.com



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY WV RODODENDRON GIRLS STATE

Rhododendron Girls State

Major kudos and thank you to all who made this another successful Rhododendron Girls State Session. You made this a once in a lifetime opportunity to the leaders of not only today but tomorrow! Please remember to thank your sponsors, give them a Certificate of Appreciation. Hold a reception or dinner for the citizens, their families and sponsors.

This program would not be possible if it were not for magnificent leadership under the director of Director Dr. Rosemary Thomas, Assistant Director Kate Garlick, Registrar Laura Clark, Department President Kim Mellie and their team in leading these young ladies of learning to become more informed citizens, the love for our Country and a lifetime of friendships.

What a rewarding experience to witness these young ladies as they come in on Sunday and transformation in of themselves and awareness of their surroundings of events surrounding them on Saturday.

Congratulations to all the newly elected offices and to Rhododendron Girls State Governor Zoe Zervos and the Girls Nation Senators Juliann Harlan and Ella Wheeler.

Girls State Girls Will Always Be Til the End Of Time!

Lynda Lancaster Loyd



District Representatives

1st Dist. — Christy Bland
217 Maple Ave.
New Martinsville WV 26155
304-771-2283

3rd Dist. — Mary Jo Thomas
279 Rock Lake Road
Fairmont WV 26554
202-365-7510

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 May winners! We had a \$200.00 winner.

We are sending checks out 2 times a month to keep up with the winners.

You will notice the month will be a different color. The winner of the \$200.00 will be in bold.

There are still checks out in units who either hasn't sold them or haven't sent in ticket stubs yet. Please don't hold them!

I have about 18 tickets in office for anyone who would either like to purchase or take them to sell. Contact me at the office phone number.

If you have any questions please email me or call Department Headquarters.

Thanks!
Paulette Anderson
Christy Bland

May Ways and Means Winners

Name	#'s	City	State	Date	\$\$\$
Sonja Adkins	462	Hurricane	WV	5/1/26	\$25.00
Pam Ciampanella	223	Roderfield	WV	5/2/26	\$25.00
Kasey Mowery	376	Romney	WV	5/4/26	\$25.00
Megan Beall	716	Martinsburg	WV	5/5/26	\$25.00
	622			5/6/26	
Megan Beall	716	Martinsburg	WV	5/7/26	\$25.00
Judy Chapman	722	Thorpe	WV	5/8/26	\$25.00
Tina Ruckman	500	Rio	WV	5/9/26	\$25.00
	377		WV	5/11/26	
Larry Cool	982	Shadyside	OH	5/12/26	\$25.00
Dianne McClung	487	Mineral Wells	WV	5/13/26	\$25.00
ALA 1st District	633	New Martinsville	WV	5/14/26	\$25.00
Tiffany Orlando	249	Martinsburg	WV	5/15/26	\$25.00
Maxie Ruddell	365	Charleston	WV	5/16/26	\$25.00
Joyce Rhodes	374	Hedgesville	WV	5/18/26	\$25.00
Pam Rinker	425	Petersburg	WV	5/19/26	\$25.00
Pam Rinker	425	Petersburg	WV	5/20/26	\$200.00
Emma Charlton	867	Mechanicsville	VA	5/21/26	\$25.00
Ed Smith	619	Buckhannon	WV	5/22/26	\$25.00
Kay Johnson	750	St. Marys	WV	5/23/26	\$25.00
J. Lanager	662	Buckhannon	WV	5/25/26	\$25.00
Jimmy Robinson	096	Bluefield	VA	5/26/26	\$25.00
Malinda Epling	324	Reedy	WV	5/27/26	\$25.00
Karn Tedrow	474	Cameron	WV	5/28/26	\$25.00
Tom Bostaph	080	Parkersburg	WV	5/29/26	\$25.00
B Wisner	739	Paw Paw	WV	5/30/26	\$25.00





OUR MISSION MATTERS to NAVIGATE LIFE's WATERS



250th Birthday — July 4th 100.00%

Department Goal 4672— Membership to Date— 4,536 97.09 %

Department Unit 200 Goal 149— Membership to Date— 104

June 16 2026

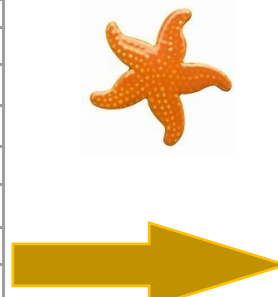


Peggy



Stephanie

District 1			
Unit	2026 Goal	2026	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	28	38	135.71%
Moundsville #3	260	247	95.00%
McMechen #5	12	10	83.33%
Weirton #10	71	73	102.82%
Cameron #18	118	119	100.85%
New Martinsville #28	107	112	104.67%
Wellsburg #34	21	21	100.00%
Follansbee #45	59	36	61.02%
Pine Grove #81	60	55	91.67%
Paden City #86	67	111	165.67%
Wheeling #89	10	7	70.00%
Newell #114	19	20	105.26%
Chester #121	122	122	100.00%
TOTALS	954	971	101.78%



**Starfish
Goal— 2460
To Date—2455
99.80 %**

District 3			
Unit	2026 Goal	2026	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	45	48	106.67%
Clarksburg #13	41	32	78.05%
Elkins #29	98	92	93.88%
Shinnston #31	253	263	103.95%
Braxton County #33	30	18	60.00%
Bridgeport #68	93	111	119.35%
Belington #96	11	10	91.91%
Pickens #122	18	17	94.44%
Morgantown #174	132	180	136.36%
TOTALS	721	771	106.93%

District 5			
Unit	2026 Goal	2026	% of Goal
Huntington #16	127	130	102.36%
Logan #19	12	15	125.00%
Charleston #20	15	28	186.67%
St. Albans #73	31	27	87.10%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	199	179	89.95%
So. Charleston #94	10	1	10.00%
Hamlin #111	40	32	80.00%
Milton #139	67	54	80.60%
Barboursville #177	152	157	103.29%
TOTALS	653	623	95.41%
Charleston 94	In 200		

District 4			
Unit	2026	2026	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	380	332	87.37%
Spencer #21	22	18	81.82%
Pt. Pleasant #23	236	238	100.85%
Tyler County #48	37	29	78.38%
Sistersville #67	42	36	85.71%
New Haven #140	110	99	90.00%
Williamstown #159	78	69	88.46%
TOTALS	905	821	90.72%

**Membership
Chairman
Maui**



Sand Dollars

**Goal 2063
To Date 1977
95.83 %**



District 10			
Unit	2026 Goal	2026	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	67	69	102.99%
Piedmont #52	20	19	95.00%
Berkeley Springs #60	199	191	95.98%
Charles Town #63	34	28	82.35%
Moorefield #64	86	80	93.02%
Charles Town #71	127	137	107.87%
Petersburg #78	63	66	104.76%
Romney #91	137	112	81.75%
Paw Paw #128	33	31	93.94%
Kirby #134	28	27	96.43%
Ridgeley #136	66	56	84.85%
Capon Bridge #137	198	217	109.60%
Keyser #152	28	28	100.00%
Totals	1086	1061	97.70%

July 2026

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Program of Month Department Convention			1 <i>Impact Reports Due to National</i>	2	3 <i>Office Closed</i>	4  <i>America 250th Birthday 100% Target</i>
5	6 <i>Target Sheet out for 100%</i>	7	8 <i>Leave for Convention</i>	9	10	11
12	13 <i>Office Closed</i>	14	15	16	17 <i>New Articles Due for August Spirit</i>	18
19	20	21 <i>Spirit Out</i>	22	23	24	25
26	27 <i>End of Korean War</i>	28	29	30	31 <i>Close of Books for ALA</i>	R.E.D. FRIDAYS Until They All Come Home

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT WORKSHOP
SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2026
HILTON GARDEN INN
CLARKSBURG WV

This is the booking link for Available Rooms - [Hilton Garden Inn Clarksburg/Bridgeport](#)

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?ctyhocn=CKBGIGI&arrivalDate=2026-09-10&departureDate=2026-09-13&groupCode=WVAMLE&room1NumAdults=1&cid=OM%2CWW%2CHILTONLINK%2CEN%2CDirectLink>

You can copy and paste in your browser.

Remember to change your dates of arriving and leaving on the reservation form.

If you need to call the number is 304-326-9200 and stay on the line, **(Do Not Press 1)**

We are listed under: **WV American Legion**

for rooms.

DEADLINE: August 31, 2026

Any questions or problems getting a room please contact Department Headquarters.

FIFTH DISTRICT: Lisa Harbour-Adkins President, Patti Winthrow Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	10%	Membership
#16 Huntington	X	X	X	X	X	
#19 Logan						
#20 Charleston	X	X	X	X	X	
#73 St. Albans	X	X	X	X	X	
#93 Ceredo-Kenova	X	X	X	X	X	
#111 Hamlin	X					
#139 Milton	X	X	X	X	X	
#177 Barboursville	X	X	X	X	X	

SIXTH DISTRICT - Peggy Swartz President, Mary Spence Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	10%	Membership
#8 Welch	X	X	X	X	X	
#9 Bluefield	X	X	X	X	X	
#32 Beckley	X	X	X	X	X	
#38 Gary	X	X	X	X	X	
#62 Cowen						
#97 Richwood						

TENTH DISTRICT- Diana Teter President, Jill Davis Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	10%	Membership
#14 Martinsburg	X	X	X	X	X	
#52 Piedmont	X	X	X	X	X	
#60 Berkeley Springs	X	X	X	X	X	
#63 Charles Town	X	X	X	X	X	
#64 Moorefield	X	X	X	X	X	
#71 Charles Town	X	X	X	X	X	
#78 Petersburg	X	X	X	X	X	
\$91 Romney	X	X	X	X	X	
#128 Paw Paw						
#134 Kirby	X	X	X	X	X	
#136 Ridgeley	X	X	X	X	X	
#137 Capon Bridge	X	X	X	X	X	
#152 Keyser	X	X	X	X	X	

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

X MEANS PAID UNIT AUDIT OF MANDATORY FUNDS — June 19, 2026

FIRST DISTRICT - Mary Richards President, Michelle Powell Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	10%	Membership
#1 Wheeling	X	X	X	X	X	
#3 Moundsville	X	X	X	X	X	
#5 McMechen	X	X	X	X	X	
#10 Weirton	X	X	X	X		
#18 Cameron	X	X	X	X	X	
#28 New Martinsville	X	X	X	X	X	
#34 Wellsburg	X	X	X	X	X	
#45 Follansbee	X	X	X	X	X	
#81 Pine Grove	X	X	X	X	X	
#86 Paden City	X	X	X	X	X	
#89 Wheeling	X	X	X	X	X	
#114 Newell	X	X	X	X	X	
#121 Chester	X	X	X	X	X	

THIRD DISTRICT - Margaret Yost President, Sandra Harper Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	10%	Membership
#7 Buckhannon	X	X	X	X	X	
#13 Clarksburg	X	X	X	X	X	
#29 Elkins	X	X	X	X	X	
#31 Shinnston	X	X	X	X	X	
#33 Braxton County	X	X	X	X	X	
#68 Bridgeport	X	X	X	X	X	
#96 Belington						
#122 Pickens	X	X	X	X	X	
#174 Morgantown	X	X	X	X	X	

FOURTH DISTRICT - Patsy Greiner President, Rebecca Farley Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	10%	Membership
#15 Parkersburg	X	X	X	X	X	
#21 Spencer	X	X	X	X	X	
#23 Mason County	X	X	X	X	X	
#48 Tyler County						
#67 Sistersville						
#140 New Haven						
#159 Williamstown	X	X	X	X	X	

**CALL FOR
HUNDRED-FOURTH ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA, INC.**

The Hundred-FOURTH Department Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary is hereby called in conformity with Article IX, Section 1 of the Department Constitution and Bylaws which provides, "That the Department Convention be held annually concurrent with the Convention of The American Legion, Department of West Virginia. "The Convention will meet in Huntington, West Virginia on July 9, 10, 11, 2026 at the Doubletree by Hilton.

PURPOSE

The Convention is called for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, amending the Department Constitution, receiving reports of Department Officers and Chairmen, and for the transaction of such other business may properly come before it.

REPRESENTATIVES

Representation at the Convention shall be by Units. Each Unit shall be entitled to two delegates, and one additional delegate for each fifty (50) members or major fraction thereof, whose dues have been paid and received by the Department Headquarters one month prior to the Convention for which they were elected. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote. **No Unit unrepresented shall have a proxy vote.** The elective officers, all Past Department Presidents, in good standing shall be delegates-at-large to the Department Convention, with vote to be exercised with their Units, provided said officers are present at the Convention.

ALTERNATES

Each Unit is entitled to one alternate for each delegate. The alternate will have power to vote **ONLY** in the absence of The regular Delegate.

CREDENTIALS

Membership cards must be presented by delegates and alternates. Certification of the election of the delegates and alternates **MUST** be mailed to Department Headquarters **no less than two weeks** prior to Convention, and **SHALL BE** Accompanied by the Convention fee of \$20.00 for each accredited delegates so certified.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Pre-Convention Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday July 9, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Doubletree by Hilton in the Virginia-Maryland Room. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Department Elective Officers, NEC, the Six District Presidents, all Past Department Presidents, and Chairmen of all standing committees. All members of standing committees, exclusive of the chairmen, may attend the Executive Committee Meeting with the Privilege of discussion but without vote. Any member in good standing may attend the Executive Committee Meeting With the privilege of discussion but NO vote.

DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE

This committee will meet on Thursday July 9, 2026 pm in the Virginia Room. Those to attend this meeting are the Three (3) members of the Finance Committee and the Department President and Department Secretary/Treasurer who are ex officio members without vote.



104th Annual Convention

Tentative Agenda

Thursday July 9, 2026

12:00-6:00	Registration	Lower Foyer
1:00 pm	Finance Meeting	Virginia/Maryland Room
2:30 pm	Convention Committee Meetings	Virginia/Maryland Room
	Constitution & Bylaws	
	Standing Rules	
	Policy & Procedures	
	Resolutions	
	Credentials	
3:30 pm	RGS Board of Incorporators Meeting	Virginia/Maryland Room
7:00 pm	Pre-Convention Executive Board Meeting	Virginia/Maryland Room

Friday July 10, 2026

8:00-5:00	Registration	Lower Foyer
JUNIORS		
9:00 am	Registration for Junior Department Convention	Huntington Room
11:30-1:00	Lunch—From Department President	
1:00 pm	Joint Session with The American Legion	Grand Theatre
2:00 pm	Reconvene	
3:00 pm	Installation of Junior Officers 2026-2027	
AUXILIARY		
8:15 am	Department/District Officers Line Up	Virginia/Maryland Room
8:30 am	Processional	
	District Vice Presidents	
	District Presidents	
	Past Department Presidents	
	Department Officers	
	Presentation of Gavel to	Kim Mellie, Department President
	By:	Debbie Fox, Convention Chairman
	Call to Order	Kim Mellie, Department President
	Advancement of Colors	
	Invocation	Rebecca Farley, Department Chaplain
	Moment of Silence	
	Pledge of Allegiance	Sandy Harper, Americanism Chairman
	National Anthem	Paulette Anderson, Music Chairman
	Preamble	Michelle Powell, Constitution & Bylaws
	Roll Call	Paulette Anderson, Secretary/Treasurer
	Rules & Order of Business	Paulette Anderson
	Report of Policy & Procedures Committee	Stephanie Handley, Dept. 1st Vice President
	Constitution & Bylaws	Michelle Powell Chairman
	Report of Credentials Committee	Cindy Gadd, Chairman
	Report of Resolutions Committee	

Friday July 10th (Continued:)

Report of Standing Rules Committee
Presentation

Wendy Miller, Chairman
Rebecca Farley, Leadership Chairman

“West Virginia Unit of The Year”

Citations and Awards:

Laura Clark, Membership Chairman
Membership Team

Presentation of Traveling Plaques and Awards

Americanism

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Chaplain

Children & Youth

Community Service

Education

History

Girls State

Junior Activities

Leadership

Legislative

Music

National Security

Past President's Parley

Poppy

Public Relations

Scrapbook

Unit President's Award

V A & R

Total Participation

Ways & Means

11:30 am

LUNCH

Past Presidents Luncheon

Kentucky Room

1:00 pm

Joint Session with The American Legion

Grand Ballroom

2:00 pm

Reconvene

Virginia/Maryland Room

Presentation of Timeless Award

Complete Traveling Plaques and Awards

4:00 pm

Recess

Practice for Installation

Saturday July 11, 2026

8:00 am-12:00 Registration

Loyer Foyer

8:00

Session Reconvenes

Virginia/Maryland Room

8:15

Memorial Service

Rebecca Farley, Chaplain

9:00

Greetings

Rich Crumm, Department Commander

Jeff Ryman, Detachment Commander

Roll Call for Elections

Paulette Anderson, Secretary

Final Report of Credentials

Cindy Gadd, Chairman

Final Report of Resolutions

Final Report of Constitution & Bylaws

Michelle Powell, Chairman

Final Report of Courtesy Resolutions

Katie Simpsons, Chairman

Nominations & Elections of Officers 2026-2027

Nominations & Election of National Executive Committee Member

Election of Delegates & Alternates to National Convention

Appointment of Personal Pages to National Convention

Ratification of District Presidents & Vice Presidents

12:00 pm

Recess

1:00

Reconvene

Kim Mellie, President

Installation of 2026-2027 Officers

Closing Remarks

Retirement of Colors

2:00

Convention Adjournment

2:15

Post Executive Board Meeting

4:00

Post Everlasting Services

Grand Theatre

6:00

Commanders and Presidents Banquet **“Semiquincentennial Celebration”**

Grand Ballroom

2025-2026 Convention Committees

Convention Chairman.....	Debbie Fox, Berkeley Springs Unit #60
Convention Recorder.....	Dede Kelly, Clarksburg Unit #13
Sergeant at Arms.....	Jill Davis, Capon Bridge Unit #137
.....	Diana Teter, Capon Bridge Unit #137
Personal Pages.....	Marsha Duckworth, Shinnston Unit #31
.....	Diane McClung, Williamstown Unit #159
Floor Pages.....	Carla Wilfong, Shinnston Unit #31
.....	Margaret Yost, Shinnston Unit #31
Distinguished Guest Committee.....	Patti Winthrow, St. Albans Unit #73
.....	Rebecca Farley, Pt. Pleasant Unit #23
.....	Lisa Cadwallader, NEC, Charles Town Unit #71
Rules & Order of Business.....	Paulette Anderson, PDP, Dept. Sec/Treas, New Martinsville Unit #28
Credentials Committee.....	Cindy Gadd, Chester Unit #121, Chairman
.....	Sharon Duckworth, Shinnston Unit #31
.....	Roxie Nicholson, Shinnston Unit #31
Election Committee.....	Cindy Barker, Williamstown Unit #159
.....	Tracey Lipscomb, Morgantown Unit #174
.....	Melanie Delawder, Moorefield Unit #64
Courtesy Resolutions.....	Katie Simpsons, Pt Pleasant Unit #23
Judging Committee	Small Units: Jill Davis, Capon Bridge #137, Sandy Harper, Morgantown #174, Sharon Duckworth, Unit #31
	Nichole Shepherd, Unit #60
	...Large Units: Holly Adams, Chester #121, Lisa Harbour-Adkins, Huntington #16, Patti Withrow, St Albans #71
Standing Rules.....	Wendy Miller, Barboursville Unit #177
.....	Cindy Gadd, Chester Unit #121
.....	Tiffany Orlando, Martinsburg Unit #14
Policy & Procedures.....	Stephanie Handley, Dept 1st Vice President, Chester Unit #121
.....	Peggy Swartz, Dept 2nd Vice President, Welch Unit #8
.....	Rebecca Farley, Pt. Pleasant Unit #23
Resolutions.....	Sandy Harper, Morgantown Unit #174
.....	Melanie Shambaugh, Berkeley Springs Unit #60
.....	Andrea Snyder, Pt. Pleasant Unit #23
Constitution & Bylaws.....	Michelle Powell, Wheeling Unit #1
.....	Peggy Swartz, Dept. 2nd Vice President, Welch Unit #8
.....	Mary Spence, Welch Unit #8
Music.....	Paulette Anderson, PDP, New Martinsville Unit #28
Parliamentarian.....	Shirley Davis, PCDNVP, PDP, Ceredo-Kenova Unit #93
Ways and Means.....	Paulette Anderson, Dept Sec/Treas. New Martinsville Unit #28

Sgt. at Arms and Pages are to wear white blouses, navy blue skirts or dress slacks

(NO JEANS)

Per Department President
Kim Mellie

DRESS CODE

★ FOR ★
FRIDAY JULY 11

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
★ STATE CONVENTION ★

WEAR YOUR
Best Poppy Outfit

RED

OR

WHITE

OR

Blue

OR



Or Auxiliary
Branded Clothing

NO SHORTS

Let's show our Auxiliary pride in
style and unity!!

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 Unit Presidents **with no email contact** will receive a free copy by mail.

Subscription will Cost \$20.00

2026 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 Annual Department Convention. 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 Department Convention will result in removal from all sessions and activities.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Chaperone During the Junior Annual Department Convention

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 _____

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 Department Convention held in Huntington West Virginia at Doubletree by Hilton, 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 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 Department Convention, 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 Department Convention held in Huntington WV, July 11, 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 Department Convention held in Huntington West Virginia, July 11, 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 _____

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: _____

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS LUNCHEON

COST \$31.00 (includes Service Charge & Gratuity)

PLEASE SELECT CHOICE OF ONE: DUE INTO DEPT JUNE 29, 2026

Both Sandwiches Comes with House Potato Chips/Water Station

(If you wish, you an bring your own drink)

Chicken Salad Croissant:

chicken salad served with leavy lettuce on a large buttery croissant

Doubletree Club:

Traditional Club with ham, turkey, can cheese topped with crispy bacon, lettuce, tomato and
mayonnaise

Names:

Sandwich

Name of Unit _____

Check # _____



safe talk06152026103003.pdf

Safe-TALK Class

Why it matters?

Many of us want to help when someone is in distress, but aren't sure what to say or do. That uncertainty can make a life-saving difference.

That's why LivingWorks safeTALK was created – to help everyone feel prepared and confident to act.

In just four hours, you'll learn simple, powerful steps to recognize signs of suicide, start the conversation and connect someone to further support.

More than 120,000 people take LivingWorks safeTALK every year

– each one becoming part of a growing Network of Safety that helps save lives around the world.

Date: 27 June 2026

Time: 12:00 PM–4:00 PM

Location: American Legion Post 31 Shinnston

Cost: Free

Sign-up: Sign-up sheet available at the bar or
Call Robin at 304-641-6343

*FREE to the first 40 individuals
who REGISTER to ATTEND.*

From amlegion68@frontier.com

1d

Free Safe Talk Class(suicide prevention class)

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