



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 27

April 2014

Issue 9



American Legion Auxiliary
2013-2014
Department President
Debbie Fox



Forever "Mindful" Of Our Veterans

Hello WV GEMS,

WOW !!! What an amazing time I had at Third District Conference. I would like to thank the auxiliary members of Clarksburg # 13, Shinnston #31 and Bridgeport #68 for the excellent Birthday Dinners. Shinnston hosted a wonderful District Conference.

By the time this SPIRIT reaches everyone I'll be back home from the Washington DC Conference. I'm really looking forward to the visit of all the monuments. I'm extremely happy to tell everyone that my dad, who just had open heart surgery on October 23, will be driving me to DC for the conference. He says it's to save me parking fee for three days, which it will, but I think he wants to see the WWII Memorial. I'm so lucky that I have such a wonderful supporting family. Enough about me and my family.

What about our membership ??? Not real good in the standings but we are really doing great. I really don't know how to say but we're doing "GRRRREAT". As Tony The Tiger would say. It is just everyone else is doing "GREATER." Mrs. Effland, my 12th grade English teacher, would be so very proud of me for my grammar.

National standings we dropped to 28th place and Central Division we went down to 8th place with 84.06%. So you can see what I mean we're doing really good. However membership has actually slowed down to a snail's pace. Now is the time to make phone calls and personal visits to get these few memberships.

I'll be going to as many Spring Conferences as possible. I'll miss one while I'm at DC and another because I'm obligated to my unit. To these two Districts I'm truly sorry. While you're having District meetings please don't forget my special project, Bonnie's Bus. This project is very beneficial to West Virginia women and men. I THANK YOU in advance for the contribution to my special project.

Until Next Time,
Forever Mindful of Our Veterans
Department President
Debbie Fox AKA "Diamond Debbie"



Department Officers 2013-2014

President—Debbie Fox
1st Vice President—Paula Booth
2nd Vice President—Susan Wade
Sec/Treas.—Paulette Anderson
Chaplain—Tammy Workman
Historian—Ramona Westfall

District Presidents 2013-2014

1st District—Donna Leek
3rd District—Kathy Hogue
4th District—Nancy Sundstrom
5th District—Beth Kilgore
6th District—Peggy Swartz
8th District—Mary Bess
9th District—Danielle Hedrick
10th District—Lisa Turner

District Vice Presidents 2013-2014

1st District—Carolyn Yoho
3rd District—Connie Bailey
4th District—Donna Underwood
5th District—Mary Waybright
6th District—Rita Alley
8th District—Rose Reese
9th District—Jeanie Phares
10th District—Michelle Hart

Endorsements for Department Officers

President—Paula Booth
1st Vice Pres.—Susan Wade
2nd Vice Pres.—Tammy Workman
Secretary/Treasurer—Paulette Anderson
Chaplain—Ramona Westfall
Historian—

Endorsements for District Officers

1st Dist. Pres.—Donna Leek
Vice Pres.—Carolyn Yoho
3rd Dist. Pres.—Connie Bailey-elected
Vice Pres.—Carla Wilfong-elected
4th Dist. Pres.—Nancy Sundstrom
Vice Pres.—
5th Dist. Pres.—
Vice Pres.—
6th Dist. Pres.—Peggy Swartz
Vice Pres.—Rita Alley
8th Dist. Pres.—
Vice Pres.—
9th Dist. Pres.—
Vice Pres.—
10th Dist. Pres.—
Vice Pres.—

Department Headquarters — “Emerald”



Mandatory Funds are Bonding, Department Scholarship, Girls State Project, Veterans 1st Fund, Poppy Order & 10% Poppy Proceeds. Make check payable to Department Treasurer, ALA. **DUE into Department Headquarters by June 10th to be a Delegate for Department Convention, or July 31st to be a Unit in good standing.**

Processing Membership:

Make sure your membership is into Department Headquarters by the **15th** to be counted for Targets.

Membership:

All applications must have signature of a **Post Officer** and if they are a **Junior member a Birthdate**. **Unit Membership Chairman** should check each application to make sure it is filled out **completely including City, Post #, State and zip code if eligibility is under a Veteran living** before processing into Department Headquarters. If a veteran is living they **must** hold membership in The American Legion. **They must have their membership paid for 2014 to transfer out to another unit.**

UNIT MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN: It is your responsibility to make sure the membership is sent to Department in a timely manner. I have received several phone calls from members who have received a 2nd Dues notice, and their membership dues were paid, but not processed into Department. They were very upset over this.

MAKE SURE THE POST OFFICER SIGNS APPLICATIONS.

UNIT CONTACTS: If you don't print Spirit off for the Unit President, then in order for her to receive the Spirit, your Unit need to pay \$16.00 for a year's subscription, starting with the August Issue.

Directory Corrections:

Page 15: Clarksburg VAMC: replace Bertie Hinerman with Kathy Hogue, 1220 Philippi Pike Clarksburg WV 26301 304-624-5363 kathy@wvhogue.com
Martinsburg VAMC-VAVS: replace Marie Ross with Sharon Glassford, PDP, PO Box 87 Charles Town WV 25414. 304-725-2784 scoobysharon@frontiernet.net

Page 26: Braxton County Unit #33
Presidents address change: 1437 Harper Hill Little Birch WV 26629

Department Convention:

Forms are in the Spirit for reservations, and advertising.

Remember: you **register** through the Auxiliary by credentials for Dept. Convention. **DON'T SEND INTO LEGION HEADQUARTERS UNLESS YOU ARE A GUEST.**

Dates To Remember: 2014 Dates

*Year End Reports Due
April 15, 2014*

*Girls State Week:
June 8-13th WJU*

*Department Convention:
July 10, 11, 12th*

*National Convention:
August 22-28, Charlotte NC*

*Dept. Membership Workshop:
September 13th at Days Inn*

*Rest will be published in
September 2014 Spirit.*

Membership Challenges:

10th to 1st: Highest % of NEW members by June 15th. Loser donates \$25.00 to Presidents' Special Project "Bonnie's Bus" in winning District's name.

6th to 8th: Highest % of REJOIN members by Spring Conference. \$20.00 to Presidents Special Project "Bonnie's Bus".

8th to 6th: Highest % of NEW members by Spring Conference. \$20.00 to President's Special Project "Bonnie's Bus".

3rd to 9th: Highest % members by June 15th. \$10.00 to President's Special Project "Bonnie's Bus".

**DEADLINES FOR SPIRITS
ARE MIDNIGHT ON THE
17TH OF EACH MONTH**

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

Office Hours: Monday-Friday
9:00-4:00

Answering Machine and Fax
available 24 Hours
Office (304) 455-5007
FAX: (304) 455 5825
Toll Free 1-888-604-2242

Mailing Address:
**1251 Doolin Run Road
New Martinsville WV 26155-7808**

Auxiliary Email:
alawvsec@frontier.com
Legion Email:
wvlegion@suddenlinkmail.com

Auxiliary website: www.wvvaux.org

Rhododendron Girls State Website:
www.wvgirlsstate.org

National Website: alaforveterans.org

TARGET DATES: “MINING FOR GEMS”

August 15—35%
September 15—45%
October 15—55%
November 15—60%
December 15—65%
January 15—70%
February 15—75%
March 15—80%
April 15—85%
May 15—90%
June 15—95%
July 15—100%

2013-2014 Honorary Junior Officers

President—*Carlie McCoy #16*
1st V. P.—*Katie Beth Caudill #16*
2nd V. P.—*Taylor Bush #16*
Secretary—*VACANT*
Chaplain—*Mary Grace Bannon #16*
Historian—*Brandee Fernandez #15*
Sgt. At Arms—*Ryleigh Shears #15*



Mining For Gems



"Foreman"

Ladies,

Thank you for doing a difficult task. I know that membership is hard; especially with the economy. You all are doing a great and awesome job. We have met National milestone of 85% which is not until May. Congratulations and Awesome Job. We can make WV a Goal Dept. We have the rest of March, the whole month of April and 14 days for May. So our numbers will keep going UP. I ask that the District V.P please check with the units and see if they need assistance.

National Central Division Chairman and Central Division National Vice President, "Stay Positive with your membership totals." Tammy Richardson, Central Division Chairman, said in her e-mail she will help with phone calls.

Donna Ray, Central Division V.P. asks who will be the first to call for assistance. The words from Donna are "NEVER SAY NEVER, STAY POSITIVE AND ALL YOUR EFFORTS WILL BE ACHIEVED."

District #1, #4, #6, and #9, have a total of 24 units with 85% and up.

District #3, #5, #8, and #10, have 21 units with 85% and up.

GOAL UNITS: MCMEECHAN #5, PINE GROVE #81, JANE LEW #166, PETERSBURG #78, CAPON BRIDGE #137 AND KEYSER #152. AWESOME!!!!!!

Continue your hard work, don't give up and "PASS IT ON".

God Bless our Troops
God Bless America
Sharon Glassford



"Gold"

Dear Blue Sapphires,

Spring is here and Auxiliary year 2013 -2014 only has a little over 3 months of life left in it before our new ALA year begins! All un-renewed members have expired Membership Cards already so let's get those dues in now. No time to waste!

11 of our Sapphire Units did NOT make Target 8 which was 80% by March 15th. All the rest of you made Target 8 (and above in many cases) and I want to give you my heartiest congratulations for your success!! We now have 4 Goal Units—JANE LEW 166, PETERSBURG 78, CAPON BRIDGE 137, AND KEYSER 152! Those Units not quite making Goal, but meeting Target 8 are BUCKHANNON 7, GRAFTON 12, CLARKSBURG 13, SHINNSTON 31, BRAXTON COUNTY 33, MANNINGTON 40, HUNTINGTON 16, MILTON 139, BARBOURSVILLE 177, SOUTH CHARLESTON 94, BERKELEY SPRINGS 60, MOOREFIELD 64, CHARLES TOWN 71, ROMNEY 91, PAW PAW 128, KIRBY 134, AND RIDGELEY 136! Also 3 of our 4 Districts met Target 8—DISTRICT 3, DISTRICT 5, AND DISTRICT 10! Way to go, ladies!

I want to thank the District 3 ladies for the fine welcome we received at your March Conference and I look forward to those Conferences ahead.

GOAL IS GOLD!!

Paula Booth, Department 1st VP, aka Gold

"Silver"

Hello Rubies!

I think Spring is on its way.. finally!!!

I was able to attend 3rd District Conference and Bridgeport's Birthday Dinner and Shinnston's Birthday Dinners. I want to thank everyone for the hospitality and the great food! It is always a pleasure to spend time with our Legion Family! Membership is slowing down, so we need to step up and get those dues in. I want to congratulate PINE GROVE Unit 81 for reaching Goal. We now have 2 Units that are Goal and some that are so close. Congratulations to the following Units that have reached Target #8 at 80%: Moundsville #3; McMechen #5; Weirton #10; Cameron #18; New Martinsville #28; Wellsburg #34; Follansbee #45; Benwood #46; Pine Grove #81; Paden City #86; Newell #114; Chester #121; Parkersburg #15; Pt. Pleasant #23; Sistersville #67; New Haven #140; Willamstown #159; Bluefield #9; Beckley #32; Gary #38; Elkins #29; Lewisburg #69; and Pickens #122. Keep up the good work Ladies!!! I look forward to seeing you at the Spring Conferences that I will be attending!

God Bless You All and Our Veterans!!
Susan Wade aka Prospector Silver
Dept. 2nd Vice President

PROSPECTOR
GOLD
PAULA BOOTH

PROSPECTOR
SILVER
SUSAN WADE

SAPPHIRES
DISTRICT #3
DISTRICT #5
DISTRICT #8
DISTRICT #10

RUBIES
DISTRICT #1
DISTRICT #4
DISTRICT #6
DISTRICT #9





Rubies

First District President

Hi Ladies

Hope everyone set their clock up and spring forward. Keep up the good work on the membership.

Don't forget Spring Conference is April 27, 2014 at Benton M. Lowe, Unit 81 Pine Grove. Send your registration to Donna Leek Unit #81 Secretary, and send credentials to Susan Brown 1st District Secretary. Hope to see all Units in attendance. There will be lots of business to conduct, Unit reports and elections for 2014-15 office.

If I can help with anything just let me know. Keep up the good work and please keep everyone in your prayer, our Troops and families, and the American Legion Auxiliary for all we do.

A special invitation to Department officers and Chairmen to come and join us at Benton M. Low Unit # 81 Spring Conference.

Remember to send your Deceased Members to our District Chaplain Rhonda Best for the Memorial Service.

Donna Leek
1st Dist. President

First District Vice President

Hi Rubies

See we have some Units that are really working and digging up Rubies, old and new members. Keep up the good work. Some Units have reach there Goal, and have done a good job.

Some addresses have changed, so send them in as soon as you get them.

We still have time to work on membership. God bless all of the work that the #Units has done. If I can help with anything please call. God Bless You All and God Bless America

1st Dist. Vice President
Carolyn Yoho

Fourth District President

Hello Ladies of Fourth District,

The 4th District Spring Conference will be held at Pt. Pleasant Post #23 located at 100 2nd street Pt. Pleasant WV on April 6th, 2014. Registration is at 9am to 10 am, cost is \$12.00.

We need all units to mail a list of their Deceased members to our 4th District Chaplain, Melinda Roush, 32 Ashwood Pl. Vienna, W. V. 26105 or bring your list with you for our Memorial Service at our Conference.

Congratulations to Units that has met Target #8 of 80% or higher: Williamstown #159 96.51%, Pt. Pleasant #23 91.48%, Parkersburg #15 91.34%, New Haven #140 90.96%, Sistersville #67 82.90%. Not far behind is Spencer #21 78.13%.

I am sorry to say 4th District still has two units not working very hard on membership: Parkersburg #104 -38.19%, and Tyler County #48 -6.25%. These two Membership Chairmen need to start working harder, because I know there are members who want to pay or who have paid their dues. Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can help you in anyway.

Don't forget to work on Girls State. It is coming up before you know it.

Don't forget your unit's end of the year report are due by April 15th to Department Headquarters 1251 Doolin Run Road New Martinsville, W.V. 26155-7808.

Remember our Veterans need all the support we can give them for what they have done for all of your volunteer work.

Until next month ladies keep up the good work and make President Debbie proud.

Hope everyone can make it to spring Conference.

God Bless
Nancy Sundstrom
4th District President

Sixth District Vice President

Hello Young Ladies in 6th District.

I know that every one has had a terrible time with this winter weather. Spring is here now so relax and enjoy the beautiful sunshine..

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Spring Conference, April 26th in Bluefield.

I want all you shinning RED RUBIES to wear a little red, lets see how many are on fire for Membership and win a prize.

Gary is doing great with 90.14%, maybe by April 26th they will be a Goal unit. Beckley Unit 32 is 87.10%, Bluefield Unit 9 is 85.29% and Welch is 76.47%. Beckley Unit 70 still hasn't sent in membership.

I sure wish everyone good luck in becoming a Goal unit. God bless all of our Veterans, may they live in our heart forever.

Rita Alley
District 6th Vice President
(alleycat@shentel.net)

Ninth District President

Just as I got used to seeing the robins and the sun shining we get another snow dumped on us. What a great way to end winter (hopefully). My younger sister posted something on Facebook last night that made me think "You can't change the weather by complaining about it. Be thankful you have another day to enjoy what you have". This is so true about so many things. We should learn to count our blessings instead of complaining about the problems we have.

The year is almost over on Auxiliary time. It's time to get ready for nominations, elections, and installations. Very exciting time! We also have End of the Year reports that are due by April 15th! Let's get those reports done so all the hard work that we have done all year is recognized.

It is also time for our 9th District Spring Conference, May 17th. It is being hosted by Pickens. Which also means it is time for our election as well. I hope we have several members of 9th District present to help fill offices.

Don't forget to get those last few members into Paulette. We are all so close to making goal, lets just pull in those last few to make us goal! Congrats to all the Units that have made the target dates so far!



Sapphires

Third District President

Hello Ladies

Hope everyone is in good health I think the winter is all most over.

Last weekend Post 13, 31, and 68 had their birthday dinner. I helped cook one and I went to the other one. On Saturday, the 8th was 3rd District Conference.

I learned a few things. Make sure to get reports in by the end of March. Keep up with membership try having a cover dish at your Post and maybe some old members will ask your Legion members if their wives are members.

April is Children & Youth Month so keep that in mind. Keep all our Veteran's young & old still serving in your prayers and never forget them.

3rd District President
Kathy Hogue

Third District Vice President

Hi Sapphires

Touching base again. Membership is still progressing, but slowly.

Spring is just around the corner, just not sure what corner. Hopefully we can soon put away our snow shovels and get out our Gem shovels.

We are very close to having more Goal Units like Jane Lew #166: Way to go Jane Lew! Thanks everyone for your hard work!

Yours in Service
Connie Bailey
3rd Dist. V P.

Fifth District President

Keep that membership coming in. You are doing a great job. Keep your membership goal in sight and you will achieve it.

It is that time of year when Year End Awards are due. All awards need to be to the department by April 15th. Make sure your unit is recognized for the hard work you do during the year. I know you have been busy and I want the rest of the department to know that the Fifth District is working hard for our veterans. It doesn't take that long to complete the report. Be proud of the work your unit is doing. Turn your reports in!!



Spring is almost here and winter will soon be a distant memory. Spring brings with it a renewed sense of purpose and the promise of better things yet to come.

Fifth District Spring Conference is May 3rd at Huntington Unit #16 and I hope you are making plans now to attend. It should be fun and informative. I hope to see many Department Officers and Chairmen in attendance.

I would like to wish everyone a blessed Easter and hope it will bring you blessings throughout the year. Keep Smiling!!



Beth Kilgore, President
Fifth District

Tenth District President

Hello Ladies,

I am writing this from my sister-in-law's house in Ocala, FL, where the temperature is in the 70's. This is great BUT, I MISS West Virginia. I don't think I've seen any elevation higher than 10 feet above sea level, and the people are definitely not as friendly as in my chosen state. This is a GREAT place to visit, but West Virginia is a great place to live.

We are heavily into the 2014 Girls' State program in June. Please help your Unit's committee member find eligible young ladies and the money to send them to the program. This is a program that will benefit every attendee for a lifetime. If you can volunteer they can probably use your help.

Now that we are no longer going to be buried under mounds of snow, I am hoping to visit each of your posts soon. I will contact the Unit Presidents before I come.

April 5th is the Spring Conference in Berkeley Springs, and we are ALL hoping that snow will be a "fond" memory by then. The Conference starts at 9 AM, with registration from 8 - 9. We hope to see a lot of you there.

Quote of the Month: "3 Simple Rules:

- 1) If you do not GO after what you want, you'll never have it.
- 2) If you do not ask, the answer will always be no!
- 3) If you do not step forward, you'll always be in the same place" Anonymous

Lisa Turner

Membership!!!

Membership!!!

10th District Chaplain

Please send me the names of any deceased members from your Unit for the Spring District Conference by March 31st to be included in the Memorial Service program.

My email address is
LancasterL@aol.com

Thank you!
Lynda Lancaster
10th District Chaplain

Historian

Hello Ladies

I sure hope everyone is doing well and working hard on getting the rest of your members dues in. Help the President get the biggest collar and make her proud.

Deadlines are upon us, with all this snow, you would think it was December again.

BUT NOT! So lets get some history in. I myself want to present to Department a good history book and I need your help. So don't hesitate send what you can. You have got more to report on than you may think, just put it together. Be honored to belong to the best patriotic organization, (American Legion Auxiliary) report on what ways you have supported our Veterans, what better way to support them and be Forever Mindful of them - is to write about them and their families, celebrations and communities.

Contact phone (304) 689-0634
God Bless
Department Historian
Ramona Westfall

Poppy

Well it is that time the Crocus are blooming, Easter Lilly's are coming up and budding and we all want to be outside enjoying the sun. I know I do but we have end of the year reports to do.

Please remember to count all the poppies you have used this year, all the events you used them at, and the expense. National wants to know all of this. If you are planning your Poppy Day, please remember to give the Mayor of your town a copy of the Poppy Proclamation. Put an article in the newspaper and try to put it in the calendar of events that most television stations air.

If you need my help please e-mail me and put the word Poppy in the Subject matter.
carlajwilfong@yahoo.com or you can call me at 304-592-0247.

Carla Wilfong
Poppy Chairman

Legislative

I know we have all about had it with the bitter cold and all the snow. Spring just isn't coming fast enough.

District conferences are in process and I hope you are sharing all of what you Unit has done with Legislative this year.

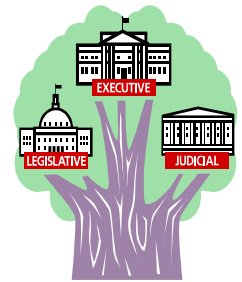
Until late February the Department of Defense wasn't necessarily using 100% American made U.S. Flags. As of late February, U.S. Flags purchased by the military must be wholly sourced from the U.S. and not contain any elements from overseas. While many major flag vendors are American Companies the materials such as ink and fabric could have come from foreign markets.

Similar Bills mandating all government purchased flags be made in the United States has repeatedly failed.

Where to find U.S. made flags: http://www.usflagstore.com/us_flags_s/1817.htm

Their website states "All labor and material used to make our US Flags is certified to be **100% American** - absolutely nothing is imported"

Lisa Cadwallader
Legislative Chairman
CADWALL1@Westat.com



Sixth District Spring Conference

Saturday, April 26,

Hosted by Bluefield Unit 9.

Quality Inn

3350 Laurel Highway, Bluefield, WV

(across from K-Mart and on the hill)

Price of the luncheon will be \$8.00.

Registration is from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM.

Room at Quality Inn for \$65.00 plus taxes

304-325-6170

Reservations prior to April 15th

Inform them you are with

Ladies Auxiliary District Conference



Public Relations

History

Founded in 1919, the American Legion Auxiliary is the world's largest women's patriotic service organization. With a membership at nearly 800,000, local American Legion Auxiliary units have a strong presence in more than 9,000 communities nationwide. The American Legion Auxiliary's mission is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military and their families, both at home and aboard.

For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

A Legacy of Service Not Self is Born

A group of 20 officers who served in the American Expeditionary Forces in World War I were asked to suggest ideas on how to improve troop morale. One officer, Lt Col. Theodore Roosevelt Jr. proposed an organization of veterans, which we know today as The American Legion.

The original purpose of The Legion was to "preserve the memories and incidence of our association in the great war," helping those who had served in foreign wars to reintegrate into their hometowns while still remaining connected to those with whom they had served abroad.

The Legion served as a support group, a social club and an extended family for former servicemen. After two planning caucuses held by a committee of officers who had the confidence and respect of their military comrades, they designed a constitution to govern the group and set up headquarters in New York to begin work on its programs of relief, employment and Americanism.

After the formation of The American Legion, a number of women's organizations wanted to become the official affiliation of The American Legion. The women who had served so faithfully during the trying days of the war wanted to continue to serve.

After careful consideration, the committee agreed that a new organization should be made up of the women most closely associated with the men of the Legion, and that these women would serve with the Legion, in peace as they had in war.

The committee decided to build a new organization from the ground up, so the Auxiliary could then carry forward the phases of Legion activities more suitably performed by women.

In less than one year, 1342 local units of the Auxiliary to The American Legion had been organized in more than 45 states.

Now Today

How could 800,000, women be hidden in plain sight for 94 years?

The American Legion Auxiliary: the world's largest women's patriotic service organization most people have never heard of!

Auxiliary members are so focused on helping others, they seldom think to help the organization by letting others know about our mission outreach and service work. We don't expect recognition, but it serves an important purpose: getting the word out so people know who we are, what we do, and why we matter.

How will they join us if they don't even know we're here?

By raising awareness through powerful public relations!

Awareness, Image, Branding, create a positive Image and let your community know what we do and who we are.

Please read your American Legion Auxiliary Magazine, the February issue has so much information available for you. One featured article this month is Public Relations. Use the American Legion Auxiliary website www.ALAforveterans.org for even more information and updates.

I am still looking for articles about what the units have done this year for Public Relations. Where are You and What are You doing please let me know. Also do not forget your End of year Report due in Department by April 15th.

PR Chairman

Vickie Luttrell, See you in the Newssssssssss!

Americanism

Hello To all and hope that you survived the winter ok.

Americanism chairman of each unit please send me your reports. I will read everyone. There will be several plaques to be given out at Department Convention in July.

Americanism is a wonderful word and means so much. We all practice Americanism ever day. America is a wonderful place to live because our Veterans made it so.

Always say a kind word to a veteran ever day, he paid the price for your freedom to practice Americanism.

Good luck to all Spring District meetings

Until next month stay safe

Rita Alley

alleycat@shentel.net

Convention Chairman

Convention 2014

Here it is mid March and we are thinking about the end of year reports, elections, Birthday celebrations, spring conferences and yes July Convention.

What a busy time so I am just reminding you in all of the things we have to do remember to plan to attend The Department Convention July 10-12, in Huntington.

Paulette and I will have more information coming. Reservation Forms, Ad Forms, Registration and Past Presidents Luncheon will all be coming.

Hope to see you there.

Convention Chairman,

Vickie Luttrell



Girls State Director

Hello Ladies,

Just a reminder to all Auxiliary Unit and District Girls State Chairwomen; if you have not yet contacted your local high school (s) regarding Girls State, please do so as soon as possible. Some schools have called asking if anyone from the Auxiliary would be getting in touch with them as they have girls interested in attending. In addition, after your orientation, please keep in touch with the girls your unit selects to attend Girls State. If for some reason, a girl cannot attend, please work with your alternate to ensure she gets her paperwork submitted right away and answer any questions she may have regarding the program.

Registration fee is \$200. Please send all registration (application forms) with money to Paulette. Girls will submit their registration paperwork online again this year. Please note there are several forms that need to be notarized. All forms need to be scanned as a PDF file, PLEASE NO JPEG FORMATS. If anyone has any questions regarding our online registration, please reach out to Ann Buchanan, Paulette, or me.

If any unit has a girl that wants to attend but you do not have the funding, please let Paulette or myself know. I would hate to deny any girl eligible to attend Girls State due to lack of funding. I believe "where there is a will, there is a way." If any unit has available funding and would be interested in sponsoring a girl from another unit, should this funding be needed, again please let Paulette or me know.

I appreciate everyone's help and cooperation to ensure the 2014 session of Rhododendron Girls State provides a wonderful experience for each bright and talented young lady chosen to attend.

Sincerely,

Michelle Sirbaugh

Director

michelle.girlsstate@yahoo.com

Rhododendron Girls State

Happy Spring!!!!

Our 2014 Girls State Session is just around the corner!

I know many of you are gearing up and selecting to your young ladies.

Thank you for all you are doing!

Please adhere to the deadlines.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me or your District Representative.

Lynda Lancaster
Girls State Chairman



Junior Activities

It is FINALLY spring and it is time to get out and DO something, ANYTHING! What, you ask? There is plenty that your Juniors can do to help around their Post Homes. What about planning a post beautifying project? Or, how about helping one of our veterans with cleaning up their flower beds? What about taking a walk with a veteran? We have all been cooped up way TOO long this winter and it's time to do something about it!

Remember to include your Junior members in any type of service project or activity you will be doing this spring. You do not have to necessarily have an "active" Juniors unit to get them involved. And, please remember, they are NEVER too young to begin!

REMINDER: I know that many of you have been very active with your Juniors and I want to hear about it! Junior Activities reports are due NO LATER than April 15th!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me!

God Bless,
Laura Kilgore
Junior Activities Chairman
1426 Spring Valley Circle
Huntington, WV 25704
304-412-9535
Kilgore.laura@yahoo.com

Rhododendron Girls State Representatives

1st Dist. — Jill McCallister
205 Grant Ave
Moundsville WV 26041
845-5928

3rd Dist. — Mary Jo Thomas
RR6 Box 232
Fairmont WV 26554

4th Dist. — Nancy Sundstrom
1307 23rd Street
Parkersburg WV 26101
304-422-1263

5th Dist.— Katena Karnes
721 10th Ave
Huntington WV 25701
525-5634

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

8th Dist. — Mary Bess
215 N. Pinch Road
Elkview, WV 25071
965-3192

9th Dist. — Paula Booth
RR1 Box 222
Belington WV 26250
823-3251

10th Dist.— Lynda Lancaster
PO Box 1037
Ranson WV 25438
676-3979

Education

Hello Ladies,

Wasn't Mid Winter a good time! Having the National President and the National Commander there was an uplifting experience. I hope everyone made it home safely and trouble-free. With the cold, slow start to the New Year, it can be difficult to get moving because of the snowy, frigid weather. However, creating a Unit Scholarship Fund can be done in the comfort of your own home or meeting hall. Your Education Committee can put together a proposal, or your members can set the criteria at your regular meeting.

A Unit Scholarship would be great way to get the Auxiliary in the public's and school's eyes. What a nice way to form a continuing relationship with your local schools.

National has put together an outline to help guide you in creating a scholarship fund. See the 2013-2014 Plan of Action "How To Guide" in the Education Committee section to get started.

Linda Crumm
Education Committee Member

Constitution & Bylaws

Basic Parliamentary Procedure:
~Eight Steps in Processing a Main Motion~

1. Member rises and addresses the chair when nothing is pending. "Madame President."
2. Chair recognizes member by nodding at the member or stating his name. "Mrs. Williams."
3. Member states her motion. "I move that we have a canned food drive."
4. Another member seconds the motion (without recognition). "Second."
5. Chair states the motion and places it before the assembly for discussion. "It is moved and seconded that we have a canned food drive. Is there any discussion?"
6. Members have the right to get recognition and debate the motion. During debate subsidiary motions (i.e. amendments) may be introduced to help the assembly make a final decision.
7. When discussion is finished the Chair puts the question to a vote. "The question is on the adoption of the motion that we have a canned food drive. Those in favor, say AYE." (Pause.) "Those opposed, say NO." (Pause.)
8. Chair announces the results of the vote. "The AYES (NOES) have it; the motion is adopted (or lost); we will (or will not) have a canned food drive; the next business in order is ..."

Dede Kelly
Constitution & Bylaws

Leadership

The cream is rising to the top as we spring into SPRING. I have received completed answer forms on the Leadership Course from several units at this time and hope to get many more as we approach the April 15 awards deadline. If you have not finished before April 15, please continue and send in the completed forms. I will be submitting my report to National by June 1 and will include all that are received by May 25. Don't forget the Junior Leadership Course for your juniors. Send those completed to me with your senior members' completed forms.

Each of you has the potential to be a great leader in our organization. I hope that as our units elect new officers, districts elect new officers, and we have endorsements for department officers that each member will consider how they can best serve our organization. If helping in the kitchen is where you think you can best serve – then be the BEST you can be. But, don't stop there, please continue to look to the future.

Our units are look for leadership from their members and from our organization. District Presidents and District Vice Presidents remember that you are the liaison between the units and the department. Take time to visit the units in your district. A direct invitation is not needed, but notification to the unit that you will be visited is a courtesy. As a district officer you need to maintain a line of communication with each of your units.

The units are depending on you to have answers and the department is depending on you to know how the units in your district are doing. As they start to complete awards forms, they may have questions that you are able to answer. Be prepared to assist them when needed.

I hope that SPRING will arrive soon, the flowers will bloom, and our organization will see the positive results of the work that we as members have done for our members, our community, our state, and our organization. We are always working to make a better place for our children and to serve the veterans that have make our living styles possible.

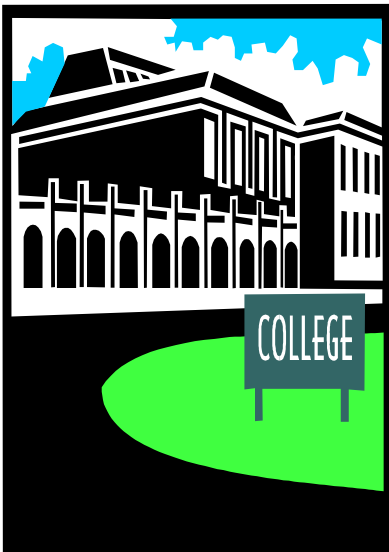
We all are leaders to someone – let's show them a positive attitude.

Ann Buchanan
Leadership Chairman

Remember Our Friends

*Bob Vass was in ICU but is home now. Cards may be sent to:
Robert Vass
172 Wyngate Drive
Barboursville WV 25504*

*Katie Beth Caudill, Jr. Dept. 1st Vice President fractured her arm, and is in a cast for about 6 weeks. Cards may be sent to:
Katie Beth Caudill
1426 Spring Valley Circle Drive
Huntington WV 25704*



Children and Youth—Program of the Month

CHILDREN...OUR MOST PRESENT NATURAL RESOURCE

is The American Legion's national theme for "April Is Children & Youth Month." Your use and support of this theme in the promotion of all your Children & Youth programs is encouraged.

As Americans, we need to remember amid the problems we face daily with the environment, crime, unemployment and financial uncertainty, the one constant that will make or break this nation is our young people. They are our future. Our hopes and dreams for a better tomorrow rest in their hands. The American Legion has been actively involved with children's issues since the early 1900s. In many instances, the American Legion family have been the driving force on the federal, state and local levels representing their interests and voicing their concerns. In 1938, April was formally designated as Child Welfare Month (now called Children & Youth Month) and has continued on an annual basis. During this special time, show your community that The American Legion family is committed to Children..Our Most Precious Natural Resource!

WHERE DO I BEGIN ?

For a start, consider the following:

- Obtain a speaker on one of your areas of concern or other pertinent topics.
- Conduct a community project with and for children.
- Form a Community Committee on Children & Youth to discuss current problems, generate possible solutions and then take action.
- Sponsor a carnival or show featuring young people to raise money for a community project.
- Feature a youth panel at a local school where participants can discuss some of their concerns.
- Use videos, if applicable, enlisting the aid of an individual familiar with the subject matter to both present it and be available to answer questions following the viewing.

Use these suggestions, or develop your own projects, but get involved. Remember...the only limitation you have for youth programs and activities is your own imagination!!

For ideas on how to support and promote Children & Youth Month in your community, download a copy of the "**April is Children & Youth Month**" brochure from the national website. Legion family members can promote Children & Youth Month awareness through their local newspapers, radio and TV stations, civic groups, schools, social media, and in conversations with other veterans and their families.

Beth Kilgore
Children & Youth Co-Chairman



Spring Conferences

March 22nd
8th District
St. Albans Unit #73
1011 Pennsylvania Ave.

April 5th
10th District
Berkeley Springs Post #60 Joint
527 North Washington Street

April 6th
4th District
Pt. Pleasant Post #23 Joint
100 Second Street
(change of date)

April 26th
6th District
Bluefield Unit #9 (see more info in Spirit)
Quality Inn
3350 Laurel Highway
Bluefield WV

April 27th
1st District
Pine Grove Unit #81
Morgan Addition County Route #15

May 3rd
5th District
Huntington Post #16 Joint
1675 Tenth Avenue

May 17th
9th District
Pickens Post #122
Main Street

February 2014 Ways & Means Winners

DATE	WINNING #	WINNER	SELLER
2/01/2014	219		
2/03/2014	713		
2/04/2014	139		
2/05/2014	027		
2/06/2014	675		
2/07/2014	976	Juanita Haley	\$25.00
2/10/2014	876		
2/11/2014	167		
2/12/2014	731	Joan E. Lambert	\$25.00
2/13/2014	250		
2/14/2014	543	Katena Karnes	\$25.00
2/15/2014	757		
2/17/2014	982		
2/18/2014	971		
2/19/2014	444		
2/20/2014	136	George Mitchell	\$25.00
2/21/2014	837	Marcelle Kidwell	\$25.00
2/22/2014	417		
2/24/2014	058	Tammy Bowers	\$25.00
2/25/2014	980		
2/26/2014	638		
2/27/2014	084	Diana Teter	\$25.00
2/28/2014	077	Connie Pyles	\$25.00

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Spring is coming closer (at least on the calendar), and that means two things: Spring Conferences and it will soon be time to compile your information for your annual report!

Please be sure and fill out your annual report even if your Unit has only done one thing for Veterans, as it all adds up. Remember, if you want to be in competition for a Department or a National Award: you must submit a written report. It is my understanding if you want to be in the running for a National Award, you must have pictures to send with your written words. I want to remind ALL Units, if you have not made a donation to the National Creative Arts Festival, please do so. National is counting on Departments thru their Units, to help with their commitment to the Creative Arts Festival. All donations must go thru our Dept. Treasurer, who sends onto our National Organization.

Hope you have a great Easter, and are looking as forward to Spring as I am!!

Mary Waybright
V A & R Chairman



MEMBERSHIP 2013-2014

"MINING FOR GEMS"

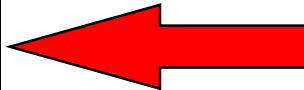
Target #8—March 15th—80%
 Total to Date — 6665 (85.35%)
 2014 National Goal — 7809
 Headquarters Unit #200 — 88

March
 15th

District 1	2014 Goal	2014	% of Goal
Unit			
Wheeling #1	13	NEW	91.23%
Moundsville #3	308	281	
McMechen #5	52	53	101.92%
Weirton #10	77	70	90.91%
Cameron #18	212	178	83.96%
New Martinsville #28	141	128	90.78%
Wellsburg #34	25	23	92.00%
Follansbee #45	53	48	90.57%
Benwood #46	107	93	86.92%
Pine Grove #81	79	80	101.27%
Paden City #86	114	106	92.98%
Wheeling #89	30	16	53.33%
Newell #114	43	42	97.67%
Hundred #120	109	72	66.06%
Chester #121	170	141	82.94%
TOTALS	1533	1330	86.80%



Goal—4059
 To Date—3545
 (87.34%)



District 3	2014 Goal	2014	% of Goal
Unit			
Buckhannon #7	66	55	83.33%
Grafton #12	25	21	84.00%
Clarksburg #13	134	129	96.27%
Shinnston #31	302	281	93.05%
Braxton Cty. #33	33	27	81.82%
Mannington #40	21	18	85.71%
Philippi #44	49	29	59.18%
Bridgeport #68	59	29	49.15%
Jane Lew #166	41	47	114.63%
Morgantown #174	17	NEW	
TOTALS	747	636	85.14%

District 4	2014 Goal	2014	% of Goal
Unit			
Parkersburg #15	901	823	91.34%
Spencer #21	64	50	78.13%
Pt Pleasant #23	352	322	91.48%
Tyler County #48	16	1	6.25%
Sistersville #67	193	160	82.90%
Parkersburg #104	21	8	38.19%
New Haven #140	166	151	90.96%
Williamstown #159	172	166	96.51%
TOTALS	1885	1673	88.75%

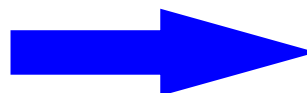


District 6	2014 Goal	2014	% of Goal
Unit			
Welch #8	85	65	76.47%
Bluefield #9	34	29	85.29%
Beckley #32	31	27	87.10%
Gary #38	71	64	90.14%
Beckley #70	12	0	
TOTALS	233	185	83.71%



Goal—3557
 To Date—3032
 (85.24%)

District 9	2014 Goal	2014	% of Goal
Unit			
Elkins #29	206	179	86.89%
Cowen #62	61	43	70.49%
Lewisburg #69	76	71	93.42%
Belington #96	30	25	83.33%
Richwood #97	24	16	66.67%
Pickens #122	26	23	88.46%
TOTALS	423	357	84.40%



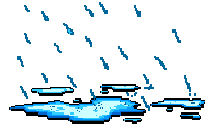
District 5	2014 Goal	2014	% of Goal
Unit			
Huntington #16	295	249	84.41%
Logan #19	19	11	57.89%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	460	367	79.78%
Hamlin #111	53	32	60.38%
Milton #139	83	72	86.75%
Barboursville #177	151	146	96.69%
TOTALS	1061	877	82.66%

District 8	2014 Goal	2014	% of Goal
Unit			
Charleston #20	55	40	72.73%
St Albans #73	91	62	68.13%
South Charleston #94	21	19	90.48%
TOTALS	167	121	72.46%

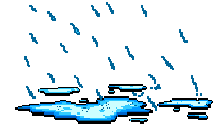
District 10	2014 Goal	2014	% of Goal
Unit			
Martinsburg #14	161	127	78.88%
Franklin #30	19	9	47.37%
Piedmont #52	44	20	45.45%
Berkeley Springs #60	250	213	92.40%
Moorefield #64	125	105	84.00%
Charles Town #71	230	227	98.70%
Petersburg #78	79	89	112.66%
Romney #91	276	234	84.78%
Charles Town #102	19	11	57.89%
Paw Paw #128	71	66	92.98%
Kirby #134	52	45	86.54%
Ridgeley #136	108	93	86.11%
Capon Bridge #137	114	114	100.00%
Keyser #152	40	45	112.50%
TOTALS	1587	1398	88.04%



American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia



April 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 5px;"> Program of Month <i>Children & Youth</i> </div>		1	2	3	4	5 <i>10th Dist. Joint Spring Conf. Berkeley Springs #60</i>
6 <i>4th District Joint Spring Conf. Pt. Pleasant Post #23</i>	7	8	9	10	11 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Mail Call</div>	12
13	14	15 <i>Unit End of Year Reports Due Target #9 85%</i>	16	17 <i>Spirit Articles Due into Office</i>	18 <i>Good Friday Office Closed</i>	19
20 <i>Easter</i>	21 <i>Mailing of Spirits/ Hospital Checks</i>	22	23	24	25 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Mail Call</div>	26 <i>6th District Spring Conf. Bluefield #9</i>
27 <i>1st Dist. Spring Conf. Pine Grove #81</i>	28	29	30			

96th Annual State Convention

2014

ADVERTISING FORM

The American Legion
Department of West Virginia, Inc.

I hereby authorize the following advertisement to be placed in the official program of the 96th Annual State Convention of The American Legion, Department of West Virginia, Inc., scheduled July 10-12, 2014, at Pullman Plaza Hotel, Huntington, West Virginia.

Date: _____, 2014

Name of Post/Unit/SAL

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

Authorized Signature: _____

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

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

Ad and Payment Deadline is June 13, 2014.

No Deviation

2014 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
RESERVATION FORM

July 10-12, 2014
Pullman Plaza Hotel
1001 3rd Avenue
Huntington, West Virginia 25701

\$68.00 per night room rate (plus tax)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Arrival Date _____ AM PM Departure Date _____

Room Type: (circle one) Doubles King

Smoking Preference: (circle one) Smoking Non-Smoking

Handicap Room: (circle one) wheelchair oxygen tank other

If you circled "other", please explain. _____

*Members with wheelchair disabilities will receive first priority.

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

Enclosed, please find one night's room deposit of \$68.00 (plus tax)

(circle one)

check cash credit card
_____ credit card # _____

type _____

expiration date _____

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

Mail to: Pullman Plaza Hotel
1001 3rd Avenue
Huntington, West Virginia 25701

**This form must be mailed to reserve a room at Pullman Plaza Hotel. (No phone calls for rooms will be accepted.)
PLEASE PRE-REGISTER EARLY- THANKS!**

State Newsletter "Auxiliary SPIRIT"

Purchase/Renew Your Subscription!

MAIL TO:

The American Legion Auxiliary
Department of West Virginia
HC 60 Box 17
New Martinsville WV 26155

Spirit is available: **E-Mail—FREE**
State Web Site—www.wvaux.org
Subscription—\$16.00 yearly
(Runs from August 1st to July 31st)

Make check payable to:
Dept. Treasurer, ALA

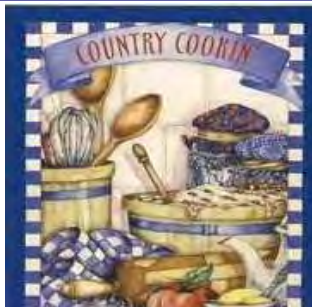
NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS OR PO BOX: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS (FREE ISSUE) _____

WHO RECEIVES SPIRIT: Emailed to all **Unit Contacts** and any **Unit Officers** with an email address. It is emailed to **All Department Officers, Department Chairmen, District Presidents/Vice Presidents, Past Department Presidents** with emails. Spirits are posted monthly on the website: www.wvaux.org Unit Presidents **with no email contact** will receive a free copy.



Cookbook sales are an ongoing project that will continue to put much needed dollars into the Veteran's Fund. Get your cookbooks today! Buy some as gifts! The recipes are the best kind – Tried & True!

I want to purchase ___ cookbooks and have the cookbooks mailed to the recipients! ___ Cookbooks X \$15.00 = \$ _____ + appropriate postage (see below) \$ _____ = total of \$ _____ enclosed

I want ___ Cookbooks mailed to me ! (1 cookbook = \$5.00 postage. 2 to 6 cookbooks = \$11.00 total postage) ___ Cookbooks X \$15.00 = \$ _____ + appropriate postage (see above) \$ _____ = total of \$ _____ enclosed

Make checks payable to:

Department Treasurer, ALA HC 60 Box 17 New Martinsville WV 26155

Questions? Contact Department Headquarters 1-888-604-2242 or email alawvsec@frontier.com

Ordered by: Name _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ **Email** _____