



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 32

December 2018

Issue 5



American Legion Auxiliary
2018-2019
Department President
Rhonda Best

*“Mending Fences While Building New Bridges
To Better Serve and Support Our Veterans”*



Hello Ladies

I cannot believe how fast time is flying by us. Half of this year is already gone which means our Mid-Year Reports are due. Please get your reports to the Department Chairmen by December 15th.

Unit and District Presidents I am looking forward to receiving your reports so I can see all of the wonderful things you have already done for Our Veterans and the communities. I want to stress the importance again that these reports go to National in order to show Legislators what we have accomplished and what Our Veterans still need.

In addition to the reports keep pushing down the field with your Membership. We are still below last year’s numbers. “Let’s Go Mountaineers and The Herds”. We can do great things as a team.

Also continue to work our Mission as well as our Theme “Mending Fences While Building New Bridges”. And as we celebrate The Holidays, remember Our Active Military that will not be home with their loved ones.

I hope to see some of you at the VA Gift Shops and at our upcoming Mid-Winter Conference in Morgantown.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

God Bless and be safe!

Rhonda Best

Department President



Department Officers 2018-2019

President-Rhonda Best
1st Vice President-Sharon Kauffman
2nd Vice President-Cathy Post
Secretary/Treasurer-Paulette Anderson
Chaplain-Kelli Immel
Historian-Savanna Kauffman

District Presidents

1st District-Holly Adams
3rd District-Roxie Nicholson
4th District-Nancy Sundstrom
5th District-Beth Kilgore
6th District-Peggy Swartz
10th District-Sharon Glassford

District Vice Presidents

1st District-Stephanie Handley
3rd District-Carla Wilfong
4th District-Patricia Young-Greiner
5th District-JoAnn Hastings
6th District-Reba Honaker
10th District-Debbie Michael



Department Headquarters

Mission Statement

In the spirit of service, not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor our youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

Mandatory Funds: to be a unit in good standing one of the obligations is paying your unit mandatory funds yearly, no later than **July 31, 2019**. If you are attending Department Convention to be seated as a delegate, then it is **30 days before Convention**.

Mandatory Funds are: *Bonding, Girls State Project, Education, Veterans 1st Fund, Poppies, and 10% proceeds.*

Spirit Articles: for Vice Presidents are due by 16th of each month. Target sheets will be emailed on 15th. Officers and Chairmen are due **NO LATER than 17th of each month**. If not in by the dates above will not be able to put in Spirit. Please limit your article to **200 words or less**. Please do not use a lot of **CLIPART** for Spirit. Spirit is emailed/mailed by the 20th of each month. If it falls on a weekend then it will be sent on Monday of the next week.

New Department Education Committee for 3 years is *Dianne McClung*. Dianne is this year's Chairman. Out of 40 voting Executive Board members, 30 ballots were sent back with 30 voting "yes".

Just a reminder, send me your 990 N postcard verification if you haven't done so. Thank you to units that have.



Membership: National is honoring our "new" female veterans again this year. Please remember to put **"Honor Our Female Veterans"** at top of application. If a member is rejoining, I don't need an application sent in. You may want one for your records to make sure she is still eligible. If you do send one in, write either "rejoin" or her ID number on the application so she won't be listed as a new member in the system.

Please don't send me the DD214. They are for the unit files only. Post Officer signature is all I need on application to verify the eligibility.

All applications sent to the Department Office needs to be the **original**. Copies are for you to keep.

Attention: Back Dues on your 2019 Transmittal Sheet should read:

Seniors—\$14.00

Juniors—\$2.50

Remember this is just for Back Dues

Online Dues Members that pay their dues online will have their membership card sent directly to them from National. Membership Chairmen will still receive an email from me .

Gift Shops for December

*Martinsburg VA Gift Shop
Friday Nov.30th-Saturday Dec.1st*

*Huntington VA Gift Shop
Tuesday December 4th*

*Beckley VA Gift Shop
Wednesday December 5th*

*Clarksburg VA Gift Shop
Friday December 7th*

*Future Dates To Remember
**Midwinter Conference
Feb. 8-9, 2019*

Lakeview Resort Morgantown

***Department Convention
July 11-13, 2019
The Doubletree Hotel Huntington
(former Pullman Plaza)*

***National Convention
August 23-29, 2019
Marriott Downton
Indianapolis Indiana*

Department Headquarters

Office Hours 9:00-4:00
Monday thru Friday
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Toll Free 1-888-604-2242
Fax: 304-455-5825
alawvsec@frontier.com

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

Department Website:
www.wvvaux.org

Rhododendron Girls State Website
www.wvgirlsstate.org

**The American Legion
Department of WV**
wvlegion@suddenlink.com

**American Legion Auxiliary
National Website**
ALAforveterans.org

*As we celebrate this holiday season may we remember our military who can't be with their family.
Help a veteran and his/her family this holiday season.*

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the 2018-2019
Department of West Virginia
Officers:*

*Rhonda Best—President
Sharon Kauffman—1st VP
Cathy Post—2nd VP
Paulette Anderson—Secretary/
Treasurer
Kelli Immel—Chaplain
Savanna Kauffman—Historian
Lisa Cadwallader—NEC*



Membership Chairman

I want to Thank Marne Unit 28 for hosting a great 1st District Conference!! It was great seeing everyone and especially those that were 1st time attendees!!!

I attended both Department President Rhonda and Department Commander Bills Homecomings. Both were great!!

Now to Membership!!

Congratulations to Wheeling Unit 1; McMechen Unit 5; Cameron Unit 18; New Martinsville Unit 28; Tyler Co. Unit 48; Bluefield Unit 9; Shinnston Unit 31; Braxton Co. 33; Pickens Unit 122; Jane Lew Unit 166; Milton Unit 139; Martinsburg Unit 14; Franklin Unit 30; Moorefield Unit 64; Charles Town Unit 102; Kirby Unit 134; and Keyser Unit 152 for reaching Target #3 and 2 Units that have reached Target # 6: Bluefield Unit 9 and Franklin Unit 30. Great Job!!! We have 10 more Units that hit this Months Target! Keep up the great work!! I want to remind everyone that we are working on Targets!!! We are only Goal Units when we have reached 100%.

I have asked all Units to do a Membership Drive. If you have already done so, Thank You! If not, you still have time!! I want all Units who have done one, to summarize how it went and bring to Midwinter. There will be a special drawing for those Units with a special prize awarded!!

District Vices, please continue working with Units who have not sent in Membership. Thank you for continued efforts and positivity!!

GO MOUNTAINEERS and GO HERD
Susan Wade
Membership Chairman



Department 1st Vice President

Hello Herd!

Hope everyone enjoyed the snow. We in District 3, 5, 10 have no zero membership. District Vices now we have to work on the ones under 10. Several Units have made Targets. I know the membership is coming in slow but keep up the good work.

We are ahead 143 members as Marshall to WVU! I'm proud of you and we are all proud of our members.

District Vices, if you talk to the units let's see how many want to do a joint Membership Drive and let me know. If you or the Units need my help I'm here.

Everyone have a very nice Thanksgiving and remember our homeless on this Holiday and during this cold weather.

God Bless
Go Herd!
Sharon Kauffman
Dept. 1st Vice
304-582-2973



Department 2nd Vice President

Hello Mountaineers!!

I've been on the go this past few weeks, attending Madam President Rhonda's Homecoming. That was a very nice evening, great to see everyone. I attended 1st District and 4th District conferences. Would sure like to see more attendance in 4th District. I traveled to Shinnston to Commander Combs Homecoming, a lovely evening with some mighty tasty stuffed mushrooms.

Tip #3 This month with Veterans Day just behind us, let's concentrate on our lady veterans. You see them at your posts, perhaps you went to school with one of our "She-roses". This woman might not even realize she is eligible to join our ranks. Thank her for her service and give her an application. When sending in her application, be sure and indicate her service and put on the application "Female Veteran". She has much to offer our units in the way of what our veterans need.

I'm happy to report that we have no units with zero dues paid. We are still behind those "Herd" ladies!! Keep working and don't hold dues. I need reports from District Vice Presidents. Please call your units and check on their membership, find out if there is anything we can do to help them out, if necessary.

As Thanksgiving is just around the corner, I wish you all a wonderful holiday and safe travels as you go about visiting relatives. Keep our troops that cannot be home in your prayers and check on our Veterans that are alone this holiday.

In the Spirit of Service not Self,
Cathy D. Post
2nd Vice President



1st District President

Hello ladies

What a wonderful turn out for our District #1 Fall conference, Thank you to New Martinsville for their warm hospitality.

I want to remind everyone that units should be contacting our District Chairmen for our committees to report what they are doing for our programs. I know all units do a lot to promote our programs and we should strive to make it known throughout our District.

February, Midwinter Conference, is fast approaching and I look forward to seeing many of you there in Morgantown.

I am planning on making contact with units around the 13th or 14th of the month to touch base and see how everything is going.

Please remember I am always here to assist as I can and would like to start attending meetings as my schedule allows.

Please do not hesitate to call or email.

God Bless
Holly Adams
1st District President
hollyadams847@gmail.com

3rd District President

We had a good meeting for Third District, and I was really pleased to see so many there. We had 5 units attending and everyone was wearing some type of Green for Marshall. Thank you. I hope you got a lot of information out of the meeting and I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

Please work on your committees, and don't forget to get your reports in to the Department Chairmen. If you don't hear from the unit chairman, contact her and ask for an up-date.

I really hope to see all 12 units in Third District at Mid-Winter in February. We need to show our support for all that we do for our American Legion Auxiliary, and do all we can to help our Veterans.

I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving and be safe as you travel on this holiday. Please don't forget to say a special prayer for our troops, at home and abroad. We owe them so much for all they do to keep us safe.

God Bless you all and God Bless America.
Roxie Nicholson
Third District President

5th District President

We are in the middle of the holidays, where there are more and more demands on our time. With Veterans Day behind us and the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays fast approaching, we may find ourselves pulled in many different directions. As you busy yourself with family activities, I ask you to take a moment to think about our veterans who maybe homeless or have no family to spend the holidays with. Do what you can to make their days easier. A warm coat, a big pot of soup taken to where the homeless hang out or sleep at night, a blanket to help fend off the bitter night cold, a Christmas party to make them feel special and countless other things can be done for our less fortunate veterans.

Remember, anyone who served our country to give us the freedoms we enjoy (and sometimes take for granted) does not deserve being lonely and/or homeless. They deserve our utmost respect and admiration.

Do what you can as a unit and auxiliary member to show your appreciation for their service.

I am proud of what each of you in the 5th District do for our veterans; I am asking you to take it one step further. You may be surprised how good it will make you feel. Service Not Self.

Beth Kilgore
5th District President



10th District President

Happy Holidays Ladies:

Debbie Michael and I wish you and your families a Safe & Happy Thanksgiving.

Keep working on Membership please just like you have been. We, Marshall, are ahead so far. Keep that thundering herd coming!! There are 6 units that are at the 40% or more now. Debbie will talk more about this in her article.

Coming up events: Martinsburg VA Gift Shop begins on Nov. 30th starting at 9:00 am and then on Sat. 12/1/18. Should you have any questions please call Joy Jenkins at 513-293-4385.

Units remember that reports are coming due to your Dept. Chairmen the first of Dec. I hope that many reports will be turned in for the 10th District.

Midwinter Conference: Feb 8 & 9, 2019 at Lakeview Resort Morgantown. Remember your comfort items. LIST OF ITEMS NEEDED IS IN NOV. AND DEC. SPIRIT. The list is under Martinsburg VA. Hope to see you there.

Remember, with bad weather check on the elderly, people that need assistance. Hoping the weather will not be as bad as they say!!!

Always remember thanking a Veteran is very important. During the holiday not only think of our Veterans but also most important their families. They also have given a lot.

Thank you for all you do, are doing and will be completed in the next few minutes. All of you do great work; make sure you fill reports out that show all work. I know you are volunteers and I thank you for that also. All of you are a very important link to make Auxiliary Great and able to continue the work for our Veterans as well as communities.

God Bless America
Sharon Glassford
10th District President



1st District Vice President

Well mother nature has decided to skip fall and move straight to winter. I hope everyone survived the first blast of cold this year without too much trouble.

We had a few units that reached the 40% November target goal. Congratulations to those units. We had several that just fell a little short. I know it has been a struggle to get membership moving.

Some units are having more problems than others, but don't give up. Units may need to become more creative in their ways to get membership numbers up. Let's Go Mountaineers! I know you can get those numbers rolling in. Remember do not hold dues. Get them sent in to department as soon as possible. I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving.

1st District GO
Stephanie Handley

3rd District Vice President

Here is December already, the Target this month will be 50%, what Units will make it?

I would like to say all Units will meet goal but that is wishing too much.

Congratulations to Shinnston 31, Braxton County 33, Pickens 122, and Jane Lew 166 for making 40% Target for November. Units over 30% are Buckhannon #7, Elkins #29, Bridgeport #68, and Belington #96.

We still have 2 Units that have a 0, come on Ladies we can do better than this. I know it is hard to get members to pay their dues, especially this time of the year, but give it that extra try. Remember all Officer's Dues should already be paid.

Lets try harder and lets have all Units paid by December 15th. If you need my help, please call me at 304-592-0247. I will help you any way I can.

Merry Christmas
Carla Wilfong
Third District Vice President



5th District Vice President

Hello ladies of the Fifth District

Here are 2018-2019 4 Quarterly Goals.

**October 1st—25%

**December 31st—50%

**March 1st—75%

**June 30th—100%

Monthly target sheet- Certificates will be given to each unit reaching each one from August through to July. Enhancement ribbons will be giving to each unit reaching these goals.

**100% Goal Unit: Each unit reaching 100% will receive a goal unit ribbon & a special gift.

**Above & Beyond Unit: Each unit going above 100% will receive a special gift.

**Top Unit Within Your District: The unit with the highest percentage of members by December 31st will receive \$20.00 from our membership team.

Thank you
JoAnn Hastings
5th District Vice President

Chaplain

I'm thankful for all of the safe travels to the homecomings dinners and fall district meeting for our Legion Family Members.

Well we have come to the part of the year when all of the mid year are due and I am looking forward to reading all of these lovely reports, for I know all of our units have been busy so far this year.

Please remember our service personal as the Christmas season is upon us.

I would like to wish all our American Legion Auxiliary and our Legion Family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

"May you have a peaceful, joyful and blessed Christmas with God at the center of all your family activities as you celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ"

In God and County
Kelli A Immel

10th District Vice President

Hello Ladies!

Great news! Marshall Thundering Herd is ahead of the WVU Mountaineers! Way to go 3rd, 5th and 10th districts!

I'm so proud of the 10th district, as we have no "0" units. We have 6 units that have made the 3rd target of 40% or more. Congratulations to Franklin 30, Charles Town 102, Moorefield 64, Kirby 134, Keyser 152 and Martinsburg 14. Good job, ladies!

Don't forget the membership drives. How about carrying applications with you wherever you go? Take them to church, other club meetings, etc. or lunches with your friends. If you ask, they may say they would like to join.

Ask your American Legion members to sign up those ladies in their families, if they are not already a member. And, don't forget to sign up those Juniors.

Please keep working to get those members. It would be a nice Christmas gift to someone if you're stuck on what to get them. Let's make President Rhonda proud!

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving. Spread the love and kindness to all you see.

Please contact me if I can help you in any way.

Debbie Michael
10th District Vice President
katndebbie@gmail.com
234 Breeden Addition
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411
304-258-2705

Historian

Hello Ladies,

Apply for a 2019-2020 ALA National Appointment! Did you know that The ALA will be celebrating our centennial during the 2019-2020 administrative year. Do you want to be a part of our history?

There are several appointment opportunities for you to explore. Our goal is to match skill sets and talents in ways that best complement that ALA's mission of serving veterans, the military, and their families.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to Service Not Self as the organization we all love turns 100!

Savanna Kauffman
Historian

Americanism



Hello everyone, I hope you didn't miss the 'three days' of Autumn we had here in WV this year. Everything seems to be moving along pretty fast.

I'm sure all of our Units did something for Veterans Day, and you all have plans for our Veterans during Thanksgiving, Pearl Harbor Day, and Christmas.

Please don't forget about the mid-year reports. We know you do awesome work in your communities. Don't ever think your project is too small to bother with reporting. We all make a difference! You may include pictures with your Americanism reports if you wish. Please include your Unit Number and Name as it's listed in our Spirit. Remember we are the "American Legion Auxiliary," Unit # (We are not a Post, or Ladies Auxiliary) This could make the difference of winning an award this year. I wish you all a Happy and Healthy Holiday season.

For God and Country
Tammy Workman

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Season's greetings everyone!

December is a fun, festive time of the year filled with family, friends and neighbors. Gifts are given with laughter and joy. The cozy fire feels so warm and comforting. The days are shorter, and the nights are longer. Winter's whipping wind, glistening ice and sparkling snow help to create a beautiful backdrop to this special season.

I hope you can give a gift to our American Legion family members in need. Please help us create a happier holiday for deserving members who have selflessly served veterans and military families in their communities. Unit members helping unit members is what the American Legion Emergency Fund is all about. Your generous donation will provide our members with temporary emergency assistance. Your uplifting action is greatly appreciated. I encourage you to give the gift of hope this Christmas to a member in need. Please visit www.ALAforVeterans.org or by mailing a check payable to: Department Treasurer. It will then be forwarded on to National Headquarters.

Thank you. Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Holly Knauff-Smith

Constitution & Bylaws

Your Constitution and Bylaws are the foundation of your organization and contain the guidelines by which your Unit runs. The Constitution states what your organization is and what it does. It describes the membership and eligibility. It tells you what officers you have and how they are chosen, your meetings and committees are generally outlined, and how amendments can be made should be stated. The Bylaws generally contain more specific information on how your Unit functions and how it's governed. What kind of meetings you hold, how often you meet, and what your quorum is may be stated. The duties of the Officers are listed, if dues are collected, and treatment of members noted. More specific information is given on how the elections are held and sometimes the different committees are listed.

The specific amount of dues, special circumstances or guidelines, and other miscellaneous items can be put in your Standing Rules.

The Constitution and Bylaws are usually not changed easily or often. They must conform to National and Department's Constitution and Bylaws. They should be reviewed when changes are made by National or Department to make sure they are in agreement and not in conflict. When you make changes to your Constitution and Bylaws, they should be sent to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee Chairman for review. If they are found to be in agreement with National and Department, they will be signed, sent to the Department Secretary for her signature, and a copy will be filed with her. Your signed Constitution and Bylaws will be returned to your Unit.

I found a nice template online done by the Department of Florida. It is a PDF file and can be printed. However, some things don't apply to us or may be different, so you do need to be careful of what you use. The address is <https://alafll.org/wp-content/uploads/CB-Sample-template.pdf>.

Linda Crumm
Committee Member

Silent Auction at Midwinter

A silent Auction will be held again at our Midwinter Conference at Lakeview Resorts.

We are asking Units to bring gift baskets, blankets, quilts, wreaths, etc. to be auctioned off. Bring your items on Saturday morning before conference to the tables outside in Registration area.

There will also be a Raffle basket to be raffled off at the Midwinter Conference. If you would like to add to this basket please contact Susan Brown at 304-845-5122 or Roxie Nicholson at 304-592-5231.

Proceeds will go to the Department Welfare Fund!!



Children & Youth

Hello To All,

Geeze where has 2018 gone? It's really hard to believe we're nearly at the end of the year. I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving with family and friends.

As you move forward to Christmas season please remember not all children will have a happy healthy joyful celebration. So what I'm saying is please be generous with your donations at this most giving time of the year.

Now is really a great time of the year to be on search for "Good Deed" and "Hero" Award candidates. Our young people are out there doing great things all the time but they go unnoticed. Sure as the person that they made a difference in their lives, it just goes unreported. Most of the time these young people don't think they need to be recognized for doing something that comes so natural. However our organization thinks differently.

Continue to focus on the CWF. Don't forget the "Josh Dog" is a program for children in need of a secure friend.

Rocky and I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy healthy Merry West Virginia Christmas.

For God and Country,
Debbie Fox- C&Y Chairman



Education

Thanks to President Rhonda for my appointment. The 2018-9 Education Action Plan is now posted on the Department website. Please make sure your Education Chairman gets this. If you need more information, don't hesitate to contact me.

Not only do we want to make sure our graduating seniors have the opportunity to apply for scholarships, let's not forget those who have to return to school in order to get back into the workforce, advance in their present jobs or pick up where they left off when their studies were interrupted. The Non-Traditional Student Scholarship allows applicants to pursue training in a certified, trade, professional, or technical program, or a two-year or four year degree program. Applicant must be a member of The American Legion, Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion. Dues must have been paid for the two preceding years and for calendar year in which the application is made. Applications are due to the Unit Education Chairman or Unit President no later than March 1, 2019. Selected entry must be sent to the Department Education Chairman on or before March 15, 2019.

Dianne McClung
Education Chairman
lin4dee@aol.com
(304) 481-8997

Junior Activities

Hi Ladies!

The holiday season is upon on us. I hope you are including your Juniors in your events. They can help you with so many things.

Remember the "We Care" project. It's time to start thinking of that special person or family that you could help by taking them a holiday dinner. We all know someone whose day would be brightened by this act of kindness.

Please document everything your Juniors are doing and send it to me because Mid-year reports are due by December 15th. Nothing formal is needed. List the things you have done and email or send them to me. You can even call me and I will write them down. I just want to hear from you.

Also, please try to sign up some new Juniors. Check with your Auxiliary, SAL and Legion members. I'll bet there are plenty of eligible young ladies hiding there.

If any one has anything special that they would like me to address or do at our Mid-winter meeting, please let me know. I have things planned for the girls to do but if there is something that you want me to work on with them, I would sure do it.

Here's wishing everyone a Loving and Happy Thanksgiving.

If I can help you in any way please contact me.

Debbie Michael
Junior Activities
katndebbie@gmail.com
234 Breeden Addition
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411
304-258-2705



Leadership

On the heels of the mid-term elections, let us hope for collaboration and collegiality among our country's leaders. I am sure each of you exercised your right to vote. You must also embrace your responsibility to lead.

Here are 11 leadership thoughts and actions to consider as we enter the 12th month of the year. Look back and ask yourself how you've done this year...

1. Talk less, listen more...
2. Don't step in with solutions too quickly...
3. Be authentic, passionate, even emotional about what you believe in...
4. Don't "dis" downwards...
5. I'm ok. You're ok...
6. Don't be the smartest person in the room...
7. Sense of purpose...
8. Being right isn't enough...
9. Focus on a few things...
10. Get out and about...
11. Keep trying...

I encourage you to read more about these lessons learned by logging onto: <https://beleaderly.com/11-leadership-lessons-learned-2/>

Have a blessed holiday season. Remember our goal to be part of a compliant free world. It starts with us! I recently made it to Day 11 before having to make a switch. It's ok... that was a good run. Back on Day 1 and determined.

Rosemary M. Thomas
Leadership Chairman

Public Relations

How is everyone doing? Are you spreading the word about what the ALA does and what it means to be a member? Are you letting your communities know what your unit is doing and where? How are you getting that word out? It doesn't matter how your unit communicates to let the area know what good we are doing as long as we get that information out.

It is hard to believe that it is November already, but just a reminder that mid-year reports are due next month. I will need a narrative of your units accomplishments so far this year to report to National. So start preparing to submit what your unit has done.

Public Relations Chairman
Stephanie Handley
stephaniehandley@msn.com

Legislative

Greetings Ladies...

Now that the 2018 election is over, all local, state and federal government representation are set, and it's time to look ahead. It is time to reintroduce yourself to incumbent, or make contact to introduce yourself to all new representatives as an American Legion Auxiliary member. Always remember to thank all public servant for their service while sharing your concern for both Veterans and active duty service members!

Let us not forget to also remember, in our form of government, elected officials work for us, and we need to become a more active part of "We the People".

Again, I encourage all members to join the American Legion Auxiliary Nation website at www.alaforveterans.org in addition to our Department website at www.wvaux.org

Remember you can make a difference!!! Become an advocate for our Veterans... Stay Connected by logging on and logging-in!

Mid-year reports are due December 15, 2018...please!

I wish all of You a Very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

Susan Yoho
Legislative Chairman

Martinsburg VA Gift Shop

Martinsburg VA Gift Shop is November 30th, 9am to 4 pm and December 1st, 9am to 12 pm.

Volunteers are needed to help veterans shop and help wrap presents.

Donations of wrapping paper, tape, and boxes are needed.

Martinsburg VA Gift Shop
Chairman
Joy Jenkins
(513) 293-4385
joysjunk72@gmail.com

National Security

I can not believe that the holidays are almost here. I have been trying to sort through 50 years of "stuff" to move before end of month and almost forgot to send in message, but thanks to Paulette; I was kept on track.

Hope everyone remembered Veterans Day and attended a program in your area or in my case in TN where I was visiting. I also hope you do not forget our military serving both here and abroad during the holiday season. Some might not have a family or anyone to remember them during the holidays, so a card, letter, etc. would be much appreciated.

I am sure it is close in time to get something overseas, but check with the Red Cross or a military installation if there is one nearby.

Remember I have to do a mid-year report so don't forget to send me what you have done in your unit on the National Security front before the end of next month.

Mary Waybright
National Security

Rhododendron Girls State

The upcoming dates for the 2019 ALA Girls State Session will be the girls arriving on Sunday, June 9, 2019 thru Friday, June 14, 2019 at Davis & Elkins College, Elkins, WV.

Once again, the cost of registration is \$250 per girl and this cost includes the parade t-shirt.

Please be in contact with your schools and use your Girls State District Representative and/or if I can be of any assistance please feel free to contact me.

I hope each and every one of you has a Blessed Holiday Season.

Merry Christmas!
Lynda Lancaster
Chairman Girls State



*100 Years of Celebration
1919-2019*



1920's, 1930's, 1940's, 1950's, 1960's, 1970's, 1980's, 1990's, 2000's, 2010's. Do you remember what your Unit was doing during the last 100 years? Okay, well maybe not! But you may have history on those early years.

What has your unit done to get ready to cherish our heritage during the American Legion Auxiliary 100th anniversary? Are you partaking in the festivities of The American Legion's 100th anniversary celebration? There are so many ways to make our history come to life and learn to appreciate what occurred for us to be able to celebrate 100 years. Let your creativity flow!

Looking forward to seeing all the history and creativity the Department of West Virginia has within our units.

NOTICE: Please disregard last month's article regarding the display boards at Mid-Winter. We will not be doing them at this time. Please continue to compile your units history.

Beth Kilgore
100th Anniversary Committee

Strategic Planning Committee

*Create an Internal Culture of Goodwill
Goal 2*

Treat **ALL** members with respect. Members follow by your example. Creating a welcoming atmosphere in your meeting can be fun, and meeting attendance will increase.

An example of Culture of Goodwill that you may want to try: Hand out a "I Caught You Award" slip of paper with a mint to someone in your unit for helping others, showing brand loyalty, and being respectful.

Think before criticizing or gossiping. Show diversity to one another. Words hurt more than you know.

Welcome new members with a SMILE!! Ask them what they are interested in, and get them involved, little by little. One day they may wish to be a **Leader** in your unit.

Be a mentor to new members. Have a friendly personality, but don't become overbearing. Remember it is **their** work, not yours.

Remember: No negative Comments! Accept people as they are, and don't try to change them!! Unification in our organization is what is needed.

Paulette Anderson
Goal 2 Committee
Centennial Strategic Plan

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Here it is December. I hope everyone is planning something for our Veterans. Also this month we have the Gift shops going on. If you have a chance to participate in a Gift Shop do so, to have a Veteran come thru and pick out a gift for a loved one and they ask you how much do they owe and you say nothing. The look on their faces is unforgettable.

Remember to record all your hours, if held at the hospital these will be Hospital Hours.

Start planning your Comfort item Drive. Check with the Hospital near you to see what they need the most and what they cannot use.

Remember to send me a summary on what your Unit has been doing for the Veterans.

If you need my help please call me at 304-592-0247. If I am unable to answer, leave me a message and I will call you back.

Merry Christmas
Carla Wilfong
VA&R Chairman



Silent Auction!!

*Midwinter Conference
February 8-9, 2019*

*Bring your items on Saturday February 9th before Conference
Proceeds will go to Welfare Fund
Raffle Basket will be displayed to purchase tickets*





There are plenty of 2019 tickets still available in the Dept. Headquarters.

If your unit hasn't received any or anyone wishes to purchase for themselves, contact this office.

The tickets are WV only fundraiser and 75% goes to our VETERANS programs.

*Thank you in advance.
Paulette Anderson
Susan Wade*



**2019 Fundraiser Tickets Are Due into Department Headquarters
NO LATER than December 31, 2018 to be eligible for January 1st Drawing**

October Ways and Means Winners

Winner	Number	City	State	Date	Amount
Sally Reid	339	Capon Bridge	WV	10/1/18	\$25.00
	923			10/2/18	
Eugene Vandervander	182	Kimball	WV	10/3/18	\$25.00
Jaye Cleaver	747	Romney	WV	10/4/18	\$25.00
	769			10/5/18	
	818			10/6/18	
Brenda McLanahan	910	Romney	WV	10/8/18	\$25.00
Jesse Roberts	463	Griffithsville	WV	10/9/18	\$25.00
Mary Waybright	173	Huntington	WV	10/10/18	\$25.00
Becky Largent	679	Romney	WV	10/11/18	\$25.00
Jonathon Noll	368	Branchland	WV	10/12/18	\$25.00
Jimmy Hampton	059	Roderfield	WV	10/13/18	\$25.00
	792			10/15/18	
	611			10/16/18	
	429			10/17/18	
	429			10/18/18	
	553			10/19/18	
	529			10/20/18	
Rita Alley	291	Casa Grande	AZ	10/22/18	\$25.00
Rose Epling	257	Reedsy	WV	10/23/18	\$25.00
Peggy Rund	514	Stevensville	MD	10/24/18	\$25.00
Sherri Sparks	385	Bluefield	VA	10/25/18	\$25.00
Bonnie Wilcox	614	Romney	WV	10/26/18	\$25.00
Jeff Ryman	755	Martinsburg	WV	10/27/18	\$25.00
Makenzie Yeater	421	Paden City	WV	10/29/18	\$25.00
P. Yvonne Redman	821	Keyser	WV	10/30/18	\$25.00
Rich Crumm	935	Moundsville	WV	10/31/18	\$25.00

Enhancing and Strengthening Our Membership Through Teamwork, Good Communication, and Our Mission

Target #3—November 15th—40%

Department Goal—9966 Membership to Date—3157 (31.68 %)

Department Unit Goal—86 Membership to Date—56

District 1			
Unit	2019 Goal	2019	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	26	13	50.00%
Moundsville #3	428	98	22.90%
McMechen #5	73	30	41.10%
Weirton #10	112	20	17.86%
Cameron #18	262	87	44.21%
New Martinsville #28	217	91	41.94%
Wellsburg #34	48	12	25.00%
Follansbee #45	65	21	32.31%
Benwood #46	131	45	34.35%
Pine Grove #81	112	40	35.71%
Paden City #86	178	60	33.71%
Wheeling #89	39	2	5.13%
Newell #114	57	19	33.33%
Hundred #120	115	31	25.96%
Chester #121	269	63	23.42%
TOTALS	2132	632	29.64%



Special Teams
Coach
Goal—4915
To Date—1622
33.00 %

Membership
Chairman
Special Teams
Coach



Special Teams
Coach
Goal—4965
To Date—1479
29.79 %



District 3			
Unit	2019 Goal	2019	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	83	33	39.76%
Grafton #12	32	1	3.13%
Clarksburg #13	230	47	20.44%
Elkins #29	253	94	37.15%
Shinnston #31	412	203	49.27%
Braxton County #33	48	20	41.67%
Philippi #44	41	1	2.44%
Bridgeport #68	93	31	33.33%
Belington #96	43	16	37.21%
Pickens #122	41	17	41.46%
Jane Lew #166	65	31	47.69%
Morgantown #174	30	11	22.13%
TOTALS	1371	505	36.83%

District 5			
Unit	2019 Goal	2019	% of Goal
Huntington #16	347	109	31.41%
Logan #19	30	8	26.67%
St. Albans #73	65	22	33.85%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	489	117	23.93%
South Charleston #94	26	8	30.77%
Hamlin #111	99	28	28.28%
Milton #139	113	47	41.59%
Barboursville #177	243	63	25.92%
TOTALS	1412	402	28.47%

District 10			
Unit	2019 Goal	2019	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	151	61	40.40%
Franklin #30	19	15	78.95%
Piedmont #52	72	1	1.92%
Berkeley Springs #60	338	92	27.22%
Moorefield #64	136	64	47.06%
Charles Town #71	326	114	34.97%
Petersburg #78	126	33	26.19%
Romney #91	353	121	34.28%
Charles Town #102	45	22	48.98%
Paw Paw #128	68	14	20.59%
Kirby #134	71	31	43.66%
Ridgeley #136	136	42	30.88%
Capon Bridge #137	214	66	30.84%
Keyser #152	77	34	44.16%
TOTALS	2132	715	33.54%

District 4			
Unit	2019 Goal	2019	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	1080	357	33.06%
Spencer #21	98	31	31.63%
Pt. Pleasant #23	484	123	25.41%
Tyler County #48	33	14	42.42%
Sistersville #67	106	34	32.08%
New Haven #140	220	60	27.27%
Williamstown #159	215	32	14.88%
TOTALS	2236	651	29.11%

District 6			
Unit	2019 Goal	2019	% of Goal
Welch #8	100	39	39.00%
Bluefield #9	28	22	78.57%
Beckley #32	98	25	25.51%
Gary #38	159	58	36.48%
Cowen #62	62	19	30.65%
Lewisburg #69	100	33	33.00%
Richwood #97	50		
TOTALS	597	196	32.83%

December 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		<i>Programs of The Month VA & R Gift Shops</i>					1 <i>Martinsburg Gift Shop</i>
2	3 <i>First Day Of Hanukkah</i>	4 <i>Huntington Gift Shop</i>	5 <i>Beckley Gift Shop</i>	6	7 <i>Pearl Harbor Day Clarksburg Gift Shop</i>	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 <i>Target #4 50%</i>	
16	17 <i>Spirit Articles Due</i>	18	19	20 <i>Spirit Out VA Checks</i>	21  <i>Office Closed Vacation</i>	22	
23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26	27	28	29	
30	31 <i>New Years Eve</i>	<i>Office Reopen Jan. 2nd</i>					