



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 36

October 2022

Issue 3



American Legion Auxiliary
2022-2023
Department President



“Lighting Up Our Future For Our Veterans”

Colors—**Red**, **White**, & **Green**

Flower— **Poppy & Poinsettias with Pine Cones & Holly (cherries)**

Hello Auxiliary Members,
Hopefully after Fall Workshop you all are in the Christmas spirit!!!
First, I want to thank everyone who came to Fall Workshop, it was a good turn out. There was 6 new members and a Veteran there with us. It was nice seeing everyone together, celebrating our “Christmas 365 around the world”. I hope everyone learned what they needed to know about the membership. We had fun, we laughed, and learned. I would also like to thank everyone who helped set up decorating for workshop. I would also like to thank everyone who helped with the auction and donated their money. We brought in \$1,240.00 with auction, \$195.00 with center pieces, \$100.00 with donations from C/K #93, & \$15.00 phones going off, a total of \$1,550.00 going towards my special project. Thank you all again for doing that. Its going to be busy the next few months.
I'm looking forward to visiting the district fall conferences this year. 3rd district had their fall conference already. I apologize that I couldn't be there due to traveling back from National Convention from Milwaukee, Wisconsin but I sent them a letter stating I was there in spirit. 10th district had there conference, I'm glad to see everyone that came and to be in my own district. I would like to thank 10th district for donating to my special project.
Reminder: My homecoming is Saturday, October 15, 2022. I do have more tickets available for people to buy. If your interested please reach out to (304)582-2973 Sharon or (304)582-2976 Savanna (me) for more details. Cut off date is October 10, 2022.
Congratulations to the 7 units that made target #1 goal in membership!!!
Next Membership Target date: Target #2 December 15, 2022 with 50%.
My Special Project is: Christmas Veteran Affairs Gift Shop.
I will leave you all with this quote:
Your friendship is a gift not just on Christmas, but every day of the year. Merry Christmas to you, all year long.
Until next month, Thank your veterans and be kind to each other.
For God & Country
Savanna Kauffman
Department President

Department Officers 2022-2023

President-Savanna Kauffman
1st Vice President-Debbie Michael
2nd Vice President-Laura Clark
Secretary/Treasurer-Susan Brown
Chaplain-Kimberly Mellie
Historian-Stephanie Handley

District Presidents

1st District-Kim Elliott
3rd District-Kimberly Mellie
4th District-Patsy Young-Greiner
5th District-Kitty Kelly-Smoot
6th District-Peggy Swartz
10th District-Diana Teter

District Vice Presidents

1st District-Stephanie Handley
3rd District-Roxie Nicholson
4th District-Pamela Hansom
5th District-Laura Clark
6th District-Mary Spence
10th District-Jill Davis





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: (Unit General Fund)- Bonding (\$5.00), Education (Scholarship), & Girls State Project;

Unit Welfare Fund - Veterans' Welfare Fund (any amount your unit can afford), & 10% of Poppy Proceeds.

Membership: Award—10 Plus 3 in 2023—Recruit 10 New Senior Members and 3 New Junior members. New members must be entered and paid in ALAMIS by June 1, 2023. Forms must be received at ALA NHQ by June 3, 2023. One entry per recruiter.

Those Districts & Units that did not send in officers update for the Directory it is now to late for the Directory. I will include any changes in the Spirit that is forward to Department headquarters.

I would still like to have Unit Chairperson list. This list is given to Department Committee Chairperson, so they can keep in contact with the Units' chairperson. I have extend the deadline to November 1st. Thanks!

National Convention was Great!

There was a dues increase voted on and passed. This increase will go into effect for the 2024 year. National dues was increase by \$6.00 per diem. This means that units will need to send a total of \$25.00 for National and Department per diem for 2024 year. National will be looking at different ways to cut cost, so another increase will not happen for a couple of years. Units need to increasing their dues for the 2024 year.

Spirit renewals are now due for 2023 year!

ALAMIS—Starting in July Unit Full Access will be available to all units with Department approval. You will have the ability to pay membership dues, rejoin former members within your unit, and new members. ALL transfer request of current members, expired members, former members or out of state will still need to be proceeded by the department. Units will need to use a credit or debt card to process membership to National.

If your Unit is currently using the "Write" program and wish to try the "Full", I will need a written letter or email stating such. You will have until January 1st to decide whether you want to keep "Full" or return to "Write".

New pricing will go into effect January 2023—Unit Full \$20.00; Unit Write \$15.00; Unit View \$10.00;

Junior members who turn 18 yrs. old before January 1st of 2023 are considered Senior members. Please take notice of their status National has marked on your roster. Do Not change status!

Reminder—Your membership is through the Unit not the Post.

New Honorary Junior Officers:
President—Emily Tallman
1st VP—Kyeisha Bailey
2nd VP—Avery Tallman
Secretary—Kiara Bailey
Historian—Andi Michael
Chaplain—Charlie Michael

Directory Corrections
Linda Crumm zip code 26041
Patsy Greiner under District Officers & Chairmen remove Young
New Legislative Chair:
Mary Jo Thomas
279 Rock Lake Rd
Fairmont WV 2655
maryjowv@comcast.net

Department Headquarters

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

Phone 304-845-7410
Fax: 304-845-9426
alawvsec@frontier.com

Department Address:
2172 Grandview Road
Moundsville, WV 26041

Department Website:
www.wvvaux.org

Rhododendron Girls State Website
www.wvgirlsstate.org

The American Legion
Department of WV
wvlegion@suddenlinkmail.com

American Legion Auxiliary
National Website
ALAforveterans.org

Wellness Call!
Beth Kilgore is currently in the St Mary's Hospital fighting an infection please send cards to
Beth Kilgore
227 31st St West
Huntington WV 25704

Ann Buchanan is currently in St Mary's Hospital with a blood clot to the lung. Card may be sent to
Ann Buchanan
105 Cheyenne Trail
Ona WV 25545

District Conference for October 2022
Fourth District October 16th—Hosted by Parkersburg #15
Fifth District October 22nd—Logan
First District October 30th—Hosted by Moundsville #3

“Christmas 365 around the World”

Membership Chairman

Hello Members

Hope everyone had a good time at fall workshop. Membership is moving slow and we still have several who are still at zero. The first target sheet of 25% was September 15th. District Vice should be calling the units membership person every month. Offer to see if you can help. If you can get everyone's email or phone number we can help.

Congratulations to New Martinsville, Shinnston, Braxton, Charles Town #71, Romney #91, and Kirby for reach 25%. Keep up the good work everyone. Make sure to share Commander Tom Hicks car give away to all your members. We also had 10th District Conference. Thank you for the hospitality and food. Will be traveling to the rest of the conference's this month and next month. Let's help President Savanna make the 100%. Sharon Kauffman
Membership chairperson



Department 1st Vice President

Hello to all!

It was so wonderful seeing everyone at Fall Boards. Now that we have our agenda for the year, let's start working on those programs.

I hope you are all working on membership. Way to go 3rd, 5th and 10th District "Candy Canes! We have five units who have reached the first goal. Congratulations to Buckhannon #7, Shinnston #31, Braxton County #33, Charles Town #71 and Kirby #134. By our next goal, I am sure there will be many more.

If I can help you, please let me know.

Hugs to all!
Department 1st Vice
Debbie Michael
katndeb-
bie@gmail.com
304-258-2705
304-839-7721



Department 2nd Vice President

Hello my sweet Gingerbreads! It was great seeing many of you at Fall Workshop this year and I am excited for this year and ready to do our part to make goal! The focus in 2023 is to continue to honor our veterans and their families and we can do that by introducing the wonderful perks of becoming a part of the American Legion family.

Did you know that there are discounts available for insurance, healthcare, travel, and entertainment for simply becoming a member of the ALA? A few ideas in getting new members (Seniors and Juniors) is to host a membership drive by having a luncheon to benefit a special project to honor "veterans and their families" by collecting donations and setting up activities for the whole family such as corn hole tournaments, bouncy houses, and face painting.

A HUGE Congratulations to the following units from Districts 1, 4, and 6 for reaching their 1st Target Date of 25% of goal by 9/15/2022:

New Martinsville, Unit #28 at 26.92%

Cowen, Unit #62 at 65.17% -- WOW!! Already reached more than 50% of target!!

Ladies, we have lots of work to do and let's get out there and share this membership opportunity with as many people we can. Who will be next to reach 25% I am rooting for you and here if you need me!

For God & Country,

Laura Clark

Department 2nd Vice President
304-939-3607 NEW NUMBER
laurakclark716@gmail.com



I would like to clarify information given out regarding my resignation to the National Membership Team. After my car wreck I felt I couldn't hold 3 positions, while recuperating. I resigned my position as a Committee member on Tuesday September 13th. My resignation was accepted with regrets. My position didn't have me for the Central Division, as the National Membership Chairman had myself and the other committee member on opposite divisions that we were in.

I am still serving as NEC and on Department level as a Chairman. I am continuing to heal but it takes time with 4 broken ribs.

I hope this clears up any misunderstanding.

Paulette Anderson, PDP

1st District Vice President

Ladies of 1st District, Fall Leadership Workshop was held on Saturday, September 10, 2022 in Clarksburg, WV. It was a good time and learned more about President Savanna's theme "Christmas 365 around the World". Was glad to see those in attendance and missed the ones that could not be there. There were beautiful Christmas centerpieces made and the Christmas present auction was a lot of fun. Information about Membership and some of the recent changes over the last few years was discussed. The new membership year has begun and I hope everyone continues to diligently work on obtaining and getting members. Please reach out to me if you have any questions regarding membership. Continue your hard work.

God Bless,
Stephanie Handley
1st District Vice President
stephaniehandley@msn.com
PH: 304.670.4055

6th District Vice President

It was enjoyable to see everyone at our Fall Membership Workshop in Bridgeport. We all enjoyed sharing information, ideas, and going out to lunch and dinner together. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the District 6 Conference at Cowen as I will be visiting my grandson at Quincy University in Illinois. Wish you all to have an informative fall conference. DATES to REMEMBER: District 6 Conference hosted by Cowen Unit #62 on September 24, 2022 To be eligible for the drawing for a 1993 corvette, members must have their dues paid and received at the Department level by December 31, 2022. February 10-11, 2023 Mid-Winter will be held at Oglebay Park Wheeling, WV. Fall is here let's collect our dues and not be tricked by our membership goblins
Mary Spence
6th District Vice President

4th District Vice President

Hello all!
We are excited to be working on membership for a brand-new year! Congratulations President Savanna Kauffman and all officers and program chairmen for the 2022 – 2023 year. District 4 is at 7.89%. Membership goals for auxiliary units have been adjusted by the Department. We will all be working hard to reach the new goals. Unit #15 is planning a membership drive soon. The membership target sheet dated September 15, 2022, is as follows: Parkersburg #15 is at 12.69%. Spencer #21 is at 2.07%. Pt. Pleasant #23 is at 2.20%. Tyler County #48 is at 2.38%. Sistersville #67 is at 1.79%. New Haven #140 is at 2.80%. Williamstown #159 is at 11.24%. District 4 will hold its Fall Conference on Sunday, October 16th at Parkersburg Post #15. Registration is at 9 a.m. Meetings will be held at 10 a.m. Lunch will follow. Please carry a membership application with you. Potential members are everywhere!

Thank you,
Pam Harmon
District 4 Vice President

10th District Vice President

It was nice to learn everything at the Fall Workshop as well as fun. With lots of information provided. Thank you to all that came. Remember your next target date in December of 50%, try to get your members to pay and get some new members. Let's Go Candy Canes, let's get those membership awards!!! If you have not paid your mandatory funds, get those in. Don't forget to keep track of your hours for all that you do. Remember to get your Ways & Means tickets for 2023. Tenth District went very well, it was nice to see all of you that were able to make it. Don't forget Midwinter conference February 10-13, 2023 at Oglebay Resort in Wheeling. Congratulations to Charles Town #71 and Kirby #134 for making the 25% goal mark. We Candy Canes are in the lead, let keep up the hard work.

If I can be of any help please contact me.—Thanks
Jill Davis—Vice President

5th District Vice President

Hello 5th District! I am excited to see each of you on October 8th at our 5th District Fall Conference in Logan. I will be sharing different ideas on how to increase our memberships in our local units while keeping the focus of honoring our veterans and their families. As ALA members, we have the distinct pleasure of "advocating for our veterans and mentoring our youth," so don't forget that those Junior memberships count towards your overall goals! We have two units that are close to reaching their 1st target of 25% overall membership. I would love to be able to recognize those achievements at our district meeting-- so who will be first?. Several other units are not too far behind and ANYTHING is possible if you are dedicated and driven to achieve those goals. I am here to help you. Please feel free to contact me at ANYTIME if you need anything.

CHALLENGE: 5th District would like to challenge 4th District (Pamela Harmon, 4th District Vice President) to whoever can come closest to 50% overall membership by our 2nd target date of 12/15/2022. The district that falls short will donate \$20 to President Savanna's special project (VA Gift Shops). Get those memberships in and make sure you are reaching out to your Department Vice President (Kat Michael) if you have any questions or need any assistance!
See you soon!
Laura Clark
5th District Vice President
304-939-3607
laurakclark716@gmail.com

3rd District President

Happy October! Consider this as a reminder to pay your Unit mandatory dues. Unit 3 has two Units who have not paid them. Fall workshop has come and gone. Unfortunately, I had to miss some of it due to my job. I hear the auction was a success. Thanks to all who participated. I had the pleasure of installing Buchannon Unit 7 officers in September and I hope to be visiting the Units who did not attend the workshop to deliver your Unit information. While visiting Unit 7, I learned that they do a monthly newsletter in conjunction with their Post...awesome idea to keep your local members up to date. Planning holiday parties for student? Please text or send me pictures so I can add them to our District 3 Facebook page. If you need anything, please feel free to contact me 304-216-9943.

Have a wonderful October!
Kim Mellie
Third District President
kmellie@comcast.net

10th District President

It was a great time at Workshop. This was my first time and it was well worth it.

I would encourage all to come to these meetings if at all possible. I have learned so much from those that know. I find it very inspiring listening to those who are extremely seasoned.

The Fall Conference at Post 41 Keyser was a good meeting. Thank you Unit 152 for a great day.

Thank you to all that attended and helped.

District 10 please remember to pay your mandatory dues, if they are not already paid please do so. If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact me. Hope to see you soon.

Diana Teter
District 10 President
Dteter40@gmail.com

5th District President

Hello District 5!!

We're just back from our very interesting Leadership workshop in Fairmont so now we're ready to rock and roll "Lighting Up Our Future for Our Veterans" by celebrating Christmas 365 days a year with them!!

I hope this finds all you Candy Canes working hard on your membership goals!! We needed to have 25% of our total goals by September 15th and I don't think anybody made it. Last I checked we were just ever so ahead of the gingerbreads, but they were gaining on us quickly. What a nice idea it would be to pay your mother's, sister's, or daughter's dues for a Christmas present! And don't forget about the awesome raffle from our Department Commander Tom. Anyone whose paid dues are into Treasurer Susan's office before December 30th (and shouldn't they be every year anyway!!), their names will be put into a drawing for a 1995 Chevrolet Corvette!!! (YES, that's a real CAR!!!) The drawing will be right after the New Year so be sure and get your dues paid!!

Mark your calendars for sure – Saturday October 22nd will be our District 5 meeting at Logan Post 19. Registration starts at 9:00 AM, meeting begins at 10:00 AM. Lunch will be served around noon. All Legionaries, Auxiliary, Sons, and Riders are invited and encouraged to attend.

Vice President Laura and I hope to see you soon at your Unit meetings. We'll be calling you soon to set up a convenient time. If we can help with anything before then, please don't hesitate to call. Meanwhile, enjoy this nice change in the weather. I love the fall!! Don't forget, get out and make your voices heard.

Election Day is November 8th – VOTE!!!

Your District 5 President Kitty Kelly-Smoot

4378 Green Valley Rd., Huntington, WV 25701

Home – 304-525-4242 or Cell
– 304-412-3649

Please leave a message – if I don't know your number, I DON'T ANSWER!!!

6th District President

Hello Everyone

Hope everyone is enjoying this nice weather. Fall is just around the corner. It was good to see such a good turn out for the work shop, it was very informative.

Sixth district will have their Fall District meeting on Saturday, October 24, 2022, hosted by Cowen Unit 62, registration from 9:30 to 10:00 am, the meeting will be at the Post. Lunch is being paid for by the Unit at the Hill Top Restaurant. Hope to see your units at the meeting. Hope you are getting ready to send in mandatory funds.

Everyone please stay well and hope to see you in Cowen at our meeting.

God bless everyone and don't forget to keep our veterans in your prayers.

Peggy Swartz, President
Sixth District

NEC

The 2022-2023 National Executive Committee meeting was held on Thursday September 1st at the Milwaukee Convention Center. An orientation was held before the meeting. Parliamentary Procedures, and NEC's responsibilities were gone over.

After ratification of all NEC's, verification of Corporate Officers was adopted. The National Budget, budget for the Foundation for the fiscal year 2023, National appointments were adopted. This meeting last about an hour.

I will be updating you throughout the year as your NEC

*Paulette Anderson
pauletteanderson2848@gmail.com*

Americanism

Since we don't have any patriotic holidays this upcoming month, (sorry Columbus Day and Halloween), I've decided to give a little history lesson this time. Does everyone know the history of the Pledge of Allegiance?

The original was written by Francis Bellamy. It was first given wide publicity through the official program of the National Public Schools Celebration of Columbus Day, which was printed in the Youth's Companion of September 8, 1892, and at the same time sent out in pamphlet forms to schools throughout the country. It was first recited by school children this way:

"I pledge allegiance to MY flag and to the Republic for which it stands one Nation indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all"

"My Flag," was replaced with "The flag of the United States," in 1923 because some foreign-born people might have in mind the flag of the country of their birth instead of the American flag. A year later, "of America," was added after "United States."

No form of the Pledge received official recognition by Congress until June 22, 1942, when it was formally included in the U.S. Flag Code. The official name of The Pledge of Allegiance was adopted in 1945. The last change in language came on Flag Day 1954, when congress passed a law, which added the words, "under God" after "one nation."

Originally, the pledge was said with the right hand in the so-called "Bellamy Salute," with the right hand resting first outward from the chest, then the arm extending out from the body. Once Adolf Hitler came to power in Europe during WWII, some Americans were concerned that thus position of the arm and hand resembled the Nazi or Fascist salute. In 1942, Congress established the current practice of rendering the pledge with the right hand over the heart.

The Flag Code specifies that any future changes to the pledge would have to be with the consent of the President.

Katie Beth Caudill
Americanism Chairperson
caudillk@dewv.edu

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

I would like to thank President Savannah for appointing me Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chairman for the 2022-2023 year.

I was unable to make it to Fall Workshop, however, I have sent my Action Plan in to Department. I look forward to working with all of you this year and assisting you any way I can.

I ask that each Unit do what they can this year to help raise funds for this committee that is so important to our members in need.

Blessings,
Melanie Shambaugh
AEF Chairman
sham4wv@apl.com

Children & Youth

I hope that everyone had a great time at the Membership Workshop in Clarksburg. I hated that I was unable to join you, but I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at Mid-Winter. Congratulations to Ceredo-Kenova Unit 93 on winning the Shirley Davis Children & Youth Award and Shinnston Unit 31 for winning the Irene Weber Children & Youth Award presented at Fall Workshop.

Fall is upon us and so are wonderful opportunities to reach out to the children in your community. The ALA website has several resources available for download, i.e. Safe Trick or Treat and can be delivered to area schools or passed out during community events. In addition, your Post and/or Unit can host a Trunk or Treat and invite children and their families in the community.

Remember Children & Youth month is in April and it is NEVER too early to begin thinking of creative ways to celebrate Purple Up Day for Military Kids on April 15th.

Service Before Self,
Beth Kilgore
Children & Youth Chairman
304-654-7750
mbkilgore@frontier.com

Child Welfare Foundation

Thank you to those units who donated to the Child Welfare Fund at Fall Workshop. He's not as hungry as last month, but he is not quite satisfied. Please keep collecting money and bring it to Mid-Winter where I will bring some extra piggies to distribute.



Junior Activities

With the cooler weather up us we held Fall board the weekend of 9th of September. Where the young ladies made Christmas ornaments for President Savannah and their self. We also learned about running a meeting and how to make a motion, each young ladies were giving a folder with this information inside & a American Legion Auxiliary bag to keep all their stuff in. We held elections for new officers for 2022-2023 and we have a full slate of officers this year.

President:
Emily Tallman (unit 15)
1st Vice President:
Kyeisha Bailey (unit 9)
2nd Vice President
Avery Tallman (unit15)
Secretary:
Kiara Bailey (unit9)
Historian:
Andi Michael (unit 60)
Chaplain:
Charlie Michael (unit60)
Sgt of Arms:
Claire Michael (unit60)

I would like to send a special thank you to Mrs. Lynda Lancaster - Loyd & Mrs. Debbie Fox for serving as the installing officer for our Juniors. I'm hoping the Senior Auxiliary Members enjoyed seeing our Juniors this weekend. I'm hoping each of Junior's will be welcomed into their units and work with our great Auxiliary family remember we're setting example for our future senior members. God Bless Juniors
Kelli A Immel

Education

October is a busy month in terms of Education! It is also Positive Attitude Month! Oct. 1 is World Smile Day - make someone's day with a smile. Oct. 5 is World Teacher Day. Send a card or a gift to a teacher to let them know they are appreciated. Thank you to Nicole Shepherd for agreeing to serve on this committee again. The scholarship information was handed out at the workshop. All of the National scholarship applications are online and due by March 1, 2022.

<https://member.legion-aux.org/scholarships>

Three \$5000 scholarships are awarded for Children of Warriors in our central division (IA,IL, IN, KS, MI,MO,OH,WI, and WV)

One student in our division could be awarded the \$5000 Spirit of Youth Scholarship.

One person in our division could be awarded a \$2000 Non-Traditional Scholarship

Junior Member Loyalty awards two \$2500 Scholarships in our division.

Our State also offers a \$2000 Education Scholarship/Grant (paid over 4 years) it is due to the Unit President by March 1 and financial need is to be determined and then forwarded to me as the Education Chairman. It is available on our website and will be updated soon. <https://wvaux.org/>

Be sure to print off our State Scholarship Application and take it to your local high schools.

Let me know if you need any help!

Kim Mellie

Education Chairman

kmellie@comcast.net

Leadership

As we continue Lighting Up Our Future for our Veterans and enjoy the theme of Christmas EVERYDAY... we need to be sure we are aware of and addressing the crisis of leadership across the country and around the globe. Blame it on the pandemic; blame it on aging membership or blame it on apathy. Whatever you choose to blame it on makes little difference. The way we choose to tackle it and address it is what counts.

In a series of articles, I plan to share five reasons why we are fighting this Leadership Crisis... and I believe together we can find ways to navigate it and work toward a solution.

Reason One: Obsession with Outcomes
Outcomes should be the LAST link in whatever it is we are trying to accomplish. We must think about the planning and the process before we focus all our energy and effort on the end result. Certainly, we have to keep that in mind, but as leaders we must be committed to thinking about the cause and effect of programs and projects.

Here's a quick analogy as we enter the fall season: To grow a pumpkin you need four elements – earth, air, fire (warmth) and water – and a seed. During its development, your attention is not on the pumpkin, it's on the four elements that make the growth possible – the environment.

Just like the pumpkin, you have absolutely NO IDEA exactly how a project or program will turn out in terms of form, size, and impact. These are not predictable. The only thing you can control are the parameters of its environment.

When leaders fixate only on the outcomes, they do so at the detriment of the casual factors that determine the quality of those outcomes. We simply cannot ignore the process and must be supportive of the "environment" that contributes to bringing things to fruition.

We are a group of dedicated women who can and will make a difference. Let's find ways to support one another learn as we grow as leaders and give each other the gift of mutual helpfulness.

ALA WV 2022-2023 Leadership Chairman

Rosemary M. Thomas, Ed.D.

Chaplain

May God bless us and keep us all safe this October and always.

Huge shout out to Edie Legg from Point Pleasant for sending me a beautiful prayer for President Savannah's Prayer Book. I hope all Units will follow suite.

Please email kmellie@comcast.net or text me 304-216-9943 if you have anyone in your Unit in need of a card, a prayer, a kind word. I would love to reach out to members in need.

October 23-29th is Spiritual Care Week - remember to show appreciation to your religious leaders in your community who are relevant and responsive in times of crisis.

October is also Positive Attitude Month so spread that Positivity! It is better for your mental health to rid your life of negative people and thoughts. Please let me know if I can help in any way. May God bless us and keep us all safe this October and always.

October is the opal month of the year. It is the month of glory, of ripeness. It is the picture-month.

Heavenly and Blessed Father, we welcome the new month of October with great expectation and hope. Please keep our military, families, and communities safe from harm

Amen

Kim Mellie

Chaplain

Community Service

If your unit holds any events for community service please send to me all your reports.

Thanks

Peggy Swartz

Chairperson

National Security

National President Vickie Koutz has requested we renew our focus on "POW/MIA'S" this year. Please remember if you had a ceremony in the public, a Proclamation with city officials, unit ceremonies, to write this down for your end of year report. Pictures make great storytellers. So be sure to take pictures of all events you do for National Security!

I hope each unit has gone over the Plan of Action for National Security that was in your folder.

Each month I will add a tidbit "Did You Know" in my article. This month's tidbit is that "Blood Drives" are now included in the Community Service program, instead of National Security. Don't forget "Red Friday" until our troops come home.

Remember our Service Members
Paulette Anderson
National Security

Poppy

Good evening hope everyone is enjoying the nice weather.

Hope information handed out at fall workshop has been helpful. Try to Get your local schools interested in the Poppy Contest.

I am trying to come up with a poppy project for Mid Winter, I will have It in next months Spirit. Halloween is coming up download the Poppy Coloring book and the coloring book for Halloween.

Remember November is Veterans Day hand out your Poppies. If you Need my help email me at carlajwilfong@gmail.com or call me at 304-592-0247.

God Bless our Veterans
Carla Wilfong
Poppy Chairperson

Public Relations

Public Relations is about letting everyone know "Who we are" and "What we do". It is about all the little things we do all the way up to the bigger ones. It is not just the Units responsibility to spread the word, but most importantly that of each individual member. It is as simple of striking up a conversation with someone regarding the purpose of the American Legion Auxiliary and all the things we do. It is as easy as branding by just wearing an American Legion Auxiliary apparel out to events, functions, or just on an ordinary day and having someone ask about it. Just remember that one of the most important tools of Public Relations is you the member.

Public Relation Chairperson

Stephanie Handley

stephaniehandley@msn.com

PH: 304.670.4055

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Good Evening to all. Hope everyone enjoyed Fall Workshop and came Home with new information.

If your VA Hospital is wanting something specific email me a list and I will try to get it in the Spirit.

Cold weather is coming so remember our homeless Veterans. If you Have a Suicide Prevention group in your area, try to set in on their Meeting. Try to get in on their training.

I will have more information next Spirit, Patty Williamson, Central Division For National, will be sending me information that I can send on.

If you need m help just email me at carlajwilfong@gmail.com, or call me At 304-592-0247.

God Bless Our Veterans
Carla Wilfong
VA&R Co-chairperson



Music

From your Music chair, Kitty Kelly-Smoot!!

This year, we are "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" with President Savannah and her crew. I hope to "show you how it's done" with a YouTube video or something (with some help from my granddaughter!!) at our district meeting. And then I want all of you to send me from your Auxiliaries and Districts all your wonderful "stage productions" in action!! I will compile all the videos I receive throughout our year and let all attendees at Department Convention decide on a winner, how's that sound!!

Now don't forget about our regular music award at the Department convention, too!! The past few years I've had single digit year-end reports. Everybody should be doing something with patriotic music during our year!! I'll try to send you some more ideas!!

Meanwhile, Let's ROCK!! I'd like for y'all to create either a YouTube or FaceBook video of your Units and Districts singing along, or text it to me. Here's all my digits! And have fun!!

Kitty Kelly-Smoot
4378 Green Valley Rd.
Huntington, WV 25701
Kittyks2@comcast.net email
304-412-3649 cell
304-525-4242 home

Membership Song

Sung to the tune of Brenda Lee's "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree"

Rockin' around the Christmas tree at our VA Christmas Shops.

Our PDP Angels are leading our way in, so we will gladly stop!

Rockin' around the Christmas tree while Cardinal Savannah flies

Later we'll share some candy canes and gingerbread surprise!

We will share an ornamental feeling when we see

Ribbons and Tinsel and Lights a'shinin'

Hugging our Vets with the Gifts we're providing!

Rockin' around the Christmas tree, have a Starry Holiday!

Helping our Veterans have a Blest Holiday, at our VA Gift Shop Days!!

(musical interlude)

We will share that ornamental feeling when we see

Ribbons and Tinsel and Lights a'shinin'

Hugging our Vets with the Gifts we're providing!

Rockin' around the Christmas tree, have a Bulb-lit Holiday!

Helping our Veterans have a Blest Holiday,

at our V (pause) A (pause) Gift (pause) Shooooopp Daaaays!!!



Constitution & Bylaws

Constitution & Bylaws

At National Convention there were 22 items changed in the National governing documents, Constitution, Bylaws, Standing Rules and Incorporation. I will summarize those changes here and only expand on a few. They are listed in order presented at the National Convention. Not all of these will be of interest to every member, but I wanted to cover each one so those who need to be aware are. Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Constitution Article VII & Bylaws Article XIII.– add date, so the proposed amendments are received by the Monday after the 3rd Friday in July and clarified how they get distributed.

Standing Rule VII. Committees, 6 – (AEF, Girls Nation, Community Service, Education, Junior, Leadership, Legislation, Membership Poppy and Public Relations) added the Committee Purpose.

Standing Rule XIII. Dues, 1 – For Fiscal year 2024, the National portion of the Dues will increase from \$12 to \$18 per senior member. (Department is staying at \$7, so instead of sending \$19, Units will send \$25. So before to check your Unit dues amount and if you need to increase them be sure to change it in your Standing rules if needed)

Standing Rule VII. Committees, 6. Risk & Compliance -Added an additional member independent of the organization may be selected by the Risk & Compliance Committee from applicants with demonstrated experience in nonprofit risk and compliance.

Bylaw Article II. Election of Officers Section 4 – added Appointment to title and removed NEC and National committee from section 4. Also added if a National committee member is an ALA member, they shall be in good standing in their Unit.

Bylaws Article VIII. Department Organization, Section 2- Added if a Department Officer is an ALA member, they shall be in good standing in their Unit.

Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation – to handle items related to NEC to oversee NEC conduct.

Bylaws Article IV, National Executive Committee, Section 2. Authority to include conduct of all NEC members and possible outcomes of misconduct.

National Standing Rule VII. Committees, 6, Special Purpose Committees– Purpose and composition of Ethical Conduct Committee

Standing Rules X. Departments, 5 regarding the conduct of NEC member - Conduct of the NEC member is now addressed in Bylaws IV, National Executive Committee, Section 2, and in the Ethical Conduct Review Policy, so those parts were removed here. However, election, eligibility, and capacity are still matters to be determined by the NEC member's department, responsibility added. Item "e" conflicts with Standing Rule X. #2, so it was removed here.

Bylaws Article XI. Suspension, Cancellation and Revocation of Charters – was reworked due to - A special subcommittee of the NEC that was formed this past administrative year to review an appeal from a Unit on the cancellation of its charter, identified changes that needed to be made to the bylaws regarding Unit cancellations; the Department charter cancellation process also is updated for consistency.

1. The terms "suspend," "cancel" and "revoke" were not defined and confusing. "Suspending" a Unit means the Unit must cease operations for a defined period of time. This does not allow the Unit to make any changes recommended by the Department. For example, Departments may choose to discipline a Unit for a probationary period and require tasks to be accomplished in a specified time frame for the Unit to be reinstated in good standing. This will be described more fully in the standing rules. The term "revocation" is most often associated by our members with IRS revocation of tax-exempt status.

2. The terms "due process" and "equal protection" are legal terms enforced by courts. Also, Indiana state statutes do not require a "hearing." Non-profit organizations are using the more easily understood term "fundamental fairness" which is defined as notice and an opportunity to be heard.

3. Court reporters are expensive and rarely used. Departments should instead preserve all disciplinary communications with the unit, including meetings and actions taken by the Department. More details are to be included in the standing rules.

4. Eliminating and simplifying references where multiple words are used to the same effects: for example, changing "possession, custody, and control" to possession.

Lisa Cadwallader, Chairperson
Lisac.ala71@gmail.com



American Legion Auxiliary WV Rhododendron Girls State

Rhododendron Girls State

Happy Fall Ya'll-

The 2023 Girls State program will be held June 11-16, 2023 at Davis & Elkins College in Elkins WV. Please note with rising costs the registration fee will be \$200 per citizen which will include the cost of the parade t-shirt. Also, those elected to the Board of Public Works will be transported to the State Capital in Charleston to meet the their elected West Virginia counterparts.

What an amazing opportunity you provide these citizens to witness from the time they arrive until the leave. They find themselves more engaged in leadership, patriotism, and being an informed citizen and many new friends around the state. You are invited to Davis & Elkins on Friday, June 16th for the Inauguration and Graduation Ceremonies. We look forward to providing another great and successful session. Please contact your school principals and counselors. Introduce yourself and let them know what our program is all about. Start securing the funding now and you may have share sponsorships per citizen. If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contract me or your district representative.

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd
Girls State Chairperson



District Representatives

1st Dist. — Susan Brown
2172 Grandview Rd.
Moundsville WV 26041
304-845-5122

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

4th Dist. — Cathy Post
308 Main Street
Middlebourne, WV 26149
304-758-5114

5th Dist. — Ann Buchanan
105 Cheyenne Trail
Ona WV 25505
304-654-9932

6th Dist. — Peggy Swartz
P O Box 124
Gary WV 24836
304-448-2394

10th Dist. — Debbie Fox
874 Longview Drive
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411
304-258-5804

Ways and Means

There were 19 \$25.00 winners in July, with one winner of the \$200.00 Wednesday. Congratulation to each of you!

Cost for a ticket \$20.00 good for the whole year of 2022! Never to late to purchase a ticket. They make GREAT gifts! Please cash your checks!

NOTICE—Please mail check and stubs to:

Susan Brown
2172 Grandview Rd
Moundsville WV 26041

Check Payable to: Ways & Means

Susan Brown
Linda Crumm

August 2022 Ways and Means Winners

Name	#'s	City	State	Date	\$\$\$
ALA Unit #14	856	Martinsburg	WV	8/01/2022	25.00
Bonnie Wilcox	083	Romney	WV	8/02/2022	25.00
Jill Davis	595	Capon Bridge	WV	8/03/2022	25.00
Paulette Anderson	061	New Martinsville	WV	8/04/2022	25.00
	019			8/05/2022	
	455			8/06/2022	
Bobby Rose, Sr	089	Gary	WV	8/08/2022	25.00
Michelle Sirbaugh	483	Holly Springs	NC	8/09/2022	25.00
	264			8/10/2022	
	757			8/11/2022	
	143			8/12/2022	
	428			8/13/2022	
	863			8/15/2022	
Melanie Delawder	020	Old Fields	WV	8/16/2022	25.00
Shannon Harshbarger	306	Huntington	WV	8/17/2022	200.00
	998			8/18/2022	
Sheila Rose	820	Gary	WV	8/19/2022	25.00
Carl Mariotti, Jr	521	Bluefield	WV	8/20/2022	25.00
	004			8/22/2022	
Catherine Sirk	168	Romney	WV	8/23/2022	25.00
	457			8/24/2022	
C. Elaine Davis	954	Keyser	WV	8/25/2022	25.00
	816			8/26/2022	
ALA Unit #14	856	Martinsburg	WV	8/27/2022	25.00
	352			8/29/2022	
	473			8/30/2022	
	376			8/31/2022	



Oct. 2022

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Columbus Day 	11	12	13 	14	15 Dept. President Savanna's Homecoming— Martinsburg
16 4th District Fall Confer- ence Parkersburg #15	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 1st District Fall Conference Moundsville #3	31 					

*Programs of Month
Education
Constitution & Bylaws*

Come to Celebrate
the Homecoming
of
Auxiliary Department President
Savanna Kauffman

October 15, 2022
at Martinsburg Moose Lodge #120
201 Woodbury Avenue
Martinsburg WV 25401
4 –5 pm Social Hour
6—9 pm Dinner and Program

Tickets \$20.00 per person

RSVP to
Sharon Kauffman at 304-582-2973

Room reservations at Holiday Inn, Martinsburg
Rate \$109.00 per night plus tax
Phone # 304-267-5500
Reservation Code—SAL



The American Legion Commander
Tom Hicks
Invites you to his
Homecoming

November 5, 2022

at
Genesis Event Center
Jefferson Ave. and Second St.
Moundsville

Social hour – 6 to 7 pm

Dinner and Program – 7 – 9 pm

Cost - \$20.00

No gifts please – Donations accepted for Operation Comfort
Warriors



Mail checks payable to: Tom Hicks
353 Arbor Lane
Moundsville WV 26041

Phone # 304-559-7031
RSVP by October 28, 2022
Band to follow at Post #3

Rooms: Holiday Inn Express
225 Teletech Dr.—Moundsville
304-845-8455
Rates \$150.00
Group Code: Commander Dinner



“Christmas 365 around the World”



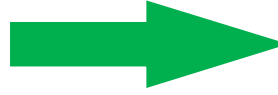
September 15, 2022
Department Goal— 4935 Membership to Date— 565
Department Unit 200 Goal—136 Membership to Date— 25
Target #1—25%

Laura

District 1			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	21	0	0%
Moundsville #3	244	5	2.05%
McMechen #5	31	0	0%
Weirton #10	65	4	6.15%
Cameron #18	156	1	.6%
New Martinsville #28	104	28	26.92%
Wellsburg #34	29	1	3.45%
Follansbee #45	52	1	1.92%
Pine Grove #81	81	0	0%
Paden City #86	90	3	3.33%
Wheeling #89	22	1	4.55%
Newell #114	16	2	12.5%
Hundred #120	38	0	0%
Chester #121	134	3	2.24%
TOTALS	1083	49	4.53%

District 4			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	402	51	12.69%
Spencer #21	29	6	2.07%
Pt. Pleasant #23	227	5	2.20%
Tyler County #48	42	1	2.38%
Sistersville #67	56	1	1.79%
New Haven #140	143	4	2.80%
Williamstown #159	89	10	11.24%
TOTALS	988	78	7.89%

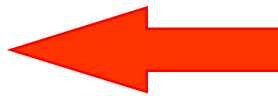
District 6			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Welch #8	55	1	1.82%
Bluefield #9	31	0	0%
Beckley #32	33	2	6.45%
Gary #38	97	0	0%
Cowen #62	23	15	65.17
Richwood #97	30	0	0%
TOTALS	269	18	6.69%



**“Candy Canes”
 Team
 Goal—2459
 To Date— 395
 16.06%**



**Membership
 Chairman
 A Star**



**“Gingerbread”
 Team
 Goal—2340
 To Date 145
 6.20%**



Debbie

District 3			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	40	10	25%
Clarksburg #13	43	8	18.60%
Elkins #29	121	6	4.96%
Shinnston #31	248	112	45.16%
Braxton County #33	35	11	31.43%
Bridgeport #68	62	9	14.52%
Belington #96	19	0	0%
Pickens #122	25	0	0%
Morgantown #174	60	3	5%
TOTALS	653	142	21.75%

District 5			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Huntington #16	146	25	17.12%
Logan #19	22	0	0%
St. Albans #73	29	3	10.34%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	223	12	5.15%
South Charleston #94	12	1	8.33%
Hamlin #111	47	1	2.13%
Milton #139	57	7	12.28%
Barboursville #177	132	24	18.18%
TOTALS	668	73	10.93%

District 10			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	71	9	12.68%
Franklin #30	22	0	0%
Piedmont #52	20	0	0%
Berkeley Springs #60	182	5	2.75%
Moorefield #64	86	7	8.14%
Charles Town #71	118	37	31.36%
Petersburg #78	78	2	2.56%
Romney #91	174	39	22.41%
Charles Town #102	41	0	0%
Paw Paw #128	38	0	0%
Kirby #134	37	11	29.73%
Ridgeley #136	70	2	2.86%
Capon Bridge #137	158	39	24.68%
Keyser #152	43	3	6.98%
TOTALS	1138	163	14.32%

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

Subscription will Cost \$18.00

Runs August through July Each Year

MAIL TO:

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of West Virginia
2172 Grandview Road
Moundsville, WV 26041

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS OR PO BOX: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP: _____