



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 28

April 2015

Issue 9



American Legion Auxiliary
2014-2015
Department President
Paula Booth



Upward and Onward For Veterans

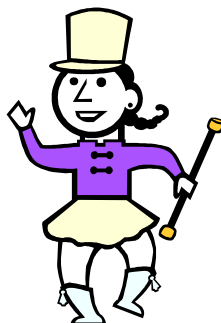
Warm Spring Greetings to One and All!

CONGRATULATIONS TO HUNDRED UNIT 120, CHESTER UNIT 121, AND DISTRICT 1 for making GOAL and joining Paden City Unit 86 and Beckley Unit 32!! Way to go, Flames!! (Where are my Wigs??)

Paulette Anderson, Ann Buchanan, Betty Rae and I attended the Washington D.C. Conference. We heard from Benjamin Patton, grandson of WWII General George S. Patton. His film company conducts hands-on workshops designed for soldiers being treated for PTSD. A Creative Arts Display was set up around the room and one of the displays featured a sculpture by a veteran from Charleston, WV. We heard various speakers covering: Communities Honoring and Supporting Veterans; America's Civic Health; Assuring a Robust Military Family Readiness System; 2015 National Convention; Building a Stronger VA Voluntary Service Program; Caring for Caregivers; and Veterans Creative Arts—Just the Beginning. The Public Spirit Award went to Home Depot. 13 of us went to visit our U.S. Senators and Congressmen from WV. Dept. of Veterans Affairs Secretary, Bob McDonald, came to our hotel and addressed the Legion Family.

Junior and I attended the Legion Oratorical Finals at Shinnston Post on March 15. Our Finalist is Sarah Bryan, a senior from Huntington High School. She will represent us well at National. Please try to attend one of these contests next year—the students are amazing!

Upward & Onward for Veterans!
Paula Booth, Department President



Department Officers 2014-2015

- President—Paula Booth
- 1st Vice President—Susan Wade
- 2nd Vice President—Tammy Workman
- Sec/Treas.—Paulette Anderson
- Chaplain—Ramona Westfall
- Historian—Rhonda Best
- District Presidents 2014-2015
- 1st District—Donna Leek
- 3rd District—Connie Bailey
- 4th District—Nancy Sundstrom
- 5th District—Beth Kilgore
- 6th District—Peggy Swartz
- 8th District—Mary Bess
- 9th District—Marion Gregory
- 10th District—Lisa Turner

District Vice Presidents 2014-2015

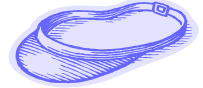
- 1st District—Marlene Stansberry
- 3rd District—Carla Wilfong
- 4th District—Cathy Post
- 5th District—JoAnn Hastings
- 6th District—Rita Alley
- 8th District—Rose Reese
- 9th District—Jeanie Phares
- 10th District—Sharon Glassford

Dr. Greg K. Gibbs, SAL Nat'l Vice Commander East, from Hamburg, New York, stated: Thank you for your hospitality while I visited your Midwinter Conference this past weekend. The way your Department, your Auxiliary, your Sons, and your Riders interact is truly an exemplary Legion Family experience. Please thank your Juniors for making the door hanger for me. I have not received anything from any Juniors in any of my Eastern Region visits—it truly made my day! Thank you again for all you do on behalf of veterans, military, and the Legion Family!

Mrs. Bertie K. Bryant, PDP Virginia, from Irvington, VA, stated: Had a wonderful time with all—you are doing a great job for the A.L.A.! [She is the wife of a current Legion Vice Commander]



Department Headquarters— "Ticket Taker"



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 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 all information must be filled out before processing into Department Headquarters.** If a veteran is living they must hold membership in The American Legion. **All unfinished applications will be returned this year.**

Please check the Birthdates of your Juniors renewing this year. If they will turn 18 years old by December 31, 2014 they are considered a Senior Member. **Remember:** if a Woman Veteran joins the Auxiliary under herself you must put on the application at the top **"Honor Our Women Veterans"** to get the discount from National. Unit Secretary can sign these applications **ONLY**

MAKE SURE THE POST OFFICER SIGNS OTHER APPLICATIONS.

Cookbooks: we still have about 109 cookbooks to sell. Contact Dept. Headquarters to purchase one. **Support our Veterans!!!**

Unit Audits: are in this Spirit. Please look your Unit over and if you feel this is incorrect contact this office immediately. Mandatory Funds **must** be paid by **June 9, 2015** in order to be seated as a Delegate at the Department Convention.

Remember: Dues must be paid in old Unit before they can transfer now.

Member Data Forms are due by May 1st

Dates To Remember:

3rd District Spring Conference
March 28th
Shinnston Post #31 (Joint)

10th District Spring Conference
April 11th
Martinsburg Post #14 (Joint)

4th District Spring Conference
April 12th
Parkersburg Post #15 (Joint)

5th District Spring Conference
April 18th
Barboursville Post #177 (Joint)

8th District Spring Conference
April 18th
South Charleston Unit #94

1st District Spring Conference
May 17th
Wheeling Unit #89

Good Friday Office Closed

Department National Leadership Conference May 1-4, 2015
Office Closed

Memorial Day May 25th
Office Closed

Rhododendron Girls State
Wheeling Jesuit University
June 22-27, 2015

Credentials Deadline for Convention
Thursday June 25, 2014

Department Convention
Morgantown WV
July 9-12, 2015

National Convention
Baltimore Maryland
August 28-September 3, 2015

Labor Day Office Closed

Fall Workshop/Executive Board
Days Inn Bridgeport WV
September 11-12, 2015

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

American Legion Auxiliary
Department Email:
alawvsec@frontier.com

Rhododendron Girls State Website:
www.wvgirlsstate.org

The American Legion
Department Email:
wvlegion@suddenlinkmail.com

National Auxiliary website:
alaforveterans.org

Remember Our Friends

Sharon Kauffman's father passed away this past week. He had been ill for some time. Sharon is President of Martinsburg Unit #14, and serves as Martinsburg VAMC Committee, VAWS-VAMC Deputy this year. Cards may be sent to Sharon and her family at:

*Sharon Kauffman
1671 Kelly Island Rd.
Martinsburg WV 25405*

Please continue to keep Ramona Westfall in your thoughts and prayers, as she goes through this difficult time.

Thoughts and prayers for these and all members who we know are ill.

"WELCOMING OUR MEMBERSHIP"

Membership Chairman

Dear Ladies:

As Central Division Membership Chairman will say; "TEAM CENTRAL". I am going to share with you some of Donna Ray's positive attitude. "Milestone's: Commitments, Believe, Reaching Goals, Motivation, Growth, And a Plan." "Keep the Positive Attitude." Our monthly milestone is 674 per month and so by the end of February we should have 4,715 and February we are at 6,233. Our goal is for 2015 is 8,083. "We need to continue to Renew, Refresh, and Rejuvenate;" from Donna. "Phone calls make a difference some of the time." We are not the only ones struggling. You are still doing your job and for that I am very thankful. I know we can get our numbers up. Donna comments; "Fantastic job has been done by all. Thanks to everyone for continuing to meet the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary."

"Let's welcome everyone to the Largest Patriotic Women's Organization in the world. Spread the word and sign up a new member or members." We all need to work on the MISSION, VISION, AND GOAL. THIS IS FOR OUR VETERAN'S!!! Should we not do this where will our Veterans be in a few years? "Set your Strategy, Mission, Planning, Direction and Vision." "On Facebook, Central Division has a page Central Division Membership Freedom Bells." See what is happening. There are so many units that are so close to the 100%. We need to get the Wigs up with some Goal Units.

Now another problem, this has been gone over and over. DO NOT HOLD DUES!!!!!! We cannot afford to have this keep happening. Also, paper work not filled out correctly. This delays the complete process. Please stop and double check so that the first time is the charm for Paulette. So let's GO TEAM CENTRAL HIT YOUR GOALS; YOU CAN DO THIS. Remember the Juniors. Carry applications with you, THAT IS A MUST. A Big Thank You for the job you are doing. We just need to find a way to get these members. You can do it, you have done it before. You do a great job in everything you do for the American Legion Auxiliary and our first priority Veterans. Continue your spirit and dedication!!!

Sharon Glassford (Family Faith Freedom)

1st Vice President

Hello Ladies!

I want to thank the Units that have sent in dues and are working the Membership!

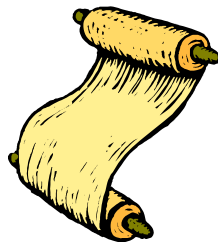
This month we did not have any Unit that reached Target 8 at 95%. Some were close, only needing 1 or 2 members to reach Target. I know with a little extra effort, we can do this!!!

I wish I knew the answer on getting renewals! It is vital to our Units to keep our members so we can continue to work the programs. Does your community know that we are the largest supporters of Veterans in the Country? Does your community know of all the programs we are involved in? Do they know how hard we work for our Veterans and their families? Does your Unit advertise your events in the newspaper? It is vital to let the community know what we stand for and we are there to support our Veterans and their families? If anyone has ideas, I would appreciate hearing about them.

I believe this is a first, with not one Unit on our side, making Target! Our "Wigs" are really down percentage wise by 12%. It is not too late to bring our numbers up!!! I have faith that in our last few months, we can achieve our goals! Please do not hold dues!!! As you can see, 1 member makes a big difference!!!!

It amazes me that so many people are enthralled with March madness!!! Nothing wrong with that, but wouldn't it be great if we were so enthralled with retaining our members??? Just something to think about!!

God Bless Our Veterans!!
God Bless All of You!!!
Susan Wade (The Tablet Writer)
Department 1st Vice President
304 771-1574 (cell)



2nd Vice President

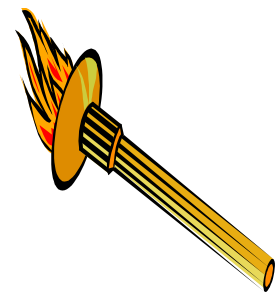
Boy-oh-boy the "Flames" are cracklin' and lighting up the sky with an over- all 93%. Terrific work Ladies!!! We just need about 247 more members to reach our half of the Goal of (3737) members, and I know we can do it.

I'd like to give a great big shout-out to everyone who has reached and exceeded Goals so far. Congratulations to the First District with 106.48%; Paden City Unit #86; Hundred Unit # 120; Chester Unit #121 and Beckley Unit #32. Awesome work Ladies!!! I know we are all about "Service Not Self" but I think you deserve a day to kick back, maybe share a nice lunch with your members, and enjoy a moment for all of your hard work.

We have three units who've met Target 8 with 95% or more. Congratulations to Pine Grove Unit #81; Point Pleasant Unit #23 and Belington Unit #96 Fantastic work Ladies, just a teeny bit more and you'll have your Goals. And we had some who just barely missed Target 8, you are all doing a wonderful job.

We still have some work to do, though, and as we all know membership (the mother of the ALA) never really rests. District Vice Presidents and Presidents of 4th, 6th, and 9th Please remember to make time to communicate with your Units at least once a month. This is part of our duties in leadership and it really does make a difference in motivation and inspiration. The ALA is needed Now-Today just as much, if not more than, yesterday. So please make time for communications. It builds our numbers and our strength, and our reach for a better tomorrow.

For God and Country
Tammy Workman (Torch Lighter)



Third District President

Hello all

Due to deep snow and high water you know Dist #3 Spring Conf. Had to be rescheduled for Saturday March 28th at **Shinnston Post #31**. This is a change of location for the Conference. Registration is 9:00-10:00 and meeting starts at 10:00.

Keep faith-Spring is on the way! I have seen robins & flowers.

This is starting to be a very busy time of year with lots of opportunities to meet new contacts and new members. It never hurts to ask, someone may just be waiting for an invitation to join.

Hope to see all of you at the Conference.

Thank you,
Yours in Service
Connie Bailey
Dist. #3 President
crb1940@3wlogic.net

Third District Vice President

Good Morning to all my fellow Auxiliary Members!

I hope everyone is enjoying the good weather this week.

I wish everyone a successful Spring Conference.

Third District Spring Conference is rescheduled for March 28th at Shinnston Post 31. I would like to see the Units in Third District turn in lots of Membership. For the Unit turning in the most membership I will have a little surprise for them.

In looking over membership from Headquarters we still have two units below 70%. Come on Ladies we can do better than this. I am going to start paying a visit when it is possible to the Units in our District. My visits will start this coming week. If your Unit needs help, call me at 304-592-0247, this is my cell number and I have it with me and on at all times. Or you can e-mail me at carlajwilfong@yahoo.com

See you on the 28th of March, bring that MEMBERSHIP with you.

Carla J Wilfong
3rd District Vice President

Fourth District President

Hello Ladies of 4th District,

I would like to thank you for the get well cards. I am doing much better now.

We still have members that haven't paid their dues yet. With elections coming up for Unit, District and Department Officers members that haven't paid their membership dues will be unable to vote for their Officer of choice.

With Spring just around the corner we will be having our 4th District Spring Conference on April 12, 2015 at American Legion Post 15, 2505 Ohio Avenue Parkersburg.

Registration: 9:00 am
Cost for Auxiliary: \$10.00
Cost for Legion: \$15.00

Menu: Baked Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/gravy, Corn or Green Beans and Dinner Rolls. The Junior Auxiliary will be providing dessert.

Units don't forget to Mail your Delegates List back to me for voting purpose: Nancy Sundstrom 1307 23rd Street Parkersburg, WV26101-2703.

I would like to see every Unit in 4th District represented.

God Bless All
Nancy Sundstrom
4th District President

Eighth District President

The Spring Conference will be held on Saturday, April 18th, at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 412 Goff Mtn. Rd., Cross Lanes 304-769-2240. Registration will start at 9:00 a.m. The meal will be dutch treat, so you can either eat when you get there or eat lunch after our meeting. No reservations are needed. Notify me if you have had any deaths this past year for the memorial service.

The Cross Lanes exit is off of I-64 between Charleston and Huntington. Just follow the signs for Goff Mtn. Road when you take the Exit. I'm sure you can't miss it, so please make an attempt to come and enjoy the fellowship.

Mary Bess
District President

Fourth District Vice President

Welcome Spring...Finally !

We have one Unit, Pt. Pleasant #23 so close to goal, congratulations girls, just a little bit more, and Unit #15 is not far behind. Williamstown Unit # 159 is coming right along. Units #140, #21 and #104 are looking at a lot better totals. Sistersville #67, is still lagging behind.

Units please don't let personal differences get in the way of making goal and hitting your targets. Don't forget to check your Jr's dues also.

According to last months Spirit as of January 31 all memberships are delinquent if not paid. Make sure to post your target sheets in your canteens so these ladies can see these, in hopes that they will encourage their friends to pay their dues.

If you have long time members that are now home bound, be a good sister and pay their dues so they will keep their continued years of service. Do all you "Ladies of Liberty", we owe them that.

Membership Chairmen make those calls to get these due in.

Nominations for new officers are approaching soon!

Happy Easter to all.
Thank a Veteran.
For God and Country,
Cathy Post
4th District Vice President.

Fifth District Vice President

Hello Ladies

I hope you all are well and the snow and high water are over with, so you can get to your auxiliary meetings. We need to work just a little harder.

I know I sound like a drill sergeant, But this is my job. I see we are doing better but I would love to see Fifth District to meet goal.

Make sure that membership is in to Department Headquarters by the 15th to be counted for target.

5th District Spring conference is April 18th at Barboursville Post #177. I hope to see you all there.

JoAnn Hastings
Fifth District Vice President

Fifth District President

5th District Spring Conference is April 18th at Barboursville Post #177 and I would like to invite everyone to join us. The cost is \$10.00, which includes registration and lunch. Let me know if you are planning on attending so we will have a count for Barboursville for lunch.



Later that evening Huntington Unit # 16 is having their birthday dinner and they would like to have you join them. Any member of Unit #16 has tickets. Make plans now to attend both of these events and spend the day in the 5th District.

Keep working on those memberships and send them in as soon as you have them. You never know who wants to join but they are just waiting for some to ask them. Now is the time...ASK THEM.

If I can help you in any way, just give me a call.
Beth Kilgore
5th District President



I believe our flag is more than just cloth and ink. It is a universally recognized symbol that stands for liberty, and freedom. It is the history of our nation, and it's marked by the blood of those who died defending it.

John Thune



Convention Chairman

July Convention 2015

Hello Everyone,

Here it is Mid March, so much to do and we are so happy that spring is so close and winter hopefully is DONE! We have End of Year Reports, Birthday Celebrations, Spring Conferences and oh yes Planning for July Convention 2015.

We are looking forward to another successful Convention and everyone is pulling together to make it happen. The convention committee is already working on the plans.

The Department Convention is July 9-11 2015 at the Ramada Inn in Morgantown.

Look for information coming in the Spirit and being sent to the Units, regarding Credentials, Registration and Past Presidents Luncheon. Ad Forms and Reservation Forms have already been out. Reservation Forms were in the last Spirit or can be printed online from the website www.wvaux.org

We are requesting members to sign up to help with the registration and raffle tickets for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Contact me at 304-676-8543 or email me at victorialuttrell@msn.com

It was wonderful to see many of you at the Mid-Winter Conference in Martinsburg and looking forward to a well attended Convention in July.

Continue with all your good works in our mission as Auxiliary members, "Serving Veterans and Serving America."

In the spirit of Service Not Self for Veterans, God and Country

Vickie Luttrell
Convention Chairman

2015-2016 Candidates for Offices

Dept. President-Susan Wade Unit #86
Dept. 1st V.P.-Tammy Workman Unit#28
Dept. 2nd V.P.-
Dept. Sec/Treas.-Paulette Anderson #86
Dept. Chaplain-Rhonda Best-Unit #3
Dept. Historian-

2015-2016 Candidates for District

1st Dist. Pres.—
Vice Pres.— Donna Leek Unit #81
3rd Dist. Pres.—Carla Wilfong Unit #31
Vice Pres.—
4th Dist. Pres.—Cathy Post Unit #67
5th Dist. Pres.—
Vice Pres.—
6th Dist. Pres.—
Vice Pres.—
8th Dist. Pres.—
Vice Pres.—
9th Dist. Pres.—
Vice Pres.—
10th Dist. Pres.-
Vice Pres.-

Endorsements On File.

2014-2015 Honorary Junior Officers

President—Katie Beth Caudill

1st V P— Taylor Bush

2nd V P— Despena O'Neill

Secretary— Lexie Nelson

Chaplain— Courtney King

Historian— Mary Grace Bannon



Historian

Hello Ladies,

I would like to wish all members and their families a Happy Easter.

I want to remind all units that it is "Year End Report" time. It is essential to get each of your units history reports to me. We need to show National how busy West Virginia has been and how we have helped our Veterans and our Community. So please forward your reports as soon as possible if you have not done so.

My email and address is listed below.

God Bless,
Rhonda Best
Department Historian
37 Simpson Ave.
Moundsville, WV 26041
Email: rlcbest37@aim.com



Education

Hello Ladies,

I hope everyone who had scholarship applications has turned them in by now to Roxie. Maybe West Virginia will have another winner this year.

End-Of-Year reporting is near. The Plan of Action you received from each Department Chairman at the beginning of the year was a guideline of activities and programs suggested for each committee/program that you work. The articles in the "Spirit", also, have highlighted some of those ideas or offered suggestions on what to do. Your Year-End-Report and your narrative should reflect the activities you did throughout the year for that committee. Any pictures or news clippings you have on those activities should be included with your reports.

There are Department, Divisional, and National awards that a Unit can win. A plaque will be presented to the Unit Education Chairman in Central Division reporting the most outstanding promotion in each of the following Education Programs: 1) Most Outstanding American Education Week Program, 2) Most Outstanding Scholarship Program, 3) Million Member Award, 4) Most Outstanding Veterans in the Classroom Program, 5) Give 10 to Education, 6) Honoring the Service of our Military. To be eligible for these awards, a copy of the Unit Education Annual Report form must accompany a typewritten narrative, double-spaced and not to exceed 1000 words. The cover page should have the name of the award entry, Department (State) name, Unit name & number, and name and address of Unit Chairman. Entries must be into Department by May 1, 2015.

There are two Department Education Traveling Plaques. The Janet Durbin Plaque is for units with 10 -150 membership and the Virginia Beaty Plaque is for units with 151 and over membership. The Department plaque goes to the Unit with the best overall End-of-Year report with narrative. These reports are due into Department Headquarters by April 15th.

The Unit Awards Manual is on the Department website www.wvaux.org and states the mission of each committee/program and the requirements needed for the awards available for each Committee/Program. If you have any questions, please contact any one of your Department Committee Chairmen. They will be happy to help you.

Linda Crumm
Education
Committee Member



Public Relations

Hello Ladies,

Warmer weather is finally starting to move in. Before you know it, we will be complaining about how hot it is.

We have many important programs that we do for Veterans, community and children, we all know this. But have you thought about how important our public relations program is and why. If we do not publicize who we are and let the community know all the wonderful things we do, we are not going to build our membership. Without building our membership, as we age and become no longer able to continue on in our great efforts, who is going to fill our shoes if they don't know about what we do, or who we are they won't want to join. Without building our membership, there will come a day where there will be no Auxiliary members to carry out our programs to help veterans, community and children. I know deep down, none of us want to see that happen, so please get the word out, who we are and what we do!!!

April 15th will be here before you know it. Now is the time to start working on you end of year reports. You may continue to send articles, and copies of facebook postings that publicizes, for Department President Paula's press book.

Lisa Cadwallader
Public RelationsChairman
LisaC.ALA71@GMail.com



Children and Youth

What does your Unit have planned to celebrate the month of the child. I hope you are planning something special for this month. Let me know what you are doing to honor the wonderful children in your community.



In April



the armed forces celebrates the Month of the Military child. The month-long celebration thanks military children for their service and recognizes them for their strength, sacrifices, and the hardships they face. The Purple Up program recognizes military kids do not choose their lifestyle. Wear a purple t-shirt on what these Military Kids are going through. But you have to do more than just wear a purple t-shirt; you need to educate the general public why you are wearing the purple shirt.

Remember: Year End Reports are due to by April 15th to the Department Secretary. I hope every Unit will submit a Children & Youth report so we can share ideas with other Units.

Beth Kilgore, Chairman
Children & Youth



I hope all Units and Districts are busy filling and refilling your piggybanks. Let me know if you need more piggy banks.

I will be collecting them again at State Convention. I need to get FAT again!



The American Legion takes care of the overhead expenses for the CWF so 100% of your contribution goes to programs to assist kids who are in need of specialized care due to many diseases that presents challenges in their lives. Thank you for all you are doing.

Beth Kilgore
Chairman

National Security

I hope everyone is enjoying this nice warm weather and not that word (snow). I know I am tired of seeing the white stuff. I hope no one slipped on the ice this winter broken bones are not fun.

In one of my e-mails from National, it was reported that as of 3/31/15 Operation Military Kids would be ending. This is very depressing.

I hope everyone remembered that when we changed our time on Sunday, March 8th to change the batteries in our smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detectors. These are two very important items. If your detector is older than TEN YEARS old please change it.

Please remember to send your year end reports by April 15th. I know each Unit has done something even if it is small add it to your report. I am looking forward to seeing them. Mid-year I received only two reports. Again fill out your End of The Year REPORTS.
Carla Wilfong, Chairman

Leadership

SPRING IS ON THE WAY

We are now approaching the time of the year when our leadership successes will reveal themselves when we submit our reports to department. I hope that each chairman will let the department know what you have done this year. I know that so many activities do not get reported and that units miss the opportunity to let us know what you have done during the year. The chairmen need your input to submit reports to our national organization. West Virginia has a lot of great units who do so much in their units and communities but we sometimes fail to submit reports telling what you do. Be proud of what the American Legion Auxiliary does and tell us about it.

As election time approaches in our units, districts, and department, it is time to think about our organization and select leaders that will lead us to successes in the future. If you are interested in being a leader, make it known in your unit and district. Leaders are needed in all areas, please consider how you can serve this great organization best. I hope that each member will plan on attending the Spring Convention in their district and Department Convention in July. You are responsible for being a good member and learning what we are trying to accomplish in our organization.

- S -- Share the American Legion Auxiliary with others
- U -- Use the tools offered by the American Legion Auxiliary
- C -- Complement other members on a job Well Done
- C -- Complete all reports to Department by the deadline
- E -- Establish a good example for new and renewed members
- S -- Strength the American Legion Auxiliary by getting new members
- S -- Share the successes of your unit and its members with the community

I am looking forward to receiving many Leadership Reports from the units and for many more units to submit forms showing they have completed some Leadership Courses. I want to present a lot of certificates at Department Convention. If your unit is having meeting and do work on our programs in your community, then you have leadership ideas and information to submit.

I wish for each unit a successful year. I wish for each member a rewarding experience with the American Legion Auxiliary. We are all leaders to someone; you decide what others will see as they watch you.
Ann Buchanan, Chairman

National Executive Committeewoman

Hello to All,

As NEC for Department of West Virginia, one of my responsibilities is to attend the NEC meetings at the DC Conference. This year to attend or not was a particular hard decision to make. I had made plans to go to Charles Town and catch a ride into DC. (about a 90 minute ride), knowing all along that a major snow storm was on it's way. Lynda Lancaster and I had many conversations "Yes we're going" "No we're not." Finally Saturday came and so did the snow fast and furious. So long story short we started our 90 minute ride about 10:30 AM from Charles Town American Legion Post # 71 and arrived in DC four and half hours later. We definitely had lots of time to talk.

My first phone call was from a National representative to see if I was on my way of course, I was there safe and sound. The question was if we would have a quorum. You can assume that our trip was easy compared to what some of our National VPs, NECs, and Chairman went through to get to DC. We did have enough for the Saturday night meeting, which shows what dedication our members have for this great organization.

I was very pleased that West Virginia had no charter cancellations this year.

One of the main issues that National has been wanting; that Departments change their By-laws so that NECs can do more than one year. The thought is since NEC is the governing body of the organization it would be easier to have a consistent committee.

Ann Buchanan, Lynda Lancaster and I went on the tour of the WWII Memorial, everyone enjoyed the trip.

Debbie Fox
National Executive Committeewoman

Central Division National Vice President

Thank you for allowing me to participate in your Mid-Winter Conference. I had a great time and your hospitality was wonderful. I was horrified and embarrassed to learn that I said Wisconsin instead of West Virginia but I am amazed that no one corrected me!

I learned a lot talking and listening to the members that were in attendance and those I was honored to spend time with.

Your President Paula has set the wheels in motion for your Department Strategic Plan and I hope that the future Presidents will continue to utilize and reshape the plan so it will assist the Department of West Virginia in reaching the goals by 2019.

I cherish the beautiful bowl that I was given. It currently sits in my kitchen full of Cadbury Mini Eggs. I have a couple of recipes that I am going to try from cook book Paulette gave me as soon as I slow down! I have many of the West Virginia and Marshall items in my bags ready to use.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to visit. I have fond memories of my visit to your great state and have met many people that I now consider my friends.

Yours in Service
Laura Mosby
American Legion Auxiliary
Central Division National Vice President
2014-2015

V A & R

After this past snowy week, I hope spring won't be too far behind. I sure am looking forward to seeing the ground and winter long gone.

Hope you have started to put together your information for your annual reports. As I write this it is a little over a month before your information has to be into Department. Even though National has put Field and Home Service together, we still have two trophies for Field Service based on Unit sizes, and the Paulette Anderson Plaque for Home Service report in this respect. In this respect please do your written reports accordingly.

Another reminder, **anything your unit has done for active service personnel should be reported on National Security, anything done for deceased veterans and /or families is on Community Service.**

Chairmen make sure your unit has paid all the welfare donations that assist veterans and their families. If you can don't forget a donation to the *Creative Arts Festival*. All monies go through Department Headquarters.

Mary Waybright
V A & R Chairman

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Time is running out to donate to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund this and get your final report in. Hope you have made a donation from you Unit.

Thank you if you have done so.

Mary Bess
Chairman

BE A LEADER!!!



Girls State Chairman

Every Unit should have already contacted the school counselors to obtain names of eligible girls and select those girls to attend Girls State.

Girls State will be held June 22-27th at Wheeling Jesuit University in Wheeling, WV. I know that every Unit does not have the same selection process.

Congratulations to those units that they have already selected their young ladies to attend Rhododendron Girls State. Please make sure you adhere to the application date. The cost again is \$200 per citizen.

Please orientate the girls you are selecting to Girls State. Let them know what Girls State is about. Classes in city, county and state government are taught. The citizen may choose to participate in the Rhododendron Daily (the Girls State newspaper), the Girls State chorus or public safety classes.

Encourage these young ladies to complete the Samsung Scholarship form. One of these young ladies attending will receive a \$ 1,000 scholarship and an opportunity to win a \$ 20,000 scholarship nationally.

Our department has an active website for the citizens to help them prepare for attending this year's Girls State session. You can visit the site by going to <http://wvgirlsstate.org>

If you need assistance with orientating your girls or have questions, please contact the district representative who serves on the Girls State Board of Directors. If you have any questions that I may assist you with, please feel free to contact me.

Lynda Lancaster
Girls State Chairman



American Legion Auxiliary WV Rhododendron Girls State

Girls State Representatives

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

3rd Dist. — Mary Jo Thomas
RR6 Box 232
Fairmont WV 26554
366-2912

4th Dist. — Nancy Sundstrom
1307 23rd Street
Parkersburg WV 26101
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

Girls State Registrar

We have received our first two girls for American Legion Auxiliary Rhododendron Girls State.

Remember that the DEADLINE is May 1, 2015. Let us see if we can get all girls names and email addresses before May 1st this year.

I hope everyone has contacted their schools by now.

Thank you
Ann Buchanan
Girls State Registrar

Rhododendron Girls State

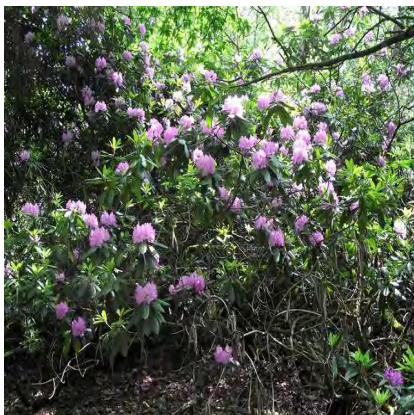
Girls State Session

June 22— June 27, 2015

Wheeling Jesuit University

Wheeling West Virginia

*Start Lining Up Sponsors
now for your Unit*



Department Ways & Means

Hello Ladies,

Think Spring!!!

I hope everything has a wonderful Easter Holiday.

Congratulations to all of the winners so far in 2015. Remember there is still time to purchase 2015 Ways-N-Means Tickets and possibly win numerous times before the end of year.

Thank you and God Bless
Rhonda Best
Ways-n-Means Chairman



Poppy

Hello Ladies,

Spring is just a few days away. The weather has been beautiful this week so far.

Please be thinking how you can use the poppy. We have Easter coming up the April 5th, us the Poppy in some way with your Easter Parties for the children of the Post.

Visit our veterans in the hospitals and nursing homes.

Have you ordered your Poppies for the year? If not please do so now. Get your Poppy Day scheduled in your community, get your juniors involved if you have a Junior Unit.

Year end reports are due to me by April 15th, so I can get my report to National by May 1st. Also don't forget to write a narrative.



Thank you
Margaret Yost
Poppy Chairman

Mdyost2010@frontier.com

2015 February Ways & Means Winners

2015 WAYS-N-MEANS WINNERS

| NAME | LOCATION | WIN-NING # | DATE | AMT PAID |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------|-----------|----------|
| | | 749 | 2/2/2015 | |
| Janet Moats | Welch, WV | 182 | 2/3/2015 | \$25.00 |
| | | 206 | 2/4/2015 | |
| | | 251 | 2/5/2015 | |
| | | 249 | 2/6/2015 | |
| Tony Link | Romney, WV | 472 | 2/7/2015 | \$25.00 |
| Bonnie Wilcox | Romney, WV | 351 | 2/9/2015 | \$25.00 |
| | | 509 | 2/10/2015 | |
| | | 042 | 2/11/2015 | |
| Kathy Bailey | Meadow Bridge, WV | 851 | 2/12/2015 | \$25.00 |
| Joe Monti | Welch, WV | 176 | 2/13/2015 | \$25.00 |
| | | 218 | 2/14/2015 | |
| | | 747 | 2/16/2015 | |
| | | 872 | 2/17/2015 | |
| Ron Adams | New Martinsville, WV | 726 | 2/18/2015 | \$200.00 |
| Bob Cost | Charles Town, WV | 867 | 2/19/2015 | \$25.00 |
| Tina Rush | Pine Grove, WV | 725 | 2/20/2015 | \$25.00 |
| | | 916 | 2/21/2015 | |
| | | 556 | 2/23/2015 | |
| ALA Unit #13 Clarksburg | Clarksburg, WV | 036 | 2/24/2015 | \$25.00 |
| | | 070 | 2/25/2015 | |
| Larry Johnson | Romney, WV | 421 | 2/26/2015 | \$25.00 |
| Wayne Simmons | Cameron, WV | 059 | 2/27/2015 | \$25.00 |
| | | 968 | 2/28/2015 | |

MEMBERSHIP 2014-2015 "Welcoming Our Members"



Target 8—March 15th—95%
 Department Goal— 7271 National Goal—8083
 Department Membership to Date—6416 (88.24 %)
 Unit #200— 89 Active Units in Department—65
 (National %== (79.37 %))

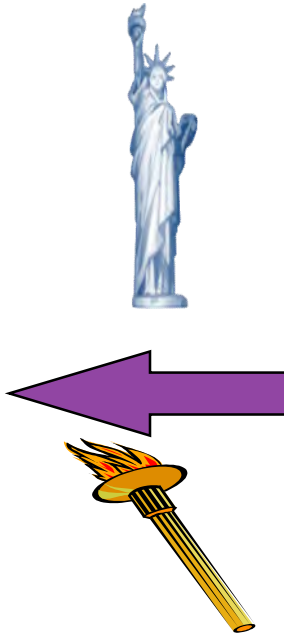


| District 1 | Unit | 2015 Goal | 2015 | % of Goal |
|----------------------|------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Wheeling #1 | 21 | 11 | 52.38% | |
| Moundsville #3 | 305 | 276 | 90.49% | |
| McMechen #5 | 58 | 55 | 94.83% | |
| Weirton #10 | 80 | 65 | 81.25% | |
| Cameron #18 | 200 | 178 | 89.00% | |
| New Martinsville #28 | 140 | 125 | 89.20% | |
| Wellsburg #34 | 32 | 25 | 78.13% | |
| Follansbee #45 | 58 | 39 | 67.24% | |
| Benwood #46 | 99 | 87 | 88.00% | |
| Pine Grove #81 | 90 | 88 | 97.00% | |
| Paden City #86 | 113 | 117 | 104.00% | |
| Wheeling #89 | 36 | 28 | 78.00% | |
| Newell #114 | 49 | 37 | 76.00% | |
| Hundred #120 | 77 | 80 | 104.00% | |
| Chester #121 | 150 | 152 | 101.33% | |
| TOTALS | 1280 | 1363 | 106.48% | |

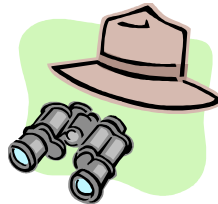
| District 4 | Unit | 2015 Goal | 2015 | % of Goal |
|-------------------|------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| Parkersburg #15 | 859 | 780 | 91.00% | |
| Spencer #21 | 59 | 46 | 78.00% | |
| Pt. Pleasant #23 | 345 | 329 | 96.36% | |
| Sistersville #67 | 184 | 123 | 67.00% | |
| Parkersburg #104 | 15 | 11 | 73.33% | |
| New Haven #140 | 159 | 125 | 79.00% | |
| Williamstown #159 | 180 | 157 | 87.22% | |
| TOTALS | 1801 | 1571 | 87.22% | |

| District 6 | Unit | 2015 Goal | 2015 | % of Goal |
|---------------|------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Welch #8 | 82 | 69 | 84.15% | |
| Bluefield #9 | 34 | 26 | 76.47% | |
| Beckley #32 | 39 | 39 | 100.00% | |
| Gary #38 | 76 | 65 | 85.53% | |
| TOTALS | 231 | 199 | 86.15% | |

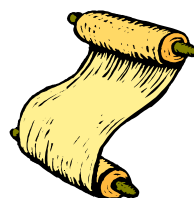
| District 9 | Unit | 2015 Goal | 2015 | % of Goal |
|---------------|------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| Elkins #29 | 206 | 166 | 81.99% | |
| Cowen #62 | 50 | 37 | 74.00% | |
| Lewisburg #69 | 79 | 61 | 72.22% | |
| Belington #96 | 35 | 34 | 97.14% | |
| Richwood #97 | 27 | 19 | 70.37% | |
| Pickens #122 | 28 | 13 | 46.43% | |
| TOTALS | 425 | 330 | 77.65% | |



"Torch Lighter"
 Goal—3737
 To Date—3463
 (93.00 %)



"Tablet Writer"
 Goal—3539
 To Date—2864
 (81.00 %)



| District 3 | Unit | 2015 Goal | 2015 | % of Goal |
|-----------------|------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| Buckhannon #7 | 61 | 52 | 85.25% | |
| Grafton #12 | 26 | 12 | 46.15% | |
| Clarksburg #13 | 143 | 135 | 94.41% | |
| Shinnston #31 | 307 | 268 | 87.30% | |
| Braxton Co. #33 | 31 | 26 | 84.00% | |
| Mannington #40 | 23 | 18 | 78.26% | |
| Philippi #44 | 34 | 29 | 85.29% | |
| Bridgeport #68 | 47 | 31 | 65.96% | |
| Jane Lew #166 | 52 | 32 | 61.54% | |
| Morgantown #174 | 23 | 20 | 86.96% | |
| TOTALS | 747 | 623 | 83.00% | |

| District 5 | Unit | 2015 Goal | 2015 | % of Goal |
|--------------------|------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| Huntington #16 | 264 | 239 | 90.54% | |
| Logan #19 | 16 | 12 | 75.00% | |
| Ceredo-Kenova #93 | 418 | 319 | 76.32% | |
| Hamlin #111 | 54 | 43 | 79.63% | |
| Milton #139 | 84 | 67 | 80.00% | |
| Barboursville #177 | 167 | 133 | 80.00% | |
| TOTALS | 1003 | 813 | 81.06% | |

| District 8 | Unit | 2015 Goal | 2015 | % of Goal |
|----------------------|------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| Charleston #20 | 49 | 26 | 53.06% | |
| St Albans #73 | 70 | 51 | 72.86% | |
| South Charleston #94 | 26 | 19 | 73.08% | |
| TOTALS | 145 | 96 | 66.21% | |

| District 10 | Unit | 2015 Goal | 2015 | % of Goal |
|----------------------|------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| Martinsburg #14 | 155 | 116 | 75.00% | |
| Franklin #30 | 22 | 18 | 82.00% | |
| Piedmont #52 | 60 | 26 | 43.33% | |
| Berkeley Springs #60 | 255 | 202 | 79.22% | |
| Moorefield #64 | 124 | 94 | 76.00% | |
| Charles Town #71 | 250 | 227 | 91.00% | |
| Petersburg #78 | 95 | 84 | 88.42% | |
| Romney #91 | 259 | 217 | 84.00% | |
| Charles Town #102 | 20 | 13 | 65.00% | |
| Paw Paw #128 | 74 | 52 | 70.27% | |
| Kirby #134 | 50 | 42 | 84.00% | |
| Ridgeley #136 | 99 | 89 | 90.00% | |
| Capon Bridge #137 | 130 | 105 | 81.00% | |
| Keyser #152 | 51 | 47 | 92.16% | |
| TOTALS | 1644 | 1332 | 81.02% | |



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of West Virginia



April

Children & Youth

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----|-----|--------------------------|-----|--|--|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | | Good Friday Office Closed | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| Easter | | | | | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Mail Call</div> | 10th District Spring Conf. Martinsburg Post #14 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 4th District Spring Conf. Parkersburg Post #15 | | | Target #9 96% | | | 18 5th District Spring Conf. #177 Huntington B Day Dinner 8th Dist. Conf. |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| | | | | | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Mail Call</div> | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |



Lynda Lancaster, PDP (standing in for Paulette Anderson)
 NEC Debbie Fox, Ann Buchanan, PDP at WWII Memorial



WV Delegation standing before the artwork display of
 James Lykins, USMC 1967-1971, from Charleston WV ; his
 Sculpture Green Faces/Purple Hearts

Part of the WV Delegation meeting
 with Senator Shelly Moore Capito and
 Senator Joe Manchin on Capital Hill.

**West Virginia Delegation Attending
 The Washington DC Conference
 February 22-25, 2015**



Part of the WV Delegation meeting
 with Congressman Evan Jenkins on
 Capital Hill

**Winner of the Oratorical Contest for the State
 Of West Virginia**

**Pictured left to right Department President Paula Booth
 Speech Teacher from Huntington WV
 Oratorical winner Sarah Bryan and her parents.**



State Newsletter "Auxiliary SPIRIT"

MAIL TO:
The American Legion Auxiliary
Department of West Virginia
1251 Doolin Run Road
New Martinsville WV 26155

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Dept. Treasurer, ALA

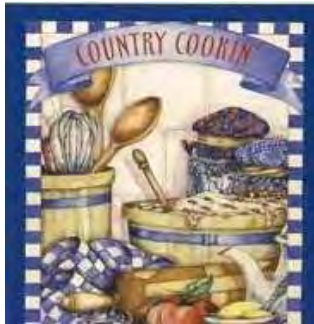
NAME: _____

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!

Cookbooks are \$15.00 plus \$4.00 (S & H)

I want to purchase ___ cookbooks and have the cookbooks mailed to:

Make checks payable to: **Department Treasurer, ALA**
Mail to: ALA Department of West Virginia
1251 Doolin Run Road
New Martinsville WV 26155 -7808