



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 29

December 2015

Issue 5



American Legion Auxiliary
2015-2016
Department President
Susan Wade



**Our Veterans
"Depend" on You**

Department Officers 2015-2016

President—Susan Wade
1st Vice President—Tammy Workman
2nd Vice President—Lisa Cadwallader
Secretary/Treasurer—Paulette Anderson
Chaplain—Rhonda Best
Historian—Irene Weber

District Presidents

1st District—Donna Freeland
3rd District—Carla Wilfong
4th District—Cathy Post
5th District—Beth Kilgore
6th District—Peggy Swartz
8th District—Mary Bess
9th District—Susan Cook
10th District—Sharon Glassford

District Vice Presidents

1st District—Donna Leek
3rd District—Roxie Nicholson
4th District—Nancy Sundstrom
5th District—JoAnn Hastings
6th District—Rita Alley
8th District—Rose Reese
9th District—Pat Calain
10th District—Sharon Kauffman

Remember Our Friends

I would like to thank everyone for the beautiful cards and mostly for all your prayers you sent up on my behalf.

I am much better and get stronger every day.

*Thanks again
Roxie*

Hello Ladies,

I want to Thank all of you that attended my Homecoming. I was overwhelmed with the love and support shown to me. I want to Thank the American Legion Family of Martinsburg #14 for making the long drive and doing an awesome presentation of Americanism programs. They do such a fantastic job and I am so thankful they were able to be there!!

I attended 1st District Conference in Benwood and I want to Thank the ladies there for hosting such a nice Conference.

I was honored to be a part of the Veterans Day Parade in Clarksburg. There are pictures in this Spirit!!

I hope all Units did something special for Veterans in their communities, especially on Veterans Day. I feel everyday should be Veterans Day!!! We have so much to Thank our Veterans for!! Remember to always Thank a Veteran when you see them out!!

I am looking forward to attending all the Gift Shops. I pray for good weather!!

I hope all of you have a great Thanksgiving! Let us remember our Veterans and how blessed we are for the sacrifices they have made for us and are still making!!! Please keep our Country and in your prayers!!

I would like to ask all of you to keep my sister-in-law Marla in your prayers!! She is having a really rough time right now. She has cancer and having complications!

Thank you in advance for your prayers!!!

Until next time,
God Bless Our Veterans!
God Bless All of You!

Susan Wade
Department President



Department Headquarters—Juggler



Mandatory Funds: Bonding, Education, Girls State, Veterans 1st Fund, Poppy Order, and 10% Poppies Proceeds. They are due each year by July 31st to be a Unit in good year. Make checks payable to **“Department Treasurer, ALA”** Units that haven’t paid their 2015 Mandatory Funds are: Mannington Unit #40, Lewisburg Unit #69.

Membership Remember to put Junior Birthdates on new applications. All applications must be signed by Post Adj. NOT MEMBER OR SECRETARY). Only exception is if a female veteran is joining the Auxiliary under herself. THEN the Secretary may sign the application. National is waiving the \$9.00 fee again this year for New Female Veterans. You must put “Honor Our Women Veterans” at top of application to get the credit for your Unit.

Do not send in anymore 2015 transmittals. Put 2015 dues as “Back Dues”. Use transmittals to put new members/renewals even if you have credit coming to you. DON’T just send in the applications/renewal notices/ and credit forms.

Deadline for Spirit Articles: This year I am extending the deadline for all articles to the 17th. I mail/email the Spirit on the 20th (unless a weekend), then either the Friday before or Monday after. This should give you plenty of time to get your article in. **I will not be reminding you with this new deadline.** Target Sheet will be sent to the Membership Chairmen on the date of the Target. Remember this year they are different so a target sheet won’t be done by the 15th of month. **Please limit your article to 200 words as you have only one column to use.** Spirit is limited to 20 pages (including front and back) to send. At times I have to add different pages (ex. quarterly reports, forms, etc.)

Directory Updates:
Page 21: under 8th District Vice President phone #: last 4 digits are 3621.
Page 24: Martinsburg Unit #14 President Sharon Kauffman house address is: 1671. All else the same.
Page 25: Add letter “e” after Roan for Roane County Unit #21.

National Auxiliary Magazine: Members look on page 42 in the November 2015 issue and you will see a picture of two of our members in the National Convention parade carrying our “We Don’t Burn Old Glory” banner!

Gift Shops Update:

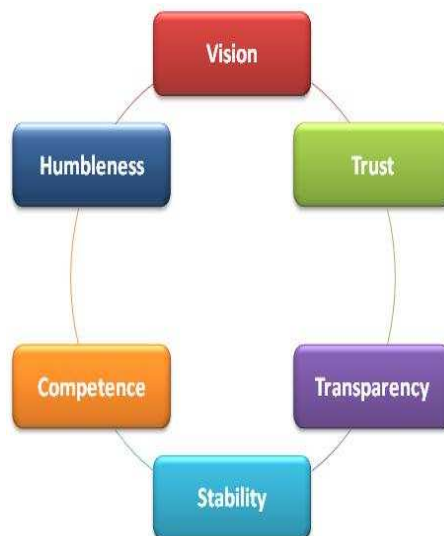
**Huntington VA Hospital Mon & Tues
Set Up Nov. 30th, Gift Shop Dec. 1st**

**Beckley VA Hospital
Thursday December 3rd**

**Martinsburg VA Hospital Fri & Sat
December 4th until 4:00 pm
December 5th until 1:00 pm**

**Clarksburg VA Hospital Wed & Thurs
Set up Dec. 9th Gift Shop Dec. 10th**

<https://www.thelit.com/no-cost-legioncare> is the link for the free Legion Insurance for Legionnaires, and Auxiliary., and Sons of The American Legion. You need to sign up Before January 1, 2016 or you will have to sign up every year, if you wait until after January 1st.



Department Headquarters

Office Hours: Monday-Friday
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Office Phone 304-455-5007
Toll Free 1-888-604-2242
Fax: 304-455-5825
Available 24 hours

Mailing Address

1251 Doolin Run Road
New Martinsville WV 26155-7808
Department Headquarters Website
www.wvaux.org
Email: alawvsec@frontier.com
Rhododendron Girls State Website
www.wvgirlsstate.org
Department American Legion
wvlegion@suddenlinkmail.com
National Auxiliary Website
alaforveterans.org

**From Our House
to Your House
Wishing You a Very
Merry
Christmas and
Happy New Year!!
Paulette and John
Anderson**



Filling The Big Top With Members



Membership Chairman

First of all I would like to thank each of you for working so hard to get membership in. We missed earning \$250.00 for Department by 1%. Those units still at zero membership could have put us over. There should be no one at zero as of November 1st, for all unit officers should of be paid, if not they are delinquent in membership. Please do not hold membership. If you have only one (1) to send in, send her in.

Second, CONGRATUATION to every unit that reach goal of 45%. There were 40 units to make that milestone. Thank you First District- #3, #5, #10, #18, #28, #34, #46, #86, and #114; Third District - #7, #13, #31, #33, #40, #68, and #166; Fourth District - #15, #21, #104, and #140; Fifth District - #16, #111, and #139; Sixth District - #9, #32, and #38; Eighth District - #94; Ninth District - #29, #69, #96, #97, and #122; Tenth District - #60, #71, #91, #102, #128, #134, #137, and #152.

Third, I thank you Donna, Roxie, Nancy, JoAnn, Rita, Rose, Pat, and Sharon for working with your districts in helping them reach their goals. Tammy and Lisa, thank you for being there for the District Vice Presidents.

Question! Has your unit held a membership drive, or are you planning one? Did you hold one with the Legion Family? If you have or will be I would like to hear about it, email me at wabssb@aol.com

From Bill and I –
MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Susan Brown, PDP
Membership Chairman



1st Vice President

Hello everyone,

It's hard to believe it's December already but it is, or rather, it will be by the time this edition is published. With December comes the mad rush of holiday shopping and baking up a storm, and getting packages out to family and the Troops who are deployed.

It also brings us to the end of the 2015 membership so we are working like crazy to get our members to renew for 2016 before their membership expires on January 1st.

Our Lion Keepers in Districts 3,5,8, & 10 are doing a fantastic job!!! We have 19 units who have met Target 3 at 45% or higher, 3 of our Districts are at 45% or more and our Department Lion Keepers are on target with 46.91%. Granted, the Elephants are in the first "ring" but our Lions are "Roaring" to steal the show. Congratulations go out to all units who have met or exceeded Target #3. Now we do still have a few zeros that hopefully disappear by the time this spirit is published.

All officers should have had their dues paid by or before November 1st.

Remember that when a member pays dues the Unit does NOT need to hold a meeting, make a Motion, or get a Vote to send the dues in to Department. Paying dues is a requirement and sending the dues out is a priority. So please don't hold dues!

I would like to thank the units for taking a few minutes to speak with your district vice president when she calls each month. As you can see by the targets met the communications have been beneficial.

Keep up the great work Ladies you're doing an awesome job!

Tammy Workman (Lion Keeper)
Department 1st Vice President



2nd Vice President

Hello Ladies,

You are doing a wonderful job building our membership. Many of you met the last goal and some of you are even into the 70 and 80 percent's. That's great!

Our next target is Dec 7th – 60%.

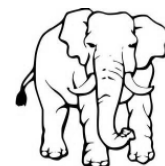
Remember as of Nov. 1 all officers at all levels are to have their dues paid. At this point we should have no units with less than 10 paid members. District presidents, please contact these units. If you are having problems, please let me know. Remember you should be in contact every month with your units so you can report to me every month, so I can report to Susan, who talks with national every month. If you report on time each month, I will provide a small gift to you for all your hard work at the end of the year.

I challenge my districts, the first district to reach 75% by Jan.1, will be presented an item for your district to raffle during your Spring conference.

Cash awards offered by National to Units: Unit Award: Units that reach 100% target by December 31, 2015, will receive \$100.

I'm including the "Keeping the promise" for Dec. – Feb. from National: December: I promise to honor those who gave their lives to save ours The Gift of Membership: What better way to get in the holiday spirit than to give the gift of membership to a potential new member? Surprise a loved one for the holidays! Membership Awards Deadlines: Unit 100% by December 31, 2015 Award Promise Date: Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, December 7, 2015 – 60% January: I promise to celebrate new and renewed members Ring in the New Year with Membership: Personal contact is so important. Call those members who have not renewed and call the family of new Post members. Invite them to join. Use the initiation ceremony. It is wonderful! Remind all members of the benefits we have and how their dues support our mission. Important Dates: January 15, 2016—2nd 2016

Renewal Notice mailed
Lisa Cadwallader
2nd Vice President
240-271-8385
Lisac.ala71@gmail.com
The Elephant Keeper



1st District President

Hello Ladies,

I'd like to thank Wheeling Unit # 89 for hosting our Fall Conference. You did a wonderful job. I'd also like to thank everyone that attended and to say that we missed the ones that didn't make it.

I hope everyone remembered our Veterans and thanked them and their families for all that they gave and continue to give for our FREEDOM.

I just received word that the week of November 16 thru November 20th is anti-bully week. My daughter's school is celebrating this by collecting cans of food for our food pantries.

Instead of bullying one another lets collect cans of food and donate them to our local food pantries to help celebrate this event and to help families in need celebrate the up and coming holidays by having food to prepare for their families.

Let us start treating one another with love, kindness, and respect. If you have a problem then go to that person and work through the issue (s), if you are unable to do this then call and we will work through it together.

Please remember this " United We Concur but Divided We Will Fall."

Sending prayers for our sick ones and for the families that have lost loved ones, and our Veterans.

May God bless each and everyone
Donna C Freeland
1st District President

1st District Vice President

Hello Units,

I hope everyone is out working on membership.

We all are there for the Veterans and what we can do for them and their families.

Put a smile on your face and be kind to one another. We all need each in the long run. If you need any help please call. I will help out anyway I can.

God Blessed everyone, and keep are Veterans in your thoughts and prayers for all of our freedom that they gave us.

Donna Leek
1st District Vice President

3rd District President

Good Morning to All American Legion Auxiliary Members,

Here it is the December Spirit. We have Thanksgiving and Christmas right around the corner. This is the time of the year when we should be thinking of all our Veterans specially the homeless. Try to help them in any way you can. Donate to one of the Homeless Shelters or the Missions that are in your area so they can have a place to go and have a warm meal.

I would like to thank Clarksburg Post and Unit 13 for hosting the Fall Conference for District 3. I know I am late but I have not forgotten you.

District Three Units are doing a fine job. We still have two Units that are Dragging their Feet. You know who you are so come one ladies get your dues paid. All Unit Officers should have their dues paid by now. Mannington you still have to pay last years Mandatory dues so come on.

Roxie and I will be out visiting Units just as soon as she is back on her feet. So expect us.

If you need my help, I am just a phone call away at 304-592-0247 or you can email me at: carlajwilfong@yahoo.com I will get back with you.

God Bless America and our Veterans!

Happy Holidays.
Carla J Wilfong

5th District Vice President

Hello Ladies,

I hope each and every one of you all is well. There seems to be some units that are withholding membership cards from members who pay their dues. If you are one of these units please get those out to the members. As a reminder to all unit offices, your dues need to be paid by November 1st.

Ladies I know this has been a complicated year but one thing I know you can do is work hard on the memberships. I have faith in each and every one of you. I will be calling the Units in the Fifth District on memberships to see how they are doing and to see if you need me for anything.

Thank you
JoAnn Hastings
5th District Vice President

4th District President

Hello my Auxiliary Sisters !!

I want to congratulate Madam President Susan Wade on a wonderful home coming. It was just totally awesome. Martinsburg's Americanism Team was wonderful, if you haven't seen them, please make it a point to take in their ceremony....have tissues, you will need them.

I attended 3 days of Veterans Day services this past week, they were all great. Hope you found one to take part in.

I see some of the Units in 4th District are busy, I love that. Also our Face Book page has picked up some new ladies since conference, post away, give us your ideas.

I hope you are planning some things for the holidays for your local Veterans in the hospital, nursing home, senior citizens homes or ones that do not have family or a place to be.

Comfort item boxes should be in place for collection. Remember all individual commercially wrapped items and no products that contain alcohol. All your hospitality hotel sizes should be taken to homeless shelters, and please keep track of these so you get credit for them.

We have opportunities to work with school children this month, especially December 7th, Pearl Harbor Day.

Get those turkeys thawed out and have a great Thanksgiving. I wish all of you a wonderful day with family, set an extra place at your table if you have family deployed, not everyone comes home for the holidays.

Please check on children in your area, they may need coats, gloves or boots, it's getting mighty cool standing out waiting on the school buses.

Until next month, God Bless and thank a Veteran every chance you get.

For God and Country
Cathy Post
4th District President

4th District Vice President

Hello Ladies in 4th District

Hope this message finds all members in good health. We are coming along good with our membership Targets. At this time we have Spencer Unit 21, at 57.58%, Parkersburg Unit 15, at 57.17%, Parkersburg Unit 104, at 57.14%, Pt. Pleasant Unit 23, at 48.70%, Williamstown Unit 159, at 47.03%, New Haven Unit 140, at 45.95% and Sistersville Unit 67, at 22.64%. At this time 4th District has 50.81%. We are doing a good job Membership Chairmen, but it is time to let your members that have not paid their dues yet that as of December 31, 2015 they are delinquent. They will lose all their American Legion Auxiliary benefits, and they will know longer be eligible for the drawings at their home Post.

Our next Membership Target is 60% on December 7, 2015.

I want to take this time too Wish you and yours a Very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year from my family Mike, Nancy and Brandee. Seasons Greetings!

GOD BLESS AMERICA
Nancy Sundstrom
4th District Vice President

5th District President

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

Remember, anyone who served our country to give us the freedoms we enjoy (and sometimes take for granted) does not deserve being lonely and/or homeless. They deserve our utmost respect and admiration. Do what you can as a unit and auxiliary member to show your appreciation for their service.

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

10th District President

Hi Ladies:

I wish you and your family a very Happy and Safe Thanksgiving.

Thank you so much Romney for a great time and food for our Fall Conference. I thank everyone for coming it was a great Day. This was a great turnout.

There were several first time members. FANTASTIC! There were great questions during the conference; and I thank all those for asking and for those that help clarify. Thank you to President Susan, Sec./Treas. Paulette Anderson, 2nd Vice Lisa Cadwallader, Parliamentarian Ann Buchanan and Historian Irene Weber. Also, thank you to Lynda Lancaster, National Central Division Vice President for attending. I hope that you were able to take back some new information and/or reviewing. I will be reviewing more in the next month article.

MID- WINTER: Paulette will give more information in the Spirit

MEMBERSHIP: Sharon and I are working together and she is doing a great job. Sharon has to make a report to Tammy Workman, 1st Vice President. When she calls if at all possible please call her back. Tammy has conference calls that she has to give figures.

Let us ROAR!!!!!! Thank you again for attending and participating.

Again have a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving Day. Remember our Veterans on this day. Should you know someone that does not have a place to go, hopefully, you can assist.

Thank You,
Sharon Glassford
10th District President

10th District Vice President

Hello ladies

I would like to thank those who have answered and responded to my phone calls. Memberships are coming up and that's great. Remember to send them in as soon as you get them. Also remember you have to have 10 members to keep your charter. District President Sharon Glassford and I have been working together on the membership.

I know the holidays are on us. If you need any help please let us know.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving.
Thank You
Sharon Kauffman
10th District Vice President
304-707-5512

6th District Vice President

HELLO TO ALL

Hope everyone is enjoying this Indian summer, wish that it could stay like this till summer. Hope everyone is enjoying this new time.

Not much going on at this time I have heard from some of the Units. Welch Unit 8 fix dinner for 40/8 Voiture the night before Veterans Day. I think we cooked about 60 steaks with everyone working together we made it. We helped with the reviewing stand on Veterans Day and some members escorted the dignitaries to the review stand. We also helped with open house at the Legion after the parade. Beckley Unit 32, served soup and sandwiches for 200 people. They also helped with their parade and everything went real well and stayed on time. On October 27, 2015 Gary Unit 38 invited me to come and install their officers for the coming year, they had a nice luncheon catered by Raymond's Restaurant in Welch. They had also invited their Adjutant and Commander to the meeting.

I hope everyone is still working on membership.

I would like to take this time to wish everyone a HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
Don't eat to much turkey. Also at this time I would like to wish each and everyone a very MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Lets keep all of our Veterans in our prayers
Until next time God Bless to everyone.
Peggy Swartz
6th District President

Department Chaplain

Hello Ladies,

I hope everyone was able to show their support of our Veterans on Veterans' Day. I know this month is a very busy time for all us not only through work and volunteering, but for our family time too.

Please help our Veterans here at home and remember the active service members that will not be home with their families as well.

I hope all of you have a very Merry Christmas and Happy Year.

God Bless and Be Safe,
Rhonda Best
Department Chaplain



Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Hello Ladies,

As we move into our busy Holiday season, let's not forget our Auxiliary sisters who may be in need of help. This fund may help those in financial problems as well as in disasters.

Please plan some form of fundraiser for this program. It may be a simple collection game at your meeting, or during another fundraiser event. Take a gift bag and decorate it or use the online can labels for the collection. Maybe play a game among members who can take up the most donations, that person wins a gift or a year's dues paid. Try to get every unit member to donate a \$1. This year our goal is to donate \$2,400 or more. That puts us over what our state got out last year.

Check out the National Facebook page, AEF, American Legion Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

Happy Thanksgiving! Be Thankful for what you have, there are others who have less.

Lisa Cadwallader
AEF Chairman
240-271-8385
LisaC.ALA71@Gmail.com

Historian

OBJECTIVE Write a unit history
STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

It's important for every unit to have a yearly history written. Here are some tips on what to include:

Be sure to start recording events as soon as the department president is sworn in at your convention. Include her theme for the year and how it relates to the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Department President visits to units are important so be sure to include examples of what she did to support veterans, their families and communities too.

The Department's history is not limited to the activities of the President, so be sure to include all members activities as part of your history.

If the national president visits your department, please include in your history how she helped your unit focus on the American Legion Auxiliary's mission.

Record special events that occur during the year.

Examples: Your unit gets a declaration for poppy month.

Your unit conducts a big fund raiser
Record any events that affect your auxiliary members, write about your members went above and beyond in their community, etc.

Use any kind of media coverage, include details in your history.

Pick out impressive statistics from other committees. Examples: Your AEF funds greatly increased, You sent more girls to girls state.

Make sure you send me a mid-year report by JANUARY 1, 2016.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends.

Irene Weber
Dept. Historian

Centennial Strategic Plan

Goal #4 of the Centennial Strategic Plan:
Strengthening Department and Units
**Communication: Monthly newsletters and twice monthly emails to all units from the Department Headquarters:

Unit officers change yearly, and the problem is the new information isn't sent to Department Headquarters. Units need to send in the paperwork to Department so communication can be open at all times. If the Department isn't aware of the change of officers, then how can the new officers receive the material from Department? Too many times changes are done without my knowledge. Then I receive an email, that they aren't getting Spirit, or mail call.

**Training: Membership Workshops and Midwinter Conference:

Yearly training is held for all members to fully understand the Programs, Leadership skills, as well as Membership. As an officer and/or member of this organization you should attend these training sessions yearly, so that your Unit can achieve their goals. Without this training offered, and your attendance, problems can arise between the Department and Units.

**Reporting: End of The Year Reports:

Units don't want to bother with these reports as they feel it is burdensome, and there is no incentive if they don't meet their membership goals. Units have a hard time of getting chairmen of programs, and filling the paperwork out each year. Usually the President completes the report, and many times there is "No Report". One way to get members involved, is to make sure they understand the program. Attending the workshops/Midwinter conference is one way. Letting them have the Unit Plan of Works on the program so they can see exactly what needs to be done, is another way. Mini training in your unit on all programs can help. Each year the plan of works in programs are given out at the workshop. Department Chairmen spends a lot of time getting these ready to hand out to the Units. Simply tossing them or not doing the programs doesn't benefit your unit or this organization.

Department Headquarters is here to help but remember YOU must do your part. CHAIN OF COMMAND IS A MUST.

Paulette Anderson
Committee Member



Americanism



Our hearts go out to Paris, France for the very recent attack of ISIS on November 13. May the peace of God be with them.

The holidays are once again upon us, with many important dates to remember.

***December 1st is Civil Air Patrol birthday.

***On Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, a day that will live in infamy, the American Army and Navy base in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii was attacked by the Imperial Japanese Navy. The attack came as a surprise and led to great losses of life and equipment. More than 2000 American men and women were killed and more than 1000 were injured.

On the direction of the President, the flag of the United States of American should be displayed on the homes of Americans and should be flown at half-mast to honor those who perished on that fateful day. If your house flag can't be lowered, attach the black streamers to the end of the pole.

Try to hold special services and luncheons with any remaining survivors and activities to educate students .

***December 12 is the day of the "Wreaths Across American" in all National Cemeteries, and the birthday of the National Guard on December 13.

I want to wish all my Auxiliary Sisters and families a Merry Christmas and a safe New Years Eve. Hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving , remember were would not be having any of these holidays if not for our fine men and women in armed services.

For God and Country,
Cathy Post
Americanism Chairman



Children and Youth

Hello Ladies,

I've been trying to get in touch with all of the unit Children and Youth Chairman with not much luck. If you are a chairman and have an extra minute or two please give me a call 304-258-5804. National has ask all Department Chairman to keep in up with what all units are doing.

As we approach the most giving time of the year I'm asking that you dig deep in your pockets this year for our veteran's children. Give to your local food banks not for just Thanksgiving and Christmas but for the year long. Work with Gift for Others and Toys for Tots programs in your communities. You will make the holidays better for under privilege children and enhance your life along the way.

It's nearly time to start working on your mid year reports. Lets help West Virginia have total reporting.

I would like to wish each and everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Debbie Fox
Children & Youth



Community Service

Hello Ladies,

Sorry I missed the Spirit last month. Veterans Day has come and gone. I hope everyone participated in a program at their post or in their community. If not you can still honor them with a program.

November 21st is National Family Volunteer Day:

1. Do you know of a Veteran's Family, who needs some extra help around the house or yard? Organize a group of Legion Family and offer your assistance.

2. Volunteer at your local Veterans Medical Center or CBOC.

3. Volunteer at a local nursing home.

4. Offer to babysit for a Veteran and his/her family so they can have a night out.

Thanksgiving Day is coming up on November 26:

1. Does anyone in your Community offer Thanksgiving Dinner to those who can't afford it or would otherwise be alone on Thanksgiving? If so, offer to help.

2. How about putting together a food basket for a needy Veteran, so they can cook Thanksgiving Dinner for their family.

Remember as you are helping out in your Community:

1. Always wear something that identifies as an American Legion Auxiliary member.

2. Take pictures.

3. Let the media know what you are doing. (Who we are. What we are doing. Why we matter.)

4. Keep track of hours and expenditures so you can report them to me on your Mid-year report.

Also remember that Mid-year reports are due by December 15th, so I can get my report to National by January 1, 2016.

Thank You
Margaret Yost
Community Service Chairman



Constitution & Bylaws

This month I would like to touch on membership of step-relatives and Reserves. I'm taking this directly out of ALA Department Operations Guide: The eligibility information stated in the ALA National C&B has never mentioned step-relatives. This eligibility matter is not contained or addressed anywhere in The American Legion's national governing documents. While such membership eligibility descriptions represent a longstanding practice in the ALA, this eligibility practice has never been stated in the Auxiliary's C&B and cannot be stated in writing in the ALA's governing documents because: a) the ALA eligibility wording cannot conflict with the Legion's federal charter; and b) because of how both national organizations are classified by the IRS for tax exemption. The national ALA governing documents have always and must continue to remain silent on step-relatives. Department are the final authority for determining the eligibility of its members; therefore, a department's determination of an individual's ALA membership eligibility is not appealable to the national organization.

At the Department convention held July 10th & 11th of this year. It was moved, seconded, and passed to leave this matter up to the department units. Units this your decisions to make, and yours alone. If you decide not to accept step-relatives, I would at least grandfather in any that you have now.

Women serving in the Reserves, or the wives of those serving in the Reserves, are eligible for membership in the ALA provided that they or service member has served one (1) day of active duty at the call of the federal Armed Forces.

Susan Brown, PDP
Chairman



Education

Hello Ladies,

I hope everyone had Veterans Day activities to attend. Some of our local schools have been great with inviting Veterans in for Veterans Day or honoring them in some way. I think our children are becoming more aware. We just need to continue in informing and educating.

Another Education Committee goal is to assist and support those veterans who are pursuing higher education and vocational education. There are Student Veterans of America chapters www.studentveterans.org at many colleges and universities. You can collaborate with them and arrange for off-campus events and/or meetings. Organizing presentations on career and life skills to student veterans is another way to help. Remember to promote these events.

Helping to support the alerts regarding the GI Bill by encouraging your members to receive The American Legion's Legislative Action Alerts is a great way to assist and support these veterans and promoting the Non-Traditional Student Scholarship may provide a veteran with a much needed helping hand.

Supporting and helping our veterans pursue higher education or learning a vocation is as important as educating and supporting our schoolchildren.

Have a Great Thanksgiving,
Linda Crumm
Education Committee Member

Poppy

Poppies – the flower of beauty and the flower of the veterans. Poppy seed packets for Poppies across America can be purchased at America Meadows www.AmericanMeadows.com or at 802-951-5812. You may also be able to find them at a local garden center.

Don't forget to check on your Poppy Poster, make sure they are being done.

You can use your poppies for many things: Notepads, Corsages, Centerpieces, Bookmarks just to name a few.

Don't forget to send your year-end report to me and if you have any questions, give me a call at 304-657-5740. I have to have my report in by January 5, so please send it early enough for me to use.

Roxie Nicholson
Poppy Chairman

Flag Alliance

Happy Holidays to all American Legion Auxiliary Members,

I know several members have been in the Veterans Day Parades in their communities, and I know several will be in the Christmas Parades.

Ladies carry an American Flag with you during these Parades. Wear your Pins, dress in our Colors, show everyone you are a Proud Member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Remember to Honor our Veterans at this time of the year. It is getting colder so please help them specially our homeless Veterans.

If you know when any Veteran is coming home, please try to be there to welcome them home.

God Bless America and Our Veterans

Happy Holidays
Carla Wilfong
Flag Alliance

Legislative

It is that time of the year again!

Mid Year Reports are due by the 15th of December.

I received an e-mail from Central Division Legislative Chairman, Susan Svacha. I need to know how many times our members have contacted (by phone, email, letters, faxes or visited) national elected officials about priorities of the American Legion. You must provide details and topics. Also how many attended town hall meetings. You must provide details and topics, and how many members develop relationships with their elected officials, and describe.

Ladies it is important when you contact any official about The American Legion keep track of it and include it in your reports. I hope to be able to report what the State of West Virginia is doing to National, so please send me a report of some kind. You can send it by mail to: 130 Wilfong Hollow Road, Enterprise, WV 26568 or e-mail me at: carlajwilfong@yahoo.com

If you need my help please call me at 304-592-0247 or you can e-mail me.

God Bless American and our Veterans.

Happy Holidays
Carla J Wilfong
Legislative Chairman

Leadership

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families: Please have a safe one and remember our Veterans and their families.

I am going to begin with statements that you need to be aware of. Mid-Winter conference will be coming soon. During this conference; we will be doing the Juniors ALA Leadership Course. We will be doing the course with everybody together. These Junior Leadership course is a wonderful learning tool. Order of business; proper order: roll call, new business, announcements, reading of minutes, call to order, unfinished business, committee reports, adjournment, approval of minutes. Arrange the above in proper order.

Few reminders: When you want to talk, stand up, be recognized by the chair, give your name and unit name and number.

When approaching the podium; stop and salute the flag, then go around the flag on the right if possible. Remember, not to walk between the flags.

Again, have a great Thanksgiving Day. Thank a Veteran always.

Should a Veteran not have a place to go; maybe you are able to help that Veteran have a Happy Thanksgiving.

God Bless America
Sharon Glassford
Leadership Chairman

2016 Ways & Means

Just a note to let you know if you have 2016 ticket stubs to send please send in now. You can send more later. I have received several all ready.

I deposited all checks and money in the bank, in case anyone asks about their check.

I still have tickets for anyone who wishes to get more. Call my cell phone at 304-771-0984 and leave message. I need to know name, unit, phone #, and how many to send. They make great Christmas gifts!!

Remember December 31st is deadline for me to receive them to be eligible for the January 1st drawing. To have a chance to win, you need to purchase a ticket.

Paulette Anderson
2016 Ways & Means Chairman



National Security

The 2015 Holiday Mail for Heroes campaign continues to be conducted in local communities across the U.S. There is no longer a national Holiday Mail for Heroes P.O. Box to which cards are sent. Holiday Mail – anytime before December 5, 2015.

Local Red Cross offices will collect, sort, and distributing the holiday cards using an events-based approach in their local communities. Local Red Cross offices will:

1. Hold events to sign or make holiday cards
2. Schedule card-sorting times
3. Coordinate card delivery to the military, vets and families in their communities

These changes will allow local Red Cross offices to concentrate on reaching out to the members of the military, veterans and families in their community—neighbors helping neighbors.

If your local Red Cross is not participating, there are two options for sharing your holiday cards:

1. Ask your local Red Cross office for military and veterans organizations in your community where you can send your cards directly.
2. Check the participating chapters tab for updated information regarding the closest Red Cross chapter in your area participating in Holiday Mail for Heroes.

This information was received from the National organization after I distributed the information at the Leadership Workshop. Please disregard that information and contact the American Red Cross.

Beth Kilgore
National Security Chairman

Clarksburg VA Christmas Gift Shop
is on Thursday this year.

We need all the help we can get.
It is Dec. 10th
We will meet at 8:00 am in the
All Purpose Room on the main floor.

Hope to see you there.

Roxie Nicholson
304-657-5740

Parliamentarian



Parliamentary Points to Ponder

HOW TO SPEAK ON A MOTION:

**Obtain the floor (the right to speak) by being the first to stand when the person speaking has finished; state Mr./Madam Chairman. Raising your hand means nothing, and standing while another has the floor is out of order! Must be recognized by the Chair before speaking!
**Debate can not begin until the Chair has stated the motion or resolution and asked "are you ready for the question?" If no one rises, the chair calls for the vote!
**Before the motion is stated by the Chair (the question) members may suggest modification of the motion; the mover can modify as he pleases, or even withdraw the motion without consent of the seconder; if mover modifies, the seconder can withdraw the second.
**The "immediately pending question" is the last question stated by the Chair! Motion/Resolution - Amendment - Motion to Postpone
**The member moving the "immediately pending question" is entitled to preference to the floor!
**No member can speak twice to the same issue until everyone else wishing to speak has spoken to it once!
**All remarks must be directed to the Chair. Remarks must be courteous in language and deportment - avoid all personalities, never allude to others by name or to motives! Do not direct comments to anyone other than the Chair.
**The agenda and all committee reports are merely recommendations! When presented to the assembly and the question is stated, debate begins and changes occur!

Ann Buchanan
Parliamentarian

2015 OCTOBER WAYS-N-MEANS WINNERS				
NAME	LOCATION	WINNING #	DATE	AMT PAID
		013	10/01/15	
		345	10/02/15	
		978	10/03/15	
Kinsey Byron	Westminster, MD	690	10/05/15	\$25.00
Rita Luca	Moundsville, WV	156	10/06/15	\$25.00
		252	10/07/15	
Janet Helman	Purgitsville, WV	422	10/08/15	\$25.00
		821	10/09/15	
		217	10/10/15	
Jack Girard	Eldersburg, MD	999	10/12/15	\$25.00
		723	10/13/15	
Dow Phillips	Beckley, WV	958	10/14/15	\$25.00
		904	10/15/15	
		825	10/16/15	
Joan Lambert	Romney, WV	431	10/17/15	\$25.00
		885	10/19/15	
Tommy Hayes	Ohio	205	10/20/15	\$25.00
		220	10/21/15	
Russ Rice	Welch, WV	506	10/22/15	\$25.00
Ricky Lang	Romney, WV	437	10/23/15	\$25.00
		934	10/24/15	
Mike Gunto	Moundsville, WV	909	10/26/15	\$25.00
		042	10/27/15	
Alice Rowzee	Romney, WV	448	10/28/15	\$25.00
		345	10/29/15	
		165	10/30/15	
		281	10/31/15	



The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 13 of Clarksburg, raffled off a West Virginia Quilt to raise money for their activities and projects on October 31, 2015. The Lucky Winner was Ronald Seftick, a member of the Harrison County Honor Guard, Clarksburg Post 13 American Legion and Clarksburg 573 VFW. Congratulations Ron! Unit 13 would like to Thank Everyone who purchased tickets on the quilt.

Girls State Director

On behalf of the American Legion Auxiliary Rhododendron Girls State, we want to say congratulations to Katie Mossburg! Katie was one of ten students in the nation selected as recipients of the 2015 Samsung American Legion Scholarship, a scholarship valued at \$20,000!

Every year, \$300,000 in Samsung American Legion Scholarships are awarded to nearly 100 American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State participants. These scholarships are for undergraduate study only and may be used for tuition, books, fees, room, and board. Katie will definitely put this scholarship to good use as she plans to study biomedical engineering in college and eventually become a surgeon.

This scholarship would not have been possible had Katie not attended Rhododendron Girls State, as attending either an American Legion Auxiliary Girls State or American Legion Boys State program is one of the criteria. Scholarship winners are selected based on academic record, involvement in school and community activities, community service, and financial need. In addition, applicants must be direct descendants of a U.S. wartime veteran who served on active duty during any war period officially designated as eligible membership dates in The American Legion. Applicants who are direct descendants of Korean War veterans will receive special consideration.

Katie was also elected our 2015 Governor of Rhododendron Girls State. A senior at Bridgeport High School, she is the school's first Rhododendron Girls State Citizen to be elected Governor. Katie's other accomplishments include being named a National Merit Semifinalist and an AP Scholar with Distinction. She serves as the Student Council secretary, is the publicist of her French Club, is a member of the National Honor Society, and a member of French Honorary. Katie also works on the yearbook and has written for Connect-Bridgeport. She is a dancer at Morgantown Dance Studio and a senior member of the Morgantown Ballet Company. As a dancer, she has been awarded the Jerry Rose Scholarship of Excellence, the Dance WV Scholarship, and a full scholarship to the International Ballet Intensive next summer.

Everyone will have the opportunity to meet Katie, as she will be attending our Mid-Winter Conference in February.



American Legion Auxiliary WV Rhododendron Girls State



Rhododendron 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

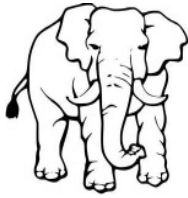
6th Dist. — Peggy Swartz
P O Box 124
Gary, WV 24836
448-2394

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

9th Dist. — Paula Booth
2031 River Road
Belington WV 26250
823-3251

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

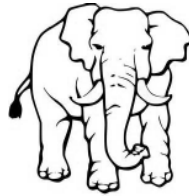
Membership 2015-2016 Filling The Big Top With Members



Target 4—December 7th—60%
National Goal—8455
Membership To Date—4181 (49.45 %)
Department Unit #200—72



Unit	2016 Goal	2016	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	26	0	
Moundsville #3	365	171	46.85%
McMechen #5	68	34	50.00%
Weirton #10	77	36	46.75%
Cameron #18	230	108	46.96%
New Martinsville #28	163	121	74.23%
Wellsburg #34	32	24	75.00%
Follansbee #45	51	18	35.21%
Benwood #46	117	61	52.14%
Pine Grove #81	111	34	30.63%
Paden City #86	146	74	50.68%
Wheeling #89	40	14	35.00%
Newell #114	50	24	48.00%
Hundred #120	107	41	38.32%
Chester #121	192	78	40.63%
TOTALS	1775	838	47.21%

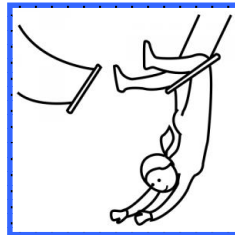


Elephant Keeper

Goal—4520

To Date—2255

(49.89 %)



Lion Keeper

Goal—3824

To Date—1854

(48.48 %)

Unit	2016 Goal	2016	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	66	46	69.70%
Grafton #12	26	1	3.85%
Clarksburg #13	180	123	68.33%
Shinnston #31	358	204	56.98%
Braxton Co. #33	32	18	56.25%
Mannington #40	22	12	54.55%
Philippi #44	39	6	15.38%
Bridgeport #68	56	34	60.71%
Jane Lew #166	46	33	71.74%
Morgantown #174	35	6	17.14%
TOTALS	860	483	56.16%

Unit	2016 Goal	2016	% of Goal
Huntington #16	302	171	56.62%
Logan #19	19	7	36.84%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	451	130	28.82%
Hamlin #111	61	35	57.38%
Milton #139	82	43	52.44%
Barboursville #177	168	65	38.69%
TOTALS	1083	451	41.64%

Unit	2016 Goal	2016	% of Goal
St. Albans #73	77	36	46.75%
South Charleston #94	24	14	58.33%
TOTALS	101	50	49.51%

Unit	2016 Goal	2016	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	153	72	47.06%
Franklin #30	22	10	45.45%
Piedmont #52	34	0	
Berkeley Springs #60	251	123	49.00%
Moorefield #64	131	57	43.51%
Charles Town #71	305	160	52.46%
Petersburg #78	108	47	43.52%
Romney #91	310	150	48.39%
Charles Town #102	22	15	52.27%
Paw Paw #128	70	40	57.14%
Kirby #134	54	37	68.52%
Ridgeley #136	118	41	34.75%
Capon Bridge #137	144	74	51.39%
Keyser #152	58	44	75.86%
TOTALS	1780	870	48.88%

Unit	2016 Goal	2016	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	1011	578	57.17%
Spencer #21	66	38	57.58%
Pt. Pleasant #23	423	206	48.70%
Sistersville #67	159	36	22.64%
Parkersburg #104	14	8	57.14%
New Haven #140	174	80	45.98%
Williamstown #159	202	95	47.03%
TOTALS	2049	1041	50.81%

Unit	2016 Goal	2016	% of Goal
Welch #8	87	34	39.08%
Bluefield #9	34	17	50.00%
Beckley #32	50	25	50.00%
Gary #38	90	53	58.89%
TOTALS	261	129	49.43%

Unit	2016 Goal	2016	% of Goal
Elkins #29	215	111	51.63%
Cowen #62	54	29	53.70%
Lewisburg #69	76	47	61.84%
Belington #96	42	22	52.38%
Richwood #97	22	19	86.36%
Pickens #122	26	19	73.08%
TOTALS	435	247	56.78%

December 2015

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

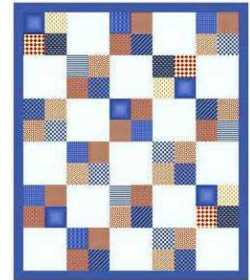
Sat

		<p>1 Office Closure 12:00 pm Dept. Sec. Training in Ind.</p> <p>Huntington Gift Shop</p>	2	3	4	5
6	<p>7  Pearl Harbor Day Target #4 60%</p>	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	<p>15 Articles Due for Spirit</p>	16	17	18	19
20	<p>21 Spirit Out VA Checks mailed</p>	<p>22 Winter Begins</p>	23	<p>24 Office Closed Christmas Eve</p>	<p>25 Office Closed Christmas Day</p>	26
27	28	29	30	<p>31 Office Closed New Years Eve</p>		
			Mail Call			

**SILENT AUCTION
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2016
MIDWINTER CONFERENCE
LAKEVIEW RESORTS MORGANTOWN WV**

Roxie Nicholson will be Handling the Silent Auction

***ITEMS CAN BE SPECIAL BASKETS—
VALENTINES, ST. PATRICK DAY, FOOTBALL, MOVIE THEME, ETC.***



***WREATHS, FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS, QUILTS,
GIFT CARDS, BAKED GOODS, AFGHANS, ETC.***

***BRING ON SATURDAY MORNING
IF WRAPPED, INCLUDE LISTING OF WHAT IS INSIDE***

A



SPECIAL BASKET WILL BE RAFFLED OFF AT THIS AUCTION



PROCEEDS BENEFIT DEPARTMENT WELFARE FUND

BOYS STATE

GIRL STATE

AUCTION

WHEN: Mid Winter WHERE: Cheat Lake

TIME: After Friday's Meeting

Please bring New or Slightly used items to Mid-Winter to help both The Boys State and Girl State Programs.

Thanks,

Director: Jim Davis

Director: Michelle Sirbaugh

**Department President Susan Wade
Participating In Clarksburg Veterans' Day**



Clockwise from above, Army Reserve Lt. Col. Chesey Gabriel performs "Amazing Grace" during Veterans Day ceremonies at Jackson Square in Clarksburg. Veteran JR Dotson holds his daughter, Macie Dotson, as they watch Wednesday's events. Veterans ride in style through downtown Clarksburg to start the Veterans Day parade.



Above: The Harrison County Honor Guard fires a salute to end Veterans Day ceremonies at Jackson Square. Right: American Legion Ladies Auxiliary State President Susan Wade, left, and VFW Auxiliary State President Wanda Harless-Hurley lay a wreath for POWs as part of the Clarksburg ceremonies. Below: The Robert C. Byrd High School jazz band plays "God Bless the USA."

***American Legion Auxiliary
Department of West Virginia***

Comfort Item Drive

UNIT/POST/SQUADRON # _____

LOCATION _____

PERSON IN CHARGE _____

ADDRESS _____

ITEMS DONATED _____

VALUE OF DONATION \$ _____

****** turn this form in with your donation or tape to your box (s) of donations. Make sure your name is on box so can be given credit of donation.**

THANK YOU,

Mary Waybright
Department VA & R Chairman

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the
Department of West Virginia*

President Susan Wade

*Department 1st Vice President
Tammy Workman*

*Department 2nd Vice President
Lisa Cadwallader*

*Secretary/Treasurer
Paulette Anderson*

*Chaplain
Rhonda Best*

*Historian
Irene Weber*

*National Executive Committeewoman
Debbie Fox*

*Remember Our Troops That Aren't Able
To Be Home This Year!!*

Have a Safe Holiday Season

State Newsletter "Auxiliary SPIRIT"

MAIL TO:

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

Purchase/Renew Your Subscription!

\$16.00 per year

Runs August through July Each Year

Make check payable to:

Dept. Treasurer, ALA

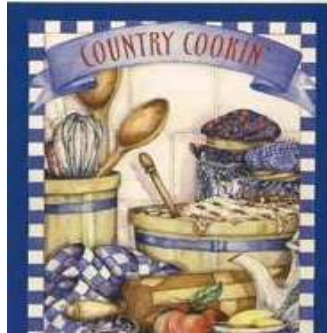
NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS OR PO BOX:-----

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS For 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.wvau.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