



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 30

December 2016

Issue 5



American Legion Auxiliary
2016-2017
Department President
Tammy Workman



Standing Strong For Our Veterans & Sewing a Better Tomorrow



Hello everyone,

It's hard to believe this is our December Spirit already. The past months have been a blur but I've truly enjoyed them. I was able to attend all but two District Fall Conferences. I've enjoyed two weekends of Veteran's Day celebrations; one was spent with my home Post Legion family, and the other with the VFW in Clarksburg.

Right now I'm working with our Leadership Chairman, Ann Buchanan in planning our Mid-Winter conference. We will have the agenda ready to share in next month's Spirit. Our CDNVP, Carollee Junge from Matteson, IL. will be joining us during the Mid-Winter conference. Our VA&R Chairman, Mary Waybright will be setting up for the veteran's comfort drive as well, and I'm sure that our Junior Activities co-chairmen, Kelli Immel and Betty Rae will have something planned with our juniors, so bring the girls along.

I have to give a great big thank you to our membership team for all of their hard work. Take a look at our "Button" report this month. They are really 'sewing up the membership' and it's "Fantabulous"!!! We have 37 Units who met or exceeded the 40% target. We have 6 out of 7 Districts at 40% or more. The Farmeretts and Rosie the Riveters are 40% or more, all of which has brought our Department to 41.82%. Our "Team" work has been wonderful and this is the result, awesome work ladies! Now we do still have several Units who are hanging onto the zero or have less than 10 members paid. Our District Vice Presidents have been reaching out to those units to see what we can do to help. My message to those units is, we can't help if you don't respond. Every member is important and every unit is an asset in this department.

I really hope to see ALL units represented at our Mid-Winter conference in February. There will be lots of information presented that can help your units succeed and grow. Our membership team is planning a great luncheon which I'm sure you won't want to miss. Paulette will have the luncheon information in the next Spirit.

I do plan to attend all of the VAMC Gift Shops in December. Hopefully our "wild and wonderful" West Virginia weather will cooperate. I wish each of you a happy and safe Holiday Season. Share the spirit of goodwill and remember that respect and kindness are the best gifts you can give.

For God and Country
Department President
Tammy Workman



Department Officers 2016-2017

President-Tammy Workman
1st Vice President-Lisa Cadwallader
2nd Vice President-Rhonda Best
Secretary/Treasurer-Paulette Anderson
Chaplain-Sharon Kauffman
Historian-Ann Buchanan

District Presidents

1st District-Stephanie Handley
3rd District-Carla Wilfong
4th District-Cathy Post
5th District-Beth Kilgore
6th District-Peggy Swartz
9th District-
10th District-Sharon Glassford

District Vice Presidents

1st District-Holly Adams
3rd District-Roxie Nicholson
4th District-Nancy Sundstrom
5th District-JoAnn Hastings
6th District-Kathy Bailey
9th District-
10th District-Sharon Kauffman

Department Headquarters—Hope Chest

Mission Statement

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

We need to repeat this Mission Statement At each meeting after we say our “Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary”.

Spirits: articles are due into Department the *15th of each month*. Spirit is emailed/mailed by the 20th of each month. If it falls on a weekend then it will be sent on Monday of the next week. **Please limit your article to 200 words or less. No addition clipart as the Publisher keeps crashing with too much clipart and I have to redo ALL of it as it won't print out.**

Membership: National is honoring our “new” women veterans again this year. Please remember to put “Honor Our Female Veterans” at top of application. If a member is rejoining, I don't need an application sent in. You may want one for your records to make sure she is still eligible. If you do send one in, write either “rejoin” or her ID number on the application so she won't be listed as a new member in the system. **Any dues besides 2017 dues are considered “back dues”.** Please put in the area designated for back dues on your transmittal. Please don't send in 2016 transmittals to pay 2016 dues. Remember that you must pay 2017 dues **first, before back dues.**

Online payments: *You may now pay online by telephone and pay multiple members if you wish, by credit card only. #317-569-4536.*

Dates To Remember

*November 24th and 25th
Office Closed-Thanksgiving*

*November 28th Office Closed 3:00 pm
November 29th-December 1st
Indianapolis for Secretaries
Continuing Training
Friday December 1st Office Closed*

Clarksburg Gift Shop
*Thursday December 8th
Set Up at 10:00 am
Friday December 9th 8:00 am
All Purpose Room*

Huntington Gift Shop
*Monday December 5th Set Up
Tuesday December 6th Gift Shop*

Beckley Gift Shop
*Wednesday December 7th
9:00 am – 2:00 pm*

Martinsburg Gift Shop
*Friday December 2nd All Day
Saturday December 3rd 9:00-12:00*



**Silent Auction Will Once Again
Be At the Mid Winter
Conference!!**

**Bring your auction gifts on Saturday
morning to set up by 7:30 am outside
the meeting room.**

**Roxie Nicholson will be conducting this
silent auction. All proceeds will benefit
the Department Welfare Fund!!**

**There will be a Basket to be Ruffled Off
Tickets will be at the table to purchase.**

Department Headquarters

Office Hours 9:00-4:00
Monday thru Friday
Phone 304-455-5007
Toll Free 1-888-604-2242
Fax: 304-455-5825
alawvsec@frontier.com

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

Department Website:
www.wvvaux.org

Rhododendron Girls State Website
www.wvgirlsstate.org

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

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

Secretary/ Treasure (Hope Chest)





"Timeless Reflections"



Membership Chairman

Hello Ladies,

My most recent communication from National was November 10th through a conference call with all Departments in Central Division. So far this year we've not gotten too much positive information and the conference call didn't bring any good news. West Virginia is the only Department without at least one goal unit.

As of November 10, 2016 West Virginia is 379 members behind last year this time. It has been suggested that if your unit is calling members to get renewals maybe use a caller that might have a personal relationship with the rejoin/renewal member.

December praise is "Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day", December 7, 2016: Praise members for sharing their military history.

So all the less than positive news from national we have plenty of great news to brag about with-in our department. We only four units that are still at "0". We also a couple units that have only PUFL members reported.

Now for all the good stuff 45 units are 40% or more and 6 out of 7 districts are 40% or better. Membership percentages are absolutely amazing. Please keep up the great work.

Mid year reports are due to me NO later than January 1, 2017. That only gives four days to get my report to national. Remember to answer the three questions. **1) How is your unit encouraging renewals? 2) Were any new members generated through working on an ALA program? 3) What new ideas used in rejoin/renew members.**

One last thing any Department of West Virginia unit that is a goal unit before December 1, 2016 I'll have a gift from me. To be given at Midwinter.

Merry Christmas,
For God Country
Debbie Fox



Department 1st Vice President

Hello Farmeretts,

Congratulations to those units that met their buttons! It's good to see so many. Certificates have been mailed to those units I missed at fall conferences. Our District Vices are doing a super job being in touch with membership chairman and working with newer units in their district. I know membership slowed down a little but as we reach the end of the year, we all know they will pick back up. Keep doing the best you can to harvest members and meet the targets. Remember, all Unit officers dues should be paid by Nov. 1.

OK, let's have some fun.



Ration Books were used during the war. So for the units in my districts, you will receive a ration book and stamps for your books, which you will get to turn in later for prizes. How do you receive stamps.... for each button you meet, for every rejoined member

from an earlier year than 2016, and for each new member joined. Please report to your District Vice how many rejoins and new members to date, and each month how many new ones.

Extra stamps will be given to unit reaching 80% by February 1, 2017 and for reaching the 100% before its due date.

I will also draw one random unit to receive a gift, from those units who reach 100 % before the 100% due date. So let's starting growing our membership and have some fun.

Bless our Veterans and have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving

Lisa Cadwallader
LisaC.ALA71@gmail.com



Department 2nd Vice President

Hello All Rosie Riveters,

First thing Ladies it is that time of year again. We are halfway through this year. How time flies by when we are having fun.

Please make sure all units get your Mid-Year Reports to your Department Chairmen by the 15th of December. This will ensure that National sees how busy the Department of WV is and how many veterans we service and what we do in each of our Communities. Please include any pictures you have taken.

Now on to some exciting and awesome news. We have a total of 21 units that reached Button #4 in Districts 1,4,6, and 9. "WOOHOO" TERRIFIC JOB ROSIES!!!!!!!

I want to Thank each of the District Vice Presidents for the Fantastic job all of you are doing. Also I want to express The Gratitude I have for each of the monthly discussions and Feedback I get from them as well as some of the Unit Presidents I have spoken with. I would like to continue building our Family House so all of you ladies bring out your belts again. I am challenging Each unit to reach 75% by December 31st, 2016. For each unit that does so they will receive a Special Certificate from me. Let's go Tooling!!!

I hope to see many of you at Mid-Winter Conference.

Until then I wish everyone A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.

God Bless and Service Not Self!!!
Rhonda Best
2nd Vice President



1st District Vice President

Hello Ladies,

It was great seeing some of you at our District Fall Conference at Chester Unit #121 back on October 23rd. It was a great time had by all and a special thanks to the Department officers that were able to attend.

Remember to get your membership in as you receive them and do not hold onto them. Keep on working on getting our membership numbers up. Remember all unit officers needed to have their dues paid by November 1, 2016.

I want to thank those of you who I have spoken with or whom have returned my calls to report membership numbers.

The end of month target sheet shows that there are 8 units that have met their November targets (buttons). Keep up the good work.

Please remember to call me with any membership reports or if you have any questions or concerns.

Take Care
Holly Adams
1st District Vice President.

3th District Vice President

Ladies,

Its getting close to Christmas, think about paying your loved ones dues for a gift. I'm sure they will appreciate it.

We have made Button #4 for the District, but we still have a lot of work to do. Please, please get those dues in, do not hold them. I know sometimes we don't feel good but we still need to do the work we promised to do. If its your job to send in the dues, send them in.

Thank you to Morgantown #174 for sending in 9 dues, Third District has 5 out of 9 units who have met or are ahead of the target. We all need to step up and work harder.

I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry and Blessed Christmas.

Roxie Nicholson

3rd District President

This is a really busy Season for all of us, but please remember to pay your dues.

Membership chairmen please send them in do not hold them.

Vice-President Roxie and I have been trying to attend meetings at some of the Units. We will keep visiting the Third District Units as long as the weather stays good.

We still have a few Units that need to work on their membership. You know which ones you are, so please work harder. Remember all Officers should have their dues paid by now.

If you need my help, please call me at 304-592-0247.

God Bless America and
God Bless our Troops
Carla J Wilfong

4th District Vice President

Hello Ladies,

Wow we have four units that have earned Buttons # 4 and 5, good job ladies. Parkersburg #15, 49.66%, Spencer #21, 56.10%, Tyler County #48, 52.94%, New Haven #140, 43.16%. We have two units not far behind Point Pleasant #23, 31.89% and Williamstown # 159, 32.11%; keep up the good work!

A reminder for all Unit Presidents and Membership Chairman, we no longer vote on Transfers or New Members coming in to your Units.

I want to take this time to wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving and safe travels.

Remember our Veterans in your Prayers at this time of giving thanks for the sacrifices they have given for our Country.

God Bless All
Nancy Sundstrom

4th District President

Dear Auxiliary Sisters,

Poppies are everywhere, hope your Poppy Programs are going well. It's a great time to be in our schools as many honored our Veterans this past week.

This is National Education week, don't forget to honor our teachers and help them educate our future military and community leaders. Take this opportunity to brand yourselves in the towns and cities you work in, use the newspapers, clothing, local radio stations, Social Media, etc.

Time to have out your donation station for food and don't forget the Comfort items for Veterans.

Keep those dues coming in, we want those buttons!

I wish you a peaceful and loving Thanksgiving. Mine will be especially wonderful this year; as I will be spending it on Dover Air Force Base with the Major and the Mrs., my Granddaughter and several young Airmen that won't be able to be at home with their families. What a joy to be celebrating with America's Best!

Safe travels to and from family gatherings. Peace be with you and yours. Thank a Veteran. God Bless!
For God and Country,
Cathy Post
4th District President.

5th District Vice President

Hello Ladies;

I hope all the units' officers have paid their dues. They were due by November 1st.

We need to work harder. We have some units that have not paid members dues. Please get them in.

If you need any help call me and I will try to help. We can all work together.

Remember we are helping the Veterans.

God Bless
JoAnn Hastings
Vice President
Fifth District

5th District President

What a wonderful Fall Conference held at Barboursville #177. A lot of information was gone over and distributed to the Units in the 5th District. If you missed it, you missed an enjoyable time with our Auxiliary sisters from across the district. Thank you To Unit #177 for hosting a lovely conference.

The holidays are fast approaching and I know everyone will be busy helping other and spending time with family and friends. What a perfect time to recruit new members to our organization. You never know who is waiting to be asked.

Enjoy the holidays and remember to thank veteran and current service personnel for their service. Also, thank their families for the sacrifice they made while their love one was deployed.

Beth Kilgore, President
5th District

Public Relations

Hello Ladies;

I know there is a lot going on in the units. I would like you to send me clipping of news papers of you telling the public what is going on in the units. Include Public Service announcements that tells what we are doing.

JoAnn Hastings
Public Relations
Chairman



10th District Vice President

Hello ladies;

Hope everyone had a good Veterans Day and a Happy Thanksgiving.

Thank you to all of you who answered and/or who returned my phone call. Pretty much most of you are doing great and others are coming in slow. You can send out a reminder or go visit some of the ones who haven't renewed. Some of the ladies can't get out or may be in Nursing Home.

We are still behind in Membership. If you need any help just let me know.

Sharon Kauffman
1671 Kelly Island Rd
Martinsburg WV 25405
skauf01@yahoo.com



Junior Activities-Daughters of Liberty

Junior Activities

What a lovely fall we have had with all of God's beautiful colors. With Thanksgiving being upon us let's make sure we thank our Veterans for our freedom.

As we write our Christmas cards out this year let's write a couple for our local Veterans. The Juniors did around thousand Christmas cards at our fall work shop for the state VA hospital and nursing home.

It's also getting close to mid year reports so start working on them. Happy Thanksgiving!

Include Juniors in your unit their our future Auxiliary.

Daughter of Wisdom the Pearls
Juniors Adviser,
Kelli A Immel
Kitbasket@hotmail.com
251 Mimosa Drive
Martinsburg WV 25404

Remembering Our Friends

Department Chaplain Sharon Kauffman has been hospitalized in Winchester with acute diverticulitis and has been on medicine to help. At this time I have no further updates.

Cards may be sent to Sharon at:

Sharon Kauffman, Dept. Chaplain
1671 Kelly Island Rd.
Martinsburg WV 25405

On November 14th Denise Rohan, American Legion Department Wisconsin PDC and candidate for 2017-18 National Commander, fell from a ladder while hanging Christmas decorations and was taken by ambulance to the hospital. She has broken the heel bone in both her feet. She will remain in the hospital for a couple of days followed by six weeks of physical rehabilitation therapy.

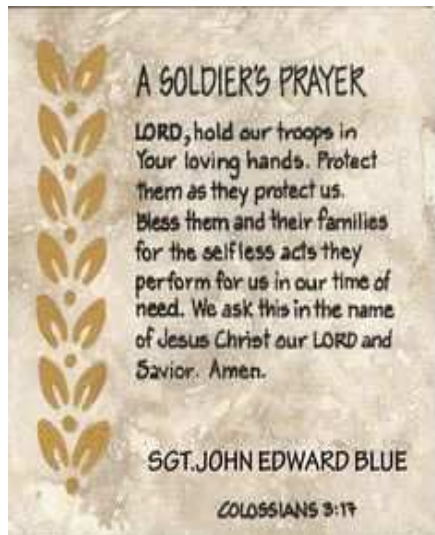
Cards and notes may be sent to:

Denise Rohan
631 Lone Oak Ln.
Verona, WI 53593

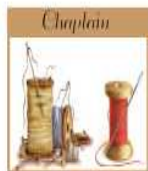


Chaplain

Hello ladies hope everyone had a great Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. Remember to get your reports in. And if anyone needs cards or prayers please let me know.



Sharon Kauffman
Department Chaplain



Historian

This year of our History is almost half-way finished. I hope the each unit is taking the time to keep notes and pictures about what they are doing each month. I am looking forward to getting a Midyear Report from all the units about your activities. I would love to send a great report to the National Historian about all the activities that are being done in West Virginia. I know that each unit has been working on programs and projects, and I would love to hear about them.

Junior members are to be included in all your reports. Please urge your Junior members to keep a history of their activities and I hope that some will submit a Junior History at Department Convention. Please watch for the Awards Manual for all the rules. I am looking forward to seeing all the History Books from our Units coming to Department Convention. The copy of the History Book makes a great gift for the outgoing President as done a Prayer Book. One has the facts and the other has the precious thoughts and memories.

History is the a way of seeing our past, while living our present, and planning for the future.

Ann Buchanan
Historian



Community Service

Hello Ladies

Hope all is going well with the Holiday's coming up. Here are some events coming up for December and January .

- **Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day December 7th
- **Wreaths across America December 17th
- **Christmas December 25th
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service January 16, 2017

Ideas for this time of the year:

- *Volunteer to cook a meal at church
- *Help a homeless shelter, or a food bank
- *Collect toys for tots or children in need in your area
- *Supply Christmas Cards to school children for Holiday for Hero's program
- *Visit Veterans or Seniors at VA's or Nursing Homes
- *Remember to help with the Christmas Shops at the VA's
- *Remember to wear your badges or shirt when out doing thing so people know you are the American Legion Auxiliary

Don't forget to get your reports in by December 15, 2016 so I can get them sent in.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
Sharon Kauffman
Community Service Chairman
1671 Kelly Island Rd
Martinsburg WV 25405
304-707-5512

Legislative

Good morning Ladies;

It is beautiful outside, but chilly. The elections are over and there are some new contacts in State and the Nation, please try to contact these new people when they are settled.

I hope each Unit has their Chairman working on their Plan of Works. Please remember Mid Year Reports are due in around December 15th. I just need to know briefly if you have had contact with representatives and if so how often, did you get a reply, have you acted on any of the Action notification that have been on the Internet.

If you need my help, please call me at 304-592-0247.
Carla J Wilfong



Flag Alliance

I hope everyone showed their Patriotism on Veterans Day. Did you distribute Flags, Participate in a Parade, go to the Cemeteries? How did you honor our Veterans? I would like to know. Remember your Mid Year Reports. You and

Call me at 304-592-0247 or e-mail me at carlajwilfong@yahoo.com

God Bless American and
God Bless our Troops
Carla J Wilfong

Americanism

The American Legion believes in the U.S. flag and everything it stands for, and Legionnaires who fought for the nation's symbol take deep pride in it. To continue its flag-protection efforts, the Legion's National Executive Committee adopted a resolution at its recent Fall Meetings in Indianapolis that outlines the organization's expectation for rendering proper respect to the flag during Legion program participation at the department and national level.

Resolution 16 – brought forth by the Americanism Commission – also comes in light of recent actions by professional athletes, and now that of several youth sports teams, who are kneeling during the national anthem out of protest.

“The American Legion does not deny the right to protest, for that is a privilege given to all citizens of this great nation that is protected by our military and the service of our membership to defend our democracy,” said Richard Anderson, Americanism Commission chairman. “To foster and perpetuate a 100 per-cent Americanism’ defines our responsibility to instill character, citizenship and sportsmanship, among other values. Resolution 16 defines only a small commitment to our youth, to maintain the values upon which The American Legion was founded.”

As stated in the resolution, The American Legion expects participants of its programs to show proper respect to the U.S. flag at all times, including during the national anthem. It recommends for department and post leaders of all Legion programs to clearly state to individuals in advance of program participation about the organization's expectation for respect of the flag. If a participant involved in any Legion program “cannot or will not” meet the Legion's expectation, the resolution states that “the individual should not be a participant in American Legion programs.”

“While we cannot mandate this resolution to our respective departments, we hope that this will be a guideline for them to respond in a similar manner (as national) to teach and respect the honor and rights of American citizenship and its responsibilities,” Anderson said.

For individuals participating in American Legion programs at the national level, the resolution states that those who “cannot or will not” meet the organization's expectations for proper flag respect “will be removed from the program and not be allowed any further participation.”

“The resolution is going to set an example for our youth, and our youth will lead by example, for respecting our flag and respecting our national anthem,” said American Legion National Commander Charles E. Schmidt. “And hopefully our youth, through our American Legion programs, will be examples for those professionals who choose not to respect our flag and our national anthem.

“That's what The American Legion does – we are building great role models for the future of this organization and for this country.”

Susan Wade
Americanism Chairman



Constitution & Bylaws

Upon reading the newsletter from National the following is some very important information I thought should be passed on to each Unit in West Virginia. Before making any change to your Constitution and By-Laws and Standing Rules. Keep one very important item in mind- the IRS views organizations that repeatedly change their by-laws as Unstable.

How often should your Constitution and by-laws be amended? Every 10 to 15 years.

How often can Standing Rules be changed? As often as needed. National also says that some of the things that we covered in our by-laws can be covered in our Standing Rules. So look over them and see if your Unit has something that can be moved to Standing Rules.

If you need my help, please call me at 304-592-0247 or e-mail be at carlajwilfong@yahoo.com

God Bless American and
God Bless our Troops
Carla J Wilfong

Girls State Chairman

Happy Thanksgiving!

Be thinking of our young ladies wanting to go to Rhododendron Girls State in June.

Please continue securing the funding for these girls to attend our 75th Session in Wheeling, WV @ Wheeling Jesuit University June 11--16, 2017.

If I can be of any assistance to you please feel free to contact me or your District representative.

Lynda Lancaster
Girls State Chairman

Leadership

We are now heading toward the midpoint of our year. I hope that all Department Chairman will get reports from our units on the activities that are being done by our members. Our Chairmen need to submit Midyear Reports to the National Chairmen from our Department and your assistance is needed. Please take the time and give them a short summary of the activities in your unit.

President Tammy and I are working on the program for Midwinter Conference. Your input would be appreciated. What would you like to learn more about? Is there a program area that you would like to get more information about at this time? If you have questions or comments, please let me know as soon as possible and I will make every attempt possible to get you the information or let you know where it is available. The proposed agenda will be in the next SPIRIT. Let me know if you feel something is missing.

It is the time of the year to share fellowship and love with all our neighbors. Take the time to visit friends, invite friends to join your activities, share time with someone who may not have family or friends near. The holiday season can be lonely for those who have served this great country. Be the one to extend the hand of comfort to those that need it. Share a SMILE with all those you have contact with as we rush to get our shopping done. Celebrating is more than just partying, eating, and singing. Celebrating is sharing all that is good with all those we have contact with during this "most wonderful time" of the year.

I wish for each of you a very HAPPY THANKSGIVING and hope that the CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY will be a joyous time as you plan your celebrations.

Here are questions and answers for November:

Q7: There are 10 areas in our Mission Outreach Programs. What are they?
ALA Girls State & Girls Nation Junior Member Activities
Americanism Legislative
Children & Youth National Security
Community Service Poppy
Education Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Q8: There are 7 areas in our Member Support Committees. What are they?
Auxiliary Emergency Fund Leadership
National History Liaison to Children Welfare Foundation
Constitution & Bylaws Strategic Planning
Finance

Q9: When is American Legion Auxiliary, Rhododendron Girls State held and where?

Q10: When is American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation held and where?

Ann Buchanan
Leadership Chairman



Strategic Planning Committee

Strategic Planning Committee

American Legion Auxiliary
5-Year Centennial Strategic Plan

GOAL 3: Develop Leadership at All Levels

1. Remove barriers for considering and selecting leadership.

A. Any member in good standing is eligible to run for any office.

WV Plan:

2. Remove personal opinion when selecting leaders and evaluate members on ability and devotion to ALA Core Values (below).

B. Define expectations and build leadership capacity.

1. Make sure all members are aware of the expectations offices, chairmanships, or project chairman.

2. Participate in Leadership Courses offered by the ALA to all members of your unit.

WV Plan:

3. Offer some opportunities to all members who qualify.

C. Invest resources (financial and manpower) in identifying and developing leadership.

1. All officers should be provided with the resources need to successfully serve in their office. Ex. If mailings (or persons) are needed, then postage should be provided or members made available.

2. When the ALA Academy is made available online, inform your members and provide opportunities for unit members to participate. Let the members know the location of computers (if needed) to take the training. Ex. Library, Community Center, Post Home

WV Plan:

4. Promote "Culture of Goodwill Ambassadors"

CORE VALUES of the American Legion Auxiliary

*Commitment to the four founding principles: Justice, Freedom, Democracy, Loyalty

*Service to God, our country, its veteran and their families

*Tradition of patriotism and citizenship

*Personal integrity and family values

*Respect for the uniqueness of individual members

*Truthful, open communication in dealing with the public and our members

*Adherence to adopted policies and rules

Ann Buchanan, Centennial Strategic Plan Goal 3

Children & Youth

Jolly old St. Nicholas, Lean your ear this way! Don't you tell a single soul, What I'm going to say; Christmas Eve is coming soon, Now, you dear old man, Whisper what you'll bring to me: Tell me if you can.

The above lyrics are from a festive Holiday children's song. As you say the words in your head (or sing them to the tune), a warm feeling comes over most of us with remembrances of favorite Christmas' past.

That is not the case, unfortunately, for many children. They are separated from their parent (s) who have been deployed, or they may be cold because the only coat they have is thread bare and is inadequate to keep out the cold. They may be hungry and longing for school to be back in session so they can get at least two meals a day instead of one or maybe none. They maybe longing to snuggle underneath a warm blanket but know that is only a dream.

There are so many opportunities to share with these children and turn their lives around, if only for a moment. I hope every unit in the Department of West Virginia has at least one project that will be of benefit to a military child or a child in your community. Food baskets, coat drives, Angel Tree, Stuff a Stocking for the Salvation Army, volunteer to play games with the children at the City Mission, or help serve at the local soup kitchen. The list goes on and on. Be the light of hope in a child's eyes.

Service not Self!
Beth Kilgore, Chairman
Children & Youth



Child Welfare Foundation

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

“Dedicated to the betterment of all children”

100% Per Capita Banner Program 2016 – 2017

Not all American children grow up inside the comfortable definition of normal childhood development. For thousands, each day is a challenge marked by pain, prayer and perseverance. Many of these youngsters require specialized care. To overcome their obstacles, they need help from you and the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

100% Per Capita Banner - Each post, unit, squadron or salon donating at least one dollar for each member during the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation's award year will receive a beautiful banner/streamer.

To qualify a post, unit, squadron or salon must donate one dollar per member based upon its official membership total as of June 1, 2016. The post, unit, squadron or salon has from June 1, 2016 to May 31, 2017 to complete its donation to the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

If your unit would like to participate, please let me know. You may go online and download the appropriate form at https://www.legion.org/documents/legion/pdf/banner_order_form_2016_2017.pdf.

NOTE: First pig collection will be at Mid-Winter Conference in February. From what I hear, the pig keeps getting fatter each month.

Beth Kilgore,
American Legion CWF



Ladies,

If I am elected Department President in July, I will need chairman for our wonderful programs. Even though election is not until July, I need a rough draft of chairman by early February. This is a chance for you to shine and grow. If you are interested in being a Department Chairman please contact me with a little bit about yourself.

As a chairman, just to name a few things, you write a monthly article for the Department newsletter, review unit reports and select the winner to award during convention, write a report to national from what the units reported, and as a chairman you are a part of the executive board and receive a vote in those meetings.

Let me what programs you enjoy and why. I need this no later than January 21, 2017, so I can get my draft together by the end of the month.

Please don't be afraid. If you are nervous, I can assign a mentor to help you. Want more information, contact me, I am more than willing to talk with you.

Please consider this offer. I'd like to give opportunity to ANYONE who has an interest.

Lisa Cadwallader
(304) 707-1121
Lisac.ala71@gmail.com



Poppy

I hope everyone is working on getting the Poppy Poster Contest started, and also using the Poppies in every way you can.

Don't forget to use them in decorations for any event you have at your post, and keep track of how many you use and how you use them so you can put it in your Mid Year Report.

If you have any questions, my email has changed, it is roxiewilliamsnicholson@gmail.com

My old email wouldn't let me open any downloads or print anything I wanted to. You can still call me at 304-657-5740.

Roxie Nicholson
Poppy Chairman



Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation



Hello Ladies:

I hope you remembered our veterans this past weekend, as I am writing this the Sunday following Veteran Day. We can never thank our veterans enough for their service and the many sacrifices they made for the freedoms we enjoy.

In the mail this past week I was sent the program of the recent National Creative Arts Festival held in Jackson, Mississippi. This was sent to me by Patti Williamson, Central Division VA&R Chairman. I was proud to see that three (3) veterans from WV were winners in three different categories. They were Lisa Meine from Clarksburg, WV, a Gold Medal Winner in the Art Division with an Original Design in Needlework. The other winners from WV includes Silver Medal Winner - Charles Marshall for Knotting from Martinsburg, WV, and in the Drama Division for Patriotic Poetry - David Allan Tucker from Clarksburg, WV. Patti gave me four different stories about veterans who participated in this event, and I want to pass one along to you with the hope it will inspire you to want to donate to this worthy event. Veteran 2 she told me about: "Just two short years ago was a vet on the streets. His social worker at the VA placed him in a home and convinced him to try putting a piece in this program. He did it just to please her and won. He now supports himself with his art." There were several inspirational stories, but I don't have the space.

Hope many are working on the Comfort Drive. I have sent the latest list from the WV Veterans Home to Department Headquarters and the cover sheet for the boxes. As in the past, you can take direct to your nearest VA facility or Vets Home or bring to Mid-Winter.

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Mary Waybright
V A & R Chairman

West Virginia Veterans Home

We are really getting into the holiday season now. We would like to thank all of the members that helped to get clothing for the ladies at the West Virginia Veterans Home. I was able to take the ladies shopping and get the items that they needed. One of the ladies was ill and was not able to go on the luncheon shopping trip, but we were able to get the items that she needed. The items included underwear, shoes (boots), tops and jeans. I want to send a special "thank you" to Benwood Unit 46 for their generous donation. Another female veteran has moved in and she has been supplied with any need items.

A big "thank you" goes to Barbourville Unit 177 for their work on the floor set aside for female veterans. With the assistance of VFW Auxiliary 9738, they were able to paint and decorate the hallway and the rooms for female veterans with curtains, bedding, furniture, lamps, etc. Milton Unit 139 also made donations to this project. The West Virginia Veterans Home is expected several more ladies in the near future and we are thankful that the area for them is now clean and comfortable.

Huntington Unit 16 continues to hold Bingo once a month for the residents using the money from the department and matching the funds so that it is a worthwhile evening for the veterans. Special things are being planned for Thanksgiving and Christmas for these treasured veterans.

Peggy Roberson
WV Veterans Home Chairman



Ways & Means

Congratulations to the October winners of the 2016 Ways and Means tickets!!!

All ticket money has been deposited for the 2017 year, and numbers are now being put in the system.

I do have a couple of tickets with just phone numbers on them. Please I need complete mailing addresses with zip codes to mail their winning check. Make sure you check your stubs before mailing them in.

I have put in emails to the sellers to get this information, and waiting to get back with me.

Time is running out!! You have 5 1/2 weeks to get the 2017 ticket stubs with money to me. It may seem like a lot of time, but you know how quickly time flies by!!!

I hope all the units have sold some tickets for 2017 year. Remember this is the only Department Fundraiser we have and it benefits our Veterans in Our Own State!!!

Winners have a chance to hit \$25.00 daily and every 3rd Wednesday \$200.00. January 2, 2017 drawing will be for \$100.00!!

Wouldn't you like to win!??

Remember: *if you don't pay, you can't play.*

Paulette Anderson
Chairman

October Ways and Means Winners

Winner	Number	City	State	Date	Amount
Mary Lou Osbourne	461	Farmington	OH	10/1/16	\$25.00
	388			10/3/16	
Mary Lou Hardman	086	Wheeling	WV	10/4/16	\$25.00
Mary Bowman	366	Capon Bridge	WV	10/5/16	\$25.00
Squadron #3	622	Moundsville	WV	10/6/16	\$25.00
Cindy Stewart	254	Clarksburg	WV	10/7/16	\$25.00
	982			10/8/16	
Jim Callaway	560	Welch	WV	10/10/16	\$25.00
	520			10/11/16	
Claudia Given	676	Cowen	WV	10/12/16	\$25.00
Carol Erickson	201	Elkins	WV	10/13/16	\$25.00
Kinsey Byron	668	Westminister	MD	10/14/16	\$25.00
Mary Hopkins	151	Parkersburg	WV	10/15/16	\$25.00
James Spruce	414	Welch	WV	10/17/16	\$25.00
Charles Honaker	917	Welch	WV	10/18/16	\$25.00
Sallie Messar	837	Wellsburg	WV	10/19/16	\$200.00
Bernie Lucas	856	Moundsville	WV	10/20/16	\$25.00
	636			10/21/16	
	862			10/22/16	
	588			10/24/16	
	364			10/25/16	
Tony Baker	122	Capon Bridge	WV	10/26/16	\$25.00
Eddy Kidwell	567	Points	WV	10/27/16	\$25.00
Herb Churchman	529	High View	WV	10/28/16	\$25.00
Tom Dillon	708	Anawalt	WV	10/29/16	\$25.00
	605			10/31/16	



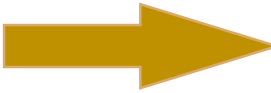
Timeless Reflections



**Button #4-- November 15th—40%
Membership To Date—3745 (41.82 %)
Dept. Unit #200—73
Department Goal—8954**



District 1			
Unit	2017 Goal	2017	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	34	1	2.94%
Moundsville #3	373	174	46.65%
McMechen #5	76	34	44.74%
Weirton #10	85	41	48.24%
Cameron #18	238	92	38.66%
New Martinsville #28	171	105	61.40%
Wellsburg #34	40	24	60.00%
Follansbee #45	59	26	44.07%
Benwood #46	125	54	43.20%
Pine Grove #81	119	39	32.77%
Paden City #86	154	74	48.05%
Wheeling #89	48	6	12.50%
Newell #114	58	24	41.38%
Hundred #120	115	36	31.30%
Chester #121	200	89	44.50%
TOTALS	1895	819	43.22%



**WWI
Farmettes
Goal—4055
To Date—1657
(40.86 %)**



District 3			
Unit	2017 Goal	2017	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	73	35	47.95%
Grafton #12	33	1	3.03%
Clarksburg #13	187	130	69.52%
Shinnston #31	365	183	50.14%
Braxton Co. #33	41	21	51.22%
Philippi #44	46	16	34.78%
Bridgeport #68	63	27	42.86%
Jane Lew #166	52	11	21.15%
Morgantown #174	43	9	20.93%
TOTALS	903	433	44.95%

District 5			
Unit	2017 Goal	2017	% of Goal
Huntington #16	312	158	50.64%
Logan #19	29		
St. Albans #73	87	22	25.29%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	461	131	28.42%
South Charleston #94	34	10	29.41%
Hamlin #111	71	15	21.13%
Milton #139	92	44	47.83%
Barboursville #177	178	86	48.31%
TOTALS	1264	466	36.87%

District 10			
Unit	2017 Goal	2017	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	155	68	43.87%
Franklin #30	31	10	32.26%
Piedmont #52	41	12	29.27%
Berkeley Springs #60	260	122	46.92%
Moorefield #64	140	50	35.71%
Charles Town #71	314	132	42.04%
Petersburg #78	117	52	44.44%
Romney #91	319	138	43.26%
Charles Town #102	24	15	62.50%
Paw Paw #128	79	18	22.78%
Kirby #134	63	34	53.97%
Ridgeley #136	127	41	32.28%
Capon Bridge #137	153	22	14.38%
Keyser #152	67	44	65.67%
TOTALS	1890	758	40.11%

District 4			
Unit	2017 Goal	2017	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	1027	510	49.66%
Spencer #21	82	46	56.10%
Pt. Pleasant #23	439	140	31.89%
Tyler County #48	17	9	52.94%
Sistersville #67	175	29	16.57%
Parkersburg #104	30		
New Haven #140	190	82	43.16%
Williamstown #159	218	70	32.11%
TOTALS	2178	877	40.27%

District 6			
Unit	2017 Goal	2017	% of Goal
Welch #8	91	28	30.77%
Bluefield #9	38		
Beckley #32	54	22	40.74%
Gary #38	94	64	68.09%
TOTALS	277	114	41.16%



District 9			
Unit	2017 Goal	2017	% of Goal
Elkins #29	220	103	46.82%
Cowen #62	59	25	42.37%
Lewisburg #69	81	35	43.21%
Belington #96	47	22	46.81%
Richwood #97	24		
Pickens #122	31	20	64.52%
TOTALS	462	205	44.37%



**WWII
Rosie The Riveters
Goal—4812
To Date—2015
(41.87 %)**

December 2016

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	<p><i>Programs of The Month</i> <i>Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Field Services</i></p>			<p>1 <i>Office Closed Back from Indianapolis</i></p>	<p>2 <i>Office Closed Martinsburg Gift Shop</i></p>	<p>3 <i>Martinsburg Gift Shop Half day</i></p>
4	5	<p>6 <i>Huntington Gift Shop</i></p>	<p>7  <i>Pearl Harbor Day Beckley Gift Shop</i></p>	8	<p>9 <i>Clarksburg Gift Shop</i></p>	10
11	12	13	14	<p>15 <i>Button #5-50%</i></p>	<p>16 <i>Spirit Articles Due</i></p>	17
18	19	<p>20 <i>Spirit Out VA Checks Out</i></p>	<p>21 </p>	22	<p>23 <i>Office Closed</i></p>	<p>24 <i>Christmas Eve</i></p>
<p>25 <i>Christmas Day First Day of Hanukkah</i></p>	<p>26 <i>Office Closed</i></p>	27	28	29	<p>30 <i>Office Closed</i></p>	<p>31 <i>New Years Eve</i></p>

**2017 MID-WINTER CONFERENCE
RESERVATION FORM**

February 3-4, 2017
Holiday Inn/Days Inn
301 Foxcroft Avenue
Martinsburg, West Virginia 25401

\$89.00 per night room rate (plus 13% tax)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Arrival Date _____ AM PM Departure Date _____

Room Type: (circle one) Doubles King

Non-Smoking Facility _____

Handicap Room: (circle one) wheelchair oxygen tank other
If you circled "other", please explain. _____

*Members with wheelchair disabilities will receive first priority.

One night's deposit must accompany this request to reserve a room. Any form without a deposit will be returned. Enclosed, please find one night's room deposit of **\$89.00** (plus 13% tax) = \$100.57 per night

(circle one)

check cash credit card
_____ credit card # _____
type _____
expiration date _____

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

Mail to: **Holiday Inn**
 ATTN: Sandy
 301 Foxcroft Avenue
 Martinsburg, West Virginia 25401

**This form must be mailed to reserve a room at Holiday Inn. (No phone calls
for rooms will be accepted.)**

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER EARLY- THANKS!

CANCELLATION MUST BE 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE TO RECEIVE REFUND.

***CANCELLATION MUST BE
48 HOURS IN ADVANCE
TO RECEIVE REFUND***

YOU ARE INVITED
TO THE 36TH ANNUAL
MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 3-4, 2017

HOLIDAY INN/DAYS INN
MARTINSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA

ADVANCED REGISTRATION - \$20
AT DOOR REGISTRATION - \$25

RETURN BOTTOM PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT

I AM SENDING \$ _____ FOR _____ ADVANCED REGISTRATION(S). **PLEASE ATTACH A LIST OF INDIVIDUALS FOR WHICH YOU PAYING.**

SPELL NAME AS IT IS TO APPEAR ON NAME BADGE DURING CONFERENCE

NAME (S) _____

ADDRESS _____

POST/UNIT/SAL NO. _____

TITLE/OFFICE HELD _____

MAIL TO: THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA
P.O. BOX 3191
CHARLESTON WV 25332

DEADLINE DATE: JANUARY 27, 2017

**36TH Annual Mid-Winter Conference
2017
ADVERTISING FORM**

The American Legion
Department of West Virginia, Inc.

I hereby authorize the following advertisement to be placed in the official program of the 36th Annual Mid-Winter Conference of The American Legion, Department of West Virginia, Inc., scheduled February 3-4, 2017, at Holiday Inn, Martinsburg, West Virginia.

Date: _____, 2016/2017 _____
Name of Post/Unit/SAL

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

Ad should read as follows:

Authorized Signature: _____

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

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

Ad and Payment Deadline is January 16, 2017.
No Deviation

West Virginia Veterans Home Donation List

While we always appreciate ALL donations, there are some things our Veterans need more than others...

If you have questions, please call 304-736-1027.

For the Recreation Dept.

Cash/Check Donations
TTA Bus Tickets (\$5 increments)
Tickets to Sporting Events
NFL/NASCAR/Baseball Items
Gift Cards (ex. Wal-Mart)
International Phone Cards
Movie Passes
Camping & Fishing Equipment
Sporting & Exercise Equipment
Archery Arrows & Pool Cues
Remote control cars & planes
Bookshelves
Oil/ Acrylic Paints & Brushes
Hand Tools & Craft Supplies
Darts and Dart Supplies
Small Folding Tables
Digital Picture Frames
DVD Players
Metal Detectors
Movies & Music
Surge Protectors
Individually Wrapped Snacks
Individual Microwave Popcorn
Individual Hot Chocolate
Coffee, Creamer, & Tea Bags
Garden Items (Pots & Plants)
Holiday Decorations
Shuffle Board Table
Magazine Subscriptions
Bottled water & Gatorade
Pin Ball Table
Snack, crackers, chips
Chocolates

For the Veterans

Washers
Dryers
Chocolates - individual
Cologne
Bandoliers
Bar Soap Cases
Hand Sanitizer
Shoelaces
Hats, Gloves, & Jackets
Liquid Fabric softener
Hand & Body Lotion
Sewing & Eyeglass Repair Kits
Wallets & Watches
Batteries (AA, AAA, c, & d)
Triple and Quad Blade Razors
Dryer Sheets
Denture Adhesive
Radios/ CD Players
TV Sets & DVD Players
Clock Radios/ Alarm Clocks
Bedside Lamps
Laundry Bags
Men's Pocket T-Shirts, esp. XXL/
XXXL sizes
Diabetic Socks
Men's Underwear, Pajamas
Sweat Pants & Shirts
Plants (indoor)
Pillows & Twin Sheets WHITE
Musical Instruments
Guitar Strings & Music
Coffee Mugs
Keychains
Cards & Board Games

We are seeking sponsors for future field trips.

Revised on October 12, 2016

***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

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.

Purchase/Renew Your Subscription!

\$16.00 per year

Runs August through July Each Year

MAIL TO:

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

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS OR PO BOX: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

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 \$10.00 each plus \$4.00 (S & H)

If you buy 5 ALL AT ONCE then the 6th one is free!!

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

