



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 31

March 2017

Issue 8



American Legion Auxiliary
2017-2018
Department President
Lisa Cadwallader



Serve & Honor Those Who
Defend our Freedom While
Building Future Leaders



Hello Ladies,

We had a very good Mid-Winter Conference. There were a little more than 60 in attendance. We had several handouts and lots of information to take back to your units. We were honored to have both the National Commander Denise Rohan, and National President Diane Duscheck. Both were very good speakers, and spoke from the heart. Overall the reflection forms show many really enjoyed the conference. Since there was so much on the reflection forms, I have listed the results separate from the article, but asked that it be included in this newsletter.

As of February 5th, the special project has received \$2,489. This is just a little more than \$1,000 away from being able to sign the contract on the first dedication stone to be placed in the WV National Veterans Cemetery. I know a little more will come in from challenges the vices had. I want to thank everyone who has donated so far.

It saddens me to say we are over 400 members behind in membership compared to this time last year. Even more sadly there are only 5 departments that are ahead in membership of where they were this time last year.

National is pushing for departments to have a 100th Anniversary Committee in place by National Convention. They have listed the Department Presidents as a contact person until we decide on a committee so our department receives the information starting to come out. This is the start and early stages of gearing up for the centennial. They are recommending following in the footsteps of the Legion since they are a year before us and have already developed some tools. They have created a relatively new facebook group "American Legion Auxiliary 100th Anniversary Celebration". There is already a wealth of information on that facebook group, brainstorming ideas, key phrases, the official logo patch, a link to the 100th year anniversary items from emblem sales, and a link to the legacy_and_vision.pdf file, a good resource on committee and where to start. There is also information on the National Legion website itself. You can invite others to the facebook group, which I have done or you yourself can search for the page and requested to be added. I also shared the link on the our Department facebook page "American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia".

Since our Department does not have an official facebook page, Dede Kelly set up a facebook page called "American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia" a few years ago. Several members use this page to get information out to other members. Please share this information with your other unit members. I was a little surprised to learn some did not know about the page already. The Department Secretary would be the admin if we had an official page. Also, if your Unit or District has a facebook page, you need to notify the Department Secretary so she can like the page or ask to join the page. She needs to be aware of all Auxiliary related pages and included on them.

Spring Conferences are just around the corner, some start early March. Units don't forget this is the time to take your report/listing of things your unit has done and report on them at District Conference. Also, send your deceased members in to your District for the memorial service.

Any member is welcome to call or email me any time. Remember there is no dumb question, maybe only the one not asked.

Serve & Honor Veterans,
Lisa Cadwallader (304) - 707 - 1121
LisaC.ALA71@gmail.com



Department Headquarters

Mission Statement

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

Mandatory Funds: to be a unit in good standing one of the obligations is paying your unit mandatory funds yearly, no later than July 31, 2018. If you are attending Department Convention to be seated as a delegate, then it is 30 days before Convention.

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

Spirit Articles: 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.**

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

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

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

As of February 1st 2018 dues MUST be paid before any back dues.

If you send me back dues and they aren't paid for 2018, they will be marked for 2018 year.

Directory Updates: page 14: Past President's Parley Susan Wade's house number should read "303". All else the same.

Page 16: please change Irene Weber's email under Strategic Planning Committee to: irenew21941@gmail.com

Page 29: Hamlin Unit #11 President's address is 3656 Big Creek. All else the same.

Online Dues The unit membership chairman will receive an email from me giving you credit for your unit, and instructions how to process this credit.

Please do not staple checks to transmittals.

Dates To Remember

*3rd District Spring Conference
March 10, 2018 (Joint)
Shinnston Post #31
State Oratorical Contest
After Conference*

*Clarksburg Post #13 Birthday Dinner
March 9, 2018*

*Shinnston Post #31 Birthday Dinner
March 11, 2018*

*10th District Spring Conference
March 24, 2018 (Joint)
Berkeley Springs Post #60*

*5th District Spring Conference
Saturday April 14, 2018 (Joint)
Huntington Post #16*

*4th District Spring Conference
Sunday April 15, 2018 (Joint)
Williamstown Post #159*

*ALA 1st District Spring Conference
Sunday April 29, 2018
Moundsville Unit #3*

*This is all I have and they are
TENATIVE*

2018-2019 Candidates for Office

Dept. President-Rhonda Best Unit #3
Dept. 1st VP-Sharon Kauffman Unit #14
Dept. 2nd Vice Pres.-
Dept. Sec/Treas.-Paulette Anderson #28
Dept. Chaplain- Kelly Immel #71
Dept. Historian-

Department Headquarters

Office Hours 9:00-4:00
Lunch 12:30-1:30

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.wvauux.org

Rhododendron Girls State Website
www.wvgirlsstate.org

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

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

Department Officers 2017-2018

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

District Presidents

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

District Vice Presidents

1st District-Holly Adams
3rd District-Michelle Dambaugh
4th District-Nancy Sundstrom
5th District-JoAnn Hastings
6th District-Reba Honaker
10th District-Linda Schlicht

“Soaring High in Membership While Strengthening our Culture of Goodwill”

Membership Chairman

Midwinter Conference was very informative and I was happy to see so many Auxiliary sisters in attendance. I hope you enjoyed the kahoot! Membership Quiz. I encourage you to try an interactive quiz during your spring District conference. During the membership luncheon, we had a great time interacting with the human scavenger hunt and getting to know more about one another. Thank you to everyone who attended and to the membership team for donating items to the necessity gift bags because each member is a necessity to the American Legion Auxiliary.

The next membership target is 75% by March 31. Now is the time to sit down with your Unit officers and start contacting members that were on your roster last year but have not renewed this year. Don't forget about all of the recruitment incentives that are being offered by National and also make sure that your female veterans are taking advantage of joining the Auxiliary as well.

If you need help, please reach out to your District Vice President, Department Vice Presidents and me. Keep working!!

Soaring High With Membership,
Heather Fauble

Department 1st Vice President

Hello Doves

It was good to see a lot of you at the Mid-Winter Conference last month.

I want to Thank each of you for everything you are doing with membership. It shows in our numbers. However we have more work to do in order to reach our 3rd Target. So put on your thinking caps and continue making your membership rise.

You could send letters out to your delinquent members and hold membership drives to possibly get new members.

I hope to see many of you at the Spring Conferences coming up.

Until next month be safe and keep up the good work.

God Bless
Rhonda Best
1st Vice President



Department 2nd Vice President

Hello Eagles,

We had a great time at Midwinter. We played a game and I think it would be fun to do in your unit and at the district conferences. Kahoots for those of you who weren't at Mid-Winter. You would have enjoyed it.

I would like to thank all the District Vices for their hard work. Now we have to help get units up to goal. As most of you know I lost my challenge to 1st Vice Rhonda Best for the overall new members but it was for a good cause.

Here is a suggestion; take your members who haven't paid for a couple years divide them up. Get some members and officers to make a phone chain. It might help to get some members back. Also when you send out your membership cards put a note in telling what your unit is doing.

I enjoy working with all of you if you need any help I am here; email, text or phone call.

Here are the difference in membership just so everyone know.

2-15-17: 5269

2-14-18: 4865

With the difference of 404

FOR GOD and COUNTRY
Dept. 2nd Vice
Sharon Kauffman
304-707-5512
skauf01@yahoo.com



BUILDING LEADERSHIP

1st District President

Hello Everyone

I hope that those who attended Mid-winter conference had a good time and were able to take back some new ideas to their units. It was great to meet our National Auxiliary President and to hear her speak at the Midwinter.

One of the things discussed at Mid-winter was report writing, with that said year end reports are due in April. Please do your best in completing these reports in their entirety and include a narrative with each report.

Keep working on your membership. Get creative with ways to get new members and rejoining old members.

First District Spring Conference is schedule for April 29th and to be held in Moundsville. We hope to have a good turn out of units present at conference. The Chaplain performs a memorial service for our deceased members during spring conference. Please submit a list of your unit's deceased members to me by April 10th.

God Bless

Stephanie Handley
1st District President

3rd District Vice President

Ladies,

Our Department Membership Chairman is sending letters out to the units that is low on membership. Come on ladies, we can do it and get a good bit of our members in.

Michelle Dambaugh
3rd District Vice President



3rd District President

This past weekend that we spent in Morgantown at Mid-Winter Conference, I am happy to say that Third District was represented by four Units. Ladies this was not that far away and the weather was nice, I would like to have seen more there. This Conference was very informative.

The month of March we have Third District Spring Conference on March 10th. All units should have received information on it. If you did not receive it, please let me know and I will send it out to you again. Please plan on attending it is very important. Registration is \$10.00 per person. Registration begins at 9:00, place is Shinnston American Legion Post, on Bridge Street.

I am glad to say we do not have any Units in this District at 0 now. Third District is ahead of the other Districts but only by the skin of our teeth. Please work harder on your Membership.

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

God Bless our Veterans
Carla Wilfong
Third District President

5th District President

I would like to thank everyone who attended the Mid-Winter Conference. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. What a pleasure to have Diane Duscheck, National President, with us for the weekend. Everyone did an outstanding job and there were motivational presentation. Everyone had a great time. Sorry if you missed it.

I hope you are continuing to bring in new members and getting renewals of those already a member. Do not hold dues. Send them in as soon as possible. Your members benefits do not start until those dues are received at Department and National.

Plan ahead: The 5th District Spring Conference will be held on Saturday, April 14th at Huntington Post 16. Mark your calendars now and make plans to attend. It should be fun and there will be lots of information given and we will have elections of District officers. Looking forward to seeing you then. Service not Self!!
Beth Kilgore, President
5th District

4th District President

Hello 4th District,

Hoping this find you all safe from flooding. I missed seeing a lot of you ladies at Mid-Winter, and you missed a good leadership meeting with lots of information. It was great meeting Diane Duscheck, the National President.

All units need to be searching within to find a candidate for District President. I urge you to make plans for Spring Conference to be held at Williamstown Post 159 on April 15th.

I trust everyone is looking out for the needs of the community in their area, in the flood aftermath. Let's be showing our "culture of goodwill"!

Girls State is fast approaching. I'm sure everyone has received their packets. If not please contact Ann Buchanan.

I haven't heard from but two units. I will be making visits to these units starting next Tuesday. If I can help you in any way please do not hesitate to contact me for a visit. I look forward to meeting with you.

What are your plans for Memorial Day? Tyler County Unit 48 will be hosting the WV Traveling Vietnam Wall for our town celebration.

Until next month, be safe, be happy and thank a veteran.

In the spirit of service not self,
Cathy Post
4th District President

5th District Vice President

Hello Ladies

I just got back from Midwinter Conference in Morgantown. It was good to see everyone.

I want to thank you for your mid-winter report.

We have ups and downs in membership; right now its down. We still are doing well in Fifth District. I know you hate to hear this but we need to work harder in membership. I know it's not an easy task. You can call members to see why they haven't paid their dues. Tell them that we care about them and we want them back. Try to have membership drives. We need new members also. Tell them what we do and what we stand for.

Thank you.
Joann Hastings
Fifth District VP

6th District President

Hi Everyone

It was good to see so many of you at Midwinter. Hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful weather we are having it's 85 degree here in Welch today. I know we have had a lot of flooding across the State let's keep these people in our prayers.

It was very nice to see Mary Jennings and Teresa Rose from Beckley 32, and we had Debbie Krabbe from Bluefield Unit 9.

Ladies it has been a long and hard struggle but we have gotten Bluefield Unit 9 back on track. Thanks to Brian Krabbe, Post 9 Commander, for his help in getting us new members to sign up for the Auxiliary. They elected new officers and set up their meeting date.

So proud of you ladies!

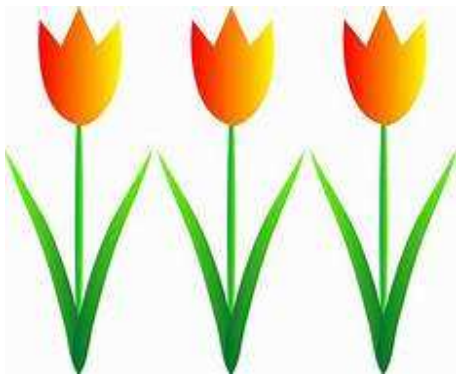
We lost Emily Yeager one of our members from Welch Unit 8, I'm sure about everyone knew Emily she will be missed. Our District 6 Vice President has been sick so please let's keep her in our prayers.

It's getting time to work on Girl State as everyone knows it will be held at Davis Elkin College in Elkins, WV this year.

We are working on the Spring Conference hope that it's going to be hosted by Cowan one of our new Units in our District. She is checking on the date that I gave her today, and will get back to me. I will send everyone a letter when we find out for sure.

Let's keep all of our veterans in our prayers active or inactive they all deserve it.

So until next time GOD BLESS
Peggy Swartz,
President
6th District



10th District President

Hello Doves

We had a good time at the Mid-Winter Conference. It was nice to see a lot of you.

Now we are getting ready for Spring Conference March 24, 2018. Make sure to get your paperwork in. The credential comes back to me and the blue (registration) goes to Nicole Shephard Unit 60 Berkeley Springs. Make sure when you send to Nicole that your check is included, it must be prepaid. Also I need your deceased list so we can get ready for the Memorial Service. We have a couple of members who need prayer, Augustine Stotler, Connie Pyles, Nina Mason, Michelle Hart, Sharon Glassford, Brenda McCray, Debbie Micheal. These were names that I know of. Augustine Stotler is in Winchester Hospital in ICU from a Stroke. Julia Mae Downing has the flu. Let's keep the prayers coming.

Can't wait to see everyone at Conference.

For God and Country
Sharon Kauffman
District 10 President
304-707-5512

10th District VAMC Picnic

Hello 10th District,

We might still have snow on the ground but it's time to start thinking about warm weather and picnics.

The Annual Memorial Day Picnic at the Martinsburg VAMC will be held Wednesday May 30th. The program begins at 11am and lunch is served after the guest speakers.

So of course it's also time to order food and supplies. I'm asking you to open your charitable hearts and checking accounts to help make this picnic a success again for our hospitalize veterans.

Any questions you may call 304-258-5804 or 304-268-2353.

Thank You
10th District VA&R Chairman
Debbie Fox

Chaplain

Auxiliary Sisters, As I write this our beautiful state is in dire straits with all the flooding and it would appear more on the way, according to my last update. I would suggest that we all reach out to our neighbors and our communities. I'm sure we all have many in need of help, be it food, shelter, clothing or just a phone call and prayer to let them know we are here. So many have lost so much. I will be keeping everyone in prayer as we go about with our "culture of goodwill."

"Almighty God, the Refuge of all that are distressed, grant unto us that, in all trouble of this our mortal life, we may flee to the knowledge of Thy loving kindness and tender mercy; that so, sheltering ourselves therein, the storms of life may pass over us, and not shake the peace of God that is within us. Whatever this life may bring us, grant that it may never take from us the full faith that Thou art our Father. Grant us Thy light, that we may have life, through Jesus Christ our Lord' Amen.

Peace be with all of you especially during this Lenten season.

For God and Country,
Cathy D. Post
Chaplain



Historian

I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards & calls while Mike was down from having his heart attack. It meant the world to Mike & myself from our American Legion Family.

It was a great mid winter. I hope everyone learned something to take back to your units.

I would also like to thank the units that have gave me information for the history book this year so far. If any unit has information that they would like to share please sent it to me per email Kitbasket@hotmail.com Or mail to: 251 Mimosa Drive Martinsburg WV 25404

God Bless
Kelli A Immel

Meaning of our Preamble

When we gather for auxiliary functions, we recite the Preamble to the Constitution. Do you know what the meaning of the Preamble is and why it was written? During the coming year, I will offer you a breakdown of the Preamble and the next time you recite it, hopefully it will have more meaning for you.

Explanation of the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary

7th in a series of 11

“To make right the master of might...”

The American form of government guarantees equal rights to all citizens. The American Legion Auxiliary, born from a struggle against ruthless might, pledges their strength to a continued struggle to prevent invasion of the rights of any citizen by any force, no matter of what character.

Beth Kilgore, Chairman
Constitution & By-Laws Committee

Community Service

Hello Ladies

Community service is much needed in the community. It helps feed the homeless. We have a lot of people that don't have a coat-or one meal a day. They have no where to sleep, and no heat. This is when we can help do coat drives, and food baskets are needed all year long. We can go to the VA hospital and take cards to them, small gifts, talk to the veterans. We show them we care. This is what we can do in our community.

Thank you
JoAnn Hastings
Community Service Chairman

Constitution & Bylaws

We have just returned from a great Mid-Winter Conference at Lakeview. I received several constitutions & By-Laws for the committee to review while at the conference. We will be in touch with those soon.

If you are updating your Constitution & By-Laws, please email them to MBKilgore@frontier.com or mail them to 1562 Holderby Road, Huntington, WV 25701.

If you have any questions, give me a call at 304-654-7750.

Service not Self!
Beth Kilgore, Chairman
Linda Crumm, Member
Dede Kelly, Member

Silent Auction

Thank you to the units who participated in the silent auction at the Midwinter Conference.

A total of \$507.00 was collected with another \$20.00 donation for the Silent Auction items.

**The Raffle Basket collected \$87.00
Kelli Immel
Charles Town Unit #71
won the basket—Congratulations!!**

All proceeds went to the Department Welfare Fund.

National Security

Hello Ladies,

In was great to see all of you at Mid-Winter in Morgantown WV at Cheap Lake. We knocked it out; another Conference down, more to come. I loved to see new and old faces.

I saw this on the ALA NHQ site: “Sending love and gratitude to all ALA members. Thank you for always being there through war, peace times, deployments and homecomings, through crisis and celebrations and for your dedication to the ALA’s mission of advocating for our veterans, military, and their families. We look forward to your continued support to ensure our mission of service endures for the next generation of heroes.” I just want to thank everyone that helps the ALA to make it a better organization.

Did you know?? ALA members have access to free online training with ALA Academy! Wanted to learn more read on ALA site. Also, the ALA is using Amazon Smile to help the ALA Foundation? Go and sign in to Amazon through their special link and just read how to do it step by step.

God Bless You
Savanna Kauffman
National Security



Leadership

How do you feel that you know about Protocol within the ALA? At the National website, the Leadership section has an ALA Protocol presentation in Power Point software that spells out protocol for any situations. There is also a Quiz that we can take to see what we learned from the presentation. Here are the first 20 of the 61 questions from the Quiz. How does your Protocol knowledge stack up? Answers are somewhere in this Spirit.

1. The sash ribbon is worn by _____ at all levels.
2. The sash may be worn over a _____.
3. The sash is worn over the _____.
4. _____ or decorations should be affixed to the sash.
5. The pin should be worn _____.
6. Members are encouraged to wear the pin of the _____ held by the member.
7. A corsage should be worn above the _____.
8. If a flag pin is worn, it should be above and _____ of the Auxiliary pin (as seen as another).
9. Protocol for the _____ states she should prepare and follow an agenda.
10. Protocol for the presiding officer dictates she start and _____ the meeting on time.
11. Protocol for the presiding officer that she conducts herself _____.
12. Protocol for the presiding officer dictates that she demonstrate _____ and understanding.
13. Protocol for the presiding officer indicates she should be prepared to assist _____, if needed.
14. Protocol for the presiding officer recognize and _____ to chairman or committee responsible for the meeting.
15. Protocol for the presiding officer dictates she _____ the applause for the person coming to the podium.
16. Protocol for the presiding officer dictates she and others show _____ to PNP and PDP to honor their service.
17. Protocol for members dictate they _____ for the meeting.
18. Protocol for members dictates that they dress _____ for the event.
19. Protocol for members dictate that _____, paper & pen.
20. Protocol for members dictate that they be mindful of & follow _____.

Dede Kelly
Leadership
ddkelly@arc-hc.com

Strategic Planning Committee

Hello Ladies:

Our Goal # 2: CULTURE OF GOODWILL

The following were mentioned at Mid-

Winter, for the Unit Level:

Meet and Eat with the Post

Be a Friend

Inform of Meetings in Advance

Phone call

Mail

Email

Recognize and Give Credit

Thank them by email for Coming

Culture of Goodwill can be expressed by kindness to each other, helpfulness as to assist one another; remember it is okay if we do things different. One of the most important expressions that we need to relate to others is POSITIVE attitudes toward each other. We all will not agree on everything and that is absolutely Okay. But the way we express and handle it is important factor, Play Nice and Kind especially when other people are around.

Embarrassment is not a good trait and you may lose a member and a Volunteer. We need to have a Professional representation when working with the ALA. Our organization and our Veterans are well worth this characteristic.

Along with this, we need to have an open mind and be flexible. When listening to other people's ideas, and opinions.

These are a few items and words we can apply to our Unit, District, and Department. You will know what works best for you.

Thank You and You are Appreciated

Sharon Glassford

Goal #2: Culture of Good Will



Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Mid-Winter Conference is over and this was a real experience working the Comfort Item Room. I know what it was like for Mary Waybright and Betty Burton when they were in charge. It is mentally tiring. But enough said.

I am happy to say that we had 18 Units donate items, 1 SAL Detachment and 1 VFW also made donations. We had a total of \$11,834.80 worth of items and money donated. We had approximately 5,926 items donated. This is what was brought in and what had already been taken to the hospitals and Nursing Homes.

I want to thank Margaret Yost, Dortha Parsons, Patty Moore, Lynda Lancaster, Mary Waybright, and the following Junior members Charli Michael, Mary Grace Bannon, Kati Beth Caudill, and SAL member Lucius Michael for all the help they gave me.

If I made any mistakes this year, please let me know and if I am VA&R Chairman next year I will try to correct them. If you need my help please call me at 304-592-0247 or e-mail me at carlajwilfong@yahoo.com.

God Bless Our Veterans
Carla Wilfong
VA&R Chairman

Membership Renewal Drawing

Winner Is:
Rosa Blake
Lewisburg Unit #69
Congratulations!

Charles Town Unit #71 Fundraisers for the Department Presidents Special Project

National Headquarters Collective Plate won by Linda Day,
Beckley Unit #32 President

American Flag Throw
won by Maureen Miller

Congratulations to both winners

Past President's Club Raffle

Collected \$366.00
Winner Received \$183.00
Congratulations to Sharon Kauffman
Martinsburg Unit #14!!!

Children & Youth

I hope everyone enjoyed the Mid-Winter Conference. It really was a great time.

Remember **April is Children & Youth Month**. I hope you are planning a special event to honor the Children & Youth in your community.

Would like everyone to consider wearing a purple t-shirt on April 15th for **Purple Up**, honoring the military child.

If anyone asks why you are wearing the purple t-shirt, please explain the significance of wearing it on that particular day.



Thank you for all you do for Children and Youth!!

Leadership Protocol Quiz Answers

1. various officers
2. suit coat
3. right shoulder
4. no pins
5. over the heart
6. highest office
7. auxiliary pin
8. to the left
9. presiding officer
10. end
11. professionally
12. knowledge
13. chairman
14. give credit
15. lead
16. special courtesies
17. arrive on time
18. appropriately
19. they bring agenda
20. designated seating

Education

Some information from a friend of mine who happens to be a retired teacher. Hope and pray none of our families ever have to deal with this.

"If you have kids that still go to school please take time today to talk with them about what to do if there is an active shooter at their school. It's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when. Most school shootings only last a few minutes and your child's initial reaction may be the difference between life and death. Walk through their schedule and talk about what to do in every situation, what to do in the hallway, the auditorium, the gym and the cafeteria. If they're unsure make them ask their teachers. Talk to them about run, hide, fight. If you don't know what that is, YouTube it. Talk to them about situational awareness. Most of all, tell them to trust their teachers, every single one of us will give our lives to protect your kids. The police cannot sit outside our schools all day, the teachers and students have to know what to do to survive until the police get there. When the shooting starts everyone will panic, the people that are prepared have the best chance for survival. Talk to your kids today. If you have doubts, contact their teachers or administrators at their school. Please don't stick your head in the sand and say it'll never happen to us. People sent their kids to school in Florida and didn't think the worst could possibly happen. We as teachers will do our best but we need your help as parents to prepare your kids these situations."

God Bless
Kelli A Immel
Education Committee



Ways & Means

Congratulations to the January winners!
You still have plenty of time to sell the 2018 Ways and Means tickets.

If you have sold any and haven't sent them in, please do so now, so they will be put in the system to be eligible to win.

There won't be an article every month, but every two months.

Keep on selling tickets!!!

Remember if you don't pay you can't play.

Paulette Anderson
Susan Wade

January Ways and Means Winners

Sandee Heavner	711	Capon Bridge	WV	1/1/18	\$100.00
	726			1/2/18	
Peggy Swartz	474	Gary	WV	1/3/18	\$25.00
Linda Phillips	391	Cameron	WV	1/4/18	\$25.00
Nita Fox	480	Spencer	WV	1/5/18	\$25.00
	164			1/6/18	
	167			1/8/18	
Betty Jane Harris	790	Painsville	OH	1/9/18	\$25.00
	489			1/10/18	
ALA 1st District	262	Moundsville	WV	1/11/18	\$25.00
Reba McGhee	267	Griffithsville	WV	1/12/18	\$25.00
Scottie Thorn	088	Welch	WV	1/13/18	\$25.00
	633			1/15/18	
Benjamin Hott	210	Augusta	WV	1/16/18	\$25.00
	405			1/17/18	
Dee King	865	Hamlin	WV	1/18/18	\$25.00
	650			1/19/18	
Tracy Hott	434	Augusta	WV	1/20/18	\$25.00
	266			1/22/18	
Bill Estep	594	Clarksburg	WV	1/23/18	\$25.00
Sherry Koger	545	Roderfield	WV	1/24/18	\$25.00
	965			1/25/18	
Elizabeth Speiser	932	Mt. Airy	MD	1/26/18	\$25.00
	445			1/27/18	
Mary Rose Yoho	849	Proctor	WV	1/29/18	\$25.00
Rita Alley	291	Casa Grande	AZ	1/30/18	\$25.00
Jesse Roberts	463	Griffithsville	WV	1/31/18	\$25.00



Membership 2017-2018 "Soaring High with Membership While Strengthening our Culture of Goodwill"



Membership Target
March 31, 2018—75% Updated 2/15/18
Department Goal 9446
Unit #200 Goal 88 To Date: 73
Membership to Date: 4867 (51.52 %)



District 1			
Unit	2018 Goal	2018	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	20	11	55.00%
Moundsville #3	423	213	50.35%
McMechen #5	67	39	58.21%
Weirton #10	106	53	50.00%
Cameron #18	257	139	54.09%
New Martinsville #28	211	127	60.19%
Wellsburg #34	42	24	57.14%
Follansbee #45	59	31	52.54%
Benwood #46	125	74	59.20%
Pine Grove #81	106	49	46.23%
Paden City #86	172	94	54.65%
Wheeling #89	33	24	72.73%
Newell #114	51	17	33.33%
Hundred #120	109	46	42.20%
Chester #121	264	120	45.45%
TOTALS	2045	1061	51.88%



Membership: 4704
To Date: 2392
(50.85 %)

District 3			
Unit	2018 Goal	2018	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	76	40	52.63%
Grafton #12	25	6	24.00%
Clarksburg #13	222	99	44.59%
Elkins #29	245	155	63.27%
Shinnston #31	404	245	60.64%
Braxton County #33	41	25	60.98%
Philippi #44	34	15	44.12%
Bridgeport #68	86	44	51.16%
Belington #96	36	15	41.67%
Pickens #122	34	22	64.71%
Jane Lews #166	58	38	65.52%
Morgantown #174	23	13	56.52%
TOTALS	1284	717	55.84%

District 4			
Unit	2018 Goal	2018	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	1067	483	45.27%
Spencer #21	84	40	47.62%
Pt. Pleasant #23	470	234	49.79%
Tyler County #48	29	21	72.41%
Sistersville #67	92	51	55.43%
New Haven #140	206	117	56.80%
Williamstown #159	201	112	55.72%
TOTALS	2149	1058	49.23%



Membership: 4654
To Date: 2402
(51.61 %)

District 6			
Unit	2018 Goal	2018	% of Goal
Welch #8	89	57	64.04%
Bluefield #9	16	10	62.50%
Beckley #32	87	29	33.33%
Gary #38	148	81	54.73%
Cowen #62	48	27	56.25%
Lewisburg #69	86	48	55.82%
Richwood #97	36	21	58.33%
TOTALS	510	273	53.53%

District 5			
Unit	2018 Goal	2018	% of Goal
Huntington #16	335	168	50.15%
Logan #19	20	10	50.00%
St. Albans #73	55	25	45.45%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	476	195	40.97%
South Charleston #94	16	9	56.25%
Hamlin #111	89	41	46.07%
Milton #139	103	56	54.37%
Barboursville #177	231	114	49.35%
TOTALS	1325	618	46.64%

District 10			
Unit	2018 Goal	2018	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	144	65	45.14%
Franklin #30	16	17	106.25%
Piedmont #52	65	14	21.54%
Berkeley Springs #60	334	181	54.19%
Moorefield #64	129	85	65.89%
Charles Town #71	320	183	57.19%
Petersburg #78	119	51	42.86%
Romney #91	349	189	54.15%
Charles Town #102	38	22	57.89%
Paw Paw #128	61	33	54.10%
Kirby #134	64	38	59.38%
Ridgeley #136	129	59	45.75%
Capon Bridge #137	207	86	41.55%
Keyser #152	70	44	62.86%
TOTALS	2045	1067	52.18%



American Legion Auxiliary WV Rhododendron Girls State

Rhododendron Girls State

Hello Ladies,

We are busy preparing for the 76th session of Rhododendron Girls State. Key information for our 2018 session is as follows:

****DATE:** Sunday, June 10th through Friday morning June 15th.

****WHERE:** DAVIS & ELKINS COLLEGE, in Elkins, WV

****SPONSORSHIP FEE:** \$250 – T-shirt is included

****APPLICATION DEADLINE:** May 1, 2018

****APPLICATION DATE FOR REFUND:** May 15, 2018

Our theme this year is “Embrace the Magic of New Beginnings”.

Our special project is HONOR FLIGHT. All donations collected will go to the Huntington, WV Honor Flight Hub to provide our Senior Veterans a no-cost, escorted trip to see their memorial in Washington, DC.

Davis & Elkins College is offering a cumulative 4-year scholarship of \$20,000 to each Girls State Citizen who successfully completes Girls State and graduates with at least a 2.5 High School GPA. In addition to this scholarship, girls may receive up to \$76,000 in additional scholarships through Davis & Elkins College.

Girls State packets were given out to Units who were present at our recent Mid-Winter conference. For those not in attendance, packets will be mailed. District representatives please reach out to your Units and schools to let them know you are available to assist where needed. Please be in contact your school representatives and begin working on getting a list of those girls who are interested attending Girls State.

It is very important to stay in contact with your girls chosen to attend Girls State. If for any reason a selected girl cannot attend, please contact Registrar Ann Buchanan so an alternate may be chosen.

Orientations provide key information so these young ladies know what to expect and come prepared for an amazing week of learning focused on responsible citizenship and love for God and Country, in addition to learning about the American Legion Auxiliary. The week can truly be life changing for these girls and the friendships they formed will last a lifetime.

Encourage your girls to apply for the Samsung Scholarship. The application must be completed online by Sunday, June 10, 2018 by 10:00 p.m. Girls are requested to bring a hard copy of their application with them to Girls State.

More exciting news to follow next month so stayed tuned!

Sincerely,
Michelle Sirbaugh, Director

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

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

4th Dist. — Nancy Sundstrom
1307 23rd Street
Parkersburg WV 26101
304-422-1263

5th Dist.— Beth Kilgore
1562 Holderby Road
Huntington WV 25701
304-654-7750

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

10th Dist.— Lynda Lancaster
PO Box 1037
Ranson WV 25438
304-676-3979



March 2018

Sun

Mon




Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 <i>Clarksburg Post #13 B Day Dinner</i>	10 <i>3rd District Spring Conf. Shinnston 31</i>
11  <i>Shinnston Post #31 B Day Dinner</i>	12	13	14	15 <i>Spirit Articles Due</i>	16	17
18	19	20  <i>Spirit Out</i>	21	22	23 <i>Office Closed</i> 	24 <i>10th District Spring Conf. Berkeley Springs #60</i>
25 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	26	27	28	29	30 <i>Good Friday</i>	31 <i>Target-- 75%</i>

Mid-Winter reflection Form Results

17 forms received out of 60 some that attended. Below are the responses both good and bad. Overall I see this as a plus, with exception of a few and most didn't likes were hotel related, which I will pass on.

Like: Noticed younger members perked on during online membership quiz, hearing National President & Girls State Governor speak, speakers, having National President at Conference, learning new & different things, lots of good information & handouts, learned lots, fun, kept interesting, busy not much lose time, group interactions was great, introductions of members & why they belonged, moved along quickly, Girls State, Strategic Planning, good examples of a good narrative report, should put in spirit for newer members, meeting & talking to new people, new sisters, loved buffet lunch, loved the mixer at lunch, like game at lunch but at a different time than lunch, goodie bags given at lunch.

Didn't like: not enough time for each program, silent auction maybe should go Friday & Saturday, too long – should be over in 3 ½ hours some travel with Legionnaires, too much talking at tables when presenters speaking & nasty language, some talked too long during member introductions, snappy with some members asking questions, could have been more civility, too much outburst towards members, bio should have been read, should have reserved seating for National President at luncheon, Lakeview, too much walking, breakfast not good & not fit for diabetics, rooms bad.

Would like to see at Fall Work Shop: group interaction, activities, teach new officers to take over their position, more focus on information for units some have new members who might need help, more on membership, president, secretary, treasure especially new, more q & a time, more educational information, everyone together working as a team, District Chairman reports with q & a's, detailed information from all chairman, know time constraints but has to be an efficient way to get it out, continue with information on various things such as feedback on what we covered so far, update on end of year reports look for 2018, feedback from this survey.

Other: possible shorter lunch & games, Teach units how to conduct proper unit meeting, long time on but questions & answers need answered by Chairman not president & Not Back Table Civility. All are doing a good job passing on information and changing things up!! Thank You for a Great Mid-Winter conference!!

Let me clarify, the idea behind the questions left at the back table were in case we ran out of time, they could be addressed by the correct person in our department newsletter. And if I remember correctly the only question asked was on impact reporting and our department secretary answered that since they go to her. I'm sorry, I am not understanding, but please feel free to call or email me.

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.wvvaux.org Unit Presidents **with no email contact** will receive a free copy.

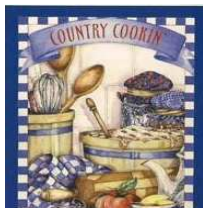
Purchase/Renew Your Subscription!
\$16.00 this year
Runs August through July Each Year

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! There are **32** cookbooks left!!

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

**2018 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
RESERVATION FORM**

July 12-14, 2018
Pullman Plaza Hotel
1001 3rd Avenue
Huntington, West Virginia 25701

\$78.00 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 **\$78.00** (plus 13% tax) = \$88.14 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: Pullman Plaza Hotel
 ATTN: Eugene Robinson
 1001 3rd Avenue
 Huntington, West Virginia 25701**

**This form must be mailed to reserve a room at Pullman Plaza
Hotel. (No phone calls for rooms will be accepted.)
PLEASE PRE-REGISTER EARLY- THANKS!**

100TH Annual State Convention

2018

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 100th Annual State Convention of The American Legion, Department of West Virginia, Inc., scheduled July 12-14, 2018, at The Pullman Plaza Hotel, Huntington, West Virginia.

Date: _____, 2018

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 June 1, 2018.

No Deviation