



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 34

January 2021

Issue 6



American Legion Auxiliary
2019-2021
Department President

“Building Memories for Our Future American Legion Auxiliary while Loving Our Veterans Everyday”



**Yellow Rose Represents
Friendship
White Rose Represents
Purity and Love**

Hello Auxiliary Members

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. This year has been really tough on all of us. Hopefully the new year will be better.

Sadly we have lost 2 PDP Janice Gamedinger and Betty Burton. Prayers for their families. They will be greatly missed.

Sharon Glassford wants to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and she misses everyone.

Remember all of our Veterans on these Holidays, especially the homeless. It has been cold out. Remember we are here for our Veterans and their families. And some don't have families so a card, a meal, a thank you. They will appreciate it.

Membership is coming in but we have some units who haven't sent any in so let's get that Membership in, don't hold it back. We have 6 Goal Units and several close to being 100%. I have faith that we're going to out do last year. So let's all work together to make WV 100%. We are team workers. There is no "I" in Team so if we all work together not as an individual we will do a lot better.

I appreciate each and everyone of you and I have learned a lot from all of you. So thank you all so much.

Merry Christmas and **Happy New Year**

For God and Country
Department President
Sharon Kauffman



Department Officers 2019-2021

President-Sharon Kauffman
1st Vice President-Cathy Post
2nd Vice President-Savanna Kauffman
Secretary/Treasurer-Paulette Anderson
Chaplain-Mary Jennings
Historian-Beth Kilgore

District Presidents

1st District-Holly Adams
3rd District-Carla Wilfong
4th District-Patsy Young-Greiner
5th District-Beth Kilgore
6th District-Peggy Swartz
10th District-Debbie Michael

District Vice Presidents

1st District-Stephanie Handley
3rd District-Kimberly Mellie
4th District-Dawn Lutes
5th District-Kitty Kelly-Smoot
6th District-Mary Spence
10th District-Bonnie Wilcox



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: are *Bonding (\$5.00), Education (Scholarship), Girls State Project, Veterans' 1st Fund, (any amount your unit can afford) and Poppy Order, 10% of Poppy Proceeds. Currently I do not have 2019-2020 mandatory funds paid for: McMechen Unit #5, Weirton Unit #10, Wheeling Unit #89, Pickens Unit #122, Pt. Pleasant Unit #23, Hamlin Unit #111 (Poppies Only), Barboursville Unit #177, Franklin Unit #30, Piedmont Unit #52, Petersburg Unit #78, Ridgeley Unit #136, and Keyser Unit #152 (poppies and 10% only) IF YOU HAVE PAID THESE PLEASE CONTACT THIS OFFICE. IF NOT PLEASE SEND IN ASAP TO HAVE YOUR UNIT IN GOOD STANDING WITH DEPARTMENT.*

If you would like to receive the Spirit by email, please let me know so I can put you on the email listing. If you want Mail Call by email, I will need that also. You can have both, but if you want just one or other, let me know.
If you wish Spirit by mail, mail in \$18.00 for the year (Aug-July)

Membership: National is once again 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 Department Office needs to be the original. Copies are for you to keep.

Directory Updates: page 9: Please mark deceased for Janice Gamerdinger, and Betty Burton.

Department Chairmen: Please update any information for your end of year reports by January 15th. You can find last year's on the Department Website. Send what changes you may have to me in an email.

Midwinter Conference: is still on at this time. The Tentative Agenda and Membership Luncheon forms will be in the next Spirit.

Remember Registration is through The American Legion. Form is in this Spirit.

2021-2022 Department Candidates

President: Cathy Post Tyler County #48
1st Vice President: Savannah Kauffman Martinsburg #14
2nd Vice President: Mary Jennings Beckley #32
Secretary/Treasurer: Susan Brown Moundsville #3
Chaplain:
Historian:

District Officers Candidates

1st Dist. Pres. Stephanie Handley, #121
Vice Pres. Holly Adams, #121
3rd Dist. Pres. Vice Pres.
4th Dist. Pres. Patsy Young-Greiner #15
Vice Pres. Dawn Lutes #15
5th Dist. Pres. Vice Pres.
6th Dist. Pres. Peggy Swartz #8
Vice Pres. Mary Spence #8
10th Dist. Pres. Vice Pres.

Department Headquarters

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
9:00am-12:00pm
12:30-3:30
Lunch 12:00-12:30

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.wvaux.org

Rhododendron Girls State Website
www.wvgirlsstate.org

The American Legion
Department of WV
wvlegion@suddenlink.com

American Legion Auxiliary
National Website
ALAforveterans.org

Remember Our Friends

We have lost 2 Past Department Presidents in the last few weeks, Janice Gamerdinger (1996-97) and Betty Burton (1994-95). There are no addresses for cards to be sent at this time. When I receive them, will send out to you.

Memorial Services will be done by their families at a later date.

Please keep The American Legion Adjutant Miles Epling in your prayers as he recuperates at home.



“Honoring Our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows”

Membership Chairman

The end of the year is upon us and as of December 31, if a member has not paid they are considered delinquent.

We have 5 goal units and this time last year we had two! **CONGRATULATIONS TO FOLLANSBEE# 45, LOGAN # 19, MOOREFIELD # 64, CHARLES TOWN # 102 and RICHWOOD #97 FOR REACHING GOAL!**

Great job as we have 45 Units and Unit 200 that reached the target of 50%: Units #3, #7, #8, #9, #13, #14, #15, #16, #18, #19, #21, #28, #29, #31, #32, #33, #34, #38, #45, #46, #48, #60, #62, #64, #68, #69, #71, #73, #78, #86, #91, #94, #96, #97, #102, #122, #128, #134, #137, #139, #140, #149, # 152, #159, #174.

On the downside we are -123 members from this time last year. I have charged our Department Vices to contact those District Vices to contact the Units who have not sent in membership since November’s Target Sheet.

Our 6th target date is January 15th with 60% of goal.

We have two Units that have not turned in any membership. All Unit officers’ dues were due by November 1st. So, no Unit should have a 0.

As a reminder, Mid-Year reports are due by January 5, 2021. What are you doing for membership? Is your Unit holding a membership drive, how are you encouraging members to renew and join?

Unit Vice Presidents please send your report to your District Vice Presidents who in turn will present the Department Vice President’s report. I, in turn will submit our Membership Report on to National.

Our membership is growing and our greatest asset is our membership. We do great things – let us be proud and loud!

I wish for you, a very Happy, Safe **New Year!**

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd
Membership Chairman



Department 1st Vice President

Hello my friends,

As I set here looking out at the snow, Christmas is coming and times are so very different, my thoughts turn to all of you. I sure miss everyone, but hopefully with the new vaccine, we will see a turn around.

Our side of the state is still ahead of the Cha-Chas, 65.25% to 62.69% YAY!! My membership tip for this month: I had a few membership cards to mail out and decided to include them in my Christmas card, along with a little note that read; “Thank you for your continued service and support to ALA Tyler County Unit 48”, I attached it with double sided tape to the inside of the card. Each and every member NEEDS to know that they are important to this organization.

The back page of Auxiliary magazine says it better than I ever could.

All districts have met the 50% target to date and most units are there and above. Try to come up with some new ideas for your members, so they WANT to keep their dues paid and see us flourish.

I hope all are ready for Christmas, also focus on our veterans that need us right now more than ever.

I wish you all a very **Merry Christmas** and a safe joyous **New Year.** My love and prayers are with you through this holiday season. Stay safe.

For God and Country,
Cathy D. Post
1st Vice President



WWII/
Merchant Marines Era
12/7/41-12/31/46

Department 2nd Vice President

Hello Korea Era War Side,

Hello to all, miss my ALA family. Can you believe it’s going to be 2021? I hope we will all get to see each other soon. Time flies when your having fun.

Congratulations to #97 - Richwood on getting 100%!!! There are now 5 units total with 100% for both sides! You all should be very proud. There are 46 units with 50% and some units are very close to that 100%, I have faith that we’re going to get a lot more target goals this year!

Korea war era people, we are so close on being in the lead of Cathy’s side. It’s not a competition to bet each other but it’s fun. Just know that we are all winners but I have faith that our side will win again! Lets Go!

The next target goal is every month on the 15th. January 15th.

Stay warm for the Holidays! Love you all! I hope everyone gets to visit with the ones they love for the holidays.

If you would happen to need me my information is in the directory and don’t hesitate to contact me.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

For God and Country
Savanna Kauffman
Department 2nd Vice President

Be you - Do you - Love you



Korea Era
6/25/50-1/31/55

1st District Vice President

Greetings Ladies,

Merry Christmas and **Happy New Year** to all! I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy during this trying year.

Sincere condolences to the family of Janice Gamerdinger upon her passing due to Covid-19. Janice was a Past Department President and she will be greatly missed.

We all know this has been a very challenging year for each and everyone of us, but we need to keep continue working on our goals for membership. I know each unit has their plans on how to reach out and obtain new members along with keeping current members. Keep up the work.

Congratulations to Follansbee #45 on reaching goal. Great job ladies!

The target for December was 50% and shout outs go to Moundsville #3, Cameron #18, New Martinsville #28, Wellsburg #34, Benwood #46, Paden City #86, Chester #121 for reaching target. We had several units just shy of reaching target for December. Submit membership as soon as possible so that it can be recorded by department. If anyone has questions about anything please feel free to reach out to me. Continue working on obtaining membership to reach the next target or goal for your unit.

Everyone please be safe and keep everyone in your thoughts and prayers. This pandemic has touched each and everyone of us in many ways.

Happy Holidays and God Bless!!
First District Vice President
Stephanie Handley
stephaniehandley@msn.com
(304) 670-4055

3rd District Vice President

Congratulations to the 5 Units who have reached their goal! Awesome job. Our District 3 has not yet had a goal Unit but Buckhannon 7, Belington 96 and Pickens 122 are well on their way. Nice job.

Please remember the Veterans in our local Nursing homes this year. You can send items, card, etc.: just to let them know we care. It's a tough time for everyone but it helps to know that people care.

To "light a fire" under my Unit 174, I have challenged each member to find 2 new members to sign up. Hopefully this helps.

District 3 is second in the race for membership with 72.52% just behind District 6 with 79.20%. Remember to help the Post with buddy checks and make sure all are safe for the Holiday.

Wishing you a wonderful **Christmas** and a **Happy New Year!**
Kim Mellie
District 3 Vice President

3rd District President

Merry Christmas and a **Happy New Year** to all my fellow American Legion Auxiliary members.

I hope everyone has been safe and well; there are so many viruses going around right now.

I hope everyone remembers that Midwinter is coming up and our annual comfort drive. I will not be able to attend this year, my Doctor told me no way with my husband's health and my own he advised against it. This will be my first missed one in over 12 years.

I am glad to see that all of our Units are over 60 % except for one. Keep up the good work.

Remember is you need my help just call me at 304-592-0247.

Stay Safe.
Carla Wilfong,

4th District Vice President

Happy Holidays!

I hope this find our members well and ready for the upcoming holidays! This has definitely been a tough year and we are ready to start 2021 with hope and determination.

I pray for a year of happiness, good health, and an abundance of love for each and every one of you and your friends and families.

I pray for growth of your membership and the spark of desire to get out and change your communities and the lives of many men and women who sacrificed so much.

I pray for peace of mind and the strength to carry on during these difficult times. May we all find joy and happiness again in our daily lives.

I pray for healing of the bodies and souls of our heroes. And guidance of the doctors, nurses and caretakers who give so much to help those in need.

I pray for each and every one of you that you find one moment of happiness this Christmas and one thing to rejoice over in the new year.

Above all, I pray that 2021 is filled with love and laughter for you and your loved ones. May this be the year that we see abundance in our personal lives and great success of our units.

"May you have tenderness for the past, courage for the present and hope for the future."

Dawn Lutes
4th District Vice President
304-679-6355
DawnL3020@gmail.com

4th District President

Greetings to Members of the 4th District:

As I write this article, hundreds of thousands of COVID – 19 vaccines are being delivered and administered all over the world. We are finally hopeful the pandemic is going to be under control. Hallelujah!!

This is the time of year when members may be short on cash. If your Auxiliary Unit can pay annual dues for elderly members, please consider doing so. Keep working to increase and retain membership. All members must pay their dues before December 31st to remain a member in good standing.

A new year is before us. Hope for the future. We must continue to take care of our Veterans and their families. Providing transportation to doctor appointments, grocery shopping, picking up prescriptions and providing a meal are just a few suggestions.

We continue by "Honoring our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows." Remember to carry a current membership application with you.

Happy Holidays! Please stay safe and healthy. God Bless each and every one of you!

Loyally,
Patsy Young-Greiner
4th District President
304-295-8844
Patsygirl2@suddenlink.net

Midwinter Conference
February 12-14, 2021
Oglebay Resort
Wheeling WV

State Convention
July 8-11, 2021
Doubletree by Hilton
Huntington WV

National Convention
August 27-September 2, 2021
Phoenix AZ

5th District President

Based on the last Target sheet, we have several units doing a great job with membership. Logan Unit #19 is leading the District with 109.09% with St. Albans #73 trying to catch them at 87.10%. Keep those memberships coming because Huntington Unit #16 is closing in with 69.33% and South Charleston is right behind with 66.67%. A special **SHOUT OUT** to Milton on being a Goal Unit.

With the holidays upon us, there will be many opportunities to increase your membership. Many times there are people who would like to join; they are just waiting to be asked.

The holidays are a time when we open our hearts to those less fortunate than ourselves. Be sure to open your hearts to all the less fortunate – Veterans, Homeless, Children, etc. This year is especially difficult because we also have the Pandemic to deal with so the need is greater than the past.

When working on all of the holiday projects, remember to wear your ALA apparel so everyone knows what organization you are representing. Also take lots of pictures!!

I need you to send in a report as soon as possible on the things your Unit is doing. I have to send in a Mid-Year Report the first of January. Thanking you in advance for getting that to me.

I am here for each of you so just give me a call at 304-654-7750. I am just a phone call away if I can help you in any way!!

Happiest of Holidays!!
Stay Safe, Stay Healthy!

Beth Kilgore
5th District President

Junior Activities

Hi to all,

Please send your junior reports to me by January 3, 2020. Just list any things that you have done. I understand that many of the units have not been able to do anything and that is sad, but it is what it is.

Have a very **Merry Christmas** and let's hope for a 2021 that is great!

Love and Hugs to all!
Debbie Michael
Junior Activities
katndebbie@gmail.com

6th District Vice President

Hello to all our District 6 members

Hoping everyone has a Merry Christmas. I hope that our Covid-9 Virus vaccine will begin to help us eliminate the Covid-9 virus that has devastated our country during the 2020 year. Our prayer for 2021 will be that the vaccine will result in us being able to reopen our country and have a better 2021 year. It appears that we may be enjoying a White Christmas with all the snow we have been getting.

I had the opportunity to speak with several of District 6 Unit representatives. Good news is that several units have been extremely active in collecting dues, purchasing and delivering gifts to our Veterans hospital, nursing homes, and providing food and gifts for two veteran families.

Several units have been in contact with each other through conference calls in order to keep communication among the members.

Our January 15th, 2021 membership target is 60% of all dues collected.

Dates to remember are:
**Mid-Winter conference February 12-14 at Ogleby Park

**Summer conference July 8-11 Huntington Hilton by Doubletree
**Girl State. June 13-18. Elkins

Hope all have a **Merry Christmas** and **Happy New Year** with family and friends and that you enjoy your Christmas Holiday Season.

Stay safe.
Pray for Our Country.

Mary Spence
6th District Vice President



10th District President

Hello to all in the 10th District!

This is short and sweet. lol
If you have been able to do anything for our programs, please send a report to your Department Chairpersons.

Wishing all a very **Merry Christmas** and a much better 2021!

Love and Hugs to all!
Debbie Michael
10th District President
katndebbie@gmail.com

10th District Vice President

Holiday Greetings to the members of 10th District!

Everyone is busy preparing for the holiday season : decorating, baking, and gifting. There is limited activities in the Auxiliary units and communities due to the coronavirus.

Berkeley Springs Unit #60 had a secret sister luncheon at their last meeting on December 10th, and on December 19th their raffle will be completed with a variety of prizes. Romney Unit #91 on December 7th had a Christmas meeting and gift exchange. Capon Bridge Unit #137 on December 20th will be giving out Christmas gifts to the children.

Membership renewals continue to stream in: Martinsburg Unit #14 has 7 renewals, Berkeley Springs has 4 renewals, Moorefield Unit #64 has 3 renewals, Romney has 20 renewals, and Capon Bridge has 4 renewals and 1 new member.

Thank you for your donations and hard work within your communities. Many people are hurting financially and your efforts will make their holidays a little brighter.

As we pray for our families and friends, continue to keep our military close in prayer also.

I wish everyone healthy and happy holidays as we pray for better days in 2021.

Bonnie Wilcox
10th District Vice President

Chaplain

I want to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a safe Happy New Years.

Please remember to keep Christ in Christmas. If anyone has a favorite poem, prayer or saying you would like me to put in our President's Prayer book please send to me at 929 Old Eccles Road, Beckley, WV 25801.

O God, You have bound us together in this bundle of life; give us grace to understand how our lives depend on courage, the industry, the honesty and integrity of our fellow men; that we may be mindful of their needs, grateful for their faithfulness, and faithful in our responsibilities to them; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reinhold Niebuhr

For God and Country
Mary Jennings
Chaplain



Historian

Please take pictures of all of all your events and write a brief synopsis of the event for future reference. If we do not record our history, it will die with us. So take those pictures and record all the wonderful things you do to help our communities and our veterans.

Please send me a report of all the things you have done and are planning on doing so I can include in my Mid-Year report. I would hate for it to look like West Virginia is not doing things to help our veterans when I know how hard you work.

I am here for each of you so just give me a call at 304-654-7750. I am just a phone call away if I can help you in any way!!

**Happiest of Holidays!!
Stay Safe, Stay Healthy!**

Beth Kilgore
Department Historian

Education

The Junior Loyalty Scholarship is intended for the traditional student with no interruption in their education, who is at least in their first semester of college but not yet attained a bachelor's degree. Candidates shall have been Junior members of the American Legion Auxiliary, held membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the past three consecutive years, and must be a paid member for the current membership year. Applicant is expected to continue their membership in the American Legion Auxiliary during the scholarship period.

The American Legion Auxiliary through the Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund annually provides one Junior member, in their senior year of high school, in each of the five American Legion Auxiliary divisions with a \$5,000 scholarship. Please send me a short update on your Education efforts from May to December 2020. I know it has been hard to do much but just send me an email at lin4dee@aol.com. Thanks to Shirley Davis of Ceredo Kenova Unit 93 for keeping me abreast of her activities.

The Department Education Committee wishes everyone—
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2021.

Dianne McClung
Education Chairman

Americanism



For the next few articles I will be discussing the "Proper Care and Treatment of the American Flag.

Description of the Flag

The flag of the United States has 13 stripes, seven **red** and six white, with **red** on the top and bottom. The stripes represent the 13 original colonies that became the first 13 states.

The **blue** field (the union) with 50 stars is located next to the staff in the upper left corner of the flag. It extends from the top of the flag to the lower edge of the fourth red stripe. The stars are arranged in alternating rows of six and five, representing the 50 states of the United States. Colors of the Flag

Flags and decorations through the centuries have used colors to symbolize the feelings of the people or events that they recognize. Our flag can be said to represent.

RED Valor and zeal

WHITE Hope and Cleanliness of life.

BLUE Reverence and loyalty (the color of the heavens)

STARS Constellation of the states, each a part of our nation, each a separate state (ancient symbol of the heavens)

Wishing you a **Merry Christmas** and Happy **New Year!**

Fly our flag proudly!

Long may it wave!

Susan Wade

Americanism Chairman

Children & Youth

Have you ever been outside and been so cold you thought you should zip up your coat, or wondered which coat you should wear depending on the weather or event attending? Think of all the children who do not have a winter coat to get them through the cold winter months, much less more than the tattered one with holes in it they do have.

I am aware of several units who do coat drives for our veterans. I would like you to consider including a coat drive for the children in need. You can check with teachers, principles, or counselors for those who would benefit from a warm coat during the season.

I realize, with the pandemic, it is more difficult this year to accomplish what we usually do to help those in need. The faces of the children will make it all worthwhile.

I need you to send in a report as soon as possible on the things your Unit is doing. I have to send in a Mid-Year Report the first of January. Thanking you in advance for getting that to me.

Thank you for all your unit does for the Children & Youth of our community. Many units are doing food baskets, Christmas parties, ringing bells for the Salvation Army, and many other projects during this time of the year. You are making a difference in the lives of so many.

I am here for each of you so just give me a call at 304-654-7750. I am just a phone call away if I can help you in any way!!

**Happiest of Holidays!!
Stay Safe, Stay Healthy!**

Beth Kilgore
Chairman

Child Welfare Foundation



With the holidays fast approaching, we all will be spending money on presents and delicious meals to put on the table. While in the holiday spirit, I am asking you to put a little aside for the Child Welfare Foundation. We will take up another collection at Mid-Winter Conference. I can feel myself getting fatter each day from the coins and bills you are feeding me. Please keep up the generous donations. I hope to be so fat by Mid - Winter; I will be unable to walk. **Thank you for making me fat!!!**

Beth Kilgore
Children & Youth Chairman

Constitution & Bylaws

FUNDAMENTALS OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE (REMINDERS)

Shared by Division Constitution & Bylaws Chairmen Wanda Brandt

Basic Parliamentary Principles

Parliamentary procedures exist to facilitate efficiently conducted meetings that protect the rights of members.

- Fairness of process and courtesy for all.
- Only one thing, speaker, motion, or action at a time.
- The majority rules.
- The minority must be heard.
- Each proposition is entitled to a full and free debate.
- The purpose is to facilitate action, not to obstruct it.

Common Definitions

- **Parliamentary procedure:** Rules by which meetings of deliberative assemblies, societies, boards, clubs, etc., are formally conducted.
- **Chair:** Short form of the word “chairman,” used to refer to the member conducting the meeting.
- **Gavel:** The traditional mallet used by the presiding officer to maintain order.
- **Quorum:** The number of members needed to hold a meeting as stated in the standing rules of an organization.
- **Agenda:** A list of the order of business to be considered.
- **Minutes:** A record of the meeting kept by the secretary. The secretary will read the minutes of the last meeting.
- **Adjourn:** To end a meeting officially.
- **Amendment:** A specific proposal to modify an organization’s entity/governance documents

Roles of Those Leading and Attending a Meeting Roles of those responsible for the process of conducting the business of a meeting:

1. **Chair:** The presiding officer, usually the president (or vice president if president is unavailable), and is responsible for:

Keeping the meeting on schedule and within time limits.

Remains neutral by not entering into discussions.

Expedites the transaction of business by preparing the agenda and keeping order during the meetings.

States motions that are in order or rule them out of order; asks for discussion, asks for a second to the motion, puts motion to vote, and declares the result of the vote.

2. **Vice President:** Presides in the absence of the president or whenever the president temporarily vacates the chair (e.g., so she can join a discussion regarding a motion).

3. **Parliamentarian:** Appointed by the president, the parliamentarian serves as the expert on parliamentary procedure.

Duties of the parliamentarian before a meeting:

Reviews the agenda with the president to be familiar with the business and possible procedural problems that may arise.

Reviews and knows the bylaws and standing rules of the organization.

Works with committee members who request assistance in preparing reports for the meeting.

4. **Secretary:** In the absence of president and vice president, the secretary calls the meeting to order and entertains a motion for temporary chairman. The secretary sees that minutes of the meeting are taken - whether taken by herself or her designee – including recording the type of meeting (regular, special, etc.)

5. **Treasurer:** Custodian of funds of the organization; receives and disburses them upon authority from the organization. The treasurer reports on budget performance and the financial health of the organization to the assembly. If the treasurer is also an employee of the department, the budget and financial reports should always be prepared and reported by a Finance Committee chair or outside finance professional.

6. **Members:** All members whose current membership dues are paid are considered members in good standing and are entitled to all rights and privileges of membership, including those aspiring to and holding office, and voting in the ALA. Rise and address the chair if you want to discuss the motion under consideration or to offer another motion.

Dede Kelly

Dept. Constitution & Bylaws Chairman

ddkelly@arc-hc.com

Leadership

Make it a Great Day!

We have all heard that life is truly what we make of it. The quote from Eleanor Roosevelt goes something like... "Life is what you make it. Always has been, always will be". Leaders are always put to the test and asked to help others. We are supposed to make it all work. We are expected to chart the course, have the answers, include everyone's opinion, build collaboration, produce results and more. These times in which we find ourselves are trying to say the least. We find ourselves with more questions than answers. Some live in fear for their lives as we experience a global pandemic. Others have lost their connections to the outside world because of rules and regulations intended to protect us. There are no easy answers but as leaders we must not lose sight of how we can and must make the most of each day. Reach out to someone and remind them they are in your thoughts. Find a way to offer help to someone in need. Remember to ask for help for yourself when you need it. Take a moment to reflect on a favorite memory... then tell someone about it. There is not a set of directions or owners manual for the leadership roles we are asked to accept. Sure, there are some guidelines and we owe it to our organization to get that job done... but there is so much more to it... so much that is unwritten.

We must do our best and make the most of life. Remember, as a leader that implies people are following our example. Make it a good one. Make the most of life.

Make it a great day!
Rosemary M. Thomas
Leadership Chairman



Legislative

Health Care for female veterans is a major concern. Roughly there are 2 million living female veterans.

We need to push for the Deborah Sampson Act, known as H.R. 3224 which has passed the House and S. 514 which has passed the Veterans Affairs Committee with an amendment and has been placed on the Senate calendar.

The Deborah Sampson Act aims to make invisible women veterans visible and to create equitable access to healthcare, housing, legal services, and other resources and benefits. If you google the Deborah Sampson Act you will find Deborah Sampson was a Massachusetts woman who disguised herself as a man in order to serve in the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War. She is one of a small number of women with a documented record of military combat experience in that war. She served 17 months in the army under the name "Robert Shurtleiff" of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, was wounded in 1782, and was honorably discharged at West Point, New York, in 1783.

Contact your Senators and encourage them to vote in favor. Also, talk with female veterans, many are not signed up for VA benefits, make them aware of this and encourage them to enroll.

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays
Lisa Cadwallader
Lisac.ala71@gmail.com

National Security

I hope everyone is staying safe and warm in this lovely weather. Just think of all the Homeless Veterans out there in this, how can we help them.

If you know of any, direct them to a warming shelter. Contact the VA Hospitals. They have information and are accepting items to help.

Remember that during Midwinter we have our Comfort Drive, be sure to help out this year. Due to COVID many need a helping hand to help out this year. Remember that I need your MID YEAR REPORTS.

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

Stay Safe.
Carla Wilfong
Chairperson

Poppy

I hope that each of you will have a Great **New Year**. 2021 has to be better than 2020.

I am working on getting a "centennial poppy" for National President Nicole. Each department is making a poppy to be presented to her at National Convention. I am looking for a crocheted poppy that is 2 inches in width. If anyone knows someone, who has the pattern or can make one for West Virginia to add our symbols to and send to national, please let me know. I need to get it ready **ASAP**.

I hope the red poinsettias seen this time of year will remind you of the poppy for veterans. I hope that your unit has displayed the poppy in your post or community. Use the poppy to say thank you to our veterans every day. A donation jar needs to be out every day not just in May. Remember to order your poppies (using the new form). Save postage if they are delivered at Midwinter.

Do not forget to send a mid-year report to me by January 1. Please give a statement about how your unit has used the poppy this year. At Midwinter, please bring a picture of how you used the poppy and a short statement telling what you did. Winner will get a prize plus \$25 donated to the Welfare Fund from your unit.

I pray that each of you are able to celebrate the season in whatever manner you want. **Merry Christmas** and **Happy New Year** from me to you.

Ann Buchanan, Poppy Chairman
AnnBuch@aol.com
304-654-9932



**National Executive
Committeewoman**

Hello Fellow Auxiliary Members,

I hope everyone had a wonderful and **Merry Christmas**. I am sure we are all looking forward to an absolute better **New Year**.

Now that we have the first half of 2020-2021 Year over, we can concentrate and plan events for the 2nd half. Hopefully we will be able to hold these events in person.

On a positive note ALA National Website has a new look. Please take the time and visit their website. See everything they have to offer and information pass on to each member and unit.

On a sad note the American Legion Auxiliary has lost one of our Past National Presidents. JoAnn Cronin passed away on Monday 12/14/20. She was National President during the 2006-2007 Year and her theme was "Rosie The Riveter"- "We Can Do It". She was a kind, smart, and valued member as well as a mentor to many. Condolence cards may be sent to her sister at:

Mrs. Pat Harden
17220 S. Allendale Drive
Belton, MO 64012

I hope each member is planning to attend our upcoming Midwinter Conference. I am hopeful for an exceptional turnout.

Until next month Be Safe and God Bless!!!
Rhonda Best, NEC



Past President's Parley

Hello Everyone,

I hope all of you had a wonderful and **Merry Christmas** as well as a hopeful **New Year**. I know each of us have experienced so much during the first half of the 2020-2021 year. We have had sadness, anxiousness, anger, and uncertainties. Hopefully we will witness triumph and happiness in the upcoming 2nd half of the year.

I am sure throughout this year especially there have been past Unit, District, and Department Presidents mentoring our new, younger, and less experienced members. For that I **"THANK"** each of you. Also, I would like to give a **"BIG SHOUT OUT"** to **LISA CADAWAL-LADER** for sending me an update to include in my Mid-Year Report to National. There is still a short amount of time to send me a quick email @ rlcbest37@aim.com with an update from your Unit.

As previous times I want to share an inspiring quote:

"THE GREATEST GOOD YOU CAN DO FOR ANOTHER IS NOT JUST SHARE YOUR RICHES BUT TO REVEAL TO HIM HIS OWN."

BY: BENJAMIN DISRAELI

Until next month Be Safe and God Bless!!!

Rhonda Best
Past Presidents Parley Chairman



**100 Years of Celebration
1919-2019**



Hello Everyone,

It has definitely been a challenging first half of the 2020-2021 Year. We really had to think in order to come up with inventive ways to move forward with working our programs. Especially when including the 100th Year Celebration with them. I have seen numerous creative ideas of how some units in various states incorporated their 100th Year in their Auxiliary Programs.

You still have a short amount of time to send me a brief email with any information on 100th Year Events.

An excellent idea for the upcoming 2nd half of 2020-2021 Year is as follows: Hold an Open House either in-person or virtual. To include the 100th Year Celebration you can use 100th Year decorations, hand out 100 appreciation bags, and give away 100th year pens, pencils, stickers.

I ask all members to think of 100 kind words and use them within 100 days. This is my 100th Year Celebration for the 2nd half of year.

Until Next Month Be Safe and God Bless!!!

Thank you
Rhonda





American Legion Auxiliary WV Rhododendron Girls State

Rhododendron Girls State

The 2021 Girls State Session will be held June 13-18, 2021 at Davis & Elkins College, in Elkins, West Virginia. The cost once again is \$250 per citizen and this includes the cost of the t-shirt.

Please start to secure your sponsors now. During these unprecedented times, our “go-to” organizations may not have their discretionary monies to help sponsor a girl. They have not been able to meet or hold their fundraisers and/or bingos.

We will need to work extra hard this year in recruiting girls. Remember, they have no class of 2021 coming back from Girls State talking it up! It’s up to us!

Also, the 2021 Session of Rhododendron Girls State will allow a minimum of 50 girls of the Class of 2021 to attend with a waiting list if there are wanting to attend.

Our National President Nicole Clapp is making her official West Virginia visit and will be attending our Girls State Session.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact your district representative or myself.

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd
Rhododendron Girls State Chairman



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. —

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-Loyd
PO Box 1037
Ranson WV 25438
304-676-3979

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

It is hard to believe that the Holiday Season is upon us. I don't know if many of you are like me and did most of your shopping on line because you did not want to go in the crowds. It has been a sad year for many of us with the pandemic and the sick and dying. To all of you I implore you to be careful and wear your masks.

I have been writing about the Comfort Item Drive for the past few months. I hope most units will participate either by taking items to their local VAMC, sending money to Department Headquarters, or bringing items to Wheeling in February. Department Secretary was kind enough to put a form in Spirit to place on each box you bring. Also remember nothing with alcohol or no deodorant in aerosol cans.

Ladies I am going to need help on packing what is brought to Wheeling. I am not getting any younger, and my stamina is not what it use to be. Please let me know if you can help or see me when we get to Wheeling.

My wish for all is a Blessed Christmas and a much better New Year. I don't know about you but I miss the human touch.

Mary Waybright
V A & R Chairman

By the time you receive this Spirit by email you will have 10 days, and by mail roughly 5 days to get your 2021 ticket stubs and money into Dept. Headquarters. Cut off for the January drawing is Dec. 31st.

If you had asked for more tickets to sell and haven't received them, please email at the department email again. I has been busy the last few weeks, and I feel I have forgotten someone to send more tickets to.

Susan and I wish you and yours a

**Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year!**

Paulette
Susan

November Ways and Means Winners

Name	Number	City	State	Date	Amount
Kim Mellie	269	Morgantown	WV	11/2/20	\$25.00
	843			11/3/20	
Helen Sirk-Bell	645	Romney	WV	11/4/20	\$25.00
	779			11/5/20	
	559			11/6/20	
Candy Gumm	707	Cowen	WV	11/7/20	\$25.00
Kathy Hogue	240	Clarksburg	WV	11/9/20	\$25.00
	694			11/10/20	
	123			11/11/20	
	419			11/12/20	
Ann Buchanan	416	Ona	WV	11/13/20	\$25.00
	397			11/14/20	
	506			11/16/20	
Beverly Lowe	911	Colliers	WV	11/17/20	\$25.00
	557			11/18/20	
Connie Ashbury	333		WV	11/19/20	\$25.00
Sandy Smith	702	Augusta	WV	11/20/20	\$25.00
	643			11/21/20	
Denise Omps	523	Berkeley Springs	WV	11/23/20	\$25.00
Rich Tyte	954	Bluefield	WV	11/24/20	\$25.00
Irene Weber	831	Berkeley Springs	WV	11/25/20	\$25.00
	971			11/26/20	
Denise Omps	523	Berkeley Springs	WV	11/27/20	\$25.00
Paul Turman	916	Barboursville	WV	11/28/20	\$25.00
Fran Rayl	642	Reedsville	WV	11/30/20	\$25.00





2020-2021 Membership Theme

"Honoring Our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows"



Membership Target Sheet December 15th—50.00%

Department Goal— 5132

Membership To Date— 3,313 64.56 %

Unit #200 Goal— 81 To Date— 60

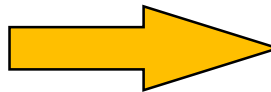


Savanna

Cathy

District 1	Unit	2021 Goal	2021	% of Goal
Wheeling #1		31	14	45.16%
Moundsville #3		228	181	79.39%
McMechen #5		32		
Weirton #10		49	24	48.98%
Cameron #18		143	97	67.83%
New Martinsville #28		132	90	68.18%
Wellsburg #34		26	16	61.54%
Follansbee #45		35	39	111.43%
Benwood #46		74	44	59.46%
Pine Grove #81		85	42	49.41%
Paden City #86		81	68	83.96%
Wheeling #89		16	3	19.00%
Newell #114		24	3	12.50%
Hundred #120		46	22	47.83%
Chester #121		138	78	56.21%
TOTALS		1140	721	63.25%

**WWII/
Merchant
Marines Era
40's Fashion
Jitterbug Dance**

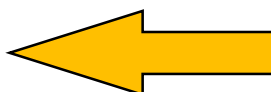


**Goal 2521
To Date: 1645
(65.25 %)**

**Membership
Chairman
"Rosie the
Riveter"**

District 4	Unit	2021 Goal	2021	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15		485	309	63.71%
Spencer #21		34	32	94.12%
Pt. Pleasant #23		233	115	49.36%
Tyler County #48		38	30	78.95%
Sistersville #67		87	32	36.78%
New Haven #140		139	87	62.59%
Williamstown #159		100	66	66.00%
TOTALS		1116	670	60.04%

**Korea Era
50's Fashion
Cha-Cha**



**Goal 2530
To Date: 1608
(63.56 %)**

District 6	Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
Welch #8		60	38	63.33%
Bluefield #9		29	25	86.21%
Beckley #32		28	20	71.43%
Gary #38		80	61	76.25%
Cowen #62		21	19	90.48%
Lewisburg #69		34	31	91.18%
Richwood #97		22	22	100.00%
TOTALS		274	217	79.20%

District 3	Unit	2021 Goal	2021	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7		42	36	85.71%
Clarksburg #13		58	40	68.97%
Elkins #29		133	89	66.92%
Shinnston #31		270	207	76.30%
Braxton County #33		33	23	69.70%
Bridgeport #68		86	57	66.28%
Belington #96		20	16	80.00%
Pickens #122		20	18	90.00%
Jane Lew #166		10	2	20.00%
Morgantown #174		45	32	71.11%
TOTALS		717	520	72.52%

District 5	Unit	2021 Goal	2021	% of Goal
Huntington #16		163	113	69.33%
Logan #19		11	12	109.09%
St. Albans #73		31	27	87.10%
Ceredo-Kenova #93		281	134	47.69%
South Charleston #94		15	10	66.67%
Hamlin #111		37	16	43.24%
Milton #139		71	40	56.34%
Barboursville #177		142	53	37.32%
TOTALS		751	405	53.93%

District 10	Unit	2021 Goal	2021	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14		99	60	60.61%
Franklin #30		16		
Piedmont #52		29	11	37.93%
Berkeley Springs #60		167	121	72.46%
Moorefield #64		60	60	100.00%
Charles Town #71		152	103	67.76%
Petersburg #78		67	39	58.20%
Romney #91		164	115	70.12%
Charles Town #102		26	26	100.00%
Paw Paw #128		24	21	87.50%
Kirby #134		30	16	53.33%
Ridgeley #136		41	5	12.20%
Capon Bridge #137		136	102	75.00%
Keyser #152		42	37	88.10%
TOTALS		1053	718	68.19%

January 2021

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1  Happy New Year	2
3	4 <i>Office Open</i>	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 <i>Target #5 60%</i>	16
17 <i>Articles Due</i>	18 <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i>	19	20 <i>Spirit Out</i>	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31			<i>Program of Month National Security Legislative</i>			

2021 DEPARTMENT MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

RESERVATION FORM

February 12-13, 2021

Oglebay Resort and Conference Center

465 Lodge Road

Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

\$79.00 per night room rate (plus 12% tax & 3% Historical Fee & Service Fee 1.80 Daily)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Arrival Date _____ AM PM Departure Date _____

Room Type: (circle one) Doubles King (Additional charge of \$10 for a 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 \$79.00 (plus 12% tax & 3% Historical Fee & Service Fee Daily \$1.80) = \$92.18 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: Oglebay Resort and Conference Center
 ATTN: Susan Vargo, Group Reservations
 465 Lodge Road
 Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

Cancellation, at least 48 hours in advance

This form must be mailed to reserve a room at Oglebay Resort and Conference Center. (No phone calls for rooms will be accepted.)

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER EARLY- THANKS!

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

**YOU ARE INVITED
TO THE 40TH ANNUAL
MID-WINTER CONFERENCE**

FEBRUARY 12-13, 2021

**OGLEBAY RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTER
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA**

**ADVANCED REGISTRATION - \$25.00
AT DOOR REGISTRATION - \$30.00**

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) _____

TITLE: _____

ADDRESS _____

POST/UNIT/SAL NO. _____

**MAIL TO: THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA
PO BOX 3191
CHARLESTON WV 25332**

DEADLINE DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 2021

40th Annual Mid-Winter Conference

2021

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 40th Annual Mid-Winter Conference of The American Legion, Department of West Virginia, Inc., scheduled February 12-13, 2021, at Oglebay Resort and Conference Center, Wheeling, West Virginia.

Date: _____, 2021

Name of Post/Unit/SAI.

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 SAI. 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: January 15, 2021.
No Deviation

**2021 AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONVENTION
RESERVATION INVOICE**

AUGUST 27 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

Arizona Grand Resort
ADDRESS: 8000 South Arizona Grand Parkway
Phoenix, Az 85044

**Auxiliary members must be elected
as delegates at State Convention
if attending National Convention
or Register as a Guest through
Auxiliary Department Headquarters**

NAME(S) OF ATTENDEE(S)
ADDRESS:
PHONE:
E-MAIL:

King/Queen (\$125 per night plus 12.57 % hotel tax) Two Bedrm Villa - \$276.00

Parking rate per day—Complimentary Self / Valet -No Resort Fee

PLEASE MAIL PAYMENT BY MAY 3,2021

ARRIVAL DATE TO HOTEL			
DEPARTURE DATE FROM HOTEL			
KING OR DOUBLE			
	<i>Quantity</i>		<i>Amount</i>
ONE NIGHT'S ROOM DEPOSIT @	\$140.71		\$0.00
ADDITIONAL OCCUPANT IN ROOM PER DAY - \$ 25.00 Triple/quad	\$25.00		\$0.00
REGISTRATION FEE @	\$25.00		\$0.00
NATIONAL COMMANDER'S BANQUET @	\$52.00		\$0.00
SOUTHERN BLOC BREAKFAST @	\$40.00		\$0.00
HOSPITALITY ROOM FEE @	\$25.00		\$0.00
NATIONAL CONVENTION SHIRT@ Name: _____ Size: _____	\$25.00		\$0.00
TOTAL			\$0.00

FIRST NIGHT'S DEPOSIT REQUIRED.

WE WILL BILL YOU FOR OTHER CHARGES

PLEASE ORDER YOU NATIONAL CONVENTION SHIRT ON THIS FORM

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE AND MAIL TO:

Total

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
PO BOX 3191
CHARLESTON WV 25332**

If you have any questions, please contact Department Headquarters at 1-888-534-4667

First Night Deposit Required

PLEASE RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE"

THANK YOU

***You will not be charged for the Delegate fee. If you are not elected as a delegate at your District Convention or on the floor at the State Convention, Department Headquarters will bill you for the \$25.00 registration fee after State Convention.**

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

Subscription will Cost \$18.00

Runs August through July Each Year

MAIL TO:

**Department of West Virginia
1251 Doolin Run Road
New Martinsville WV 26155-7808**

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS OR PO BOX: -----

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____