



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 34

August 2020

Issue 1



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,

It is a great honor to serve with you all again. We have had a lot of set backs, but this year hopefully this Covid-19 will subside to where we will be able to get back to things we need to do. We had 18 GOAL Units for last year. I do believe we will have a great year this year.

My Theme will stay the same "Building Memories for Our Future American Legion Auxiliary while Loving Our Veterans Everyday". My Colors are Black, Gold and White. Flowers are Yellow and White Roses with Black Ribbon . Yellow Rose represents Friendship. White Rose represents Purity and Love. The Black Ribbon is for the 100 years. We honor the different War Era Legacies with pure love & celebrate our Tomorrow's Friendships. I know last year was our 100th year but we will still celebrate this year.

My Special Project : "Gold Star Family Memorial Monument."

My Department Membership Theme: "Honoring our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows ".

This year at Workshop we will bring a **Mask**. It can be Patriotic, Prettiest. Hopefully we will have fun and learn a lot.

We are raffling off the Birthday Gifts at Workshop, so remember to bring something that you would want to bid on, wrapped in birthday paper or a birthday bag.

Department Chairmen, don't forget to get your Action Plan Supplement for the units into the Department Secretary to be printed off for folders. She will be printing off ALL Action Plans this year.

The Fashion Show will be done at Midwinter in your Vintage Outfits.

**1st Vice (Districts 3,5,10) WWII/Merchant Marine Era (12/7/41-12/11/46)
40's Fashion Style

**2nd Vice (Districts 1,4,6) Korea War (6/25/50-1/31/55) 50's Fashion Style

District Vices and Members: Please bring a centerpiece to be judged at Midwinter. They can be any War Era or War Era of the veteran you signed up under. I hope to see several of them.

I hope to see everyone at Workshop.

Sharon Kauffman
Department President
For God and Country



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.

A New Year has started for Spirit. If you would like to have something "extra" put in please contact headquarters and I will see what I can do.

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.

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.

Registration for Fall Workshop:

Is in this Spirit. Reservation Form also is in this Spirit. Remember I just need to know if you plan to attend for the count in the workshop.

You have to make your own reservations. Instructions on the form.

All 2019-2020 Department and District Officers., (unless District was elected for 2020-2021 at their Spring Conference) will stay in place until Department Convention 2021.

When your Fall Conferences are scheduled or need to be scheduled, please contact this office.

Department and District Officers, if you are still running for 2020-2021 office in please send a new endorsement with the changes of year, to Department when you can. Since you already emailed/mailed them out you don't need to resend to units. This is for file only.

2021-2022 Department Candidates

President: Cathy Post Tyler County #48
1st Vice President: Savanna Kauffman #14
2nd Vice President: Mary Jennings #32
Sec./Treas.:
Chaplain:
Historian:

District Officers Candidates

1st Dist. Pres. Stephanie Handley, #121
Vice Pres. Holly Adams, #121

3rd Dist. Pres. Carla Wilfong #31
Vice Pres. Kim Mellie #174

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. Debbie Michael #60
Vice Pres.



Department Headquarters
NEW Office Hours 8:30-3:30
(Starting August 1, 2020)

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.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

Mary Jennings son's fiancé, Donna Moats Wagner passed away on July 7, 2020. She is survived by her daughter, Katie, son-in-law, Brent, 3 granddaughters, her fiancé', Ronald Jennings, Jr. and his two sons. She was a member of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 32, and a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Our sympathy goes out to her Family and friends.

Many of you know Teresa Rose, member of Beckley Unit #32. Her husband James Townsley a member of American Legion Post 32 passed away July 1st at home.

Beth Kilgore, Department Historian and 5th District President, is in the hospital with another infection. She hopes to be home by the time the spirit goes out.

Remember these members and other members who aren't able to get out, and in nursing homes, in our prayers. Send them a card to lift up their spirits.



“Honoring Our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows”

Membership Chairman

Hello Ladies,

I hope this finds everyone well and safe from this pandemic. As you have heard by now, we are retaining the same officers and chairmen as last year.

The 2019-2020 membership year ends July 31. Currently we have 18 Goal Units including our Department Unit #200 and they are: Morgantown #174; Bridgeport # 68; Wheeling # 1; Belington # 96; Capon Bridge # 137; Milton # 139; Tyler County # 48; Bluefield # 9; Braxton County #33; Shinnston # 31; Gary # 38; Martinsburg # 14; New Haven # 140; Piedmont # 52; New Martinsville # 28; Welch #8; and Buckhannon # 7. In 2018-19 we had one Goal Unit. I know this past year was challenging with COVID-19.

This years' goals will be:

Department:

**2020 end of year membership:

Units:

**10 – 75 members = add 1

**76 – 150 members = add 2

**151 – 225 members = add 3

**226 -300 members = add 4

**301 + members = add 5

If anyone needs any help or suggestions please contact your Department Membership Team – we are here to help you. Our team is our District Vice Presidents, our Department Vice Presidents and myself. However; membership is not just our responsibility but everyone's. I know we can do it and let's make Department President Sharon a Goal President.

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd,
Rosie the Riveter



Department 1st Vice President

Hello Jitterbugs!!

Well, here we go again. New year, new goals. I so appreciate all your hard work on membership for 2020. We did fall short and the Cha-Chas beat us, 90.13% to 87.88% Starting soon we will give them a run for their money. Let's kick this new year off with gusto!!

I hope this finds you well, social distancing and wearing your masks if at all possible. Hopefully school will be in session this fall and we will be able to connect with the children once again.

I know my unit has seen a deficit in fund raising due to COVID 19, with so many things cancelled. I have been pre-occupied with this virus and staying safe and some things have just gotten by me. I look forward to better days soon.

Plans are still on for workshop, I'm excited to see everyone. Miss you all.

Thank you to all the chairmen that chose to stay in their positions for one more year and I wish Madam President Sharon another successful year.

Until next time, thank a veteran with a phone call or a card, be safe and prayers to all that need them.

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 Auxiliary,

I am looking forward to working with President Sharon Kauffman, Membership Team, Chairmen, and members; for the 2nd round: let's make this a GREAT year!!!

My Districts this year are the same 1,4, & 6. We will be in the Korea Era (6/25/50 - 1/31/55) 50's fashion, Dance: Cha Cha.

Be you - Do you - Love you

For God and Country
Savanna Kauffman
Department 2nd Vice President



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

1st District Vice President

Hello everyone,

I know this year so far has been a roller coaster ride. Time has stood still and flew by it seems at the same time, especially since we missed out on getting together at several of our Auxiliary functions.

This is the start of the new membership year. Though the work with membership is never ending, let's continue with the good work from last year and keep in rolling into and through this year.

I know with the current pandemic situation we are facing we have to become creative in the ways to get our membership numbers, but we can do it. Units can begin collecting dues for the new membership year 2020-2021 starting in August.

God Bless,
Stephanie Handley
1st District Vice President
stephaniehandley@msn.com
PH: (304) 670-4055

3rd District Vice President

Hello all!

I am excited to begin as District 3 Vice-President!

I hope to visit each Unit during the year to help where needed and to meet the amazing people making our membership drives a success.

Hopefully we won't have to complete it virtually, but we can make that happen if necessary.

Congratulations to our 5 units who met and exceeded their goal. Way to go Shinnston 31, Braxton 33, Bridgeport 68, Belington 96, and Morgantown 174. I can't wait to meet all the wonderful Unit members.

As of right now there is a workshop scheduled September 12, 2020. I'm sure it will be packed with useful information. Paulette needs your list by August 15th!

Glad to serve you so please don't hesitate to email me kmellie@comcast.net or call/text 304-216-9943 if you need anything.

Have a wonderful August
Kim Mellie
District 3 Vice-President

3rd District President

Good afternoon Auxiliary members,

It is hard to believe it is August already. I really missed not having Convention this year, but it is better to be safe than sorry.

I am happy to say that Third District has another goal Unit, congratulations to Buckhannon #7.

Now it is time to start collecting 2020-2021 dues, I know it will be hard to do this year, but we have to try a little harder. If your Unit can do it, try having an early bird special. Surprising only just a couple dollars off will attract people to pay now.

Keep up the good work, I hope to be able to see more Units this year if we get rid of this virus.

Stay safe, and stay cool in this weather hope to see you at fall workshop if we are able to have it.

Email is : carlajwilfong@g-mail.com and phone number is 304-592-0247. I am here for you.

Carla Wilfong
Third District President

4th District Vice President

Greetings to Members of the 4th District, The Target Goal for July 15th is 100%. Congratulations to Tyler County Unit #48 and New Haven Unit #140; both Units have exceeded the 100% Goal!!

District 4 Unit standings are: Tyler County #48 at 108.82%; New Haven #140 at 100.76%; Sistersville #67 98.84%; Pt. Pleasant #23 at 91.60%; Parkersburg #15 at 87.59%; Spencer #21 at 82.50%; and Williamstown #159 at 74.81%.

"Honoring Our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows" is the 2019 - 2021 membership theme. In an effort to reach our membership goals, if your Auxiliary Unit can assist members by paying their annual dues, please do so. Please carry new ALA Membership application with you. Invite eligible friends and family to join today.

Though it may seem like life has been turned upside down these past few months, our District continues to serve our veterans and our communities. During these difficult times please touch base with your ailing and home bound veterans and support your community any way you can.

"Never was so much owed by so many to so few."

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

4th District President

Greetings to Members of the 4th District

These are very strange times. Nothing is ordinary nor will it ever be again. As members of one of the greatest fraternal organizations in the world we can still make a difference.

It is imperative that we maintain and increase membership. Our mission is to honor the sacrifice of all who serve; we must improve the lives of our veterans, military and their families.

We have new membership goals beginning in August. We need to roll up our sleeves and get busy! Carry a membership application with you wherever you go. Don't be afraid to reach out to potential members!

To learn more about our programs please join us at the annual Department Workshop which will be held September 12, 2020, at the Hilton Garden Inn. Registration form and motel information is in this Spirit. I hope to see you there.

God Bless
Stay Safe,
Patsy Young-Greiner
4th District President
304-295-8844
Patsygirl2@suddenlink.net

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

HAVE BEEN MAILED

TO ALL UNIT

MEMBERSHIP

CHAIRMAN!

IF THEY HAVEN'T

RECEIVED THEM

PLEASE CONTACT ME

IMMEDIATELY

THANK YOU

PAULETTE

5th District President

Beth Kilgore is still in the hospital and not able to do an article this month.

She asks that all units in 5th District continue working on membership.

5th District Conference is being scheduled and will be in the next spirit.

If we are able to have a workshop she hopes to be able to attend, and if she can't she will have the District Vice Secretary, Ann Buchanan, bring back your material.

Stay Safe and keep Beth in your prayers!

6th District President

Greetings

Hope everyone is staying well and adjusting to the Coronavirus Pandemic, what a difference this has made in our life. Now we will be wearing masks when we are out and about, but better to be safe than sorry.

Congratulations to Bluefield, Gary and Welch for being a Goal Unit! Our other Units were so close; just keep up the good work ladies.

Most of our Units in Sixth District will continue with the same officers for the year 2020-2021. Sixth District will continue with the same officers since we did not get to have a Spring District Meeting. We will be having one the last of September or the first part of October according to Paulette' schedule.

Hoping to see everyone at the Fall Workshop in September.

Continue to say a prayer for our State and Nation that everyone will remain safe and continue prayers for our veterans.

So until next time please stay well and follow all of the rules the Governor has given us.

Peggy Swartz
Sixth District President



6th District Vice President

Hoping to still find everyone still staying safe and healthy and hopefully this coronavirus pandemic is coming to a close. I am sure everything will not be the same but we may have to adapt.

All outstanding dues for 2019-2020 must be received by July 31, 2020. August 1, 2020 starts our new membership building year. Membership booklets with the 2020-2021 cards went out on July 14th. You can start processing membership renewals for 2021 on August 1, new members cannot be added until September 1, 2020. Hopefully each unit met their goal, but if not, we start anew and can take the summer to start rebuilding for 2020-2021 membership.

I hope everyone is starting to feel more comfortable with getting out and doing some things with your family for the summer. Continue to pray for our State and Nation during this period of reopening our country.

Remember to wear your mask when in public which is now required, keep your distance, disinfect, and wash your hands.

Prayers for all to be safe.

Mary E. Spence
Vice President
District 6

10th District Vice President

After making my calls this month, I've learned that limited activities continue. Election of unit officers were done at Martinsburg #14, Franklin #30, Berkeley Springs #60, Moorefield #64, Romney #91, Paw Paw #128 and Capon Bridge #137 with some keeping their same slate of Officers.

Berkeley Springs, Romney and Capon Bridge have one or more new members.

Since we were unable to pick up membership cards at State Convention, they will be sent to your units soon.

Capon Bridge #137 "Cash Bash" scheduled for August 1st is still on, However, it will be done on Facebook.

As always, it's really important when you let me know what your units are doing, so we can recognize you for your hard work and accomplishments. Remember I welcome your calls and enjoy Hearing from you.

Bonnie Wilcox
10th District VP

10th District President

Hello Everyone!

What a crazy time the last 5 months have been. I apologize for not having an article in the last spirit. I didn't even know what month it was, let alone the day. Lol

With our Spring Conference and Department Convention canceled, I am hoping to see many of you at the Fall Workshop in September (at least that's the plan right now).

I hope you are starting your new auxiliary year with hope and enthusiasm. Let's try to get those new members signed up and working for the American Legion Auxiliary programs.

Unit Presidents, please see that your chair persons/committees have the materials they need to be successful.

I would like all units in our district to send me a list of your officers and contact info for them. If you have any ideas to share with our district, please include them.

The 10th District Fall Conference is scheduled for Saturday, October 3, 2020 at Charles Town #71. Our meeting will begin at 9:00. Hope you make plans to attend.

If you have any questions, concerns or ideas, please contact me.

For God & Country!
Hugs to all!
Debbie Michael
10th District President
304-258-2705
katndebbie@gmail.com



Chaplain

No matter where you are, you are never lost with God in your life. He is always with you, guiding you on the true path, a path unique to you and you alone. Your job is to merely look for His signposts, follow His directions, and trust that He knows your way.

If I have done anything in my life, it has been easy because the Master has gone before.

Mary Slessor

Don't forget your 2019-2020 prayer book at workshop. It will be judged.



Historian

Please continue the History of our 100th Birthday this year, as we all are staying in place.

Keep a notepad handy and jot down anything that you can write about for your unit history. That way when it is time to write your history you have your "notes" to go by.

Don't forget to bring your 2019-2020 History books for judging.

Beth hopes to be able to attend workshop in September, but if not the History awards will still be given out.

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

The Department of West Virginia recently sent a check to the National Treasurer in the amount of **\$1,295.02** from unit donations for the 2019-2020 Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

Thank you all for this wonderful donation to help ALL members in need.

Now is the time to start donating again. Think of new ways to donate, \$ for each pound you weigh at a certain meeting, raffles, paint n sip, etc. All you need is a little imagination.

Melanie Shambaugh
AEF Chairman

Americanism



As we begin another new year, I hope that everyone is doing well and staying safe. Its been a challenge for us all, having to adapt to so many changes.

One thing that will never change is the love we have for our Veterans and our Country. We will continue to fly our flag proudly!! We will continue to help others in their time of need.

I know several ALA members that have sewn masks for those in need. Wearing your mask and social distancing is the key to get back on track. Hopefully life will get back to somewhat normalcy. I pray the schools can reopen this fall and we can get back in the classrooms.

I'm looking forward to Fall Workshop and getting to see everyone!!

Thank you all again for the many prayers, cards and well wishes!! I am doing so much better and I know it's because of the love and prayers!

For God and Country
Susan Wade
Americanism Chairman

Children & Youth

Beth Kilgore, Chairman, is still in the hospital and hopes to be home in another couple of days. She asks that you remember the children & youth in your community and watch for Youth Hero and Good Deed Award applicants.

Save your change and bring to workshop for the ALCWF.



Constitution & Bylaws

July 2020 Newsletter message excerpt from Jane Benzal, Constitution & Bylaws Committee, Central Division: "The national organization has received many inquiries regarding usage of the word "Chairman." Is it appropriate if the chairman is a woman? Since we have both men and women in the American Legion Auxiliary is "Chairperson" a better choice in our governing documents. Here is the official scoop regarding usage of the word "Chairman." In meetings, your presiding officer should be addressed by title such as "Madam Chairman" or "Mr. President." Robert's Rules provides that an officer's title should be used as defined in the bylaws, or the rules of order. In Robert's Rules, "Chairman" is considered gender neutral as "Director" or "Governor." (Not many female members of a board of directors or a board of governors what to be called a "Directrix" or a "Governess," the traditional feminine forms of "Director" and "Governor.")

But courtesy demands that a person's preference as to the usage of their title be honored. Accordingly, "Madam Chair" or "Madam Chairperson" is not incorrect. If it is the pleasure of a woman holding the position of presiding officer. At present, the official position of the American Legion Auxiliary national organization is we will remain using gender-neutral terms including "Chairman" when referring to people (men and women) who are serving in that position. To change this reference in our ALA governing documents would require a resolution presented to the delegates for consideration and voting at National Convention.

I hope all of you have been using the term "in all wars" instead of "the great war" when reciting the Preamble. The new Preamble is now available from National Emblem Sales, both in paper and cloth. If you have the old one framed at your unit hall, please be aware that the new paper one is slightly smaller and is horizontal, not vertical like the old ones."

Dede Kelly
Constitution & Bylaws Chair
ddkelly@arc-hc.com
Stay safe, meet electronically if feasible!

Education

The 2020-2021 Department Scholarship application will be available at workshop and online, along with the National Scholarships.

Please make sure all the rules are followed before you sent into Department Chairman. If they are missing some forms (especially the DD214 form) contact them to get it.

Make sure unit signs off on application.

Dianne McClung
Chairman

National Security

Good afternoon Auxiliary members,
I hope everyone is staying cool in this weather.

National Security is very important. We need to help our Veterans in every way we can. I know we cannot get into the Hospitals and Nursing Homes just yet. Clarksburg says it will be a good while yet, but they are in need of clothing and hygiene items for the Veterans. So just contact your Volunteer Services and they will tell you what it needed.

When school starts back contact your ROTC, JROTC, or NJROTC, see if they need help, also include them in projects that you might be doing. Most of all let your Veterans know we care about them.

My email address is: carlajwilfong@email.com and my phone number is 304-592-0247. I am here to help you in any way I can.

Stay Safe and Stay Cool.
Carla Wilfong
Chairman

Junior Activities

Hi to all!

This has been such a confusing time for all of us but, probably, especially the juniors. They have had to miss meetings, doing crafts together and socializing with other juniors.

They haven't been able to make their visits to the Veterans in our nursing homes. Sadly, it doesn't look like they will be visiting them anytime soon, either. Maybe they could make cards or write a letter to the Veterans and mail or drop it off to them. Let's try to keep in touch with them in some way.

Please safely include them with any events that you have. Please teach them all you can about our organization's programs and especially our patriotism and love for our flag and country.

Fall Boards will be held in Clarksburg on September 12th. **I need to know by September 1st if you have Juniors from your unit that will be attending.** This will determine where we will meet and also the number of craft supplies/materials etc. that I will bring.

There will be an Action Plan Supplement for Junior Activities at Fall Boards for all units. Within this, will be a contact sheet for me to use throughout the year. It needs to be filled out and sent/mailed to me. I will use this list as contact concerning the juniors. I will however have general info in the Spirits for those who do not return the contact sheet.

I will have a project for the juniors to do on their own time. I'm still working on that. I would appreciate any ideas.

Please stay well!

Please contact me with any concerns, questions or ideas.

Debbie Michael
Junior Activities
katndebbie@gmail.com
304-258-2705

Poppy

Hello Ladies

I hope this message finds all members well. With everything going on with the COVID-19 Units have had to postpone our Poppy Projects to ensure the safety of our Auxiliary Members.

Ladies I would like to do the **Poppy Picture Project** again this year. I know there are artistic members in your Units. All you need is one or more ladies get together and make a beautiful Poppy display then take picture and put in a 8x10 picture frame. Bring your picture to Mid-Winter for judging all money collected from your Units' picture will go to the Department's Welfare Fund for our Veterans.

Please be safe and wear a mask.

GOD BLESS AMERICA
Nancy Sundstrom PDP
Dept. Poppy Chairman

Public Relations

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer as best as they can and staying safe while doing so. I know this year has been a struggle to have functions in our units.

When your unit is able to hold a function and let your community know what we are about just remember to record the information.

Looking forward to see what we can do this year. Be safe and continue to practice your social distancing protocols. Hope to see everyone soon.

Service not self,
Stephanie Handley
Public Relations Chairperson
stephaniehandley@msn.com
(304) 670-4055

DON'T FORGET THE MEMBERSHIP/LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

AT HILTON GARDEN INN, CLARKSBURG

SEPTEMBER 12, 2020

FRRIDAY SEPTEMBER 11th WILL BE FINANCE MEETING, GIRLS STATE

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, VICE PRESIDENT'S MEETING

Legislative

Well as we roll into a new Auxiliary year and should be congratulating new officers & chairman we find ourselves faced with different issues, needs and requirements. However, one thing remains the same, our work for our Veterans. As you know The American Legion is a larger supporter and fighter of Veterans rights, with the help & support of the Auxiliary. Today's Veterans struggle with traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) which plays a significant role in a higher suicide rate. From 2007 to 2017 the rate of suicide among veterans jumped about 50%. We have lost more than 60,000 veterans to suicide over ten years. There is growing evidence that some of the drugs prescribed for anxiety and insomnia shows the potential risk of side effects.

In 2017 the American Legion established a Suicide Prevention program and aligned the program under the TBI/PTSD committee to review methods, programs and strategies used to reduce veteran suicide.

In May of 2019, The American Legion launched an online mental health survey as part of continuing research into mental health issues impacting veterans. The data collected indicated 82.47 percent of participants never received any form of suicide prevention training and 67.39 percent of participants were somewhat likely to take suicide-prevention training if offered.

Supporting Resolutions:

No 28: Suicide Prevention Program
No 577: Support for Veterans Quality of Life

No 165: Traumatic Brain Injury and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Programs

What can Congress do?

**Urge the DoD and VA to implement an automatic flagging system to alert providers of potentially fatal prescription drug combinations.

**Provide VA the necessary funding for complementary and alternative therapies for treating TBI, PTSD and other mental health conditions.

**Improve VA's hiring process for mental health providers.

**Increase funding for DoD and VA suicide-prevention programs.

Lisa Cadwallader
Legislative Chairman
Lisac.ala71@gmail.com

National Executive Committeewoman

Hello Auxiliary Members,

I hope everyone is safe and doing well during these uncertain times in the world today. Even though the day to day rules change regarding this virus we will find ways to continue our Mission supporting and serving our Veterans and their families, our communities, and children.

It is an honor to continue to serve as your NEC for another year and I will do my best to keep everyone informed of some changes within National to come over this next year.

National has hired a Director of Finance and will put out additional information regarding this position at later date. Also we will have a virtual NEC meeting later this month. I will give you feedback from that meeting within the next 2 articles.

Thank you, Madam President Sharon Kauffmann, for continuing in this position.

Until then God Bless and Be Safe.
Rhonda Best
NEC Chairperson

100 Years of Celebration 1919-2019



Another month in this nightmare has come and gone.

What has your Unit or yourself done to celebrate our 100 years? Our meetings and activity is limited, but we can still do something. Call 100 of your members or potential members, not to ask for their help, but to ask "how are you". "do you need anything", "what can I do"? Most of ALA members know a lot of veterans, call them, see if they are okay, if you can help them with anything. And we all know someone with children, give them a break, they probably need it.

While we are working on the next 100 years, give thought to ideas for what is to come and share those ideas with everyone you talk to, call a member of this committee, and give us your ideas of what you see in our future.

Lets hope we all stay safe and practice social distancing, wear your mask.

Please remember our older and disabled members and their families, we can do something to help someone.

Be Safe and God Bless
Roxie Nicholson
100 Year Committeeperson

Past President's Parley

Hello Auxiliary Members,

It is an honor and privilege to continue to serve this year as your PPP Chairperson. Thank you, Madam President Sharon Kauffmann, for allowing me to do so.

I would like to take this time to forward some wise words from our National Past Presidents Parley Committee.

"While our world as we are living it right now sometimes appears to be chaotic and out of control we, as members of a 100 year old stable organization, must continue to work our mission as set forth in the Preamble of our Constitution, by fostering and perpetuating a 100% Americanism, ...inculcating a sense of individual obligation to our community, state and nation; promoting peace and goodwill on earth; and safeguarding and transmitting to posterity the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy. Now is the time for us to look for the good in the world. Social Media posts every day promote the phenomenal works many of our members are doing in their communities. Members are out there despite risk to themselves and they are making a difference in the lives of Veterans and in their communities."

As we begin this new year, please continue to be a positive mentor for new and fellow Auxiliary Members. Also, share your pictures of the wonderful things your units are doing for Veterans and your communities. Each of your Action Plan will be available at the Workshop. We will mostly follow last year's plan.

Until Next Month God Bless and Be Safe
Rhonda Best
PPP Chairperson



American Legion Auxiliary WV Rhododendron Girls State

Rhododendron Girls State

This year has been challenging and as you know we had to cancel this year's session due to the COVID-19. Please start to solicit businesses and organizations in your area to secure funding for the 2021 Session of Rhododendron Girls State.

I wish each of you a very successful year. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me or your district representative.

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd
Chairman
Rhododendron Girls State



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

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

June Ways and Means Winners

It gets harder every month to write a message because of the lack of information coming from National and restrictions on all of us because of the pandemic. Hopefully most of your Post have reopened after the close down, and this might be a good time to check on your older veteran post members who are still staying in because of health issues. Call and see if they are okay or need any necessities.

I don't know about the rest of hospital chairmen and volunteers at VA facilities but Huntington is still unable to go back to our regular volunteer assignments. Please keep in touch with your local VA to find out what is going on in your facility. We have had two virtual VAVS meetings in Huntington, and I have called our VAMC Volunteer Director to see if they have any needs.

Stay safe and wear a face mask when you go out unless you have a medical condition that would prohibit it.

I hope to see all of you at the next auxiliary meeting we could safely attend.

Mary Waybright

Congratulations to the **June** winners!

My how time has flown, and with this pandemic going on in our nation, it is hard to get out and sell our fundraiser tickets. But we still have time to sell 2020 tickets. Drawings go to December 31st so we have roughly 5 months yet for this year.

I will have ticket for 2021 year at the workshop. Those who don't attend will be mailed.

Remember the Unit and District who sold the most will receive a "gift" from me at the workshop.

This is the only fundraiser our Department has, and it has been dwindling downhill for a couple of years.

"If you don't pay, you can't play."

Paulette
Susan

Name	Number	City	State	Date	Amount
	239			6/1/20	
	421			6/2/20	
	181			6/3/20	
	226			6/4/20	
	568			6/5/20	
Dorothy Six	805	Cameron	WV	6/6/20	\$25.00
Karen Tedrow	359	Cameron	WV	6/8/20	\$25.00
	744			6/9/20	
Debbie Fox	096	Berkeley Springs	WV	6/10/20	\$25.00
Holly Adams	980	Chester	WV	6/11/20	\$25.00
	694			6/12/20	
	020			6/13/20	
	286			6/15/20	
	151			6/16/20	
Joe Ferrell	730	Narrows	VA	6/17/20	\$200.00
Becky Gregory	205	Moundsville	WV	6/18/20	\$25.00
	465			6/19/20	
Scottie Thorn	802	Welch	WV	6/20/20	\$25.00
Rita Lucas	945	Moundsville	WV	6/22/20	\$25.00
Larry Wolford	004	Romney	WV	6/23/20	\$25.00
	818			6/24/20	
Rodney Kesner	158	Romney	WV	6/25/20	\$25.00
	714			6/26/20	
Loretta Hammond	503	Bluefield	VA	6/27/20	\$25.00
ALA Capon Bridge #137	477	Capon Bridge	WV	6/29/20	\$25.00
Ron Campbell	607	New Martinsville	WV	6/30/20	\$25.00





2019-2020 Membership Theme

"Honoring Our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows"



Membership Target Sheet July 15th
Department Goal— 5616
Membership To Date: 5,008 (89.18 %)
Unit #200 Goal— 80 To Date: 81

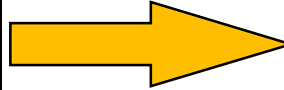


Savanna

Cathy

District 1	Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
	Wheeling #1	26	30	115.38%
	Moundsville #3	242	225	92.98%
	McMechen #5	36	31	86.11%
	Weirton #10	52	48	92.31%
	Cameron #18	148	139	93.92%
	New Martinsville #28	130	130	100.00%
	Wellsburg #34	26	25	96.15%
	Follansbee #45	41	34	82.93%
	Benwood #46	75	73	97.33%
	Pine Grove #81	87	83	95.40%
	Paden City #86	97	79	81.44%
	Wheeling #89	23	15	65.22%
	Newell #114	31	23	74.19%
	Hundred #120	50	45	90.00%
	Chester #121	166	136	81.93%
	TOTALS	1230	1116	90.73%

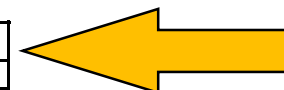
**WWII/
Merchant
Marines Era
40's Fashion
Jitterbug Dance**



**Goal 2789
To Date: 2,451
(87.88 %)**

**Membership
Chairman
"Rosie the
Riveter"**

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



**Goal 2747
To Date: 2,476
(90.13 %)**

District 4	Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
	Parkersburg #15	548	480	87.59%
	Spencer #21	40	33	82.50%
	Pt. Pleasant #23	250	229	91.60%
	Tyler County #48	34	37	108.82%
	Sistersville #67	86	85	98.84%
	New Haven #140	132	133	100.76%
	Williamstown #159	131	98	74.81%
	TOTALS	1221	1095	89.68%

District 6	Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
	Welch #8	59	59	100.00%
	Bluefield #9	26	28	107.70%
	Beckley #32	43	27	62.79%
	Gary #38	76	77	101.32%
	Cowen #62	27	20	74.07%
	Lewisburg #69	42	33	78.57%
	Richwood #97	23	21	91.30%
	TOTALS	296	265	89.53%

District 3	Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
	Buckhannon #7	41	41	100.00%
	Clarksburg #13	89	57	56.18%
	Elkins #29	149	131	87.92%
	Shinnston #31	262	266	101.53%
	Braxton County #33	30	32	106.67%
	Bridgeport #68	67	82	122.39%
	Belington #96	17	19	111.76%
	Pickens #122	23	19	69.57%
	Jane Lew #166	32	3	9.38%
	Morgantown #174	30	44	146.67%
	TOTALS	740	694	93.78%

District 5	Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
	Huntington #16	171	159	92.98%
	Logan #19	17	10	58.82%
	St. Albans #73	31	30	96.77%
	Ceredo-Kenova #93	290	277	95.52%
	South Charleston #94	15	14	93.33%
	Hamlin #111	49	36	73.47%
	Milton #139	62	70	112.90%
	Barboursville #177	144	134	93.06%
	TOTALS	779	730	93.71%

District 10	Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
	Martinsburg #14	95	96	101.05%
	Franklin #30	16	15	93.75%
	Piedmont #52	28	28	100.00%
	Berkeley Springs #60	187	163	87.17%
	Moorefield #64	100	59	59.00%
	Charles Town #71	195	150	96.92%
	Petersburg #78	75	66	88.00%
	Romney #91	221	161	72.85%
	Charles Town #102	28	25	89.29%
	Paw Paw #128	35	23	65.71%
	Kirby #134	41	29	70.73%
	Ridgeley #136	83	40	48.19%
	Capon Bridge #137	121	134	110.74%
	Keyser #152	45	41	91.11%
	TOTALS	1270	1026	80.79%

August 2020

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		<i>Program of Month Leadership</i>				1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 <i>Cutoff for Pre Register Workshop</i>
16	17 <i>Spirit Articles Due</i>	18	19	20 <i>Sleeping Room Cutoff Workshop</i>	21 <i>Spirit Mailed</i>	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Call To Department Fall Meetings

September 11-12, 2020

Hilton Garden Inn Clarksburg WV

This is a notice to all concerned about the Finance Committee Meeting and the Department Fall Executive Board Meeting. The purpose of these meetings are to set up the administrative year for our Department for 2019-2020.

September 11, 2019—Friday Meeting Room 1 (Rhododendron Room)

1:00 pm—Finance Meeting—The three members of the Department Finance Committee

Department President—ex-officio member without vote

Department Secretary/Treasurer—ex-officio without vote

Purpose of this meeting is setting up budget for this administrative year to be ratified by the Department Executive Committee.

**4:00 pm—Membership Committee—Department President, Department Membership Chairman
Department Vice Presidents, District Vice Presidents**

5:00 pm—Rhododendron Girls State, Inc. Executive Board Meeting—5 Board of Incorporators, Department President, 8 District Representatives, Girls State Finance Officer, Treasurer, Secretary, Registrar, Director and Assistant Director

September 14, 2019—Saturday Meeting Room 1 (Rhododendron Room)

5:00 pm—American Legion Auxiliary, Department of West Virginia, Inc. Executive Board Meeting

According to Department Constitution: Article VII, Executive Committee: Section 1: Department Executive Committee which shall be composed of the Department President, Department First Vice President, Department Second Vice President, Department Secretary/Treasurer, Department Chaplain, Department Historian, National Executive Committeewoman, the eight District Presidents, all Past Department Presidents, and Chairmen of all Standing Committees (Americanism, Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Children & Youth, Community Service, Constitution & Bylaws, Education, Finance, Girls State, Junior Activities, Leadership, Legislative, Membership, National Security, Past President's Parley, Poppy, Public Relations, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation. (Bylaws, Article IV, Committees, Section 2).

Section 2: All members of standing committees, **exclusive of the chairmen**, may attend Executive Committee meetings **with the privilege of discussion with no vote.**

Section 3: Any member in good standing may attend the Executive Committee Meeting **with the privilege of discussion but without vote.**

September 12, 2020—Saturday Workshop Meeting Rooms 1 and 2

Registration—8:00 am to 9:00 am (\$15.00) each Session: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Purpose of this session is for instruction to Units/members/Officers and to announce the membership program for 2019-2020 year. There will be some different items for all to enjoy. **ALL AUXILIARY MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THIS WORKSHOP.** Good tool for learning if you want to help with leadership in your Unit, in your District and on Department level.

Travel Allowances: Travel allowances will be paid by Department to **all Department Officers, District Presidents, Department Finance Chairman, and Department Parliamentarian** that attend Department Executive Board Meeting. They will be allowed one day per diem (\$60) plus (if eligible) mileage as per Standing Rule #1. If not spending the night will receive \$20.00 plus (if eligible) mileage. (as per Department Budget)

District Vice Presidents that attend the Membership Workshop. They will be allowed one day per diem (\$60) plus (if eligible) mileage. If not spending the night, will receive \$20 plus mileage. (as per Department Budget)



*Fall Membership/Leadership Workshop
2020 Agenda
Hilton Garden Inn*

Meeting Room 1 and 2

8:00 –9:00 Registration

*9:00 Junior Meeting
Opening Session*

Sharon Kauffman, President

9:15 Convention Awards

*Lynda Lancaster and 2019 Membership Team
2019 Department Chairman*

Membership Team

*Lynda Lancaster, Membership Chairman
Cathy Post, Dept. 1st Vice Pres
Savanna Kauffman, Dept. 2nd Vice Pres
District Vice Presidents*

Department Plan of Action

Department Chairmen

“How To Do Treasurer’s Report and Audit”

Susan Brown Department Parliamentarian

Gift Shops

Irene Weber, PCDNVP

Impact Reports

Rhonda Best, NEC

Secretary Remarks

Paulette Anderson

Questions and Answers

Auction

Survey

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Lunch Time Will Be Scheduled

5:00 Fall Executive Board

Have a Safe Trip Home

BIRTHDAY PARTY AUCTION

SATURDAY September 12, 2020

Membership/Leadership Workshop

HILTON GARDEN INN CLARKSBURG WV

***AUCTION WILL CONSIST OF ANY GIFT YOU WOULD WANT TO BID ON YOURSELF
WRAPPED IN BIRTHDAY PAPER OR IN A BIRTHDAY BAG***

BRING FRIDAY EVENING OR SATURDAY BY 8:00AM



ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT

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: _____