



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 34

December 2020

Issue 5



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

We were able to get some Fall Conferences in, but we had some that had to cancel or change. Hopefully Spring will be better. I miss seeing you all.

We have 3 Goal Units. Congratulations to Logan #19, Moorefield #64, Charles Town #102! I think we're going to have more soon. Great job everyone! We are at 51.03% for the state.

Make sure your mid-year report go to the Department Chairmen and a copy to Department Secretary to keep in her records.

When you are getting information from Department and Districts make sure this information is shared with your unit Officers and members.

The Holidays are on us and I know with the COVID it's hard. Remember our members who can't get out or scared to come out. Remember our Veterans who don't have family, maybe drop a card or take a plate of food to them. We need to make sure our Veterans are taken care of.

Remember that we all are still learning. If you have someone who needs help, help them out. We are a team.

Hoping everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving

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, Gary Unit #38, Richwood Unit #97, 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 27: Under Romney Unit #91 President: Change Helen Sirk to Helen **Sirk-Bell.** All other info is correct

Unit Awards Booklet: is being updated after the Spirit goes out. It will be sent out either by email/or mail by November 30th. It will also be on the Department Website. If you have anything to add or delete, you can on the website at last years'.

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.

New Schedule for Gift Shops

**Beckley VA
December 2nd**
Mary Jennings' husband and grandson will deliver items to the hospital lobby. The VA will distribute. Mary will get a number of patients. Please contact Mary Jennings to Help with purchasing, and wrapping.

**Clarksburg VA
December 21st**
*No In Person Gift Shop
Dropping off Gifts
Contact Roxie Nicholson to Help*

**Martinsburg VA
Only: Dec 4th all day.**
*Gift Shop volunteers will wrap everything and name tags. Flu shot is required. If you can't get a flu shot, mask or shield has to be worn all the time they are there. Volunteer service will deliver all gifts and mail out those that need to be mailed.
Won't be inside the hospital.
Will be in a building
More Information Will Follow*

**Huntington VA
December 8th**

Department Headquarters

NEW 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

*I would like to thank you for all the calls, texts, cards, love and prayers I received during my hospital stay and illness. I have an uphill battle ahead of me and I am determined to beat this. Please continue your prayers as they are both needed and appreciated. I am truly blessed to have such great friends and ALA family. God bless each and every one of you.
Beth Kilgore*



“Honoring Our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows”

Membership Chairman

Fabulous job -- Keep up the great work! This membership target date was Nov. 15 with 40% goal.

We have 46 Units that reached this target: #1, #3, #7, #8, #9, #10, #13, #14, #15, #16, #18, #19, #21, #23, #28, #29, #31, #32, #33, #34, #38, #45, #46, #48, #60, #62, #64, #68, #69, #71, #73, #78, #81, #86, #91, #94, #96, #102, #111, #128, #134, #137, #139, #149, #152.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LOGAN # 19, MOOREFIELD # 64, and CHARLES TOWN # 102 FOR REACHING GOAL!

Our 5th target date is December 15th with 50% of goal. We already have 39 Units that have reached this. **WAY TO GO!** I know many of your Units are close to reaching your goal.

We have *three 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 to 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 and Blessed Holiday Season.

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd
Membership Chairman



Department 1st Vice President

Hello my friends,

I'm gonna' make this short and sweet, with high winds and such my internet is very sketchy.

We have three goal units on my side of the state. So very proud of you all! Many are getting close, lets keep striving to hit that target!! All unit officers should be paid by now.

Things are getting worse with COVID-19, many of us feel like a caged animal, be sure and do your buddy checks on Veterans AND auxiliary members. We need each other more than ever now.

I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, make sure our veterans have food on the table if at all possible.

Please stay safe, wear your mask and follow the guidelines.

Until next month, my love to all!
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,

Congratulations to #64- Moorefield and #102- Charles Town on getting 100%!!!

I'm so proud of you all!!! You all should be proud of yourselves working on membership, keep up the good work!

Our side has 20 units that made 40% and Cathy's side has 24 units, a total of 44 units that hit target goal! Keep the membership going! The next target goal is every month on the 15th.

Due to COVID - I couldn't make it to 4th District, but hopefully see you next year.

Stay warm for the Holidays!

If you need anything you could always call or text me at (304) 582-2976.

Be you - Do you - Love you

For God and Country
Savanna Kauffman
Department 2nd Vice President



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



3rd District Vice President

Happy November to you all! I hope this holiday season finds you safe and well.

District 3 has 7 of 10 Units that have met 50% or more of their goal. Way to go!!

Congratulations to Belington 96 who has met 80% and to Buckhannon 7 who has met 83%. Keep up the wonderful work.

Remember November 14 was Read over By Laws! Take the time as a Unit to make sure your By-Laws are up to date. Remember our Membership Theme "Honoring Our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows"

As this Holiday season approaches, keep checking on our Veterans and Unit members and keep reaching out to our Youth!

I want to wish you all a safe and happy Thanksgiving full of family memories! Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you need anything.

Kim Mellie
304-216-9943
District 3 Vice-President

4th District Vice President

Greetings to Members of the 4th District,

We are still trying to build and maintain our membership during these trying times. Keeping our ranks filled with members who care about our veterans may help meet the needs of many during this pandemic.

Membership target for November 15th are 40%. Our district has five units that have exceeded this target: Parkersburg #15 (61.24%), Spencer #21 (91.18%) Pt. Pleasant #23 (45.06%), Tyler County #48 (78.95%) and New Haven #140 (43.88%). Congratulations to these units for surpassing the Department target.

We all find ourselves at a loss for words for how difficult and trying this year has been. As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday I hope that you take a moment to be thankful for your family, friends, and fellow Auxiliary members. Some have lost much this year and need to stay in our prayers and may even need our help in other ways. Ask someone to join and share with them how your unit has helped its community during this crazy year. Keep membership applications in your purse or vehicle and if you see someone who might have that spark to help then ask them to be part of this great organization. Maybe your unit can think about gifting a few memberships over the upcoming Christmas holiday to people who might make great team members?

As always, I look forward to growing our District this year and am available at any time should any unit want to discuss growth ideas.

"Let your unique awesomeness and positive energy inspire confidence in others"

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

3rd District President

This past weekend we held Third District Fall Conference at Shinnston 31 Post. There was a good turn out with a total of approximately 28 Legionnaires and Auxiliary members there. We had only two Units represented, Ladies this is really bad. I know we are in the middle of a Bad Virus but we need to make an attempt to attend our meetings. There was a total of 10 Auxiliary Members present, and no State Officers there.

Looking at the Membership Target Sheet Paulette sent out we have only one unit in Third District dragging their feet. We have 2 with 80% or over, one with 75%, 3 with over 60%, then we have 30%, 20% and 5%. Lets work a little harder and make this a goal District.

If you need my help remember just call me at 304-592-0247, or email me at : carlajwilfong@gmail.com. I am always available.

Stay safe
Carla Wilfong
3rd Dist. President

5th District President

The 5th District Fall Conference was held on September 19th at Huntington Unit 16 Post Home. Thank you to Kitty Kelly-Smoot for running the meeting for me. I heard you did a great job. I would have rather been with you than where I was. Thank you to Sharon, Savanna, and Paulette for attending. If I have left anyone out, I am extremely sorry.

Keep your memberships coming in. Let's show the rest of the Department that the COVID virus is not getting us down!!!

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

Until we see each other – stay safe!
Beth Kilgore,
5th District President

4th District President

Greetings to Members of the 4th District:
Due to the continuing threat of the COVID pandemic, the District 4 meeting was cancelled.

We are finally in November and although membership is down a little, we still have another 6 weeks till December 31, 2020! Keep working to maintain and increase membership.

Time to celebrate!! What have you been able to do for our members, veterans and veterans' families? It's time to be creative. Use your imaginations and resources to help families in need.

I challenge each of you to reach out to our veterans, members and veterans' families. Make a telephone call. Send a card. Send an e-mail. Take them a meal. Remember to wear a mask, practice social distancing and keep in touch with our American Legion family members.

Let's consider the upcoming holidays. We are being mandated to keep family celebrations small. It sure will be difficult to video chat Thanksgiving dinner with family members. Americans are strong, loyal, creative people. We never let a challenge defeat us! Not even a COVID pandemic!

We continue by "Honoring our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows." Remember to carry a current membership application with you. If you are able, pay the annual dues for a member in need.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family!

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



6th District President

Hello Everyone

Hope everyone is staying well and wearing your mask when you are out and about, because so much of this Covid 19 is getting worse. I had to be quarantine for 14 days because I tested positive, but feeling better. So please wear your mask.

Hope you are still having meetings but if not I can understand, Welch Unit 8 did not have a meeting in October and will not have one in November. Ann Cooley is in the hospital with this virus and also her son. Frank is just getting over his.

We did have our 102nd parade it was really different but we had no bands and only one float we could stand beside our car and people could drive by and we all waved but at least we had one.

Hope everyone is getting in their membership in and don't forget your mandatory funds, and if you have lottery tickets please try and sell them I think it will be a little hard this year but try and get them sold.

Haven't heard anything from the other Units in our District but sure they are trying to do what they can .

This is a short message but I did want to get something in for the Spirit.

Please keep each and everyone in our prayers and pray they get a vaccine soon for COVID.

God Bless each and everyone.

Peggy Swartz
President
Sixth District

10th District Vice President

Greetings to 10th District,

Membership renewals are coming in but staggering, slow but sure. Many members are waiting to be notified before sending in dues. Encourage members to get dues turned in.

The following units have one or more new members: Martinsburg #14, Berkeley Springs #60, Moorefield #64, Charles Town #71, Romney #91, Charles Town #102, Paw Paw #128 and Capon Bridge #137. Nice work ladies.

For our Veterans: Moorefield #64 joined with VFW members and prepared 100 drive-up dinners; Charles Town #71 served a veterans lunch, Romney #91 prepared "to-go" dinner for 83, Charles Town #102 sent veterans cards and Paw Paw #128 sent personal note cards of "thank you" and included 2 tickets for veterans to use for future activities.

You are doing some awesome activities: Charles Town #71 and Martinsburg #14 are joining for a members' Christmas gathering , Berkeley Springs #60 and Romney #91 will have small Christmas parties in their towns.

Other events included: Martinsburg had a steak and shrimp dinner, Moorefield had a comfort drive collecting items for the VA, Charles Town #71 are collecting food for 2 families and providing a meal on Thanksgiving Day at their post, Romney is collecting for the VA and seniors at their local hospital, and Capon Bridge had a virtual gun bash and their Monday wing night.

Wishing everyone a very happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday.
Bonnie Wilcox

10th District Vice President

10th District President

Hello Everyone!

Congratulations to the units in our district that have reached the 40% plus goal! Keep striving for that 100%. I'm sure the few units that have not reached this goal will do so soon. A Special thanks and Congratulations to Moorefield 64 and Charles Town 102 for reaching 100%!! Great job by all!

It's sad that because of COVID, many units have had to cancel all the events that they usually do each year. There may not be much to report for Mid-year reports but, please report what you can.

Remember our Veterans this Thanksgiving in any way you can. Keep those cards and letters going to them since they can have no personal visits. I'm sure they are lonely.

Reminder: Update your Unit Constitution/Bylaws & Standing Rules. Be sure to send to the Department Constitution/Bylaws & Standing Rules Chairmen when they are finished.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Please contact me if I can help you.

Hugs to all!

10th District President
Debbie Michael
304-258-2705
katndebbie@gmail.com

R. E. D... Remember Everyone Deployed... WEAR RED ON FRIDAYS!!!

6th District Vice President

Hello to all our District 6 members.

Hoping everyone had a safe and healthy Thanksgiving. I hope that our November month goes out as nicely as it came in. The weather has been beautiful and has given us the opportunity to get ready for our Christmas Holiday Season. Does your home look like mine-- a shared holiday, 1/2 Thanksgiving and 1/2 Christmas?

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, but sadly some are also losing members.

Even due to the Covid-19, we have a couple of units that have been trying to meet and have some projects. i.e. Supporting dollars to the Veterans Hospital, supporting gifts to the nursing home for 6 veterans, a yard sale, donations of luggage and cleaning supplies, paper towels and toilet paper to our local S.A.F.E. organization, and placing a display to honor our local veterans in a store front window. Some units participated with their Post to support their Veterans Day parade.

Our December membership target is 50% of all dues collected.

Dates to remember are:

**Mid-Winter conference February 12-14 at Ogleby Park

**Summer Convention July 8-11 Huntington Hilton

**Girl State. June 13-18. Davis & Elkins

Hope all have a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends and that you will enjoy your Christmas Holiday Season. Stay safe.

Enjoy your holiday.

Mary Spence
6th District Vice President

Chaplain

My wish is for everyone to have a Happy Thanksgiving.....
Remember those less fortunate.

"Father, lover of life, we pray for those suffering from disease for which, at present, there is no known cure; give them confidence in Your love and never-failing support and a stronger faith in the resurrection. Grant wisdom and perseverance to all working to discover the causes of the disease, so they see in their labors the ministry of Your Son, who Himself showed forth His divine power by healing those who came to Him."

George Appleton

For God and Country
Mary Jennings
Chaplin



Historian

History is the study of past and future events. People know what happened in the past by looking at things from the past including sources (like books, newspapers, and letters) and artifacts.

Years from now, as we celebrate our continued existence as an organization, it is helpful to look back on our past to see what we have done to celebrate. That is why it is important to keep a record of what your unit is doing. I suggest keeping a notebook and making notes of everything your unit is doing, as you go. When it is time to submit a Mid-year report, you have all the information in front of you and won't have to rely on your memory.

Remember everything you do is history!

Beth Kilgore
Historian

Junior Activities

Hi to all!

Our juniors are probably not as active this year as they have been in the past. I hate this virus! Please include them, if you are able to have events.

Please continue to have them send cards to the hospitalized Veterans. They enjoy hearing from them so much. Have them make cards to be handed out to Veterans in their post homes.

I know it is early, but I hope you are making plans for them to attend Mid-winter Conference in February. In past years, they have helped box the comfort items.

I hope you are working on your Mid-year reports. Just send me a list of the things your juniors have done or helped with. They are due in December.

Contact me if you have any questions or ideas.

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



Children & Youth

The COVID pandemic we are experiencing has everyone wondering what is happening from one day to the next. The pandemic has cancelled many activities during Halloween season. Now through the holidays many traditional activities will be put on hold. Put your thinking cap on and see what ways you can come up with to honor our Children and Youth.

Times like these have a tendency to bring out the best in everyone, both young and old. Be on the lookout for children that would qualify for the Good Deed or Youth Hero Award. Many times, the children themselves downplay the importance they played in a deed or action. These must and should be rewarded, not only for the child themselves but for other children around them. Children learn by example and what better way than to see a peer being rewarded for displaying good judgment and sound thinking. Forms can be found on the ALA website or just give me a call.

Thank you for all you do with our children and youth in your community.

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

Until we see each other – stay safe!

Beth Kilgore
Children & Youth

Americanism



I pray everyone is staying safe! We are getting ready for the holidays. This year will be different from past years. I know we are limited on what we can do.

Some ideas are:

**donate small American flags for individual rooms in nursing homes, etc.

**send cards to shut ins

**collect items for essential workers- (Example: snack items; individual drinks;) anything the workers could eat on the run!

**reading material for shut ins

**puzzle books for shut ins

**coloring books

I know with restrictions, you will need to call ahead and make arrangements to drop off items. Check with local nursing homes, VA hospitals, homeless shelters, donating to soup kitchens.

Americanism can be shown in many ways! Use your own judgement.

Reminder: I need Mid year reports by December 15th. Send me an email susanwade457@gmail.com

I know every Unit has done something. I just need a short report. I want West Virginia to be one of the states sending in a report!

Wishing you all a safe holiday season!
God Bless you all!!

For God and Country
Susan Wade
Americanism Chairman

Education

During these times, we have to work around doing things that are normally routine. Since school participation may be limited to on-line classes, we need to be creative in promoting our Education Program.

The National and Department Scholarships are now available on our Department website, www.wvvaux.org. Unit Education Chairmen will have to determine the best way to share these with your school counselors and/or students. Be sure to communicate your Unit scholarships also.

Call your schools and find out how to best to do this. Ask them to make the students aware of these scholarships. Whether the schools need to provide through their links to students or other means, it is our responsibility to make them aware of their existence.

Be sure to follow up and make the schools aware of the deadlines.

Dianne McClung
Education Chairman

Leadership

Leaders Handle Plan B

One of my favorite motivational artists and authors is the incomparable Suzy Toronto. Her writing about Plan B sums up a lot about our current challenges as leaders. In the past several months, many of us have felt forced to implement plans B, C, or even Z... but we have persevered, adjusted, recalculated and carried on. Enjoy Suzy's words below and remember... it really is all about how we handle whatever life throws at us.

Life is All About How you Handle Plan B

Plan A is always my first choice.
You know, the one where
Everything works out to be
Happily ever-after.
But more often than not,
I find myself dealing with
The upside-down, inside-out version --
Where nothing goes as it should.
It's at this point that the real
Test of my character comes in.
Do I sink, or do I swim?
Do I wallow in self pity and play the
victim,
Or simply shift gears
And make the best of the situation?
The choice is all mine...
Life is all about how you handle Plan B.
Suzy Toronto

Remember that as leaders we have to have a plan. It may not be our original plan but we must remember... others are counting on us to lead with conviction and confidence. We owe it to ourselves to be able to pivot. The year 2020 has pretty much been the "upside down, inside out version" of all years. Stay strong. Stay safe. You can handle anything... even Plan B.

Rosemary M. Thomas
Leadership Chairman

Legislative

The American Legion is urging Congress to unanimously pass the Buddy Check Bill. This will require the VA to establish a "Buddy Check Week," as well as provide educational opportunities, materials and references for veterans to learn how to conduct personal wellness checks. The bill also compels VA to expand resources for the Veterans Crisis Line to handle any potential increased volume during the designated week.

The holidays can be a difficult time and adding to the problems some are already facing along with the pandemic and isolation, so the Legion is requesting all hands on deck by contacting your legislators about S. 4657 & H.R. 289 bills. Help take this program to the next level and stem the tide of suicide among our nation's veterans.

With military suicides rising by 20% since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, The American Legion joins bipartisan effort to pass Buddy Check Week.

Mid-year reports are due by the end of the year. Why not go ahead and get them in now before all the holiday madness and get them out of the way.

Happy Thanksgiving
Lisa Cadwallader
Lisac.ala71@gmail.com
Legislative Chair

National Security

Good evening

I hope everyone is inside out of the cold. If you are now is the time to think of the many Homeless Veterans outside in the cold.

There is so many things we could do for National Security and they go along with VA&R. We need to now start to purchase items and take to our Local VA Hospitals for the Homeless Veterans. Check with them and see if they cannot supply you with a list of items needed. Warm socks, gloves, scarves, hats, and a jacket are just a few of the items needed.

I will have more for you next time. If you need my help just call me at 304-592-0247, or email me at carlajwilfong@yahoo.com

Stay Safe
Carla Wilfong
Chairperson

Poppy

The holiday season is upon us now. Let us remember to use the Poppy in our decorations for Thanksgiving and Christmas. The red color makes it easy to incorporate into fall decorations and into Christmas displays. Don't forget to add it to a package for a veteran. The more visible we make the Poppy, the easier it will be to get donations.

It was not possible to have a Poppy Day as usual. A plea to our members may be necessary. Let your members know how funds from our Poppy Drive are used to serve veterans and ask for a donation. It may mean that you have to send a mailing or make some telephone calls or send out emails. Contact is necessary to give the information to our members who may not attend the meetings.

The poppy can be used in decorations for the fall, Thanksgiving, winter, and Christmas. Use the poppy all year round to show you care. Please take pictures of how you use the Poppy and Poppy decorations in your post or community. Please bring the picture and detailed description to Midwinter Conference and it will be judged and I will give a personal gift to the unit that has the best presentation and use plus \$25 will be donated to the Welfare Fund in the Unit's name.

I want to wish each of you a very Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. We all are hoping that 2021 will be better for all of us.

Ann Buchanan
Poppy Chairman



**National Executive
Committeewoman**

Hello Fellow Auxiliary Members

First and foremost, I hope everyone is safe and healthy. We are in the most uncertain times I have ever seen in my lifetime. And I know it is very frustrating and difficult to help Our Veterans and their families as well as Our Children and Communities as much as we want to. So, I would like to give you all some places to go for creative ideas. Go to our National Website www.alaforveterans.org and the various Facebook Pages of the ALA Programs such as ALA Public Relations, ALA Education, etc.

On brighter side of things, The National Veterans Creative Arts Festival has found a way to show the awesome talents some of Our Veterans have through Social Media. It runs November 30 – December 4, 2020. You can follow this @Sports4Vets on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram.

There are a couple of new Member Benefits available through The American Legion Auxiliary. You now have the opportunity to obtain dental, eye, and telemedicine through the Careington Dental Vision Plus Telemedicine Plan starting at \$14.95 a month. For further information go to the National website.

Another is the Digital Subscription of the Stars and stripes independent news outlet for U.S. Military Community, including active-duty service members, DoD civilians, veterans, contractors, and their families available to us at 50% off the Annual Subscription.

Please remember it is that time again for Mid-Year Reporting.

Until Next Month Be Safe and God Bless.
Rhonda Best
NEC

**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**

Past President's Parley

Hello Everyone,

I pray all of you are safe and Healthy. This is a very scary and uncertain time we are in right now. I know our Units are in difficult situations. Many of us have been unable to hold our Annual Fundraising Events. And for this reason, we are not able to support and help Our Veterans and their families as we have in the past. Please share any and all creative ideas each unit comes up with to hold unique fundraisers, raffles, or collections. We need Mentors for the new and less experienced members now more than ever before.

As in the Thomas Rhett Song:
“In a time full of doubt, just believe
Yeah, there ain't that much difference
between you and me
In a time full of war, be peace
In a world full of hate, be a light
When you do somebody wrong, make it
right
Don't hide in the dark, you were born to
shine
In a world full of hate, be a light”

Please keep these words in mind!!!!
If any unit has been able to start a Past Presidents' Club, a Scholarship for Nursing, donated to a Nursing Scholarship, then send me your Mid-Year Report by December 15th.

Until next month Be Safe and God Bless!!!!
Rhonda Best
Past Presidents Parley Chairman



**100 Years of Celebration
1919-2019**



Hello All Auxiliary Members,

I hope everyone is safe and healthy. I pray each day for these scary times to get better for all of us. Also, I know it has been difficult for units to hold any type of events let alone a 100th Year Celebrations. However, you can be creative on Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter). You could send cards to 100 Auxiliary Members or 100 Veterans. You can make up 100 Educational Packets and drop off to various schools.

Please remember to report any 100th Year things your unit has accomplished so far this year to me. I need these Mid-Year Reports by December 15th in order to get my report into National.

Until Next Month Be Safe and God Bless!!!
Rhonda Best
100th Year Celebration Chairman



©DESIGNALIKE



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 they 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

This has been an unusual start to the fall/winter season with 85 degrees temperatures at the warmest in this area; nevertheless my thoughts have turned to the Comfort Item Drive. Even though much activities for veterans has been curtailed because of COVID, I am counting on hospital chairman to make arrangements with their veterans hospital to receive the item donated. Any unit that chooses to **take direct** to the VA hospital nearest them is encouraged to do so. If your unit would like to donate rather than doing items, the checks should be sent to Department Headquarters. Our Department Secretary is including a form in this Spirit that you should affix to each box you bring to Mid-Winter. If you take direct, please mail to me with a synopsis of items donated and their cost.

I know this has been a difficult year with the pandemic and some units not meeting. Unit have been generous in the past and I hope it continues.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (304) 638-7665.

Mary Waybright
V A & R Chairman

If you aren't sure what to get someone for Christmas, or put in a stocking stuffer, we have a great idea!! **2021 Department Fundraiser Tickets!!**

We still have plenty of 2021 tickets in Headquarters to send to units and members.

Remember: get those ticket stubs with money in by **December 31st** to be eligible for the New Year's Day drawing of \$100.00. Let the purchaser know, that their # is good all year long Monday-Saturday of 2021. They could win \$25.00, and the 3rd Wednesday could win \$200.00!! Maybe they aren't aware of this.

Don't forget for every 5 tickets a unit sells and has into Department by December 31st, the unit name will be placed in a jar for a drawing at Department Convention to win (???—Surprise!) from me!! (Paulette)

Until next month
Paulette
Susan

October Ways and Means Winners

Name	Number	City	State	Date	Amount
Shirley Davis	287	Kenova	WV	10/1/20	\$25.00
Amanda Ruckman	335	Rio	WV	10/2/20	\$25.00
Stephen Wilson	108	Snow Camp	NC	10/3/20	\$25.00
Robert Ostrander Sr.	663	Moundsville	WV	10/5/20	\$25.00
	226			10/6/20	
	058			10/7/20	
Thurman Chapman	536	Anawalt	WV	10/8/20	\$25.00
Teresa Smith	938	Benwood	WV	10/9/20	\$25.00
	695			10/10/20	
Jill Huffman	130	Sardis	OH	10/12/20	\$25.00
	635			10/13/20	
	173			10/14/20	
Joe Singleton	377	Exchang	WV	10/15/20	\$25.00
	537			10/16/20	
Mike Taylor	612	Winchester	VA	10/17/20	\$25.00
	040			10/19/20	
	151			10/20/20	
	870			10/21/20	
Cindy Williams	991	Romney	WV	10/22/20	\$25.00
Rita Alley	505	Casa Grande	AZ	10/23/20	\$25.00
	768			10/24/20	
	737			10/26/20	
Donna Davis	241	Romney	WV	10/27/20	\$25.00
Nancy Blosser	974	Wheeling	WV	10/28/20	\$25.00
Dorene Carse	847	Middlebourne	WV	10/29/20	\$25.00
	892			10/30/20	
Bobby English	474	Bluefield	WV	10/31/20	\$25.00





2020-2021 Membership Theme

”Honoring Our Legacy, Celebrating Our Tomorrows”



Membership Target Sheet November 15th—40%
Department Goal— 5132
Membership To Date— 2,838 55.30 %
Unit #200 Goal— 81 To Date— 60

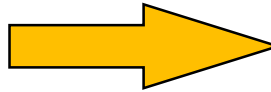


Savanna

Cathy

District 1	Unit	2021 Goal	2021	% of Goal
	Wheeling #1	31	14	45.16%
	Moundsville #3	228	166	72.81%
	McMechen #5	32		
	Weirton #10	49	24	48.98%
	Cameron #18	143	85	59.44%
	New Martinsville #28	132	75	56.82%
	Wellsburg #34	26	14	53.85%
	Follansbee #45	35	34	97.14%
	Benwood #46	74	44	59.46%
	Pine Grove #81	85	36	42.35%
	Paden City #86	81	56	69.14%
	Wheeling #89	16	3	19.00%
	Newell #114	24	3	12.50%
	Hundred #120	46	18	39.13%
	Chester #121	138	28	20.28%
	TOTALS	1140	600	52.63%

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

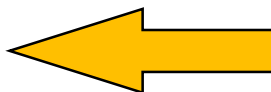


**Goal 2521
To Date: 1441
(57.16 %)**

**Membership
Chairman
“Rosie the
Riveter”**

District 4	Unit	2021 Goal	2021	% of Goal
	Parkersburg #15	485	297	61.24%
	Spencer #21	34	31	91.18%
	Pt. Pleasant #23	233	105	45.06%
	Tyler County #48	38	30	78.95%
	Sistersville #67	87	28	32.18%
	New Haven #140	139	61	43.88%
	Williamstown #159	100	19	19.00%
	TOTALS	1116	571	51.16%

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



**Goal 2530
To Date: 1337
(52.85 %)**

District 6	Unit	2020 Goal	2020	% of Goal
	Welch #8	60	33	55.00%
	Bluefield #9	29	22	75.86%
	Beckley #32	28	20	71.43%
	Gary #38	80	54	67.50%
	Cowen #62	21	18	85.71%
	Lewisburg #69	34	28	82.35%
	Richwood #97	22		
	TOTALS	274	176	64.23%

District 3	Unit	2021 Goal	2021	% of Goal
	Buckhannon #7	42	35	83.33%
	Clarksburg #13	58	40	68.97%
	Elkins #29	133	84	63.16%
	Shinnston #31	270	205	75.93%
	Braxton County #33	33	19	57.58%
	Bridgeport #68	86	57	66.28%
	Belington #96	20	16	80.00%
	Pickens #122	20	1	5.00%
	Jane Lew #166	10	2	20.00%
	Morgantown #174	45	17	37.78%
	TOTALS	717	477	66.53%

District 5	Unit	2021 Goal	2021	% of Goal
	Huntington #16	163	96	58.90%
	Logan #19	11	12	109.09%
	St. Albans #73	31	27	87.10%
	Ceredo-Kenova #93	281	27	10.71%
	South Charleston #94	15	10	66.67%
	Hamlin #111	37	16	43.24%
	Milton #139	71	36	50.70%
	Barboursville #177	142	52	36.62%
	TOTALS	751	276	36.75%

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	108	64.67%
	Moorefield #64	60	60	100.00%
	Charles Town #71	152	85	55.92%
	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	101	74.26%
	Keyser #152	42	37	88.10%
	TOTALS	1053	688	65.34%

December 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2 <i>Beckley Gift Shop</i>	3	4 <i>Martinsburg Gift Shop</i>	5
6	7  <i>Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</i>	8 <i>Huntington Gift Shop ???</i>	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 <i>Target #4 50%</i>	16	17 <i>Spirit Articles Due</i>	18	19
20	21 <i>Clarksburg Gift Shop Delivery of Gifts Spirit Out</i>	22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve Office Closed</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day Office Closed</i>	26
27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Years' Eve Office Closed</i>	<i>New Years' Day Office Closed</i>	



Tyler County



Unit 48

Proudly Announces

Cathy Darlene Post

Their Candidate for

Department

President

2021-2022



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