



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 36

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Issue 7



American Legion Auxiliary
2022-2023
Department President



“Lighting Up Our Future For Our Veterans”

Colors—**Red**, **White**, & **Green**

Flower— **Poppy & Poinsettias with Pine Cones & Holly (cherries)**

Hello Auxiliary Members,
 Did you think we were done celebrating Christmas? Absolutely Not! I'm still counting down, Are you? Christmas in December might be over but celebrating Christmas with our Veterans is not over. We have 24 more Sundays to still celebrate Christmas.
 It's February! Happy Valentine's Day month to you all! Don't forget our Veterans need someone to love too on Valentines Day, as you know some don't have anyone.
 I'm excited for Midwinter! I hope everyone is getting ready. Reminder: don't forget to bring your Christmas fashion gear to wear for the luncheon. Our Central Division Vice President will be there.
 Membership in our state goal is 4935, we have 3577, in our Department we have the Candy Canes are in the lead with 75.19% and the Gingerbread is 72.09%. Keep doing what we all do best. We still have 6 units 10 and under let's try and get them up.
 My special project is Christmas Gift Shops and any donations will help. I will leave you all with this quote:
 "The magic of Christmas never ends and it's greatest gifts are family and friends"
 Until next month, Thank your veterans and be kind to each other.
 For God & Country
 Savanna Kauffman
 Department President

Department Officers 2022-2023

President-Savanna Kauffman
 1st Vice President-Debbie Michael
 2nd Vice President-Laura Clark
 Secretary/Treasurer-Susan Brown
 Chaplain-Kimberly Mellie
 Historian-Stephanie Handley

District Presidents

1st District-Kim Elliott
 3rd District-Kimberly Mellie
 4th District-Patsy Young-Greiner
 5th District-Kitty Kelly-Smoot
 6th District-Peggy Swartz
 10th District-Diana Teter

District Vice Presidents

1st District-Stephanie Handley
 3rd District-Roxie Nicholson
 4th District-Pamela Hansom
 5th District-Laura Clark
 6th District-Mary Spence
 10th District-Jill Davis





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: (Unit General Fund)- Bonding (\$5.00), Education (Scholarship), & Girls State Project (any amount the unit can afford);

Unit Welfare Fund - Veterans' Welfare Fund (any amount the unit can afford), & 10% of Poppy Proceeds.

Membership: Award—10 Plus 3 in 2023—Recruit 10 New Senior Members and 3 New Junior members. New members must be entered and paid in ALA-MIS by June 1, 2023. Forms must be received at ALA NHQ by June 3, 2023. One entry per recruiter.

There was a dues increase voted on and passed at National Convention in August 2022. This increase will go into effect for the 2024 year. National dues was increase by \$6.00 per diem. This means that units will need to send a total of \$25.00 for National and Department per diem for 2024 year. National will be looking at different ways to cut cost, so another increase will not happen for a couple of years. Units need to increasing their dues for the 2024 year.

Junior members who turn 18 yrs. old before January 1st of 2023 are considered Senior members. Please take notice of their status National has marked on your roster. Do Not change status!

If your unit has old applications with great granddaughters on them, they need to be destroy. Department will return any of the old applications that have been marked great granddaughter. If you need new applications please call or email the office.

It is past time for you to do your 990N postcard. Please remit to IRS and send Department a copy—Thanks!

There has been a schedule change for Midwinter Friday's meetings. We have flip Girls State with Membership meeting.

Note—Unit Member of the Year is to be sent to the Leadership Chairperson, not Past Presidents Parley.

Website is updated!! New Standing Rules is posted, Award Manual, Scholarship form, Americanism essay, Year-end reports and Poppy order form are all there. Call if you need printed programs.

Second dues notices will be sent out by National on February 1, 2023.

Homework for the Units. Please send to Department your membership chair that receives dues, if new. National is getting ready to send second dues notices. They want to be sure that addresses are correct for remittance. **Please call and have me check your unit's remits address—just checked Moundsville and it was wrong.**

What is your Unit's official mailing address that National has? Please submit your official address to Department for update.

New members—when sending in a new application please make sure they are complete. The ONLY time that the unit secretary can sign an application is when a female veteran is joining under herself—No Acceptations! Applications will be returned.

Just a small note; Post and Unit may meet on the same day. They just do not hold their business session together.

Reminder—Your membership is through

Directory Correction
President Steven Hinzman Bridgeport Unit #68 has a new mailing address; 411 Thomas Ave., Nutterfort, WV 26301

Secretary for Milton Unit #139
Katie Benson, 20013 US Rte. #60, Culloden, WV 25510

Department Headquarters

**Office Hours
Monday-Friday
9:30am-3:30pm**

Phone 304-845-7410
Fax: 304-845-9426
alawvsec@frontier.com

**Department Address:
2172 Grandview Road
Moundsville, WV 26041**

Department Website:
www.wvvaux.org

Rhododendron Girls State Website
www.wvgirlsstate.org

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

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

Wellness Call!

Kim Elliott, 1st Dist. President had to have her knee replacement replaced—Cards may be sent to Kim Elliott, 4677 Veterans Blvd. New Cumberland, WV 26047

Peggy Swartz recently had surgery, and doing great. Cards may be sent to Peggy Swartz, PO Box 124, Gary, WV 24836

Mary Jennings are in need of our prayers and well wishes. Card may be sent to Mary Jennings, 929 Old Eccles Rd., Beckley, WV 25705

Patsy Greiner has been hospitalize with heart complications. Card may be sent to 708-45th Street, Vienna, WV 26105

Please Remember each of them in your prayers!

Those of you who wish to run for a Department office may send in your endorsement at this time.

“Christmas 365 around the World”

Membership Chairman

Hello Auxiliary Members
So people have been asking about the drawing for Commander Tom Hicks Corvette. It will be drawn at Mid-Winter, Good Luck Everyone. Membership is moving a long we have 32 Units close to 100% way to go. Our goal is 4935 we are 1,284 away in Department to be 100%. Go WV we got this. We are in 4th place in Central Division. If you could I need all units to send me a report on your membership. what your doing to recruit new and old members. Also picture of any event that includes membership. You may send to my email at the end of this article. Thank you all for your great job, hope to see a lot of you at Mid-Winter. And have a great Valentines Day.
For God and Country

Sharon Kauffman, Membership
Chairman
304-582-2963
skauf01@yahoo.com



District Spring Meetings

First District—April 23rd @ Marne Unit #28 Post home, New Martinsville

Third District—March 4th @ Shinnston Post #31, Shinnston

Fourth District—April 16th @ Pt. Pleasant Post #23, Pt. Pleasant

Fifth District—February 25th @ Huntington Post #16, Huntington

Sixth District to be announced

Tenth District—March 25th @ Charles Town Post #71, Charles Town

Department 1st Vice President

Hello to all!

I guess we have all experienced some really cold, nasty weather this winter but here we are today and it's 50 degrees. Go figure. lol

I am so proud of my “Candy Canes”. We are doing well in membership. Keep striving to reach that 100%. We have one unit in the 5th district and two units in the 10th district that are struggling. To those District Vices, if I can help you, just let me know.

I hope you are excited about Mid-winter at Oglebay. It is such a beautiful place and we have so much fun at Mid-winter. Please try to attend.

To the Policy & Procedures Committee, please be sure to bring your copy of Policy & Procedures and your directory for the meeting. Please review it before hand as far as changes that need to be made.

Looking forward to seeing you all!

Hugs!

Department 1st Vice
Debbie Michael
katndebbie@gmail.com
304-258-2705 c 304-839-7721
234 Breeden Addition
Berkeley Springs,
WV



Department 2nd Vice President

Hello Gingerbread Team!

I am so excited to see you all at the Mid-Winter Conference in just a few short weeks! Please make sure to bring anything gingerbread with you to decorate and let's show the candy canes that we mean business! Several units have already met Target 3 of 75% and so many of you are VERY close to meeting 100% of goal! I am so proud of all of you, but now is not the time to slow down. Let's keep the momentum going and think "outside the box" when it comes to membership. Don't assume that someone knows all about the ALA and make sure that you are constantly finding ways to involve all unit members in membership as they are more likely to be excited about helping with the goals if they feel included!

I would like to take this time to shout out the following units who are leading the way in their districts:

District 1: Moundsville Unit #3 (89.34% of goal)-- Has met Targets 1, 2, and 3!

District 4: Tyler County Unit #48 (88.1% of goal)-- Has met Targets 1, 2, and 3!

District 6: Cowen #62 (91.3% of goal)- Has met Targets 1, 2, and 3 (almost 100%)!

Way to go and keep up the great work!

Love to all!

Laura Clark

Department 2nd Vice President

304-939-3607

laurakclark716@gmail.com



Department 1st Vice President

Ladies of 1st District,
I hope everyone had a great holiday. I know it can be a hectic time of the year and that's including membership. Just a reminder that a member who has not paid their 2023 dues became delinquent as of December 31, 2022. It might be the time to reach out to those members who have not paid just to give them a little reminder to pay their dues. Follansbee #45, Wheeling #89 and Newell #114 need to work on getting some memberships submitted. The rest of the Units are doing great and I hope you can continue with this trend. If you have any questions or need help with anything please feel free to reach out to me for any assistance. I hope to see a lot of you at Mid-Winter Conference in February.

1st District Vice President
Stephanie Handley
stephaniehandley@msn.com
304.670.4055

6th District Vice President

Hello to our District 6 members.
Hoping everyone had a happy New Year and stayed safe during the Holidays. Hope everyone survived the cold temperatures and snow. I had the opportunity to speak with several of District 6 Unit representatives. Our units have been extremely active in collecting dues and getting back to holding their monthly regular meetings. Don't forget to start making preparations for reports and for girl state selections.

If you have a meeting, make sure you take precautions and sanitize because of the new Covid outbreaks.

Our third membership target goal of 75% is March 15, 2023.

Dates to remember are:

Mid-Winter conference February 10-11/2023 at Oglebay Resort and Conference Center

2023 Girls State will be June 11-16, 2023 at Davis and Elkins College, Elkins, WV

Hope all of you have an enjoyable Valentine's Day. Stay safe.

Pray for Our Country.

Mary Spence, Vice President
District 6

3rd District Vice President

Every unit in 3rd District is doing great! Thank you all, from the bottom of my heart. We are all so close to being 100%, that I will be very surprised if we don't make it by next month. So all I can say is, keep up the good work, call your delinquent members and remember to carry an application with you at all times.

I'm looking forward to seeing a lot of you next month at Mid-Winter. Travel safely and don't forget the Silent Auction.

Roxie Nicholson
3rd District Vice President

10th District Vice President

Happy Valentines Day! Each unit except for 2 are doing well with membership. Franklin Unit 30 and Piedmont Unit 52, you need to get your memberships in. We want you to be able to keep your charter. I encourage each unit not to hold on to their memberships even though they are starting to come in slower. Let's stay ahead of the Gingerbreads, they are on our tails. I hope to see everyone at mid winter.

Jill Davis
10th District Vice President



5th District Vice President

Hello and Happy February, 5th District!
During the month of LOVE, let's all spread our love for the ALA and the American Legion family and strive to meet and exceed our membership goals! As a district, we are at 68.1% of goal and have met Targets 1 and 2. Our 3rd target of 75% is coming up in March and let's all work hard to make sure that we achieve that goal!

Let's hear it for the following units who are leading the way by already meeting the first 3 Target Dates of 25%, 50%, and 75%:

Barboursville #177- 90.91% of goal

Milton #139- 89.47% of goal

Logan #19- 77.27% of goal

Several units are VERY close to the 2nd and 3rd Targets and I am here to assist in any way possible! I hope to see several of you at the Mid-Winter Conference in a couple of weeks as well as the 5th District Winter/Spring Conference on February 25th at Huntington Post/Unit 16!

In the spirit of Service, not Self,

Laura Clark

5th District Vice President

304-939-3607

laurakclark716@gmail.com

3rd District President

Hello everyone! Awesome job District 3!
All of our units are over 50%. Kudos to Shinnston 31 with 95% and Morgantown 174 with 93%! Keep up the excellent work ladies!

My apologies for not being able to visit each Unit yet. After we won the State Championship and I thought I could slow down my entire family caught 3 viruses and I didn't want to spread those around. RSV, Adenovirus, and Covid again.....makes for a long December/January. Hopefully, I will be around soon! As we plan for the next few months keep these in mind.

Mid-Winter is just around the corner, (Feb. 11th and 12th) I hope to see you there with comfort items and items for our silent auction.

Finally, District Three Spring Conference is slated for March 4th sign in begins at 9 meeting at 10 in Shinnston Post 31. I will send out a voting sign up very soon!

If you have any questions feel free to call, text, or email! 304-216-9943 or kmellie@comcast.net

Have a wonderful February!

Kim Mellie, 3rd District President

6th District President

Hello Everyone

Hope that everyone had a very good Christmas and a Happy New Years. February will bring us to beautiful Oglebay Park for Mid-Winter on February 10- 11, 2023, hoping to see old friend and making new ones at Mid-Winter. Read in the paper today that we had lost a member from Bluefield Unit 9. her name was Thelma Halsey who was President for a while and also held other office in her Unit she was a fine lady and will be missed by all RIP my friend.

Beckley Unit 32 has had some sickness Mary Jennings had a Lumpectomy done on 1-12-23, I talked with her today and she told me it was not cancerous and is doing well if anyone would like to send her a card her address is 929 Old Eccles Road, Beckley, WV 25801. Our Sixth District Vice President Mary Spence and her husband James is on a ten-day cruise have fun Mary and think of us back home on this cold weather. I myself had to have a Lumpectomy which was cancerous the Dr. got all of it and I am cancer free just need to have a few radiation treatments, but I am doing well.

Haven't talked with the other Units but hope everyone is well.

Hope everyone has paid their Mandatory Funds and working on membership. When Mary gets back from her cruise I will see when Welch Unit 8 can host our Spring meeting I will have it out as soon as she returns.

Ladies be sure to keep all of Veterans in your prayers for the present, past and the future, just keep everyone in your prayers.

Until next time God Bless everyone.

Peggy Swartz, President
Sixth District

10th District President

Valentines Day is a reminder of Love, sharing and consideration of others. Think on the following:

Because of our Veterans and the freedoms for which they fought we can join together as one.

Our Attitude toward others by being welcoming, being helpful and kind will precede the unit and be an encouraging way to get new members. Love of God and country is a part of our preamble. Share the Love.

Be Ever faithful to the youth in your community. Mentor them; lend them a hand especially if they are children of deployed veterans.

Discuss with your unit New ideas for gaining membership

Always Take time out of your lives for others. It is so rewarding.

Find time to be Interested in what your Legionnaires may need to run a successful Post.

Never forget their sacrifice.

Every hour of volunteer time you can give will help lobby congress for our veterans.

Hope to see each of you soon.

Diana Teter
10th District President

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Fellow Auxiliary Members,
I hope the New Year finds all of you well and prospering and wanting to share some of your good fortune with others by continuing to donate to and raise funds for this important fund, both individually and as a Unit.

If I can be of assistance to you or your unit in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Blessings,
Melanie Shambaugh
AEF Chairman
sham4wv@aol.com

Chaplain

February 3 is Four Chaplains Day in the USA. This day commemorates the events of February 3, 1943, when the troop ship USAT Dorchester sank. Dorchester left New York on January 23, 1943, carrying 4 chaplains and about 900 others as a part of convoy of three ships. 4 Army Chaplains acted in the spirit of heroic sacrifice and humanitarianism onboard the sinking ship.

This ceremony will be happening at Mid-Winter. Calling all Chaplains who would like to participate with me? Send me a text if you are going...I need at least 3 others! For a suggested program download The American Legion Chaplain's Handbook at legion.org/publications. May God be with us all until we meet again. Safe travels to Mid-Winter.

For God and Country
Kim Mellie
Department Chaplain
304-216-9943
kmellie@comcast.net

NEC

At National Headquarters it was announced that Sara Riegel has accepted the position of Executive Director, and began her new role on January 6th 2023. Sara has been on staff at National Headquarters since 2011 and has served in multiple positions. Welcome Sara!

CDNVP Ann Rehbein will be our guest at the Midwinter Conference at Oglebay Friday February 10th and 11th.. Ann is from the Department of Iowa. I hope to see many Auxiliary members there to give Ann a BIG Welcome from West Virginia!

My NEC Virtual Mid-Year Meeting will be held later in February. I will be giving you information at a later time regarding what units should be aware of. Paulette Anderson
NEC

Constitution & Bylaws

Please review your governing documents!! They should not still have "she", and "her". This is in conflict with National. We opened the door four years to men joining the Auxiliary.

District's if you have a rule in your Bylaws similar to " The delegates and alternates to the District Conference shall be elected at a regular Unit meeting. Alternates shall have priority in the order of their election.", you need to change it. District's can not dictate to Units how they select delegates and alternates. The District's do dictate that proper credentials must be presented for delegates to vote.

Unit's should indicate how they select delegates and alternates in their Governing documents.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions you may have. Hope to see many of you at Mid-Winter.

Lisa Cadwallader

Lisac.ALA71@gmail.com

Educations

Hello all!

I want to wish you a Happy February! Remember to work with your local school counselors to bring attention to our Auxiliary Scholarships. Please give them the website: <https://www.legion.org/scholarships> due March 1st and/or <https://wvaux.org/category/scholarshipdownloads/> You can also promote Boys and Girls State at this time too. Also remember to send me pictures of your activities with the youth so I can post them on the District and National website. Also, buy your Purple shirt on April 15th for Purple up Day in honor of our military children.

Again, if you need help, feel free to text, call, email. 304-216-9943 or kmellie@comcat.net

Remember...it takes a village!

Kim Mellie

Education Chairman

Leadership

Rounding out our five reasons why leadership is in crisis is #5 which speaks to **meaningless achievement**. It's not about working to simply work...it's not about doing just for the sake of doing. It is about knowing the goal, making progress toward that goal and making sure others are engaged in the process along the way.

As leaders we all have been in the precarious position of knowing it would just be easier to do it yourself than ring everyone else along. Sometimes we send around a sign up sheet and simply say we just need bodies there to help. Truth is this is costing us valuable members and stifling leadership development.

Today's volunteers want to know why you want their time and attention. They long for meaning in the work they do...in the time they plan to invest...in the choice they make to show up instead of stay at home.

Take the time to define what needs to be done and feel good about taking a moment to explain how and why it needs to happen. Give meaning to the work that is to be done. Add value to the goal. Celebrate the achievements along the way and when all is said and done

Looking forward to our time at Mid-winter **Feb 11** at Oglebay. We will work in teams for part of the time, identify our own gifts as leaders and help others see how they might grow as leaders and truly shine.

Rosemary M Thomas
Leadership Chairman

National Security

What is Ready Campaign?

Ready is a government-sponsored website with a wealth of information on what to do to prepare you and your family in the event of an emergency. It can best be stated by utilizing the phrasing straight from their website.

Launched in February 2003, Ready is a National public service campaign designed to educate and empower the American people to prepare for, respond to and mitigate emergencies, including natural and man-made disasters. The goal of the campaign is to promote preparedness through public involvement.

Ready and its Spanish language version Listo ask individuals to do four key things:

- Stay informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses
- Make a family emergency plan.
- Build an emergency supply kit.
- Get involved in your community by taking action to prepare for emergencies.

When you visit <https://www.ready.gov>, you will find various disaster types and information to help you successfully navigate and prepare yourself.

See you at Midwinter Conference!
Paulette Anderson
National Security



Poppy

Happy Valentine's Day. Hopefully everyone had a nice December. Mid-winter is just a few weeks away, remember to bring your change With you for voting on corsages. This will be in the same room as the Silent Auction. I hope we have a nice selection.

Poppy Days is coming up soon, get out there and make arrangements to set up. Remember we do not sell them we accept a donation of Any amount. This will be used to help support our Veterans.

Hope to see you at Mid-winter. If you need my help call me at 304-592-0247, or email me at: carlajwilfong@gmail.com.

Carla Wilfong
W.V. Poppy Chairperson

Mid-Winter Silent Auction

Coming to you again to remind you about the Silent Auction at Mid-Winter. Please bring or send something to auction off or to put in the basket we are raffling off. I don't care what it is, or how much we get for it, just need things to put in the auction. I have gotten a few donations for the basket, for which I am truly pleased. Looking forward to seeing all of you next month

Roxie Nicholson
304-657-5740

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Happy Valentine's Day. Hope everyone had a nice Holiday this past month.

Mid Winter is just around the corner. Each Veterans Hospital and Nursing home must find a way to get comfort items home. Let us in The Comfort Item Room know who is picking up for you.

If you forgot your Comfort Item Slip we will have extras. Use the list In last months Spirit to base your purchases on. Anyone wanting to Make a donation that also is appreciated. Remember the week of Valentine's Day is the week of "Show Your Appreciation to Hospitalized Veterans" take them a card and some Candy. They always like this.

If you need my help, call me at 304-592-0247, or email me at carlajwilfong@gmail.com. See you at mid winter
Carla Wilfong
Co-chairperson

Membership Song

Sung to the tune of Brenda Lee's "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree"

Rockin' around the Christmas tree at our VA Christmas Shops.

Our PDP Angels are leading our way in, so we will gladly stop!

Rockin' around the Christmas tree while Cardinal Savannah flies

Later we'll share some candy canes and gingerbread surprise!

We will share an ornamental feeling when we see

Ribbons and Tinsel and Lights a'shinin'

Hugging our Vets with the Gifts we're providing!

Rockin' around the Christmas tree, have a Starry Holiday!

Helping our Veterans have a Blest Holiday, at our VA Gift Shop Days!!

(musical interlude)

We will share that ornamental feeling when we see

Ribbons and Tinsel and Lights a'shinin'

Hugging our Vets with the Gifts we're providing!

Rockin' around the Christmas tree, have a Bulb-lit Holiday!

Helping our Veterans have a Blest Holiday,

at our V (pause) A (pause) Gift (pause) Shooooopp Daaaays!!!

Junior Activities

COME ONE, COME ALL JUNIOR MEMBERS to the Juniors Workshop in Wheeling on Saturday, February 11th.

A great time will be had. Looking forward to seeing to you there. Remember the forms in the Spirit as well as the agenda.
Lynda Lancaster-Loyd



American Legion Auxiliary WV Rhododendron Girls State

Rhododendron Girls State

I hope everyone is working on contacting your high school guidance counselor(s) and school principal and let them know you are the contact person for Girls State; please give them your information as well.

The dates of the 2023 Girls State Session.

Girls State will be held June 11 -16, 2023 at Davis & Elkins College in Elkins WV.

What an amazing opportunity you are providing these young ladies. They become more engaged in leadership, patriotism, and being an informed citizen and formed many new friendships around the state. Please note with rising costs the registration fee will be \$300 per citizen which will include the cost of the parade t - shirt.

New this year, those elected to the Board of Public Works will be transported to the State Capital in Charleston to meet with their elected West Virginia counterparts. You are invited to Davis & Elkins on Friday, June 16th for the Inauguration and Graduation Ceremonies.

We look forward to providing another great and successful session but we need your help! Start securing the funding now and you may have share sponsorships per citizen. If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me or your district representative.

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd
Girls State Chairperson



District Representatives

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. — Cathy Post
308 Main Street
Middlebourne, WV 26149
304-758-5114

5th Dist. — Ann Buchanan
105 Cheyenne Trail
Ona WV 25505
304-654-9932

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

10th Dist. — Debbie Fox
874 Longview Drive
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411
304-258-5804



American Legion Auxiliary
Alderton-Dawson Unit 60
Berkeley Springs, WV

American Legion Auxiliary, Alderton-Dawson Unit 60 would like to submit our endorsement for Debbie Michael for the office of Department of West Virginia President for the year of 2023-2024.

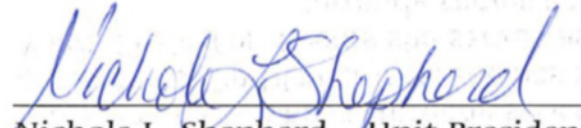
Debbie is eligible through the military service of her brother, Charles Bohrer who served in the USAF for 25 years. Debbie's closeness and love for her brother is where her love for the military and Veterans comes from.

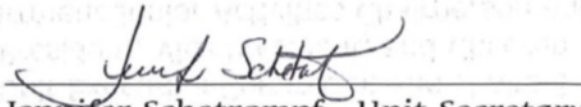
Since joining the American Legion Auxiliary in 1976, Debbie has been an active member, having served every office except for Treasurer and chaired numerous committees on the Unit level. She is currently serving on the Unit Executive Committee and chairs 3 committees. On District level she has served as President, Vice President, and Children & Youth Chair. For 3 years she served as the Department Junior Activities Chairperson and currently serves as Department 1st Vice President.

Debbie has been married for 46 years to her husband Kat Michael who is a WV SAL Past Detachment Commander and currently the SAL Commander at Post 60. Her family is one of her greatest joys, she has 2 sons, 2 stepsons, 13 grandchildren, and 1 great grandson.

It has always given her immense pleasure to volunteer with an organization that cares about our military and veterans as much as she does. Debbie has a son, daughter-in-law, and two grandsons who are currently serving in the military. Debbie is always cheerful, encouraging, and we can always depend on her to lend a helping hand no matter what the need may be. She will go the extra mile to get the job done.

We are proud to present Debbie Michael, as our candidate for the 2023-2024 year for the office of President. We hope that you will join us in endorsing her, knowing that she will serve with the same enthusiasm and pride that she has for our Veterans.


Nichole L. Shepherd - Unit President


Jennifer Schetrompf - Unit Secretary



American Legion Auxiliary
Earl Francis Unit #3
800 First Street
Moundsville, WV 26041

At a regular meeting held January 17, 2023 the members of American Legion Auxiliary, Earl Francis Unit #3 unanimously endorsed Susan S. Brown for the position of Secretary/Treasurer for the Department of West Virginia for the year 2023/2024.

Susan's eligibility is through her father Walden P. Southworth, who served during WWII in the Army Air Corp from September 1942 until being honorably discharged on September 1945. She has been a member of her unit since 1990.

At the unit level Susan has served as President, Secretary, and Treasurer. On the District level Susan has served for the ten years as First District Secretary/Treasurer.

Susan served on the Department level as Historian, Chaplain, Second Vice President, First Vice President, and served 2003/2004 as Department President. She served as NEC from 2004/2005. She has held multi chairmanships on the Department level, and currently serving as the Secretary/Treasurer for the Past Department President Club. She is currently serving as the Department Secretary/Treasurer.

Susan has been married to William Brown since March of 1987. She has one son Thomas Kleinedler, who served in the US Marine Corp from February 1997 until February 2001, and she a proud grandmother of her grandson Anthony.

Susan retired in May of 2019 from Tri-State Electric & Machine Co., Inc. after 40 years of employment, working as the secretary/bookkeeper.

We, the members of Earl Francis Unit #3 are very proud to endorse Susan S. Brown as a candidate for the position of Department Secretary/Treasurer for the year of 2023/2024.

Rhonda Best, President

Mary Richards, Secretary

Ways and Means

There were 21 \$25.00 winners in December, with no winner for the \$200.00 Wednesday. Congratulations to each of you!

Cost for a 2023 ticket is \$20.00 and are good for the whole year! Never too late to purchase a ticket. They make GREAT gifts!

Ticket sales are slow this year. Remember this is the only fundraiser that Department has. Please support!

Please cash your checks!

NOTICE—Please mail check and stubs to:

Susan Brown
2172 Grandview Rd
Moundsville WV 26041

Check Payable to: Ways & Means

Susan Brown
Linda Crumm



The first drawing for 2023 year was January 2nd. Ticket number #762. There was no winner for the \$100.00. Ticket was still in the office.

December 2022 Ways and Means Winners

Name	#'s	City	State	Date	\$\$\$
Charles Alpaugh	693	Romney	WV	12/1/2022	25.00
	512			12/2/2022	
Shannon Harshbarger	058	Huntington	WV	12/3/2022	25.00
Brian Hamric	610	Moundsville	WV	12/5/2022	25.00
Larry Williams	179	Cameron	WV	12/6/2022	25.00
Crystal Graham	227	Bluefield	VA	12/7/2022	25.00
Rose Epling	315	Reedy	WV	12/8/2022	25.00
Cindy Pyles	668	Keyser	WV	12/9/2022	25.00
	359			12/10/2022	
Brenda Kenney	726	Romney	WV	12/12/2022	25.00
Jill Davis	595	Capon Bridge	WV	12/13/2022	25.00
	038			12/14/2022	
Jeanie Lerilly	282	Porter Falls	WV	12/15/2022	25.00
Larry Jones	213	Windridge	PA	12/16/2022	25.00
Bob Greene	637	Romney	WV	12/17/2022	25.00
JoAnn Camp	840	Spencer	WV	12/19/2022	25.00
Bernice Paul	180	Lake City	MI	12/20/2022	25.00
	968			12/21/2022	
Tammy Coates	547	Augusta	WV	12/22/2022	25.00
	358			12/23/2022	
Mildred Barber	054	Gary	WV	12/24/2022	25.00
Mary Jo Thomas	686	Fairmont	WV	12/26/2022	25.00
Jean Shoemaker	659	Augusta	WV	12/27/2022	25.00
Savanna Kauffman	943	Martinsburg	WV	12/28/2022	25.00
John & Linda McLaughlin	208	New Martinsville	WV	12/29/2022	25.00
	470			12/30/2022	
Lisa Hixenbaugh	070	Romney	WV	12/31/2022	25.00

Feb. 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	Office Closed		1	2	3 4 Chaplains Day	4 USO Birth- day
5	6	7	8	9	10 Midwinter at Oglebay	11 Midwinter at Oglebay
12 Lincoln's Birthday 	13	14  Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19 Coast Guard Reserve Birthday	20  Presidents' Day Office Closed	21	22 Ash Wednes- day	23	24	25 5th District Huntington
26	27 Orthodox Lent Begins	28				
					<p><i>Program of Month</i> <i>Chapel of 4 Chaplains</i></p>	



“Christmas 365 around the World”



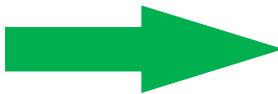
January 15, 2023
Department Goal— 4935 Membership to Date— 3651
Department Unit 200 Goal—136 Membership to Date— 115

Laura

District 1			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	21	14	66.67%
Moundsville #3	244	218	89.34%
McMechen #5	31	15	48.39%
Weirton #10	65	53	81.54%
Cameron #18	156	81	51.92%
New Martinsville #28	104	88	84.62%
Wellsburg #34	29	12	41.38%
Follansbee #45	52	6	11.54%
Pine Grove #81	81	49	60.49%
Paden City #86	90	68	75.56%
Wheeling #89	22	3	1.36%
Newell #114	16	2	1.25%
Hundred #120	38	22	57.89%
Chester #121	134	106	79.10%
TOTALS	1083	737	68.05%

District 4			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	402	335	83.33%
Spencer #21	29	21	72.41%
Pt. Pleasant #23	227	182	80.18%
Tyler County #48	42	37	88.10%
Sistersville #67	56	20	35.71%
New Haven #140	143	114	79.72%
Williamstown #159	89	50	56.18%
TOTALS	988	759	76.82%

District 6			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Welch #8	55	33	60%
Bluefield #9	31	15	48.39%
Beckley #32	33	19	57.58%
Gary #38	97	76	78.35%
Cowen #62	23	21	91.30%
Richwood #97	30	27	90%
TOTALS	269	191	71%



**“Candy Canes”
 Team
 Goal—2459
 To Date— 1849
 75.19%**



**Membership
 Chairman
 A Star**



**“Gingerbread”
 Team
 Goal—2340
 To Date 1687
 72.09%**



Debbie

District 3			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	40	30	75%
Clarksburg #13	43	33	76.74%
Elkins #29	121	84	69.42%
Shinnston #31	248	236	95.16%
Braxton County #33	35	22	62.86%
Bridgeport #68	62	53	85.48%
Belington #96	19	15	78.95%
Pickens #122	25	17	68%
Morgantown #174	60	56	93.33%
TOTALS	653	546	83.61%

District 5			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Huntington #16	146	108	73.79%
Logan #19	22	17	77.27%
St. Albans #73	29	20	68.97%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	223	114	48.93%
South Charleston #94	12	2	1.67%
Hamlin #111	47	23	48.94%
Milton #139	57	51	89.47%
Barboursville #177	132	120	90.91%
TOTALS	668	455	68.11%

District 10			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	71	48	67.61%
Franklin #30	22	0	0%
Piedmont #52	20	0	0%
Berkeley Springs #60	182	138	75.82%
Moorefield #64	86	69	80.23%
Charles Town #71	118	112	94.92%
Petersburg #78	78	61	78.21%
Romney #91	174	123	70.69%
Charles Town #102	41	33	80.49%
Paw Paw #128	38	25	65.79%
Kirby #134	37	29	78.38%
Ridgeley #136	70	51	72.86%
Capon Bridge #137	158	125	79.11%
Keyser #152	43	34	79.07%
TOTALS	1138	848	74.52%

The SPIRIT is emailed to all **Unit Contacts** and any **Unit Officers or member** with an email address, and has asked for the Spirit to be emailed to them.

All Department Officers, Department Chairmen, District Presidents/Vice Presidents, Past Department Presidents with email addresses. Spirits are posted monthly on the website: www.wvaux.org
Unit Presidents **with no email contact** will receive a free copy by mail.

Subscription will Cost \$18.00

Runs August through July Each Year

MAIL TO:

**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of West Virginia
2172 Grandview Road
Moundsville, WV 26041**

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS OR PO BOX: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP: _____



41st Annual Mid-Winter Conference
American Legion Auxiliary Conference Program
Oglebay Wilson Lodge, Wheeling WV

Friday, February 10, 2023

8:00 am	Comfort Items Open	Seneca Room
12:00-4:30pm	Silent Auction Opens	Ballroom West 3
1:00-7 pm	Registration	Banquet View
1:00-2:00pm	Membership	Fort Henry Room
2:00-3:30pm	Policy and Procedure	Fort Henry Room
3:30-5:00pm	Girls State Executive Board Meeting	Fort Henry Room
7:00-9:00pm	Opening Joint Session	Ballroom West 1&2

Saturday, February 11, 2023

8:00 am -12:00 pm	Registration	Banquet View
8:00-12:00	Comfort Items	Seneca Room
8:00 am -2:00 pm	Silent Auction	Ballroom West 3
9:00 am	Opening Session	Fort Henry Room
	Call to Order	Savanna Kauffman, President
	Prayer	Kim Mellie, Chaplain
	Moment of Silence	
	Pledge of Allegiance	Katie Beth Caudill, Americanism Chairman
	National Anthem	Kitty Kelly-Smoot, Music Chairman
	Preamble of Constitution	Lisa Cadwallader, PDP, Constitution & Bylaws Chairman
	Mission Statement	Lisa Cadwallader, PDP, Constitution & Bylaws Chairman
9:15 am	Welcome	Savanna Kauffman, President
9:15-9:30	Missing Man Table & Four Chaplains	Kim Mellie, Chaplain
9:30 am	Juniors Session—Excused for their session	Spruce Room
9:30 am	Membership (Certificates/Goal Ribbons)	Membership Team
10:00 am	Central Division National Vice President Ann Rehbein	Introduction by Savanna Kauffman, President
10:30 am	“Christmas Veterans Affairs Gift Shop”	Savanna Kauffman, President
10:45	2022 & 2023 Ways & Means Report	Susan Brown, Ways & Means Chairperson
11:00 am	Recess	
11:15 am	Membership Luncheon	Terrace Room
	Sharon Kauffman and Membership Team	
	“Lighting up our future for our Veterans”	
12:30 pm	Reconvene	
12:30 pm	Girls State	Dr. Rosemary Thomas, Director
	2022 Rhododendron Girls State Governor	
	Lakyn Campbell	
	Parkersburg High School	
1:00 pm	Leadership Development	Dr. Rosemary Thomas, Leadership
3:00 pm	Poppy Posters & Poppy Corsage Contest	Carla Wilfong, Poppy Chairperson
	Silent Auction Raffle Basket Drawing	Roxie Nicholson, PDP
	Comfort Items Report	Marsha Duckworth
3:15 pm	Announcements	Susan Brown, Secretary
	Adjournment	Savanna Kauffman, President
4:00 pm	Church Services	Fort Henry Room
6:00 pm	Commander’s and President’s Reception	Ballroom West 1,2,&3
9:00 pm	Dance & Karaoke	Ballroom West 1,2,&3

*Silent Auction Closes at 2:00 pm on Saturday
Please pick up your items and pay for them right after adjournment*

Safe Travels Home!

**Junior Meeting
Mid-Winter Conference
Wheeling, WV
February 11, 2023**

Registration...(Fee \$10).....	Spruce Room.....	8:30
Opening Ceremony with Auxiliary.....	Fort Henry Room.....	9:00
Missing Man Table & Chapel of the Four Chaplain.....		9:30
Juniors Meeting.....	Spruce Room.....	9:30
Special Craft Project		9:30
Card Signing.....	throughout the day
Lunch (on your own).....		11:00
Reconvene with Auxiliary.....		12:30
Lakyn Campbell—2022 Rhododendron Girls State Governor.....		12:30
Question & Answer & Ideas Session.....		1:00
Closing Ceremony & Adjournment.....		3:00

Pool time together?? There is an indoor pool!

.....Agenda may change slightly.....

Remember to bring your bathing suits!

Let's Learn All We Can About The ALA!!!

Comfort Items List for Midwinter

Grown Up Coloring Books
Colored Pencils
Word Find Books
Crossword Books
Board Games (checkers, chess, other adult games)
Crafts (all styles)
Slippers with non-skid bottoms, (any style with a back)
Belts All Sizes and Adjustable
Winter Coats (all sizes)
Winter Gloves and Knit Caps
Winter Scarfs
Men's Sweatpants Sizes 3X-5X
Unisex sweats size 2X-6X
T-shirts all sizes (including 2X-6X)
Socks for both men and women including Diabetic socks
Underwear for both men and women
Women Sport Bras (all sizes)
Deodorant (men and women)
Shaving cream
Shampoo
2-3 blade disposable razors
Nail clippers and Emory boards
Combs and brushes (individually wrapped)
Toothpaste and Toothbrushes
Liquid Detergent for washing clothes
Fabric Softener
Table fans for COPD patients
Non-perishable snacks

Homeless Veterans:

Non-perishable foods/snacks (soap, Vienna sausages, crackers, bottled water, flavored drinks)
Cleaning supplies (floor cleaner, counter cleaner, laundry soap, QS sheet sets)

Fisher House:

Holiday Decorations

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

YOU ARE INVITED
TO THE 43rd DEPARTMENT MID-WINTER

February 10-11, 2023
Starts at 7pm on Friday(10th) evening.

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, 2023

2023 AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONVENTION

RESERVATION INVOICE

AUGUST 25 - AUGUST 31, 2023

JW MARRIOTT CHARLOTTE

606 SOUTH COLLEGE STREET

CHARLOTTE, NC 28202

NAME(S) OF ATTENDEE(S)

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

E-MAIL:

King/Doubles (\$169 per night plus 15.25 % hotel tax) Two bay parlor rate \$299

Parking rate per day---Valet Only \$35 per day

PLEASE MAIL PAYMENT BY MAY 1, 2023

ARRIVAL DATE TO HOTEL	
DEPARTURE DATE FROM HOTEL	
KING OR DOUBLE	

	Quantity		
ONE NIGHT'S ROOM DEPOSIT @	\$194.77		\$0.00
ADDITIONAL OCCUPANT IN ROOM PER DAY - Flat Rate			\$0.00
REGISTRATION FEE @	\$35.00		\$0.00
NATIONAL COMMANDER'S BANQUET @	\$54.00		\$0.00
SOUTHERN BLOC BREAKFAST @	\$52.00		\$0.00
HOSPITALITY ROOM FEE @	\$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 \$35.00 registration fee after State Convention.

REGISTRATION/PERMISSION FORM

Please complete the form entirely. Duplicate as needed. Incomplete forms will not be processed. NO FORMS ACCEPTED VIA FACSIMILE.

Name of Junior _____

Preferred name for Nametag _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Unit Name & Number _____

Name of Hotel Junior is staying _____

Please list any food allergies/dietary restrictions _____

Date of Birth _____

As a junior member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of West Virginia, I am aware of my responsibility in attending the _____. I agree to conduct myself in a manner that will positively reflect on my Unit, the Department, my family and me. I further agree to abide by the rules established for the Junior Meeting. I understand that failure to abide by rules set forth for the Annual Junior State Convention will result in removal from all sessions and activities.

Date

Signature of Junior Member

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

Chaperone during the Department Junior Meeting _____

Note: Emergency contact person should accompany participating junior member to registration to provide a telephone and location for contact in case of an emergency during the actual time of the meetings.

Chaperone Emergency Contact Phone Number _____

You may pre-register your Juniors that are coming by using this form.

Registration cost is \$10.00

Or at Door for \$10.00

Register early and a name tag will be made up in advance!

CONSENT TO MEDICAL TREATMENT AND HOSPITAL SERVICES

This certifies that we (I) the undersigned parents (s) or guardian (s) of _____
In Unit _____, in event of our (my) child participates
in the American Legion Auxiliary Junior Activities, hereby consent and grant permission, should be
necessity of medical care arise, to the furnishing or medical treatment and hospital service as ordered or
recommended by a qualified physician, including the administration of an anesthetic, laboratory
procedures, medical or surgical treatment, X-ray examination or other hospital services.
We understand that the Unit named above has sole responsibility for registration, housing, food,
chaperoning, and emergencies of any nature. We further understand that each junior member
attending must be chaperoned by someone over 21 years old or older.
The chaperone should provide information on location and telephone number where she can be
reached.

WAIVER OF CLAIM

This further certifies that we (I) the undersigned in consideration of the benefits to be derived by our
child, in the event that she is a participant of the American Legion Auxiliary Junior Activities , do hereby
release and discharge the American Legion Auxiliary, its officers, agents, instructors, and employees
from any and all claims, demands, damages, suits, actions or causes of action which we (I) may, can, or
shall have by reason of any illness, injury, or accident incurred or suffered by said child while traveling
to, attendance at or participation in the American Legion Junior Activities held _____
_____ from the time
of her departure from home until return thereto.

INSURANCE INFORMATION *(to be completed only if parent (s) carry a group medical insurance plan)*

Name of parent (s) Group Medical Insurance Carrier _____

Policy/Certificate Number _____

Parent to whom Policy was Issued _____

Employer to who Policy was Issued _____

Printed Name of Mother or Guardian _____

Signature of Mother or Guardian _____

Signature of Father or Guardian _____

PARTICIPANT MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION RELEASE FORM

I _____, am a participant in the American Legion
(printed Junior member's name)
Auxiliary Junior Activities of _____ Unit# _____.

I _____, am the Guardian, Parent (s) of
(printed Guardian, Parent (s))
_____, junior member of _____
(printed Junior Member's Name)
Unit # _____ and give my (our) permission for her photographs to be published on social media, local,
Department, and National newsletters; newspapers, and any website for the American Legion Auxiliary.

Signature Junior Member _____
Date _____

Printed Name _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____
Date _____

Printed Name _____

Parent/Guardian Daytime Phone Number (_____) _____

Parent/Guardian Nighttime Phone Number (_____) _____

Alternative Contact in case of Emergency (_____) _____

ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE ON THIS FORM

This permission form must be completed for every junior member attending any junior activities within
the _____ Unit # _____

Guardian _____

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20 _____

Parent/Guardian Mailing Address _____
City, State, Zip _____

2023 Mid-Winter Membership Luncheon

“Lighting up our future for our Veterans”

Saturday February 11, 2023

Oglebay Wilson Lodge Terrace Room

MENU

Choose of

Tomato Bisque Soup or Simple Salad with Ranch Dressing

The Club—Roasted turkey, roasted ham,

Lettuce, tomato, herb mayonnaise

Or

Tomato Bisque Soup or Simple Salad with Ranch Dressing

Italian Hoagie—Pepperoni, sopressata, mortadella Ham

Shaved onions, tomatoes, shredded lettuce

Provolone Cheese, oil and vinegar, Pasta Salad

All Sandwiches Serviced with House Made Potato Chips

Includes

Bread basket with butter, lemonade, iced tea, soft drinks, coffee, and hot tea

Price \$30.00 pre person

Advance Registration ASAP; Payment by January 31, 2023

NO DEVIATION

List of Names Attending:

List Allergies beside name

**Send Form and Payment to: ALA Dept. Treasurer
2172 Grandview Road
Moundsville, WV 26041**