



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 36

April 2023

Issue 9



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,
It’s April! Happy Easter month to you all! You still thinking about Christmas in April? I am. Did you know we have 16 more Sundays to still celebrate Christmas.

In my travels I’ve went to 5th District spring conference in Huntington, 3rd District spring conference in Shinnston and Shinnston #31 birthday dinner. Thank you for inviting me.

Membership goal for our Department is 4,935, we are at 4,251 with a percentage of 86.14%. In Department we have the Candy Canes, they are in the lead with 89.67% and the Gingerbread is following with 82.35%. We made the 85% goal in national!

Congratulations to those units that made 75% goal there were 43 units. Congratulations to those units that made 100% goal they are: Clarksburg #13, Shinnston #31, Morgantown #174, Milton #139, Barboursville #177, and Charles Town #71. Also there is a lot of units that are so close, so keep doing what we all do best. We still have 2 units with 10 and under let’s try and get them up.

My special project is Christmas Veteran Gift Shops and any donations will help. Thank you to all that are continue donating.

I will leave you all with this quote: “Just remember, the true spirit of Christmas lies in your heart.” 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 increased 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 costs, so another increase will not happen for a couple of years. Units need to increase their dues for the 2024 year.

Junior members who turn 18 yrs. old before January 1st of the membership year 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 destroyed. 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!

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. Remember to download a form it is a 2 step process. Call the office if you are have problems.

The 2024 Unit Membership Data Forms have either been mailed or emailed to ALL UNITS. Please observe the return date of April 15, 2023.

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. If you are unable to read a new application, how am I suppose to read it. Please clarify illegible writing. The ONLY time that the unit secretary can sign an application is when a female veteran is joining under herself—No Exceptions! 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 the Unit not the Post.

NOTICE

Please consider donating to the Cheer Party account when making your unit donations or donate direct to VAMC chairperson. Cheer parties and Gift shops are not a mandatory donation. These accounts receive very little donations.

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

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**

Endorsements for 2023-2024

President	Debbie Michael
1st Vice	Laura Clark
2nd Vice	Kimberly Mellie
Sec/Treas.	Susan Brown
Historian	April Wallace

Mike Immel, TAL Dept. Service Officer is currently in the hospital. Mike is a member of Post #14 Martinsburg. Cards maybe sent to:
Mike Immel
251 Mimosa Dr
Martinsburg, WV 25404

Directory Update

Address change:
Janet Durbin, PDP
2120 Lincoln Ave
St. Albans, WV 25177
Phone # 304-590-6112
If you wish to speak with Janet, please call the listed number first.

“Christmas 365 around the World”

Membership Chairman

Hello AUXILIARY Members

Hope everyone had a nice St Patty's Day. We are almost there we need 682 to be number one. We have so many close to 100%. This is from National maybe this will help.

HERE ARE 10 TIPS FOR ENROLLING NEW MEMBERS BY DESIGNING A FLYER AND POSTING!

1. Make up a flyer advertising who you are and that they could be eligible to be a member in multiple places! Facebook page, at your Post bar, a grocery store, a restaurant, your gym, a daycare, your church, your Sr. Citizen's meeting room! Anyplace that potential members can see! (Remember to ask the establishment before you post a flyer!)

2. Change the way you phrase your request of becoming a member. Maybe use something like - Sign up now and receive a FREE gift (maybe a Unit Handbook or a red/white/blue pen or how about a package of Thank You notes). Research shows that people are attracted to the idea of getting something for FREE!!

3. Add a testimonial! Interview a new member or a "seasoned" member and take a quote from them and put on the flyer along with a picture (with their permission of course!).

4. Advise that signing up is easy and that you can help them with the paperwork (DD214 missing? you should all know where to get them from).

If you need help with anything our Membership Team is here to help.

Sharon Kauffman

Membership chairperson



Department 1st Vice President

Hello to all!

Easter is just around the corner and that means, so is spring.

I am so proud of my “Candy Cane” Districts. There are 31 units in 3rd, 5th, and 10th districts and 26 of them have made the 75% goal.

Congratulations and keep getting those renewals and new members. Don't forget those possible junior members.

There are probably many in the units. If I can help you, please contact me.

Happy Easter to all!
Hugs!

Debbie Michael
Department 1st Vice
katndebbie@gmail.com
304-258-2705
304-839-7721



District Spring Meetings

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

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

Sixth District - April 22nd @ Welch #8 at the Post home

Department 2nd Vice President

Spring is right around the corner and it is time to push those memberships and renewals. Some of you are so close to reaching goal and many of you have exceeded the March 15th Target #3 of 75%. As a whole, the Gingerbreads are 82.35% of goal and if we all work together, we can achieve anything!

Now for a few shout outs...

Leading the way in District

1: Moundsville Unit 3 with 95.49% of goal!

Taking charge in District

4: Parkersburg Unit 15 with 92.79% of goal!

The front runner in District 6: Richwood with 93.3% of goal!

Keep up the good work and remember to brand yourself and the ALA when you are volunteering for events. Talk about your involvement and your "why." We all joined this amazing organization to serve our veterans and their families. Share your story with others and you will be surprised who wants to follow!

Please feel to reach out to me for any help and I look forward to seeing some of you at your district meetings in April!!

For God and Country,

Laura Clark

Department 2nd Vice President

304-939-3607

laurakclark716@gmail.com



American Legion Auxiliary
Huntington Unit 16
Huntington, WV

At a regular meeting of American Legion Auxiliary, Huntington Unit 16, of Huntington, WV was held on at 7:00 PM February 7, 2023 at the Post Home. The endorsement of Laura Kilgore-Clark for the office of Department 1st Vice President for the year 2023-2024 was unanimously approved by the membership.

Laura Kilgore Clark is eligible through the military service of her grandfather, Glen R. Hogan, who was a Navy veteran of Korean War. She is married Brandon Clark and the mother of three (Trae Caudill, Katie Beth Caudill, and Alexander Caudill), all of who are members of the American Legion family. Laura joined Huntington Unit 16 in 1982. Laura has served in many capacities within Huntington Unit 16 including volunteering for Poppy Day, Veterans Day, and Memorial Day. She served as Junior Activities Chairman. Laura is currently serving as Chaplain and assisting with Children & Youth.

Laura is employed as a Regional Director of Sales for Jacaruso Enterprises for 7 years where she specializes in hotel consulting. She has worked in the hospitality industry for over 25 years.

Laura has been active on the District level for many years and has served as District Vice President this year. Laura has also served as 5th District Chaplain.

Laura is active on the department level having served on the Junior Activities Chairman, Children & Youth Co-Chairman, Department Chaplain and is presently serving as Department 2nd Vice President.

Laura is a member of Madison Avenue Christian Church and has served as Christian Education Chairman. She is presently serving as a Deacon, as a Children's Chat leader, and on the IT Committee. She has raised money for childhood cancer research with the Headbands 4 Hope, volunteered at the Huntington City Mission, and is an active member of the Spring Valley High School Athletic Boosters. She has assisted the American Heart Association with fundraisers and participated in Go Red for Women to raise awareness for heart disease. She has coordinated fundraisers for the WV Breast Health Initiative and the local animal shelter. She has assisted the Homeless Veterans Resource Center, the Shatterproof (addiction recovery), and Autism Speaks.

Huntington Unit 16 is proud to present Laura Kilgore-Clark as a candidate for the office of 1st Vice President of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of West Virginia.

Huntington Unit 16 President

Ann Buchanan

Huntington Unit 16 Secretary

Yvonne Sargent

3rd District Vice President

Good news, Third District has 3 units over 100%! Clarksburg 13 has 102.3%, Shinnston 31 has 101.24%, and congratulations Shinnston on being the first goal unit, and Morgantown 174 is at 136.66%. And more good news, we only need 64 more members to be a goal district. And, Third District is ahead of all the other districts with 94.18%. The closes to us is 10th District at 88.31%.

So, lets really work hard to get Third District to 100%. **WE CAN DO THIS.**

Now for some more good news, Third District has a **NEW UNIT.**

Weston Unit 4 will be joining us, lets give them all the support they need. Thank You Third District for stepping up and going the extra mile, I'm very proud of all of you.

Roxie Nicholson
Vice President

6th District Vice President

Hope this finds everyone staying safe and healthy. Our April 1st goal is 75% of dues collected. Since Easter is in April this year and spring is here, let's spring into action to make sure that we work hard to increase and meet our membership "GOAL".

As I spoke to several unit representatives, I understand that several units are close to meeting their membership goal. Congratulations to Gary Unit 38 for 78.35%, Cowen Unit 62 for 91.30%, and Richwood Unit 97 for 93.33%. Also units are back meeting and are planning special projects such as Birthday Dinners and Car Shows.

I hope everyone will be able to enjoy the Easter Holiday season and hope that our gas prices don't keep you from traveling to be with your family. Continue to pray for our State and Nation during this difficult time.

Dates to remember:

District 6 meeting: April 22, 2023 ALA
Welch Unit 8 will be Hostess

Girls State: June 11-16 Davis & Elkins
College

State Convention July 13-15 Huntington
Hilton

Prayers for all to be safe.

Mary E. Spence, Vice President
6th District

4th District Vice President

Hello all!

Can you believe this crazy weather: Seventy degrees one day and thirties the next. Hope you all have some fun plans for St. Patrick's Day and maybe some excitement with March Madness. Unit 15 has a board for the Veterans, SAL and Auxiliary to participate in and at the end, it is set-up to make a small donation to the Auxiliary.... a fun fundraiser.

District 4 is at 86.34% Membership goals.

The membership target sheet dated March 15, 2023, is as follows:
Parkersburg #15 is at 92.79 %, Spencer #21 is at 82.76%, Pt. Pleasant #23 is at 92.51%, Tyler County #48 is at 88.10%, Sistersville #67 is at 35.71%, New Haven #140 is at 80.41%, and Williamstown #159 is at 83.15 %. As always, please continue to work to get members paid and bring in 10 New Members and 3 Juniors for this year's goal.

Have a Happy Easter! Hope to see some of you at the District Meeting in Pt. Pleasant on April 16, 2023.

Stay safe and healthy!

PAM HARMON
District 4 Vice President

5th District Vice President

We had a great 5th district meeting and I was so happy to see several units represented. Thank you to Huntington Post 16 for hosting our meeting and for the great food, fellowship, and fun together. Congratulations to all the officers elected for the upcoming year and I wish you all the best! Membership is going strong in 5th District and I am extremely proud of each of your units for stepping outside of your comfort zone to reach your target dates, We have a few units that are super close to targets and we all want to remember to call your existing members who have not renewed... remind them how important they are to the ALA. Invite them to a meeting, an event, or just call them to see how they are doing. Together, we can achieve so much more.

Now for our top 3 units in the district... **DRUM ROLL, please!**

3rd place: Ceredo-Kenova Unit 93 with 86.70% of goal! Way to go!

2nd place: Barboursville Unit 177 with 100.76% and **GOAL UNIT!!!**

1st place: Milton Unit 139 with 107.02% and **GOAL UNIT!!**

Congratulations to the above units for your hard work, dedication, and perseverance to your members, veterans and their families, and the communities you support!

Now is not the time to slow down-- keep pushing and keep getting your story out there! We still have lots of work to do and remember: **TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK!**

Many Blessings,
Laura Clark
5th District Vice President
304-939-3607
laurakclark716@gmail.com

10th District Vice President

The smell of fresh cut grass, allergy season, and the trees budding all are signs of Spring. Warm weather is on its way my auxiliary friends.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter and remembers those who are without family.

We all should be proud, National has us at 87%! All units in the 10th district are doing well and all but one has met the 3rd goal! Congratulations on your hard work. I hope that each unit is able to get new members and hopefully well on their way to get 20. Please if you are needing my help in anyway, you can contact me on my cell @ (540) 303-6907 or at my house @ (304) 856-1895. Lets get those friendly reminders out to the ones that have not paid yet, sometimes things happen and we forget small things.

Lets keep up the hard work Candy Canes as the Gingerbreads are on our tails!

6th District President

Hello Everyone

Hope everyone is doing well. Just think Spring is just around the corner, I am looking forward for it to get here, but first I guess I need to get used to the new time, Just want to let everyone know that the Sixth District Spring meeting will be hosted by Welch Unit 8 on Saturday, April 22, 2023, it will be at the Post Home location 159 McDowell Street, Welch, WV. Registration will start at 9:00 AM. We are still trying to decide what we will have for lunch. Looking forward to seeing everyone at this time. Mary Spence, District Sixth Vice President fell down her steps and cut her head and she is very sore and still under the weather if anyone would like to send a card her address is 934 Riverside Drive, Welch, WV 24801. We did get to Mt View to pick a few Girls for Girl State .

I have two more treatments and I will get to ring the bell it has been hard driving to Princeton every day but I am now Cancer free.

Lets keep everyone in our prayers and especially all of our Veterans.

Again I hope to see a lot of members at our Spring Conference in April.

So until next time

God Bless.

Peggy Swartz, President
Sixth District

3rd District President

We had a wonderful District 3 Conference! Thank you to everyone who came out to support!

Please welcome April Wilson Wallace as Vice President. The ladies of Shinnston rocked the food. Thank you all for your hospitality. I also had the pleasure of visiting Post 4 in Weston to start a Auxiliary. Kudos to Susan Brown who helped them get going! Keep up the great work District 3! Feel free to contact me at any time.

Kim Mellie
304-216-9943
kmellie@comcast.net

10th District President

Happy Spring!!!

With flowers blooming, gardening and being able to get out more please remember those that cannot.

Our veterans and youth depend on us to help them enjoy the simple things in life like sharing a meal, cup of coffee or just conversation with them.

Support your post; stop by talk with someone who would otherwise not interact with others.

Some of our veterans really do not have anyone to talk to. Our youth need guidance and with our life experiences we can help them see things in a different light.

The mission statement says "service not self". We need to remember this and share time.

Our lives are busy but take the time to fill someone else with joy and by doing so will help us to feel joy.

Read to the blind, go to the local library read to the children, share your talents. No talent is too small we all have something to give.

April is the month we celebrate our military children. Make sure you wear purple in support.

Get out take that seed and make a flower grow.

Hope to see you soon,

Diana Teter

District 10 President

4th District President

Greetings:

District 4 will hold a Spring Conference on Sunday, April 16, 2023, at Point Pleasant Post 23, located at 100 Second St., Point Pleasant, WV. Registration will be at 9:00 a.m. meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m. Lunch will be served following the meetings. Registration cost is \$15.00. Auxiliary officers will be elected. District Chaplain Melinda Paxton. Will hold a memorial service for deceased members.

SAD NEWS: There was not a quorum at the Spring Conference! Unfortunately, it was also the weekend of President Savanna's homecoming. We didn't even have a Department representative at the District meeting. A lot of time, money and effort goes into these meetings, folks! Please do your best to attend the Spring Conference! COVID has turned the world upside down!! I understand these things. !!!

American Legion Department Mid-Winter Conference was held at Oglebay in February. The meetings were educational and well attended. There is always something to learn, new friends to meet, old friends to see again! Thanks to all who participated. For God and Country, we will honor the sacrifices of our veterans, military, and their families.

Patsy Greiner
4th District President
304-295-8844 (home)
304-483-8296 (cell)
Patsygirl2@gmail.com

Chaplain

What a wonderful time of year to reflect on the beautiful creations of our God. We are so blessed. Be sure to thank Him every day! Please submit prayers, devotions, etc for President Savanna's Prayer book to be given to her at the Department Convention. Also, I am starting to put together the Memorial Service....please email me the names of your deceased members. kmellie@comcast.net Remember to enjoy Spring and the beautiful weather that comes with it. Help a Veteran or their family in their time of need and above all Thank God everyday.

God Bless you all

Kim Mellie

Department Chaplain

Constitution & Bylaws

Have you reviewed your governing documents? All members, especially those who are actively working communities and holding an officers position should refresh themselves with the governing documents of there Unit, District and Department. If you need a copy, just ask. Every member has a right to know what's there.

Do they seem confusing, do you need help? Just ask us, we are willing to help and get you the answers.

Lisa Cadwallader
@Lisa Cadwallader

National Security

Has your Unit sent any packages to our deployed soldiers? Did your Post, SAL help? Make sure you put this in your reports to me. Pictures also!!

Has your unit made pocket flags, for our soldiers?

Clipping coupons to help out with families of our military? On the National Security Facebook page, you will find information on where to go for "coupons" to support our troops. It is in this month's newsletter from the National Committee. If you aren't a member of this group, please join.

Paulette Anderson
National Security



Children & Youth

April is Children and Youth month. How's your unit plan something special to celebrate the children of your community in the military child?

There is so much that can be done and the need is so great. I hear of Easter parties, and safety checks for infant car seats. Please let me know what your Unit is doing. Take pictures and send them to me also. Reminder April 15 is Purple Up Day wear purple to celebrate the military child. Did you ever wonder why they chose purple? It is made up of all of the colors of the different branches of service combine together makes purple, so if they celebrate the military child with purple they've covered everyone. Once again, send me pictures .

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

Beth Kilgore
Chairperson

Child Welfare Foundation

Keep saving those coins to help feed the pig. He's not as fat as he needs to be!

Beth Kilgore
Chairperson



Educations

The scholarship deadline has come and gone. Nationals reported that they received double the number of scholarships as last year. They had over 865 applications! Exciting! Also please try to promote Girls and Boys State to your schools. I also had the pleasure of judging the Oratorical Contest after the District 3 Conference. Wow what an experience! This should also be promoted in your local schools. I had an amazing time. Thank you, Frank and Roxie Nicholson, for asking me to help! At the time the Spirit comes out we will have judged the scholarships and sent the winners on. I will update you in April! Remember "Educate our Youth" is one of the pillars of our Auxiliary.

Also, April is Purple up month in honor of our military children! Proudly display your purple shirts!

Have a wonderful Easter. Remember to post any children's activities to our District 3 Facebook page!

Blessings
Kim Mellie
304-216-9943

Junior Activities

I hope that you are engaging your youth in your Units. They love to volunteer and be of service. With Mother's Day and Memorial Day approaching let them help you distribute poppies and place Flags on the veterans' graves.

Also help them earn patches and a special Creative Arts Festival Patch this year! If you need assistance please check out the Juniors page on The American Legion Auxiliary website: www.ALAforVeterans.org If I can be of any assistance please feel free to contact me. Also, we will be meeting at the Department Convention and look forward to seeing you.

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd

Junior Activities Chairperson

Poppy

Good day to all Auxiliary members, hope everyone is alright. May is coming up all to soon, and that means Poppy Day. Please send your Poppy Proclamation to your local Mayor to be approved and signed. I am enclosing a Web sight from National. All Units can fill out and send to National as To where, and when you are having your Poppy day. The following is the sight:
https://legion-aux.form.com/forms/national_poppy_day_activities.
If you have trouble contact me, for help. Remember reports are due earlier This year. If you need my help call me at 304-592-0247, or email: carlajwilfong@gmail.com
Carla Wilfong
Dept. Of WV. Chairman

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Good day to all Auxiliary members. Hope everyone is okay. I hope everyone is keeping track of their Volunteers and hours. Every little Thing counts, wear red, send a card. Remember to keep track of your ladies
Setting with and helping Veterans. Check with your local Veteran Hospital and Nursing homes to see what they need.
Remember reports are due a little earlier this year. If you need my help Call me at 304-592-0247, or email: carlajwilfong@gmail.com.
Carla Wilfong
Dept. of W V co-chairperson.

Silent Auction

I want to thank everyone that helped with the Silent Auction and donated items for the Basket at Mid-Winter. It was a success, and we had a lot of fun.

A special thank you to Linda Crumm for her help and to the members for putting the Basket together for me.

SEE YOU AGAIN NEXT YEAR

Roxie Nicholson

Scrapbook

Hello Ladies,
If any units have pictures of Department President Savanna at any of their functions and want to message them to me, please do so to at 304-629-0688. Just tell me the unit and who is in the picture.
Thank you
For God and Country
Margaret Yost
Scrapbook Chairperson
mdyost2010@frontier.com





American Legion Auxiliary WV Rhododendron Girls State

Rhododendron Girls State

The 2023 Girls State program is fast approaching. The registration packets were distributed if you attended Mid-Winter Conference or will be mailed. The Girls State session will be held June 11-16, 2023 at Davis & Elkins College in Elkins, WV. This year's theme will be "Raise Your Voices." The application deadline is May 1. Please note with rising costs the registration fee will be \$ 300 per citizen which will include the cost of the parade t-shirt. Also, those elected to the Board of Public Works will be transported on Thursday to the State Capital in Charleston to meet with their elected West Virginia counterparts.

What an amazing opportunity you provide these citizens to witness from the time they arrive until they leave. They find themselves more engaged in leadership, patriotism and being an informed citizen and many new friends around the state. You are invited to Davis & Elkins on Friday, June 16 for the Inauguration and Graduation Ceremonies. We look forward to providing another great and successful session. Please contact your school principals and counselors. Introduce yourself and let them know what our program is all about. Start securing the funding now. 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

Ways and Means

There were thirteen \$25.00 winners for February and one \$200 winner.

Cost for a 2023 ticket is \$20.00 and are good for the whole year! Never to 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:
ALA Ways & Means

Thanks!

Susan Brown
Linda Crumm

February 2023 Ways and Means Winners

Name	#'s	City	State	Date	\$\$\$
	899			2/01/2023	
	685			2/02/2023	
Guy Buzzard	012	Cameron	WV	2/02/2023	25.00
	061			2/04/2023	
	373			2/06/2023	
	391			2/07/2023	
ALA Unit #137	882	Capon Bridge	WV	2/08/2023	25.00
Nancy Frost	785	Cumberland	MD	2/9/2023	25.00
Beth Fristick	338	Wheeling	WV	2/10/2023	25.00
	413			2/11/2023	
	743			2/13/2023	
Cindy Ross	698	Graysville	PA	2/14/2023	25.00
Paulette Anderson	371	New Martinsville	WV	2/15/2023	200.00
Jim Dotson	648	Bluefield	VA	2/16/2023	25.00
Dottie Elkins	766	Romney	WV	2/17/2023	25.00
Kitty Kelly-Smoot	060	Huntington	WV	2/18/2023	25.00
Bonnie Haines	639	Romney	WV	2/20/2023	25.00
	992			2/21/2023	
	195			2/22/2023	
Shannon Harshbarger	333	Huntington	WV	2/23/2023	25.00
Kimberly Frum	975	Paden City	WV	2/24/2023	25.00
	092			2/25/2023	
	669			2/27/2023	
Judy Patterson	400	Romney	WV	2/28/2023	25.00



April 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1 April Fool's Day
2 Palm Sunday	3	4	5 Passover (begins at Sundown) Gold Star Spouses Day	6	7 Good Friday	8
9 Easter Sunday National Former POW Recognition Day	10	11	12	13	14	15  Purple Up Day
16 4th District — Pt. Pleasant Orthodox Easter	17	18	19	20	21	22 6th District—Welch Earth Day
23 1st District—New Martinsville #28	24	25	26	27	28	29
30					<p><i>Program of Month Children & Youth</i></p> <p><i>Month of the Military Child</i></p>	



“Christmas 365 around the World”



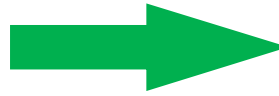
March 15, 2023
Department Goal— 4935 Membership to Date— 4253
Department Unit 200 Goal—136 Membership to Date— 121
Target 75%

Laura

District 1			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	21	16	76.19%
Moundsville #3	244	233	95.49%
McMechen #5	31	15	48.39%
Weirton #10	65	59	90.77%
Cameron #18	156	109	69.87%
New Martinsville #28	104	92	88.46%
Wellsburg #34	29	22	75.86%
Follansbee #45	52	32	61.54%
Pine Grove #81	81	62	76.54%
Paden City #86	90	74	82.22%
Wheeling #89	22	3	13.64
Newell #114	16	15	93.75%
Hundred #120	38	25	65.79%
Chester #121	134	123	91.05%
TOTALS	1083	880	81.26%

District 4			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	402	373	92.79%
Spencer #21	29	24	82.76%
Pt. Pleasant #23	227	210	92.51%
Tyler County #48	42	37	88.10%
Sistersville #67	56	20	35.71%
New Haven #140	143	115	80.41%
Williamstown #159	89	74	83.15%
TOTALS	988	853	86.34%

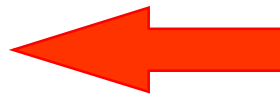
District 6			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Welch #8	55	33	60%
Bluefield #9	31	17	54.84%
Beckley #32	33	19	57.58%
Gary #38	97	76	78.35%
Cowen #62	23	21	91.30%
Richwood #97	30	28	93.33%
TOTALS	269	194	72.12%



**“Candy Canes”
 Team
 Goal—2459
 To Date— 2205
 89.67%**



**Membership
 Chairman
 A Star**



**“Gingerbread”
 Team
 Goal—2340
 To Date 1927
 82.35%**



Debbie

District 3			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	40	31	77.50%
Clarksburg #13	43	44	102.3%
Elkins #29	121	97	80.17%
Shinnston #31	248	251	101.21%
Braxton County #33	35	22	62.86%
Bridgeport #68	62	56	90.32%
Belington #96	19	15	78.95%
Pickens #122	25	17	68%
Morgantown #174	60	82	136.66%
TOTALS	653	615	94.18%

District 5			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Huntington #16	146	121	82.88%
Logan #19	22	17	77.27%
St. Albans #73	29	20	68.97%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	223	202	86.70%
South Charleston #94	12	8	66.66%
Hamlin #111	47	23	48.94%
Milton #139	57	61	107.02%
Barboursville #177	132	133	100.76%
TOTALS	668	585	87.58%

District 10			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	71	69	97.18%
Franklin #30	22	14	63.64%
Piedmont #52	20	15	75%
Berkeley Springs #60	182	165	90.66%
Moorefield #64	86	79	91.86%
Charles Town #71	118	128	108.47%
Petersburg #78	78	61	78.21%
Romney #91	174	144	82.76%
Charles Town #102	41	33	80.49%
Paw Paw #128	38	30	78.95%
Kirby #134	37	30	81.08%
Ridgeley #136	70	56	80%
Capon Bridge #137	158	147	93.04%
Keyser #152	43	34	79.07%
TOTALS	1138	1005	88.31%

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: _____

2023 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
RESERVATION FORM

July 6-8, 2023
Double Tree by Hilton
1001 3rd Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701

\$108.00 per night room rate (plus 13% tax)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Arrival Date _____ AM PM Departure Date _____

Room Type: (circle one) Doubles King
Valet parking \$8 per night per car.

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 **\$108.00** (plus 13% tax) = \$122.04 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: Double Tree by Hilton
 ATTN: Tammy Gillenwater
 1001 3rd Avenue
 Huntington, West Virginia 25701**

This form must be mailed to reserve a room at Double Tree by Hilton. Cutoff date is June 21, 2023.

(No phone calls for rooms will be accepted.)

**PLEASE RESERVE YOUR ROOM EARLY- THANKS!
CANCELLATION, BEFORE 48 HOURS, PRIOR TO
ARRIVAL, OR FORFEIT 100% OF THE TOTAL**

105th Annual State Convention
2023

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 105th Annual State Convention of The American Legion, Department of West Virginia, Inc., scheduled July 6-8, 2023, at Double Tree by Hilton, Huntington, West Virginia.

Date: _____, 2023 _____

Name of Post/Unit/SAL

Please specify exactly how your ad should read. Only the information you supply will be published. An attached copy of your ad is very helpful. Be sure to state if Legion, Auxiliary, or SAL Emblem is requested.

Ad should read as follows:

Authorized Signature: _____

Price List:	Full Page	\$100	Full Page (Color)	\$160
	Half Page	\$60	Half Page (Color)	\$100
	Quarter Page	\$35	Quarter Page (Color)	\$70
	Eighth Page	\$25	Eighth Page (Color)	\$ 50

Please send your ad along with a check made payable to: **The American Legion**
P.O. Box 3191
Charleston, WV 25332

Ad and Payment Deadline is June 23, 2023

No Deviation

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.**



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Hershel "Woody" Williams VA Medical Center
1540 Spring Valley Drive
Huntington, WV 25704
www.huntington.va.gov

March 7, 2023

In Reply Refer To: 581/135

Susan Brown Department Secretary
American Legion Aux.-Department of WV
2172 Grandview Road
Moundsville, West Virginia 26041

Dear friend,

Greetings from the Community Development and Civic Engagement/Voluntary Service!

We hope this message finds you in good health and spirits. We are pleased to provide you with an update on the recent and upcoming activities of CDCE/Voluntary Services.

Firstly, we would like to express our gratitude to all those who contributed towards our cause. Thanks to your support, we were able to distribute numerous gift bags and care packages to our Veterans during the holiday season.

We are constantly striving to improve our services for the benefit of our Veterans, and to this end, we are making some changes to our office area. Our main hub for CDCE will now be located at the last door down, adjacent to the vending machines on the ground floor. We kindly request that you use this entrance when visiting us or making any donations.

Furthermore, we recently celebrated the "National Salute to Veteran Patients" week, during which we were joined by several organizations who generously donated food and other items. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all those who participated, and we invite anyone interested in joining us for next year's event to please contact our team.

We are also delighted to announce that both the Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans Transportation System are now operational. However, we are in urgent need of volunteers, especially drivers. We encourage you to spread the word among your family, friends, and colleagues. Even a few hours of volunteering can make a significant difference.

On May 12th at 11am, we will be hosting our Female Veteran's Baby Shower, and we welcome any organization interested in participating to reach out to us. Last year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, we hosted a drive-thru shower which was a resounding success. We are committed to doing more for our female veterans and showing them the appreciation, they so deserve.

As an additional update, we regret to inform you that our beloved Chief, Teresa Boyes, retired in September. However, we are fortunate to have Jason Wyant as our Acting Chief in the interim. Mr. Wyant also serves as the Fisher House Program Manager.

Finally, should you need to update your organization's information or would like to participate or volunteer with any future event with us, please do not hesitate to contact our team.

Thank you so much,

Lisa Webster - Voluntary Service Specialist

In accordance with VHA Directive 4721, we are required to state, "The Department of Veterans Affairs did not provide you, the donor, any goods or services in consideration in whole or part for your contribution."

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
VA Center for Development & Civic Engagement

Hershel "Woody" Williams VA Medical Center
1540 Spring Valley Drive
Huntington, WV 25704
www.huntington.va.gov

February 28, 2023

In Reply Refer To: 581/135

Susan Brown, Department Secretary
American Legion Auxiliary Department of WV
2172 Grandview Road
Moundsville, WV 26041

Dear Ms. Brown and Members:

On behalf of the Hershel "Woody" Williams VA Medical Center patients and staff, we would like to extend our appreciation to you for your donation of decorations, clothing items, and cleaning supplies for our Fisher House. As always, the VA remains committed to honoring our Nation's Veterans by ensuring a safe environment to deliver exceptional health care.

It is through the efforts of community partners like you that allow us to continue the quality care and services that we seek to provide for our deserving Veterans. We look forward to the opportunity to work with you again for future events.

Thank you for your continued support and advocacy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Brian Nimmo".

J. Brian Nimmo, MS, FACHE
Medical Center Director/Chief Executive Officer



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
VA Center for Development & Civic Engagement

Louis A Johnson VA Medical Center
One Medical Center Drive
Clarksburg, WV 26301

February 16, 2023

In Reply Refer To: 540/00P

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

Dear Members:

On behalf of the Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center patients and staff, we would like to extend our appreciation to you for your donation of clothing, personal care items, quilts, puzzle books, and snack items for Veteran patients.

It is through the efforts of community partners like you that allow us to continue the quality care and services that we seek to provide for our deserving Veterans. We look forward to the opportunity to work with you again for future events.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Barbara Forsha, RN, MSN, ET
Medical Center Director



West Virginia Veterans Nursing Facility

We would like to say "Thank You" to you, and/or, your organization, for your generosity. Our Veterans appreciate your remembrance of those who served and your benefit support.

Sincerely,

The Staff and Residents

Of the West Virginia Veterans Nursing Facility