



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 36

May 2023

Issue 10



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 May!! I hope everyone had a good Easter with their family. Mother's Day is coming up I want to say Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers out there. It's still Christmas! Did you know we have 12 more Sundays to still celebrate Christmas. In my travels I've went to VAVS meeting in Martinsburg, it was nice to be in person. Petersburg #78 birthday dinner and 10th district spring conference in Charles Town. It was with great honor to go to Charleston Unit 20 to sign a new charter, welcome to The American Legion family and 4th district spring conference in Pt. Pleasant. Thank you all for inviting me to go to theses places.
 Membership in our state, goal is 4,935, we have 4,414 percentage of 89.44%. In Department we have the Candy Canes, they are in the lead with 93.09% and the Gingerbread is following with 86.24%. Congratulations to those units that made 100% goal they are: Clarksburg #13, Shinnston #31, Morgantown #174, Milton #139, Barboursville #177, and Charles Town #71. And Now Martinsburg #14 and Paw Paw #128.
 Also there is a lot of units that are so close too 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. Please donation if you can. Thank you to all that are continue donating. We still have until July so there is time.
 I will leave you all with this quote: "Some Christmas tree ornaments do more than glitter and glow, they represent a gift of love given a long time ago."

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 Chairman, not Past Presidents Parley.

Website is updated!! New Standing Rules, Award Manual, Scholarship form, Americanism essay, Year-end reports and Poppy order form are all there. Call if you need a printed programs. Remember to download a form it is a 2 step process. Call the office if you if you need help.

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 chairman. Cheer parties and Gift shops are not a mandatory donation. These accounts receive very little donations.

*Directory Update
New mailing address
Rhonda Best
3000 Christy Lynn Dr., Apt 25
Moundsville WV 26041*

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
Chaplain	Stephanie Handley
Historian	April Wallace

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





Chester WV Unit 121
PO BOX 121
Chester WV 26034

RE: Endorsement for Department Chaplin

April 10, 2023

A regular meeting of American Legion Auxilliary Chester Unit 121, Chester WV was held on April 10, 2023 at 7:00PM at the Post home. The Unit unanimously endorsed Stephanie Handley for the office of Department Chaplin for the administrative year of 2023 – 2024.

Stephanie joined our Unit in 1996 through the eligibility of her Grandfather Carl A. McCurdy who was a WWII veteran. She has been an active member of our Unit since joining 20 years ago and very proud to be part of a family that has three generations of veterans. Stephanie's Grandmother was a PDP and her Mother-in-law is a past District President.

Stephanie has served as Secretary, President, Treasurer and Membership Chairperson in our Unit and is currently serving our Unit as Unit Treasurer and Membership Chairperson. She has served on various committees over the years. She has always been proactive with all of our projects and very dedicated to serving our Veterans in our local community. Stephanie has served as 1st District President and Vice President. She is currently 1st District Vice President. She had held position of Department Public Relations Chairperson and is currently the Department Historian.

We are very proud to present Stephanie Handley as our candidate for Department Chaplin for the 2023-2024 administration.

Our Very Best Regards,

Kim Elliott, President Chester Unit 121

Holly Adams, Vice President Chester Unit 121

“Christmas 365 around the World”

Membership Chairman

Hello everyone

We now have 8 Goal Units. There are so many close to goal I know we can do this West Virginia 100%. We only need 508 more to be 100%. We need 4935 we have 4427.

Send your members a thinking of you card without mentioning membership at all. Sometimes that is the only time a member hears from their Unit (when they are trying to collect membership) so a card out of the blue may help them to think they are a valued member. We are in 4th place in Central Division.

Hope everyone had a great Easter and Memorial Day is right around the corner. So remember our Auxiliary friends who can't get out. Also remember maybe do a Membership Drive at functions.

For God And Country

Sharon Kauffman

Membership Chairperson

304-582-2973



Department 1st Vice President

A Happy Spring to All!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter. With this wonderful weather, I think spring is really here. Such a busy time for us.

I was happy to see the target sheet and all the hard work my 3rd, 5th and 10 Districts have done with membership. Our districts are at 93.09%. We only need 170 members. 3rd District only needs 14 members to be a goal District, 5th District needs 50 and 10th District needs 100. We can do this!

We have 7 units who have reached or exceeded goal. Great job! We have several units that are so close that I believe by next month, we will have more “Candy Cane” goal units. We still have a few units that are having some problems but don't give up. Please continue to ask those potential members to join and reinstate those former members. As I have said before, junior members are a great way to build membership.

5th District has gained another unit. Congratulations to Unit 20. So happy to have you join us.

If I can help you, please let me know.

Hugs!

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



Department 2nd Vice President

Happy May, Gingerbread Team! I hope everyone had a great Easter holiday with the ones you love. We are now in the homestretch of reaching our membership goals and we cannot slow down now. Start thinking about ways that you can have a last-minute push for membership. How about hosting a membership drive/luncheon for specific ladies' groups in your area. If your unit/post has space that you typically rent, offer to host their next networking meeting, luncheon, or event complimentary contingent that they give someone in your unit to give a 5 minute, short, “elevator speech” about the American Legion Auxiliary.

Now, let's recognize our leaders with the highest percentage of membership to target:

District 1: Moundsville, Unit 3 with 98.77% of goal! ALMOST there—keep pushing!

District 4: Parkersburg, Unit 15 with 96.27% of goal! GREAT JOB—so very proud of you!

District 6: Richwood, Unit 97 with 93.3% of goal! FANTASTIC- don't stop now!

I can't wait to see each of you at the Department meeting in Huntington this July. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions!

For God and Country,

Laura Clark
Department 2nd Vice President
304-972-8944
Laurakclark716@gmail.com



1st District Vice President

Hello 1st District,
Did everyone have a good Easter Holiday? Weather was great with sunshine instead of wet and rainy. 1st District has several units very close to reaching the goal for membership. There are several others not too far behind. Keep up the good work and see if you can get those last few members to submit membership dues. I know the Gingerbread crew can do this. We still have time to get those members for this year. Looking forward to seeing everyone at 1st District Spring Conference.
Stephanie Handley
Vice President
First District
stephaniehandley@msn.com
304.670.4055

5th District Vice President

5th District is ROCKING and ROLLING and I would be remised if I didn't recognize our NEWEST unit to be chartered on April 14th! Let's give a BIG ALA welcome to CHARLESTON, Unit 20! I am so excited to have you a part of this fabulous organization! I can't wait to attend a meeting soon! Now, let's recognize our TOP 3 units and their membership achievements:

3rd Place: Ceredo-Kenova, Unit 93 with 86.70% of goal! KEEP IT GOING!

2nd Place: Barboursville, Unit 177 (Goal Unit) with 105.30% of goal! FANTASTIC JOB!

and, DRUM ROLL please...

1st Place: Milton, Unit 139 (Goal Unit) with 117.54% of goal! CONGRATULATIONS!!

There are many units that have achieved 75% of goal and are inching closer to making Goal Unit! Please do not let up the momentum and keep reaching out to inactive members for renewals and discussing the wonderful benefits that the Legion family has to offer you, your family, and of course, our VETERANS!

See you in July!

Laura Clark
5th District Vice President
Email: laurakclark716@gmail.com
Phone: 304-939-3607

3rd District Vice President

Hello again to all Third District members. We are doing so well at getting our membership in and I'm proud to say that in February I told you we only needed 82 members left to be a 100% District. Now, we are down to needing 53. WE CAN DO THIS!
Buckhannon #7 - Needs 8
Clarksburg #13 MADE IT
Elkins #29 - Needs 20
Shinnston #31 MADE IT
Braxton County#33 - Needs 3
Bridgeport #68 - Needs 5
Belington #96 - Needs 4
Pickens #122 - Needs 8
Morgantown #174 MADE IT

Needless to say, but I'll say it over and over again, you are all doing great and I'm proud of each Unit, keep up the good work. Hold a membership drive if you can and always have an application with you. Third District is at 97.86% and we are leading all other Districts. Keep it going.
As always, if you need anything, call me at 304-657-5740.
Roxie Nicholson

6th District Vice President

Our Units are back to holding their monthly meetings and ALA Unit 8 Welch is excited about holding our District 6 meeting coming up on Saturday, April 22. With the weather getting better the Units should be able to plan your activities and hold your meetings. Please continue to contact your members and collect dues for this year to meet your unit's goal. Since we only have a small amount of time to finish collecting outstanding dues, we need to do all we can to get all our members paid. Hoorah for Richwood Unit #97 for achieving 93.33% membership, Gary Unit #38 for 81.44%, and Cowen Unit #62 at 78.26%. Our July 1, 2023 target is 100%. Now that Spring has finally arrived and May flowers are in full bloom, let's continue to plant the seed to make sure that we work hard to meet our membership "GOAL". I want to remind everyone again that we will be holding our ALA District 6 Spring Conference hosted by Welch Unit #8 at the AL Post 8 in Welch, WV on Saturday, April 22, 2023. Registration will be from 9:00-10:00 a.m. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our conference.
It's that time of the year when we should be getting out and start doing some things with your family.
Continue to pray for our State and Nation. Prayers for all to be safe.
Mary E. Spence
Vice President
District 6

4th District Vice President

Hello all!
We had a very good meeting in Point Pleasant Sunday morning. Their Post is so nice as well as the members. I wish we could have had a better turnout. As my year is ending as 4th District Vice President I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve and to thank all of our Units for their hard work. I have been very proud of District 4. I would like to wish Melinda Paxton the best as she takes over the reigns of District 4 Vice President for 2023-2024. If I can be of help in any way, I want her to feel free to contact me at any time.

District 4 is at 90.89% Membership goals.

The membership target sheet dated April 14, 2023, is as follows:
Parkersburg #15 is at 96.27%, Spencer #21 is at 82.76%, Pt. Pleasant #23 is at 93.83%, Tyler County #48 is at 88.10%, Sistersville #67 is at 64.29%, New Haven #140 is at 89.51%, and Williamstown #159 is at 82.02%. As always, please continue to work to get members paid and bring in 10 New Members and 3 Juniors for this year's goal.

Remember our family members and our Veterans that have passed as Memorial Day approaches.

Stay safe and healthy!
PAM HARMON
District 4 Vice President

10th District Vice President

Keep up the good work Candy Canes, we are still leading the way. Congratulations to the 3 units that have made goal and the 1 unit that is at 112%. 11 units have made 75%, and 1 unit that is doing the very best they can at a little less than 75%. Always remember to be kind and wear that smile, it is not what you say but how it is said that sets the tone. If you have not paid your mandatory funds let's be sure we get those in. May is poppy month, are you doing a poppy drive? If your unit is having any event(s) don't forget to take membership applications.
Jill Davis
10th District Vice President

3rd District President

Keep up the Great work Candy Canes! Remember to Thank a Veteran, invite them to cookouts, etc. Also, it would be great idea for Juniors to hold car washes and donate the proceeds to President Savanna's Special Project! Please get those end of year reports done and turned in! Thank you to all and remember to spread kindness!
God Bless you All!
Kim Mellie
3rd District President

10th District President

May is the month where flowers bloom and the world becomes bright and beautiful again.
Keep in mind the one flower that has such a special meaning to us and our Veterans, "The Poppy". Familiarize yourself with the story of Flanders Field and the great sacrifices that were given.
Those flowers remind us of the events of war and the amount of blood shed for our freedom.
It is important for us to always strive to be the flower that grows in a Veterans garden. Be there to listen, lend a hand, have a meal with them, play cards, anything that would brighten their day.
Remember to put out those poppy cans in their honor and to raise money to help Veterans and their families.

Have a wonderful month
Diana Teter
District 10 President

Chaplain

Please submit your prayers or anything you would like for me to add to President Savanna's Prayerbook. Also, a shout out to Debbie Fox and Diana Teter for submitting your End of Year Chaplain Reports! Take some time to enjoy the weather and the wonderful scenery that was created for us. Please Thank the Almighty God for our blessings. If you need anything feel free to text or email!
304-216-9943 or kmellie@comcast.net
Blessings to all.

Kim Mellie
Department Chaplain

4th District President

Greetings:
District 4 held a Spring Conference on Sunday, April 16, 2023, at Point Pleasant Post 23. The Auxiliary Unit did a fantastic job decorating, entertaining, and providing a delicious meal. I have never seen so many members work together in perfect harmony. It was wonderful!
We were honored to have Department President Savanna Kauffman and Department Secretary Treasurer Susan Brown as our distinguished guests. President Savanna spoke about her special project and encouraged all Units to continue to work together for our Veterans and families. Secretary/Treasurer Susan was full of information and provided members with useful information we can take back to our Units.
District 4 Chaplain Melinda Paxton led the presentation of a beautiful memorial service to honor all deceased members of the district.
Annual reports will be due very soon. Please remember the year is not over yet! Keep working on membership and activities. Let's make President Savanna proud of West Virginia!
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

6th District President

Hello Everyone
Hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the nice weather we have been having.
It's almost time to start working on reports and getting them in, but what is important now is working on Girl State since they need to be in by May 1, 2023.
I would like to thank each and everyone who sent me a get well card, I appreciated them so much, but I would like to say I finished my 33rd radiation up Friday April 14th, and I am cancer free.
I see where several Units have had their Spring Conference, and the pictures that was taken looked real nice. Sixth District will be having their Spring Conference on Saturday, April 22, 2023, hope to see a lot of our members in attendance.
Registration is from 9:00 am to 10:00 Am. Lunch is free so come and join us.
Also on the April 22nd the American Legion will be having their birthday dinner if you can please stay for the dinner. I think social hour is from 6:00 PM till 7:00 PM and dinner starts around 7:00 PM would love to have you join us.
So until next time or see you on the 22nd of April. Lets keep everyone in our prayers, and always have kind words for everyone.
God Bless.
Peggy Swartz, President
Sixth District

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Fellow Auxiliary Members,
The AEF Internal Grant Review Committee took an extensive look at the current AEF policy and how it aligns with how we're awarding grants. The Committee determined we needed to further clarify the types of assistance offered and institute some guidelines for applicants. Some notable changes to the AEF policies are:

1. Changed "temporary assistance" to "hardship assistance".
2. Clarifies that only one grant will be awarded in a 12 month period, not one of each grant type.
3. The maximum grant award was increased from \$2,400 to \$3,000.

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

Junior Activities

I hope you are engaging your young ladies in your Units to volunteer with Mother's Day, Memorial Day. They love to help, let them distribute poppies or place Flag's on Veterans graves.

Also, help the earn patches and this year a very special Creative Arts Festival Patch. Please check out the criteria on the Juniors page on The American Legion Auxiliary
Website: www.ALAforVeterans.org.

If I can be of any assistance to you please feel free to contact me. Looking forward to see you Juniors at the Department Convention in July!

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd
Junior Activities Chairperson

Americanism

This month has a few recognized holidays in it. We want to acknowledge all the mothers out there in the Legion and Auxiliary that have loved unconditionally and given us a hug to walk into. We also are recognizing Memorial Day, a time to remember and pay tribute to the ones that have paid the ultimate sacrifice to secure our freedom in this country. In an 1863 letter, Abraham Lincoln eloquently summed up our responsibilities to our many veterans. Reading, "Honor to the Soldier, and Sailor everywhere, who bravely bears their country's cause. Honor also to the citizen who cares for their companions in the field, and serves, as they best can, the same cause – honor to them, only less than to them, who braves, for the common good, the storms of heaven and the storms of battle." The sentiment behind our 16th President's words continues to resonate today as we pause to honor all of the men and women who have served in our Nation's military.

Katie Beth Caudill
Americanism Chairperson
Unit 16, Huntington
caudilk@dewv.edu
304-939-6960

Poppy

I hope everyone had a really great Easter. I really enjoyed the warm weather we have been having.

Just a reminder to send your Poppy report to Susan at the office. Use your Poppies for decorations, hand them out to all Veterans. Schedule your Poppy Day.

I really want to see a lot of reports. If you need my help just call me at 304-592-0247, or email me at: carlajwilfong@gmail.com.

Carla Wilfong
Department Chairperson

Educations

First, I would like to give a HUGE Shout-out to Nichole Shepherd and Roxie Nicholson for their help in judging the 13 Scholarships that were sent to us. Of course, when applicable each judge excused themselves to avoid judging one of their own. What a task it was but they did an amazing job! You ladies are Wonderful! Results have been forwarded to the Central Division! Let me know if you have any questions.

For God and Country
Kim Mellie
Education Chair

National Security

It is that time again, sending in your year end reports. If you plan on sending a narrative to be considered for a UNIT AWARD IN NATIONAL please send to my email in either PDF or Word Document. Attach pictures and send them jpg, or jpeg. If you plan to be considered for a traveling plaque this year, please attach a narrative to your year end reports.

I am looking forward to reading your end of year reports this year.

Paulette Anderson
Pauletteanderson2848@gmail.com

Child Welfare Foundation

Feed me! I'm hungry



Public Relations

Hello Ladies,
I hope everyone has been recording and keeping track of all the exciting things they have been doing this year. Looking forward to seeing what all the units have been up to this year to promote the American Legion Auxiliary. Public Relations is how we let the community know what we are all about and what programs we offer to our veterans and community. Year End Reports are due. Please make sure you include a narrative with your Public Relations report to summarize what your Unit has done this past year and include any newspaper articles, photos or newsletters, etc.

Stephanie Handley

Public Relations

Chairperson

stephaniehandley@msn.com

NEC

Did you know that the National Constitution & Bylaws has been updated and on the National website to be downloaded or purchased at Flag Emblem Sales? I downloaded mine to my computer desktop.

On page 14 under National Executive Committee Section 3- Duty- is listed the Department's National Executive Committee Person.

On page 38 section 1 under the National Standing Committees; section 2 is stated "chairmen and all committee members of National Committees.

This should clear up any misunderstanding of the use of "person" and "chairmen" in articles.

Paulette Anderson

pauletteanderson2848@gmail.com

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

It has been a beautiful week, and a really busy one.

I hope everyone is really busy with their reports. Remember they are due Next week in to Department.

I am really looking forward to seeing some interesting reports.

Check with your local hospitals to see what is needed. If what you do now Doesn't make your report, keep it for next year.

If you need my help just call me at 304-592-0247, or you can email me at:

carlajwilfong@gmail.com.

Carla Wilfong

Department Co-chairperson

Constitution & Bylaws

Finally the weather seems to be getting nice and things are starting to bloom. We currently have in hand from 3 Units. We have not forgotten you and will get back to you soon.

If you have a proposed change to the Department Bylaws, please remember to list the current reading, the proposed change, a rationale, and the new proposed reading. Also, include date, Unit, name(s) submitting and signature(s) of person(s) submitting the proposed change.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Lisa Cadwallader, Chair

Lisac.ala71@gmail.com

Past Presidents Years

PLEASE HELP!!

If you or your Unit has old Department Newsletters or your own Units History, please go back and see if you can provide any of this information. Or if you know of a member who knows any of this information.

Special Project, Theme, Membership Theme, Colors, Icons, Flowers, and/or Memorable's : June Harbert #31, Ruth Yoho #28, Mary Ann Piatt #159, Emogene Kirkland #16, Joyce Seamonds #16, Marie Bailey #28, Ella Mae Short #38, William Mayfield #68, Brady Stone #71 (I can locate Memorable's for Brady), Helen Kessler #5, Twyla Finley #121, Anna Jane Williams #56, Jessica Payne #16

Pictures: Virginia Beaty #15, Lillian Luttrell #91, Margart Kercheval #56, Virginia Blake #1, Lorena Jennings #14, Marie Bailey #28, Ella Mae Short #38, Helen Kessler #5, Anna Jane Williams #56, Jessica Payne #16

Thank you Susan for information on Carol Williams, Jerri Ritenour and Marlene Bonar.

Lisa Cadwallader

Lisac.ala71@gmail.com

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 American Legion Auxiliary Rhododendron Girls State session is fast approaching. The session will be held June 11-16, 2023 at Davis & Elkins College, Elkins, WV.

This year's theme will be "Raise Your Voices." The application deadline is May 1, 2023.

Please not with rising cost the registration fee is \$300 per citizen which will include the parade t-shirt. Also, those elected to the Board of Public Works will be transport to Charleston to meet with their elected counterparts.

You are providing this amazing opportunity to these young ladies. These young ladies find themselves more engaged in leadership, patriotism and informed citizens. You are cordially invited on Friday, June 16 for the Inauguration and Graduation Ceremonies.

We look forward to providing another successful session and thank you for all you do. Please stay in contact with your citizens from the time they are selected until the time they leave to attend Girls State. If I can be of any assistance to you please feel free to contact me or your district representatives.

Lynda Lancaster-
Loyd

Girls State Chairman



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 twenty-two \$25.00 winners for March and one \$200 winner. Congratulation to all the winners!

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




March 2023 Ways and Means Winners

Name	#'s	City	State	Date	\$\$\$
	775			3/01/2023	
	657			3/02/2023	
	746			3/03/2023	
Shannon Harshbarger	627	Huntington	WV	3/04/2023	25.00
Kim Newcomb	340	Gary	WV	3/06/2023	25.00
Nichole Shepherd	471	Berkeley Springs	WV	3/07/2023	25.00
Margaret Yost	725	Gypsy	WV	3/08/2023	25.00
ALA—Unit #60	160	Berkeley Springs	WV	3/09/2023	25.00
	820			3/10/2023	
Cindy Pyles	158	Keyser	WV	3/11/2023	25.00
Jeff Anderson	973	Glen Easton	WV	3/13/2023	25.00
Mary Jean Gibson	260	Triadelphia	WV	3/14/2023	25.00
Gary Romano	190	Bridgeport	WV	3/15/2023	200.00
Jean Thomas	538	Upperglades	WV	3/16/2023	25.00
John Anderson	752	New Martinsville	WV	3/17/2023	25.00
Karen Bell	276	Cowen	WV	3/18/2023	25.00
Betty Bryson	143	Thorpe	WV	3/20/2023	25.00
Kim Yutzy	380	Cumberland	MD	3/21/2023	25.00
Kitty Kelly-Smoot	203	Huntington	WV	3/22/2023	25.00
Shannon Harshbarger	600	Huntington	WV	3/23/2023	25.00
Danny Kirk	810	Bluefield	WV	3/24/2023	25.00
Matt Stepp	187	Pendleton	SC	3/25/2023	25.00
Nancy Frost	964	Cumberland	MD	3/27/2023	25.00
	852			3/28/2023	
C. Elaine Davis	064	Keyser	WV	3/29/2023	25.00
Joy Adkins	300	Romney	WV	3/30/2023	25.00
Larry Williams	649	Cameron	WV	3/31/2023	25.00



May 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1	2	3	4	5	6
				National Day of Prayer		
7	8 Office Closed Vacation	9 Vacation	10 Vacation	11 Vacation	12 Vacation	13
14 	15	16	17	18	19	20 
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 	30	31			
					Program of Month Poppy 	



“Christmas 365 around the World”



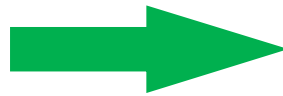
April 14, 2023
Department Goal— 4935 Membership to Date— 4427
Department Unit 200 Goal—136 Membership to Date— 120

Laura

District 1			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	21	18	85.71%
Moundsville #3	244	241	98.77%
McMechen #5	31	16	51.61%
Weirton #10	65	62	95.38%
Cameron #18	156	111	71.15%
New Martinsville #28	104	95	91.35%
Wellsburg #34	29	22	75.86%
Follansbee #45	52	40	76.92%
Pine Grove #81	81	66	81.84%
Paden City #86	90	74	82.22%
Wheeling #89	22	3	13.64
Newell #114	16	15	93.75%
Hundred #120	38	26	68.42%
Chester #121	134	131	97.76%
TOTALS	1083	920	84.95%

District 4			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	402	387	96.27%
Spencer #21	29	24	82.76%
Pt. Pleasant #23	227	213	93.83%
Tyler County #48	42	37	88.10%
Sistersville #67	56	36	64.29%
New Haven #140	143	128	89.51%
Williamstown #159	89	73	82.02%
TOTALS	988	898	90.89%

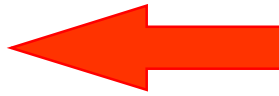
District 6			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Welch #8	55	39	70.91%
Bluefield #9	31	17	54.84%
Beckley #32	33	19	57.58%
Gary #38	97	79	81.44%
Cowen #62	23	18	78.26%
Richwood #97	30	28	93.33%
TOTALS	269	200	74.35%



**“Candy Canes”
 Team
 Goal—2459
 To Date— 2289
 93.09%**



**Membership
 Chairman
 A Star**



**“Gingerbread”
 Team
 Goal—2340
 To Date 2018
 86.24%**



Debbie

District 3			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	40	32	80%
Clarksburg #13	43	46	106.76%
Elkins #29	121	101	83.47%
Shinnston #31	248	257	103.63%
Braxton County #33	35	22	62.86%
Bridgeport #68	62	57	91.94%
Belington #96	19	15	78.95%
Pickens #122	25	17	68%
Morgantown #174	60	92	153.33%
TOTALS	653	639	97.86%

District 5			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Huntington #16	146	120	82.19%
Logan #19	22	17	77.27%
Charleston #20	New	13	
St. Albans #73	29	20	68.97%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	223	202	86.70%
So. Charleston #94	12	8	66.66%
Hamlin #111	47	26	55.32%
Milton #139	57	67	117.54%
Barboursville #177	132	139	105.30%
TOTALS	668	612	91.62%

District 10			
Unit	2023 Goal	2023	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	71	71	100%
Franklin #30	22	14	63.64%
Piedmont #52	20	15	75%
Berkeley Springs #60	182	174	95.61%
Moorefield #64	86	79	91.86%
Charles Town #71	118	133	112.72%
Petersburg #78	78	63	80.77%
Romney #91	174	144	82.76%
Charles Town #63	41	33	80.49%
Paw Paw #128	38	38	100%
Kirby #134	37	30	81.08%
Ridgeley #136	70	56	80%
Capon Bridge #137	158	154	97.47%
Keyser #152	43	34	79.07%
TOTALS	1138	1038	91.21%

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.**

**CALL FOR
HUNDRED-FIRST ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA, INC.**

The Hundred-FIRST Department Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary is hereby called in conformity with Article IX, Section 1 of the Department Constitution and Bylaws which provides, "That the Department Convention be held annually concurrent with the Convention of The American Legion, Department of West Virginia." The Convention will meet in Huntington, West Virginia on July 6, 7, 8, 2023 at the Doubletree by Hilton.

PURPOSE

The Convention is called for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, amending the Department Constitution, receiving reports of Department Officers and Chairperson, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before it.

REPRESENTATIVES

Representation at the Convention shall be by Units. Each Unit shall be entitled to two delegates, and one additional delegate for each fifty (50) members or major fraction thereof, whose dues have been paid and received by the Department Headquarters one month prior to the Convention for which they were elected. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote. **No Unit unrepresented shall have a proxy vote.** The elective officers, all Past Department Presidents, in good standing shall be delegates-at-large to the Department Convention, with vote to be exercised with their Units, provided said officers are present at the Convention.

ALTERNATES

Each Unit is entitled to one alternate for each delegate. The alternate will have power to vote **ONLY** in the absence of the regular Delegate.

CREDENTIALS

Membership cards must be presented by delegates and alternates. Certification of the election of the delegates and alternates **MUST** be mailed to Department Headquarters **no less than two weeks** prior to Convention, and **SHALL BE** accompanied by the Convention fee of \$20.00 for each accredited delegates so certified.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Pre-Convention Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday July 6, 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Doubletree by Hilton in the Virginia-Maryland Room. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Department Elective Officers, NEC, the Eight District Presidents, all Past Department Presidents, and Chairperson of all standing committees. All members of standing committees, exclusive of the chairperson, may attend the Executive Committee Meeting with the privilege of discussion but without vote. Any member in good standing may attend the Executive Committee Meeting with the privilege of discussion but **NO** vote.

DEPARTMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE

This committee will meet on Thursday July 6, 2023 at 1:00 pm in the Virginia Room. Those to attend this meeting are the three (3) members of the Finance Committee and the Department President and Department Secretary/Treasurer who are ex-officio members without vote.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

X MEANS PAID UNIT AUDIT OF MEMBERSHIP & MANDATORY FUNDS — June 07, 2023

FIRST DISTRICT - Kim Elliott President, Stephanie Handley Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	Poppies	10%	Membership
#1 Wheeling	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	18
#3 Moundsville							249
#5 McMechen	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	16
#10 Weirton							62
#18 Cameron							111
#28 New Martinsville	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	95
#34 Wellsburg							22
#45 Follansbee	X				X		40
#81 Pine Grove							66
#86 Paden City	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	74
#89 Wheeling							3
#114 Newell							15
#120 Hundred							26
#121 Chester							131

THIRD DISTRICT - Kim Mellie President, Roxie Nicholson Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	Poppies	10%	Membership
#7 Buckhannon	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	32
#13 Clarksburg							46
#29 Elkins					X		101
#31 Shinnston	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	257
#33 Braxton County							22
#68 Bridgeport							57
#96 Belington							15
#122 Pickens							17
#174 Morgantown	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	92

FOURTH DISTRICT - Patsy Greiner President, Pam Harmon Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	Poppies	10%	Membership
#15 Parkersburg	X	X	X	X	X	X	389
#21 Spencer							24
#23 Mason County	X		X	X	N/A		213
#48 Tyler County							37
#67 Sistersville							36
#140 New Haven							128
#159 Williamstown	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	73

FIFTH DISTRICT: Kitty Kelly-Smoot President, Laura Clark Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	Poppies	10%	Membership
#16 Huntington	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	120
#19 Logan							17
#20 Charleston							16
#73 St. Albans							20
#93 Ceredo-Kenova	X	X	X	X	X	X	202
#94 South Charleston							8
#111 Hamlin							26
#139 Milton	X	X	X	X	N/A		67
#177 Barboursville	X	X	X	X	N/A		139

SIXTH DISTRICT - Peggy Swartz President, Mary Spence Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	Poppies	10%	Membership
#8 Welch	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	39
#9 Bluefield							17
#32 Beckley	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	19
#38 Gary	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	79
#62 Cowen							18
#97 Richwood	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	28

TENTH DISTRICT- Diana Teter President, Jill Davis Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	Poppies	10%	Membership
#14 Martinsburg	X	X	X	X	X	X	71
#30 Franklin							14
#52 Piedmont							15
#60 Berkeley Springs	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	174
#64 Moorefield							79
#71 Charles Town							133
#78 Petersburg	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	63
#91 Romney	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	145
#63 Charles Town	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	33
#128 Paw Paw							38
#134 Kirby	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	30
#136 Ridgeley	X	X	X	X	N/A	X	56
#137 Capon Bridge	X	X	X	X	X	X	154
#152 Keyser							34



The American Legion Auxiliary,
Department of Alaska

Proudly Presents



Lisa Williamson

Candidate for
American Legion Auxiliary
National President
2023-2024

INSTALLATION

Lisa Williamson
Candidate for American Legion Auxiliary
National President
2023-2024

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday August 30, 2023

Charlotte, North Carolina