



The Auxiliary Spirit



Volume 37

November 2023

Issue 4



American Legion Auxiliary
2023-2024

“With Love and Gratitude~~We Support Our Military & Honor Our Veterans”

Colors—Red/White/Blue

Flower— Rose

Hello to all!

I guess we are all working on membership. It was coming in slowly but seems to have picked up a little. Let's hope it continues to roll in. Let everyone know about the programs and work that we do for our veterans and community. They may want to be a part of it. Please don't give up. Remember...Lynda and I do not want to have to wear Wisconsin shirts at National Convention!

I had a great time this past Saturday with CDNVP, Irene Weber while attending Commander Matt's Homecoming. Great job Unit 174 and Post 174 Family. Thank you so much for the wonderful hospitality.

I want to apologize to 1st District for not attending their conference. I really wanted to come but it was the busiest weekend of the year in our town and everyone was involved. I will be at your Spring Conference on April 20th.

With Veteran's Day right around the corner, "Let's Be Patriotic" when planning the events and programs. Don't forget the red, white & blue.

Any time this year, I would love to have a picture of your unit members strutting their military or patriotic attire. You could do this at your unit meeting or an event. I want to have them for my scrapbook.

At some time during the year, I hope you will consider donating to my special project, Rhododendron Girls State. Also, please support our department fundraiser (Ways & Means tickets.)

I am looking to seeing many of you at the 10th District Conference this Saturday. Hope you can make it.

My homecoming is just a few days away. I look forward to seeing many of you there. If you don't have a ticket but still want to come, just send me an email or text.

If there is anything that I can help you with, just contact me.

Watch out for all the witches and goblins and have a safe and fun Halloween!

Hugs!

Department President
Debbie

katndebbie@gmail.com
304-839-7721

P.S. I have made hotel reservations for 3rd and 4th district conferences. God willing, I will be there.

Department Officers 2023-2024

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

District Presidents

1st District-Paulette Anderson
3rd District-Kimberly Mellie
4th District-Patsy Greiner
5th District-Laura Clark
6th District-Peggy Swartz
10th District-Diana Teter

District Vice Presidents

1st District-Christy Bland
3rd District-April Wallace
4th District-Melanie Paxton
5th District -Kimberly Evans
6th District-Mary Spence
10th District-Jill Davis





Department Headquarters



Directory Updates:

First District—Please change the District President and Vice President to District President Paulette Anderson, 1251 Doolin Run Rd, New Martinsville, WV 26155 304-771-0984; District Vice President Christy Bland, 217 Maple Ave New Martinsville WV 26155 304-771-2283

Hamlin Unit #111 Unit President Lisa Byrd 2833 Harvey Creek Rd Hamlin WV 25523 304-751-5805; Unit Secretary Reba McGhee 4805 Straight Fork Yawkey WV 25573 304-915-4712

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.

When you are doing a name change or address change for a member. I need you to use a "Membership Data Form" and return to headquarters. Thanks!

ALA MIS system—if your unit wishes to try the system. Please notify this office by letter or email that your unit wishes to do so. I will get back with you with further information.

I would like to say thank you to Morgantown Unit #174, Tenth District, and Berkeley Springs #60 for all their hospitality.

The Department Fax line as been disconnected. Within the 2 years in office there has never been a fax.

Approved by the Executive Board on September 16, 2023

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.

REMINDER TO ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN OR ANYONE WISHING TO PUT A NEWS ARTICLE IN THE SPIRIT—ARTICLES CAN NOT BE ANY LONGER THAT 200 WORDS. I WILL NEED TO RETURN YOUR ARTICLES TO YOU FOR CORRECTIONS. THANK YOU

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.

Mail Call

Jean Chamber, Cameron Unit #18 long time secretary recently passed away. Jean was 101 years young. Cards may be sent to—Lisa Warren, 57 Howard St. Cameron, WV 26033

Janet Durbin, PDP has moved to an assistance living facility. Her address is 62 Mayers Rd., Powellton, WV 25161. Phone number is 304-442-2246

Department Headquarters

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

Phone 304-845-7410
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

2023/2024 Fall Conferences Schedule

3rd District Nov 4 Buckhannon #7
5th District Nov 4 Barboursville #177

2023/2024 Spring Convention Schedules

1st District Apr 20 Wheeling Unit #1
6th District Apr 27 Beckley Unit #32

“It is the province of knowledge to speak, and it is the privilege of wisdom to listen.”

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

~~~~~*Let's Be Patriotic*~~~~~

**Membership Chairman**

Hello to All,  
Membership is coming in and I know that the membership renewals recently went out. Our current membership is 1,333 with our department goal of 4,994. Let's make President Debbie a 100% Goal President. We have six Units with no memberships turned in.

I have spoken to Department Vices Laura and Kim to contact the district vice presidents to see what they can do to help. I am a phone call away if anyone needs help. Remember, we are a TEAM!

West Virginia has been challenged by the Department of Wisconsin to have the highest membership retention. Now, I know you don't want President Debbie and I have to wear Wisconsin shirts at National Convention. So, let's get those memberships turned in.

So, as we prepare for Thanksgiving – let's stuff the turkey with MEMBERSHIPS!!!

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd  
Department Membership Chairman



**Department 1st Vice President**

Hello Stripes Team! I hope everyone is having a wonderful fall season. This is always my favorite time of year and a wonderful reminder of the beauty that is right in front of us. All we have to do is open our eyes and enjoy what God has provided for us. This reminds me a little about membership and the beauty of belonging to such a fantastic organization. The ALA is such a wonderful and beautiful organization—all we have to do is open our eyes and hearts!

Everyone should have received their renewal notices in the mail and remember that you can renew your membership online, by phone, or directly in your unit. The website is [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) and you can login with your membership information and then create a username and password. Let's work together to bring the beauty of membership to existing members and new members alike.

Current leaders in Districts 3, 5, and 10:

District 3: Shinnston Unit 31: 49.81%  
District 5: Huntington Unit 16: 43.85%  
District 10: Charlestown Unit 63: 82.5%

Remember, do NOT hold onto memberships! Process them at least once a month!

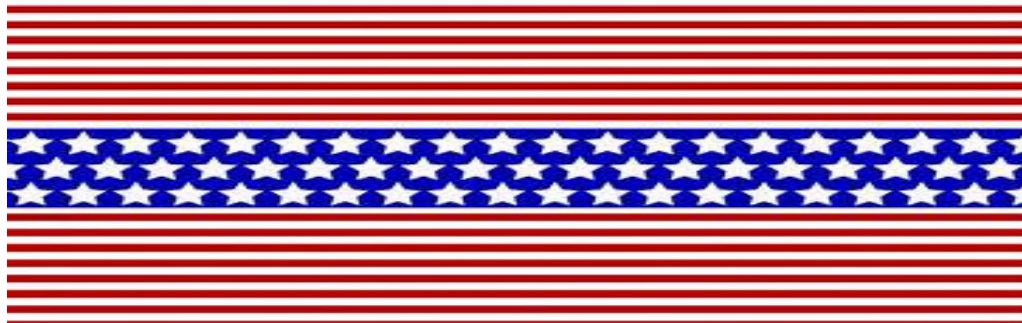
For God and Country,

Laura Clark  
Department 1st Vice President  
[laurakclark716@gmail.com](mailto:laurakclark716@gmail.com)  
304-939-3607

**Department 2nd Vice President**

Hello all Stars! Let's keep up the good work! We are only 2% behind the stripes! Congrats to Wheeling #1, Moundsville #3, and New Martinsville #28 on already reaching 50% or more! Keep up the awesome work. Beckley #32 is at 40%! Way to go. I had a wonderful time at the District 6 Fall Conference. Thank you, ladies, for your hospitality and your awesome meeting. I enjoyed the food, the comradery and came away with the best fudge and apple butter. If you need any help please feel free to reach out to me. Stephanie Handley, Pamela Hansom, and Mary Spence let's work as a team to make our Stars shine!!

God Bless  
Kim Mellie  
Second Vice  
Cell 304-216-9943  
[kmellie@comcast.net](mailto:kmellie@comcast.net)



### ***1st District Vice President***

Happy Fall 1st District members! Membership is coming in good right now. We still have a lot to do! Please, please DO NOT hold your dues. Send them in. We have challenged 10th District for that 50% target goal! Let's do this! We're catching them! Thank you all for your hard work. Keep it up.

Christy Bland  
1st District Vice  
President

### ***10th District Vice President***

Happy Thanksgiving!

Let us remember our veteran's home and abroad. When you see a veteran be sure to show your appreciation, a simple Thank you with a smile makes their day. These service men and woman gives/gave us PEACE. They have/had P- Patience, E- Extra Ability, C- Courage, and E- Extremely Brave. Let them know that they are Loved and Cared for. We have been challenged by and have challenged 1st District. We are to make 50% before December 15th, and 75% two (2) weeks prior to Convention in July. As of right now we are lagging behind by about 5%. If our District is unable to beat 1st District, we owe President Debbie's Special Project, which is Girls State, \$25.00 for each challenge. Let's win this challenge!! I encourage each of you to consider doing membership over ALAMIS; this will make your membership count sooner. Mandatory funds are due and if your unit has not paid them, please be sure that you get those in. All units are getting membership in except Piedmont, let's not hold our membership. Don't forget to get new members. Always be KIND!!!! Happy Thanksgiving!!

Jill Davis



### ***3rd District Vice President***

WOW! What a great Workshop we had in September! If you have never been...Highly recommend! If you haven't gone in years...maybe next September is the time to give it another try! or maybe you think Ogleby in February is more your cup of tea! I know if you give it a try ...you will have a great time and learn a lot! The 3rd District Fall Conference will be on November 4th. Registration starts at 9 a.m. at the Senior Center in Buckhannon. I know Unit 7 is looking forward to hosting the District for the first time in years.

I wish each of you a Happy Thanksgiving and truly wish a wonderful Holiday Season for all.

For God and Country  
in the Spirit of Service Not self  
April D. Wallace  
3rd District Vice President  
aprilwallace0513@yahoo.com  
304 516-9757 (text only)

### ***6th District Vice President***

It was nice to see everyone at our Fall District Meeting in Bluefield. A special thanks to our Bluefield Unit 9 Auxiliary for hosting the event and making everyone feel so welcomed. We were honored and would to thank our special guests officers from the State Auxiliary Department for being with us. Fall is here and the leaves are falling but, don't fall behind on collecting your unit membership dues. We have until December 7 2023 to meet first goal. Contact your members and work hard.

Pray for our country and the rest of the World.  
Mary Spence  
District 6 VicePresident

### ***5th District Vice President***

Hello all,  
I hope everyone is enjoying all of these fall colors! They are absolutely beautiful!

Membership dues are creeping up on us fast! We have Huntington Unit 16 still leading with 43.85% WOW WAY TO GO! Following close behind is Milton Unit 139. Our district total is 18.56%. Come on 5th District, let's get these numbers up!

Veterans Day is coming upon us and with this being said if you would like to participate in the Charleston Veterans Day Parade please reach out to me and we will get you the information on joining us.

Don't forget 5th District Conference will be hosted by Barboursville Post 177 on November 4, 2023. Registration will begin at 9am. Hope to see everyone there!

Kimberly Evans  
5th District Vice President  
knsevans2014@gmail.com  
304-710-6078

### ***1st District President***

I hope you are enjoying this weather as it is changing soon.

First District Fall Conference was held October 7th at Paden City Senior Center. Paden City Unit #86 hosted and had the room decorated in Patriotic Colors. There were 5 units represented.

There was only one Department Officer. one Department Chairman. and one Committee member present. President Debbie Michael wasn't able to attend, but plans to attend the Spring Conference.

District Chairmen that were there gave their reports. Paulette handed out Star Spangled Kids Kits samples to units in attendance.

First District will be hosting a hospitality room at the Mid Winter Conference in February. More on this later.

Spring Conference will be hosted by Wheeling Unit #1 on April 20, 2024. More on this later.

Plan of Action will be mailed to Units not in attendance at Fall Conference.

### ***3rd District President***

Happy Fall District 3! Awesome job on membership! We are at 35% of our goal. Can we reach 75% by the end of the November? Please let myself or April Wallace know if you need any help! The shining stripes belong to Shinnston, Braxton and Morgantown, Elkins you are almost at 50%.....keep it up! Please remember to sign up for the meeting Nov. 4th.

If you need any help feel free to reach out!

God Bless America and our Veterans  
Kim Mellie

District 3 President

Cell 304-216-9943

kmellie@comcast.net

### ***6th District President***

Hello Everyone

Hope this little note finds everyone well. Hope everyone is enjoying this cold weather and some rain to go with it, I will take the good hot weather over this any day.

I want to thank Bluefield Unit 9 for hosting our Fall Conference and to thank them for the fine lunch they served. I also want to thank the members from the Department that came to our meeting. We had our Department President Debbie Michael, 2nd Vice President Kimberly Mellie, Historian April Wallace, Department Secretary Susan Brown and Past Department President Irene Weber. Each gave a good speech and of course our Department Secretary gave us a lot of information. Thank each of you for attending our meeting and invite you back anytime.

Hope everyone is on membership and lets try to make each Unit 100% if we work just a little harder I am sure we can do it.

We need to get our Mandatory Funds in as soon as possible.

We have Halloween coming up soon and then Thanksgiving so please send me things that your Unit will be doing for these holidays.

This will be a short letter. So lets keep our Veterans in our prayers and also our Auxiliary members.

So unit next time God Bless everyone.

Peggy Swartz, President

Sixth District

### ***4th District President***

Fall has finally arrived! Now it's time to gear up for a fun filled, educational year filled with patriotism, love and gratitude for our military, our veterans and our communities. President Debbie Michael brings many years of experience in all aspects of the American Legion family. We wish you a wonderful year, Madam President!

The year began with an outstanding, successful Fall Membership Workshop. There was so much enthusiasm you could feel the excitement as soon as you entered the room.

The District 4 Fall Conference will be held on October 29, 2023, at New Haven Post #140. Registration will be at 9 a.m. Meetings will begin at 10 a.m. Registration will be \$15 per person. Lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the meetings. I hope to see members dressed in patriotic attire at our first District meeting for 2023-2024. Let's have fun this year!

Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are right around the corner. Please remember to do all you can to assist our veterans and their families. Times are tough. Please do all you can to help especially during these trying times.

For God and Country.

Patsy Greiner

4th District President

304-295-8844 (home)

304-483-8296 (cell)

Patsygirl2@gmail.com

### ***5th District President***

Hello District 5!

Lots of great things are happening in the 5th District. I had the pleasure of installing the new officers of Charleston Unit 20 and I am so excited about all the activities they have planned for the children of their community as well as the veterans they serve. I encouraged them and I will encourage all of you to take pictures and send them to me so that I can share them on the 5th District Facebook page as well as the Department page. In addition, make sure that you are writing down your activities and recording them not only for your history book, but also for your year end committee reports.

As a reminder, the 5th District Fall Conference is Saturday, November 4th at Barboursville Post 177. I would like to see all of our units represented and registration begins at 9 am with donuts and coffee. The meeting will begin promptly at 10 am.

Lunch will be served at 12 noon and registration fee is \$10.

Thank you for all you do for our veterans and your communities!

Laura Clark

5th District President

laurakclark716@gmail.com

304-939-3607

### ***10th District President***

Being thankful—

For our country

We were chosen at birth for America  
We were and are thought of daily by our Veterans

We are to be thoughtful of and thankful for each other

We are all in this together for God and Country

Let us continue to be a thankful group and remember why we are here and a part of this organization.

Happy Thanksgiving

Diana Teter

District 10 President



### *Americanism*

The Americanism Essay contest is opened to all school age children in Grades 3-12 and students in Special Needs. Some of the Special Needs are in a class alone, and some are in their grade level. You will need to contact the school. The theme this year is "What Does Freedom Mean to Me?"; Send the narrative to me by April 1, 2024. The cover sheet is included in your Action Plan on Americanism.

I have sample kits of Star Spangled Kids Kits to hand out to each unit who asks for one. I will have some at President Debbie Michaels' Homecoming. Others I can mail. In these kits is information to order more. You can also check out Amazon, Dollar General, Dollar Tree, etc.

Go to the schools who aren't participating in the Americanism program and get them excited about Americanism. Be creative and take lots of pictures.

Join the Americanism Facebook group page. Lots of ideas on it. More Next month!  
Paulette Anderson  
Americanism Chairman  
pauletteanderson2848@gmail.com

### *Community Service*

Things Units can help with: ALA members can be part of the city they are located by volunteering to help or serving on a committee. Schools in your area might need help with supplies, you might want to check with the school.

Peggy Swartz, Chairman  
Community Service

### *Auxiliary Emergency Fund*

Fellow Auxiliary Members,  
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

### *Education*

Each year the National Education Association holds American Education Week to celebrate public education and honor those who are making a difference at their schools. AEW will be celebrated November 13-17, 2023. Each day has a special focus, 13th Kick Off Day, 14th Family Day, 15th Education Support Professional Day, 16th Educator for A Day, and the 17th Substitute Educator Day.

The National website has an AEW card that you can download. Login, under committees click on Education. On the left-hand side, you will see ALA American Education Week Cards.

Many teachers are not aware of the programs the ALA has to offer with their students so establishing a connection in your schools can be instrumental in creating a way to promote ALA programs to the students.

From my family to yours be thankful, be kind and have a blessed turkey day. Remember those currently serving who can't be home with their own families. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

You're never too old, too wacky, too wild to pick up a book and read to a child. Yes, I love Dr. Seuss!

Nichole Shepherd  
Education chair  
wvala60@hotmail.com  
304-702-1427

### *Children & Youth*

American Legion Auxiliary units should strive to support and promote Children and Youth programs of The American Legion. One program is The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation which was developed in 1954 as a repository of funds from individuals who wished to contribute to the betterment of children in this country.

The Child Welfare foundation awards grants to organizations that contribute to the physical, mental, and emotional welfare of children and youth. There are restrictions on how a grant from the Child Welfare Fund can be used. The grants are awarded only to nonprofit, tax exempt organizations. The funds are awarded for projects that must be completed between Jan. 1—Dec. 31 of the award year.

American Legion Auxiliary members and units are encouraged to donate to the Child Welfare Foundation. Units in West Virginia donate through the Department of West Virginia. Any amount is appreciated.

Labels for donation cans can be downloaded from the American Legion Auxiliary National Website. The labels fit well on a Pringles can.

Shirley Davis, Chairman



## ***Junior Activities***

Welcome to the Junior Activities Program. There are 280 junior girls in good standing in the Department of West Virginia. If you are one of the lucky auxiliary units to have a junior girl's unit, you have come to the right place for information.

President Debbie Michael has chosen Rhododendron Girls State as her Special Project. Our Junior Girls will be holding a special fundraiser throughout the year for this Special Project.

At our recent Fall Membership Conference junior girls practiced folding the American Flag. They created patriotic cards, and pictures, and wrote personal notes to an active-duty military unit overseas.

Please engage junior girls in unit activities. Participation can be an especially useful tool and can lead to creating experiences your junior girls will never forget. Ideas for junior activities include visiting nursing homes and hospitals. Learning flag etiquette and proper salute to the flag. Helping serve meals and snacks at post and unit events.

Include Juniors so they can learn about patriotism, Americanism, education, the meaning of poppies and about the past and present of the American Legion organization.

For God and Country.

Patsy Greiner  
Junior Activities Chairman  
304-295-8844 (home)  
304-483-8296 (cell)  
Patsygirl2@gmail.com

## ***Legislative***

I hope to encourage all Auxiliary members to email/call/visit/etc. their Senators and House of Representatives to help our military gain the rights they deserve. You can also visit <https://www.legion.org/legislative/agenda> for any information needed.

Look for the Spirit article each month to have a message to send or you can join the Grassroots Action center to sign up for updates <https://www.voterveice.net/AmericanLegion/home>

This month please send an email asking to support Keep Our Border Agents Paid Act

Also, on Wednesday Oct. 18 at 10 am the Senate Armed Service Committee and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee will hold a joint hearing to examine military to civilian transition, focusing on improving care and lowering costs. Send your Senators an email!!

Help our Government to help our Veterans. Your voice can be heard!

God Bless  
Kim Mellie  
Legislative Chair  
304-216-9943

## ***National Security***

Hello Department of West Virginia! The Christmas and Thanksgiving Holiday Season is the most wonderful time of year, but many people miss loved ones who are stationed overseas as military or diplomatic members. While the holidays are a hard time to be away from home, the US Postal Service makes it a priority that those serving their country will receive their presents, care packages and cards in time for the holidays-- no matter where they may be.

To send packages to loved ones, the Postal Service offers a discounted price of \$17.95 on its largest Priority Mail Flat Rate Box. The price includes a \$1.50 per box discount for mail sent to APO/FPO/DPO destinations worldwide.

Deadlines are fast approaching to ensure holiday delivery and make sure to check with your post office or carrier to confirm dates.

As always, thank you for all you do for our military and first responders!

Laura Clark  
National Security Chairman  
laurakclark716@gmail.com  
304-939-3607

## ***Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation***

As we move into colder weather setting in, it's time to think about homeless veterans and what you can do to help. Help with monetary and in-kind donations for VA stand downs. Fill & deliver backpacks or bags with daily basic needs to homeless veterans in shelters or other areas. Supplies could include socks, gloves, hats, warm clothing, snacks, even wash cloths, soap, shampoo, tooth paste and tooth brush. Prove Buddy baskets for homeless veterans moving into a permanent residence. Include cleaning supplies, bath tissue, light bulbs, kitchen ware, or any other basic supplies. Review the handbook for homeless veterans and service providers found at <https://www.legion.org/homelessveterans/handbook>

Lisa Cadwallader,  
chair  
Lisac.ala71@gmail.com

## NEC

I am including the 2023-2024 locations, and dates of the ALA Mission Training & National Junior Meetings.  
Central: 11/4/2023  
Cincinnati, OH  
Embassy Suites Cincinnati Rivercenter Covington  
Eastern: 11/4/2023  
Providence, RI  
Marriott Providence Downtown  
Northwestern: 2/3/24  
Lincoln, NE  
Marriott Lincoln Cornhusker  
Southern: 2/3/2024  
Nashville, TN  
Hilton Nashville Airport  
Western: 1/27/2024  
Las Vegas, NV  
Tuscany Suites & Casino  
To Register for Mission Training & Junior Meetings go to [www.legion-aux.org](http://www.legion-aux.org) and click on meetings and events.  
Paulette Anderson  
National Executive Committee

## Constitution & Bylaws

A Basic Parliamentary Procedures guide is available for download at: <https://member.legion-aux.org/member/guides/basic-parliamentary-procedure>  
The National website contains basics on main motions, voting methods, ways to admen motions, order of business, debate and ranking.  
Both are the same, so whichever is easier. It's a 2 page document in the guide and might be easier than Roberts Rules of Order to understand.  
Lisa Cadwallader, Chair  
[Lisac.ala71@gmail.com](mailto:Lisac.ala71@gmail.com)

## Past President's Parley

Hello Auxiliary Members,  
Please continue to help and mentor all members with a positive attitude.  
Leave you with a quote: "When you give joy to other people, you get more joy in return."  
For God and Country  
Savanna Kauffman  
PPP Chairperson

## Standing Rules

Has your unit/District looked over their Standing Rules to see if they are in compliance and/or need updated? Please do.

If they do need updated, send them to me and I will have the committee look them over, sign off if they are okay and send them to the Department to put on file. She will then send a copy back to the unit/District.

If they need corrections I will send it back to you. Remember they are not to be in conflict with your Constitution & Bylaws.

Any questions please feel free to contact me.

Paulette Anderson  
Standing Rules Chairman  
[pauletteanderson2848@gmail.com](mailto:pauletteanderson2848@gmail.com)







# American Legion Auxiliary WV Rhododendron Girls State

## *Rhododendron Girls State*

The weather is turning colder and the leaves are changing their colors. What beauty there is in nature! The 2024 Girls State Session will be \$300.00 per citizen and the program will be held June 10-16, 2024 at Davis & Elkins College in Elkins, WV. You may notice that there is an EXTRA day that has been added to our schedule (and for the same price as last year's). This cost will also include the cost of the parade t-shirt.

Again as last year we will send the citizens elected to the Board of Public Works to be transported to the State Capital to meet with their elect West Virginia counterparts.

What an amazing opportunity you are providing these citizens. They become more engaged in leadership, patriotism and being informed citizens and form lifetime friendships.

Please if you have not already started to start securing funding for these citizens. Contact your schools and let them know who you are and start working together.

We look forward to another successful year but we need your help in getting them interested and to attend.

If anyone has any questions, please contact your district representative or myself if we can be of any assistance.

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 Nineteen \$25.00 winners for September and a \$200 winner. Congratulation to all the winners!

I will have 2024 tickets with me at workshop. If there is a special numbers you wish to have, please call the office and let me know. Price of tickets this year is still \$20.00.

This year there will be a contest for the person and the Unit selling the most tickets. They will receive a gift for their efforts.

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!

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

**September 2023 Ways and Means Winners**

| Name                 | #'s | City         | State | Date      | \$\$\$ |
|----------------------|-----|--------------|-------|-----------|--------|
| Miles Epling         | 287 | Pt. Pleasant | WV    | 9/01/2023 | 25.00  |
| Donna Steward        | 712 | Springfield  | WV    | 9/02/2023 | 25.00  |
|                      | 552 |              |       | 9/04/2023 |        |
|                      | 870 |              |       | 9/05/2023 |        |
| Linda Phillips       | 838 | Cameron      | WV    | 9/06/2023 | 25.00  |
| Charlie Goode        | 977 | Bluefield    | WV    | 9/07/2023 | 25.00  |
| Sarah Staley         | 170 | Moorefield   | WV    | 9/08/2023 | 25.00  |
| Brian Hamric         | 257 | Moundsville  | WV    | 9/09/2023 | 25.00  |
|                      | 713 |              |       | 9/11/2023 |        |
| Walter Lesnett       | 747 | Wheeling     | WV    | 9/12/2023 | 25.00  |
| Betty Light          | 114 | Capon Bridge | WV    | 9/13/2023 | 25.00  |
|                      | 594 |              |       | 9/14/2023 |        |
| Margaret Yost        | 546 | Gypsy        | WV    | 9/15/2023 | 25.00  |
| Melissa Gott Smith   | 100 | Lake City    | MI    | 9/16/2023 | 25.00  |
| Nina Mason           | 848 | Rio          | WV    | 9/18/2023 | 25.00  |
| Kimberly Rolls       | 066 | Keyser       | WV    | 9/19/2023 | 25.00  |
| Jerry Duncan, Jr     | 878 | Elbert       | WV    | 9/20/2023 | 200.00 |
|                      | 875 |              |       | 9/21/2023 |        |
| Peggy Swartz         | 153 | Gary         | WV    | 9/22/2023 | 25.00  |
| Betty Delawder       | 358 | Old Field    | WV    | 9/23/2023 | 25.00  |
| Jean Thomas          | 538 | Upperglade   | WV    | 9/25/2023 | 25.00  |
|                      | 350 |              |       | 9/26/2023 |        |
| Lester Hollingsworth | 868 | Clinton      | MD    | 9/27/2023 | 25.00  |
| JoAnna Camp          | 587 | Spencer      | WV    | 9/28/2023 | 25.00  |
|                      | 831 |              |       | 9/29/2023 |        |
| Michael Pearce       | 885 | Severna Park | MD    | 9/30/2023 | 25.00  |
|                      |     |              |       |           |        |
|                      |     |              |       |           |        |



# November 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

|                                                             |                                           |                    |                                  |                                                                                            |                                                                                                   |                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>The office will be closed Nov. 10th for Veterans Day</p> |                                           |                    | 1                                | 2                                                                                          | 3                                                                                                 | 4<br>5th District & 3rd District Fall Conferences                                         |
| 5<br>Daylight Saving Time Ends                              | 6                                         | 7<br>Election Day  | 8                                | 9                                                                                          | 10<br>USMC<br> | 11<br> |
| 12                                                          | 13                                        | 14                 | 15                               | 16                                                                                         | 17                                                                                                | 18                                                                                        |
| 19                                                          | 20                                        | 21                 | 22                               | 23<br> | 24<br>       | 25                                                                                        |
| 26                                                          | 27                                        | 28                 | 29                               | 30                                                                                         |                                                                                                   |                                                                                           |
|                                                             | National Veterans & Military Family Month | Warrior Care Month | National Family Caregivers Month |                                                                                            | <p><b><i>Program of Month</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Public Relations</i></b></p>                       |                                                                                           |

~~~~~"Let's Be Patriotic"~~~~~

Date 10/13/2023
Department Goal 4994 — Membership to Date— 1333
Department Unit 200 Goal 210 — Membership to Date—58

Kim

| District 1 | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|
| Unit | 2024 Goal | 2024 | % of Goal |
| Wheeling #1 | 23 | 15 | 65.22% |
| Moundsville #3 | 254 | 129 | 50.79% |
| McMechen #5 | 25 | 5 | 20% |
| Weirton #10 | 68 | 4 | 5.88% |
| Cameron #18 | 130 | 28 | 21.54% |
| New Martinsville #28 | 104 | 57 | 54.81% |
| Wellsburg #34 | 30 | 5 | 16.67% |
| Follansbee #45 | 50 | 18 | 36% |
| Pine Grove #81 | 75 | 0 | 0% |
| Paden City #86 | 80 | 40 | 50% |
| Wheeling #89 | 20 | 1 | 5% |
| Newell #114 | 20 | 2 | 10% |
| Hundred #120 | | | |
| Chester #121 | 136 | 14 | 10.29 |
| TOTALS | 1015 | 318 | 31.33% |

| District 4 | | | |
|-------------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Unit | 2024 Goal | 2024 | % of Goal |
| Parkersburg #15 | 394 | 172 | 43.66 |
| Spencer #21 | 29 | 6 | 20.69% |
| Pt. Pleasant #23 | 225 | 31 | 13.78% |
| Tyler County #48 | 42 | 1 | 2.38% |
| Sistersville #67 | 48 | 1 | 2.08% |
| New Haven #140 | 135 | 4 | 2.96% |
| Williamstown #159 | 85 | 16 | 18.82% |
| TOTALS | 958 | 231 | 24.11% |

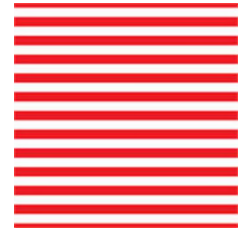
| District 6 | | | |
|---------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Unit | 2024 Goal | 2024 | % of Goal |
| Welch #8 | 45 | 1 | 2.22% |
| Bluefield #9 | 27 | 1 | 3.70% |
| Beckley #32 | 25 | 10 | 40% |
| Gary #38 | 90 | 7 | 7.78% |
| Cowen #62 | 23 | 3 | 13.0% |
| Richwood #97 | 33 | 0 | 0% |
| TOTALS | 243 | 22 | 9.05% |

Laura

| District 3 | | | |
|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Unit | 2024 Goal | 2024 | % of Goal |
| Buckhannon #7 | 40 | 11 | 27.50% |
| Clarksburg #13 | 54 | 7 | 12.96% |
| Elkins #29 | 115 | 45 | 39.13% |
| Shinnston #31 | 267 | 133 | 49.81% |
| Braxton County #33 | 30 | 15 | 50% |
| Bridgeport #68 | 62 | 2 | 3.23% |
| Belington #96 | 20 | 0 | 0% |
| Pickens #122 | 22 | 0 | 0% |
| Morgantown #174 | 102 | 41 | 40.20% |
| TOTALS | 712 | 254 | 35.67% |

| District 5 | | | |
|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Unit | 2024 Goal | 2024 | % of Goal |
| Huntington #16 | 130 | 57 | 43.85% |
| Logan #19 | 22 | 0 | 0% |
| Charleston #20 | 25 | 3 | 12% |
| St. Albans #73 | 32 | 3 | 9.36% |
| Ceredo-Kenova #93 | 215 | 10 | 4.65% |
| So. Charleston #94 | 13 | 1 | 7.69% |
| Hamlin #111 | 40 | 9 | 22.50% |
| Milton #139 | 75 | 25 | 33.33% |
| Barboursville #177 | 154 | 23 | 14.93% |
| TOTALS | 706 | 131 | 18.56% |

| District 10 | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|
| Unit | 2024 Goal | 2024 | % of Goal |
| Martinsburg #14 | 77 | 17 | 14.29% |
| Franklin #30 | | | |
| Piedmont #52 | 20 | 0 | 0% |
| Berkeley Springs #60 | 187 | 23 | 12.30% |
| Charles Town #63 | 40 | 33 | 82.50% |
| Moorefield #64 | 89 | 7 | 7.87% |
| Charles Town #71 | 146 | 42 | 28.77% |
| Petersburg #78 | 71 | 30 | 42.25% |
| Romney #91 | 164 | 31 | 18.90% |
| Paw Paw #128 | 44 | 6 | 13.64% |
| Kirby #134 | 35 | 7 | 20% |
| Ridgeley #136 | 70 | 18 | 25.71% |
| Capon Bridge #137 | 167 | 102 | 61.08% |
| Keyser #152 | 40 | 3 | 7.50% |
| Totals | 1150 | 319 | 27.74% |



Stripes Team
Goal— 2568
To Date—704
27.41%

Membership Chair
Uncle Sam



Stars Team
Goal 2216
To Date 571
25.77%



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: _____

**2024 ANNUAL MID-WINTER CONFERENCE
RESERVATION INFORMATION**

February 9-10, 2024
Oglebay Resort & Conference Center
465 Lodge Drive
Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

\$125.00 per night room rate (plus 15% tax)
One night's room deposit of
\$125.00 (plus 15% tax) = \$143.75 per night
6% City Hotel Tax; 6% WV State Sales Tax & 3% Historical Tax
room rate includes two (2) breakfast vouchers per room per day

Reservations accepted, until Monday January 8, 2024
Check in: 4:00 p.m. Check out: 11:00 a.m.

877-436-1797

**Group Code
48009**

**Reservation link for reservation(s)
on-line will be available
Monday October 16th**

Thank you for requesting access to our Web Reservations System.
Please click on the hyperlink included to access the following group's page.

Group Name: [WV American Legion 2023](#)
Meeting: Wednesday, February 07, 2024 - Monday, February 12, 2024

Group Access:
Group ID: 48009
Password: 936043534

Reservation Manager
Oglebay Resort

If you are experiencing problems with the link please navigate your browser to:
<https://book.rquest.com/wbe/group/616/Oglebay-Resort/auth?BookID=48009>

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

YOU ARE INVITED
TO THE 43RD ANNUAL
MID WINTER CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 9-10, 2024

OGLEYBAY RESORT
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).
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 5, 2024

43RD Annual Mid-Winter Conference

2024

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 43RD Annual Mid-Winter Conference of The American Legion, Department of West Virginia, Inc., scheduled February 9-10, 2024, at Oglebay Resort, Wheeling, West Virginia.

Date: _____, 2024

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 January 15, 2024.

No Deviation

Full Page 8 ½ x 11 in
Half Page 8 ½ x 5 ½ in
Quarter Page 4 ¼ x 5 ½ in
Eighth 4 ¼ x 2 ¾ in
Per the request of Commander Sampson

**2024 AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONVENTION
RESERVATION INVOICE**

AUGUST 23 - AUGUST 28, 2024

HILTON GARDEN INN

1001 SOUTH PETERS STREET

NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

NAME(S) OF ATTENDEE(S)

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

E-MAIL:

King/Doubles (\$149 per night plus 16.2 % hotel tax) + \$1.00 per night/room

Parking rate per day---Valet Only \$45 per day

PLEASE MAIL PAYMENT BY MAY 1, 2024

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| ARRIVAL DATE TO HOTEL | |
| DEPARTURE DATE FROM HOTEL | |
| KING OR DOUBLE | |

| | Quantity | | |
|---|----------|--|---------------|
| ONE NIGHT'S ROOM DEPOSIT @ | \$174.14 | | \$0.00 |
| ADDITIONAL OCCUPANT IN ROOM PER DAY - \$10.00 triple/quad Rollaway \$50 | | | \$0.00 |
| REGISTRATION FEE @ | \$35.00 | | \$0.00 |
| NATIONAL COMMANDER'S BANQUET @ | \$60.00 | | \$0.00 |
| SOUTHERN BLOC BREAKFAST @ | \$54.00 | | \$0.00 |
| HOSPITALITY ROOM FEE @ | \$25.00 | | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL | | | \$0.00 |

FIRST NIGHT'S DEPOSIT REQUIRED.

WE WILL BILL YOU FOR OTHER CHARGES

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.