



The Auxiliary Spirit









Issue 9 Volume 38 May 2024





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

Colors—Red/White/Blue

Flower—Rose

American Legion Auxiliary 2023-2024

Greetings Stars & Stripes!

It appears that spring has sprung. It's nice to see all the beautiful flowers popping up. I hope everyone had a nice Easter. Now that April is almost over, it is time to plan your events for Memorial Day. Let's remember our veterans.

Congratulations to all the units who have reach that 100% goal or higher. There are so many more that I am sure will reach the 100% by next Spirit. You are doing a great job and I appreciate it so much. It is looking like Lynda and I will be wearing our WV shirts at National...and so will Wisconsin. (We hope). We are about 5% ahead of them right now but we can't give up. We need everyone to march forth to getting those members. Remember membership is a TEAM effort for the Department. Wouldn't it be wonderful if our department could make goal this year? It has been a long time. I think we are 662 from it right now. Let's try!

Please send your year-end reports into the department. Be proud of all your unit has done and report it. Since the reports have to be in by April 30, use what you did last May and June for this year's report.

Reminder... If you haven't done it yet, make your reservations for our Department Convention in Huntington in July.

If I can help you in any way, please contact me.

"LET'S BE PATRIOTIC" Hugs!

Department President Debbie Michael katndebbie@gmail.com 305-839-7721

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-Melinda Paxton 5th District -Kimberly Evans 6th District-Mary Spence 10th District-Jill Davis





Department Headquarters



<u>Mandatory Funds:</u> (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. If your unit has a little extra money please donate to the Cheer Parties and Gift Shops.

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.

The Awards Manual and the Year-end Reports are the Department website. If you have problems downloading let me know—Thanks

These are the Units that have returned the 2025 Unit Membership Data form: Unit #5, #7, #8, #9, #23, #29, #31, #33, #34, #60, #63, #71, #73, #93, #96, #114, #121, #128, #134, #136, #137, #152, #174, & #177—Thank you!

New members—when sending in a new application please make sure they are complete. If you are unable to read the new application, how am I suppose to read it. Please clarify illegible writing. The ON-LY time that the unit secretary can sign an application is when a female veteran is joining under herself—No Exceptions! Applications will be returned.

2025 Unit Membership Data form have been emailed, mailed, or given out at the District meeting to the Units that attended. This form is to be used by the Units to make chances to the amount of dues that the Unit would want to collect. Also where the dues are to be mailed and to whom. I need this form back whether or not the unit makes changes. Due date back to Department is April 15, 2024. Since April 15th as come and gone. I have extended the due date to May 6th. PLEASE COMPLETE AND SEND TO DEPARTMENT!!!!!

The 2024-2025 Unit Officers and Chairmen form have been emailed, mailed, or given out at a District meeting to the Units that attended. Due date back for Unit Officers is June 15, 2024 and Chairmen list by October 1, 2024.

Reminder—That any new member joining after April 1, 2024 will not show on the 2025 roster what is sent with the membership cards. If you would like an update roster just let me know.

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

Reminder—You are a member of the Unit not the Post. The Unit has their own identity

Department Headquarters

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

Phone 304-845-7410 alawysec@frontier.com

Department Address: 2172 Grandview Road Moundsville, WV 26041

Department Website: www.wvaux.org

Rhododendron Girls State Website www.wvgirlsstate.org

The American Legion
Department of WV
wvlegion@suddenlinkmail.com

American Legion Auxiliary National Website ALAforveterans.org



"Why can't somebody give us a list of things that everybody thinks and nobody says, and another list of things that everybody says and nobody thinks?"

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

Member dues are based on a member age on January 1 of the Membership year.

(Example—A member that is 17 on January 1st will be billed as a junior member for 2024 membership year. If she is 18 after August 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 she will changed to a Senior member for the 2024 membership year.

Membership Chairman

Department 1st Vice President

Department 2nd Vice President

Parkersburg 4th District Spring Confer-

Wow, way to go!!!!

We have eight goal units: Moundsville #3, New Martinsville #28, Follansbee #45, Tyler County #48, Buckhannon #7, Bridgeport #68, Morgantown #174 and Capon Bridge #137. I know several Units are oh so close and I'm sure by May 15 we will have even more goal units.

Our last Membership Target Date is June 15 with 100%. We have seventeen Units are 90% +. Will your Unit be next to reach goal?

We still have a couple of struggling Units, what can we do to help you? We are a team and that's what we do help one another. Feel free to give us a call and we will be glad to help in any way.

Remember our challenge from Wisconsin about wearing t-shirts from the winning department? Well, as of now it's looking like Wisconsin will be wearing West Virginia shirts as we are 5.41% ahead. I know you don't want President Debbie or I wearing another state's tshirt, do you? So keep up the good work and we will show you how Wisconsin looks like wearing West Virginia shirts. We are doing great things and let us be loud and proud! If your Unit is not already there – will you be? Our membership team is here to work with you. Please contact anyone of us if we can be of any assistance.

Lynda Lancaster-Loyd Membership Chairman



Let's hear it for the STRIPES!! Drum Roll please... we are now at 89.68% of goal! I am so proud of everyone's hard work and dedication. Do not slow down and keep pushing for those renewals and new members.

Let's take a look at who is leading in each district and celebrate all of those units who have reached 100% goal:

District 3: Morgantown Unit #174 –

109.80% Buckhannon Unit #7- 102

Buckhannon Unit #7- 102.5% Bridgeport Unit #68- 100%

District 5: Huntington Unit #16: 99.23%

District 10: Capon Bridge Unit #137-111.98%

There are currently 16 units who are at 80% or greater of goal and several who are 1 or 2 members away from making goal! GO GO GO!!!

I am rooting for all of you and here if you need anything whatsoever!

Keep up the momentum! Laura Clark Department 1st Vice President 304-939-3607 laurakclark716@gmail.com Hello and Happy Spring!
I had the pleasure of visiting

ence -hosted by Parkersburg 15. Patsy held an awesome meeting. We need to work on getting more Units to attend. I also traveled to Capon Bridge 137 as I wanted to experience the 10th District Spring Conference at the first Unit to achieve 100%! The food, fellowship and venue were amazing. The meeting was also well done. I truly loved the messages that were conveyed by Diana Teter and Jill Davis. Both Chaplains at both Units did an amazing job. In terms of membership: Stars, we are still behind the Stripes! District 1 is at 89.56%. District 4 is at 86.74%. District 6 at 73.66%, we need to work a little harder to get more members. I know the members of District 6 have a lot to share and are wonderful people. Feel free to reach out if you need me. Congratulations to Follansbee 45 116%....way to go!! Also, congratulations to New Martinsville #28 and Tyler County #48 on reaching 100% as well.

McMechen #5 and Wheeling #89 please try to come to the District 1 Spring Conference. I would love to meet you! I am here if you need any help!

Have a wonderful Spring! For God and Country Kim Mellie

Department Second Vice President

Chaplain

Hello Ladies,

Please don't forget to send in a prayer for President Debbie's prayer book. Let's fill it up with prayers of encouragement, love, inspiration or whatever touches you in some way.

"If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change."

Wayne Dyer

Stephanie Handley Department Chaplin stephaniehandley@msn.cm



1st District Vice President

Happy spring everyone! April showers bring May flowers, yes, but some have had a little too much. Hope everyone has stayed safe.

Congratulations to the Units in 1st District that have reached 100% goal! Great job. Everyone has been working so hard.

Tis the season for District conferences and summer convention is quickly approaching. I hope to see many attend. If anyone needs any help with anything, always remember we are all a phone call or email away. Enjoy the sunshine!

Christy Bland christy.bland8555@gmail.com

6th District Vice President

With the weather getting better the Units should be able to plan their activities and hold their 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 Gary #38 with 86.67%, Welch #8 with 80%, Richwood #97 with 63.64% and Bluefield #9 with 62.96%. Our June 15, 2024 target is 100%. Now that Spring is here 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 that we will be holding our ALA District 6 Spring Conference hosted by Beckley Unit#32 on Saturday, April 27, 2024 in Beckley. Registration will be from 9:00-10:00 a.m. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our conference.

Don't forget it's Report time. You should be working on your reports. 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

3rd District Vice President

As we get closer to the finish of this wonderful year, everyone keep working hard on recruiting new members. It is coming up on the time of year when the Auxiliary really blooms! The Patriotic Months. Poppy Day is May 24, then Memorial Day, Flag Day, 4th of July and the Department Convention is upon us! August brings Labor Day, then its Patriot Day all the way through to Veterans Day. Have you ever thought about how many Patriotic Holidays we have as Americans? For a relatively young country, we celebrate ourselves a lot!! And look at all those chances to practice Americanism! Not a lot to say this month! Have a great month. Be sure to wear your

April Wallace 3rd District Vice President aprilwallace0513@yahoo.com

tance, just let me know!!

branded items. If I can be of assis-

5th District Vice President

Hello 5th District,

I hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful weather. Fifth District is at 88.81%. Way to go Huntington Unit 16, with the highest in our District at 99.23%! Coming in at a close second is Ceredo-Kenova Unit 93 at 96.28%. With this being said, be creative on how to get new membership, reach out to the ones that haven't renewed. Please don't hold membership. Get them sent in ASAP.

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

10th District Vice President

It seems Spring has sprung, I see the beautiful flowers and the grass getting greener each day. This is the time that friends and family get together. Speaking of friends and family, I hope that you feel this way about your Auxiliary family. This is the time to get out there and find more friends (members) to meet with monthly and do projects together.

District 1 is ahead of us by a smidge amount, 89.56% to our 89.22%. Don't hold those memberships, get them in. I know that we can all make goal. The District as a whole needs a total of 124 paid members. We can do this. The next goal date Is June 15th.

We have 1 unit above and beyond goal at this time. Congratulations Capon Bridge unit 137! WE do have 8 units that are at 80% and above, 3 units at 71% and above. We have time, just don't hold those memberships, we need our members to help our veterans!!!!

I want thank each of you who voted me in again for District Vice. It is an honor to serve you for the third year.

Friendly reminder if you have not got your room for State Convention, you may want to hurry up and do that. The dates are July 11-14, 2024, at Double Tree in Huntington, WV.

I hope your unit has turned in their reports and you win an award. I know you have done great things all year. Good luck to each unit.

Jill Davis

Tenth District Vice President

1st District President

Congratulations to Moundsville #3, New Martinsville #28 and Follansbee #45 for reaching goal! Paden City #86 is close with Weirton #10, /Chester #121, Cameron #18, Wheeling #1 Pine Grove #81 close behind. Way to go Newell Unit #114 for sending in membership and catching up on Mandatory Funds and Wheeling Unit #89 for sending in your new officers listing! Let's see if we can get in membership to keep the unit in good standing. Our District Conference will be over by the time you receive this spirit. I will have a full report in the next Spirit. Remember to send your deceased members to Cindy Gadd at cindymgadd@gmail.com. District Standing Rules will be done, as well as elections. Until next month. Paulette Anderson 1st District President

6th District President

Hello Everyone

Hope you are enjoying this rainy weather we have been having looking forward to some sunshine.

Looking forward to seeing you at our Sixth District summer meeting which will be on Saturday, April 27, 2024, It will be hosted by Beckley Unit 32, and will be at the Post Home located at 1708 S. Kanawha Street, Beckley, WV. Registration is from 9:00 to 10:00 AM.

Hope everyone has paid their Mandatory Funds if not please do so as soon as possible and hope all is working on membership and I am sure our Vice President Mary has already contacted you.

Lets keep all of our veterans in our prayers and also all Auxiliary members

Hope al Units are working on Girl State I know our Unit has still have a lot more to do.

So until next time God Bless all. Peggy Swartz, President Sixth District

3rd District President

Hello all! I hope you are enjoying some sunshine!

We have three Units that are 100% or over!

Congratulation to Buckhannon #7, Bridgeport #68 and Morgantown #174!

Under the leadership of District Vice President April Wilson-Wallace, Unit 174 President Sandra Harper, and Unit 68 Steven Hinzman, we thank you for your hard work! Without the dedication of all our Presidents and Vice-Presidents this organization wouldn't be here. Thanks to you all, the Third District is at 91.29 % of our goal. Keep up the awesome work. We are the first District to reach 90%! Let's get the District to 100%! Remember we ARE here to help and honor VETERANS. Clarksburg, Elkins, Braxton, Belington and Pickens - I hope to be attending a meeting very soon! I am here to help! Please know that it has been an honor to serve as your Third District President! In the Spirit of Service NOT Self Kim Mellie

Third District President



4th District President

On April 7, District 4 held a Spring Conference at Parkersburg Post #15. The Auxiliary elected officers. District Chaplain, Melinda Paxton presented a Memorial Ceremony. Happy Birthday to Rose Epling of Spencer Unit #21. She is a nonagenarian (a person who is from 90 to 99 years old) and will celebrate her birthday, May 19th. Thanks to Rose and Melinda for their continued dedication. Susan Brown and Kim Mellie were special guests and brought greetings from President On April 7, District 4 held a Spring Conference at Parkersburg Post #15. The Auxiliary elected officers. District Chaplain, Melinda Paxton presented a Memorial Ceremony. Happy Birthday to Rose Epling of Spencer Unit #21. She is a nonagenarian (a person who is from 90 to 99 years old) and will celebrate her birthday, May 19th Thanks to Rose and Melinda for their continued dedication. Susan Brown and Kim Mellie were special guests and brought greetings from President Debbie Michael. Susan has a wealth of knowledge and carries in her tote bag on wheels a box full of handouts to share with members. She is always willing to share information. Convention is right around the corner. I hope you were able to get your year-end reports done. Auxiliaries do so much to help our veterans, activeduty military, and their families. We need to let our voices be heard. We need to "Be the One." Membership is paramount in the American Legion Auxiliary. Always carry a membership application. Future members are just waiting for

For God and Country

you to tell them about the American

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

Legion family.

5th District President

Out of 9 units in the 5th District, 6 units have achieved 75% or more of the membership goal and I am so proud of your hard work and commitment to new and existing members of our organization. If you are not at 75%, there is still time to reach your target goals and we are all here to help you! Please reach out to Kim, myself, or Sue if you have questions regarding membership and make sure you are processing members as soon as you receive them!

As a reminder, your year end reports are due to Department Headquarters NO LATER than April 30, 2024. There is a lot of great work being done for our veterans, their families, and the communities we serve. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE be sure to fill out the forms and include a narrative. I want to see the 5th District run away with these awards at the Department meeting in July. If you need the reports, please go to www.wvaux.org and select Media and scroll down until you see "Year End Reports." If you need assistance or have questions, do not hesitate to contact me. Keep up the great work!! Laura Clark 5th District President 304-939-3607 laurakclark716@gmail.com

10th District President

District 10 had a wonderful Spring Conference. Thanks to all that were able to attend and for those that couldn't we missed you.

It is with great pleasure to announce I was re-elected as District President for 2024-2025 and Jill Davis was re-elected for Vice President 2024-2025. Thank you.

It was decided that the Fall Conference will be held in Berkeley Springs on October 19, 2024 and the Spring Conference will be held in Capon Bridge on March 15, 2025.

There was a vote to hold these meetings with registration at 9:00 and meeting starts at 10:00. Please plan to attend as there is much to learn.

May is a busy month for all but please keep in mind the VA Picnic will be held at the Martinsburg VA on May 30, 2024. If you are able to volunteer please do so. It is a heartwarming experience.

Those Veterans look forward to seeing new faces and having time to share with one another.

I want to say again how proud I am of the work that everyone in the District is doing to help Veterans, Community and Youth. Keep up the good work.

Happy Spring
Diana Teter
10th District President



Community Service

We are family. Has your Legion Family come together to make your communities aware of all the different programs and activities you contribute to.

The American Legion Family Day is a day to have fun and to educate the community to what we do. Along with helping to make the life of our veterans better, we help children and youth, we support our First Responders, we beautify our communities we promote Americanism and so much more.

Peggy Swartz

Chr. Community Service

Americanism

Congratulations to Ruby Lamptin, Department winner of the Americanism Essay Contest! Ruby is a student at Warm Springs Middle School. Her essay was submitted by Lynn Hutchinson, Berkeley Springs Unit #60. Ruby's essay was sent to the Central Division for judging.

Time is winding down for Americanism Year End Reports. I am looking forward to reading what units have been doing this year. Don't forget to mention what you have done for Flag Alliance in your reports

Paulette Anderson Americanism Chairman

Children & Youth

April is Children and Youth Month, a time to hold a special event for the children and youth in the community. Its also the time when children are getting outside and playing sports, riding bikes and enjoying the warmer weather. Young adults will be traveling more on the roads, some of them driving for the first time. April would be a good time to hold a safety event for children because school will soon be over. Local law enforcement are always happy to help with safe-

ty events in their communities.

April is also the month to complete annual reports. Children and Youth reports are due in headquarters on April 30, 2024. Many units have already compiled a written report of their activities for their District conferences. Just copy that report and send it along with the annual report. Many units have done outstanding work for the Children and Youth program and reports are the way to get credit for your efforts. Let everyone know what you have done for the children in your community.

Shirley Davis, Chairman

Education

Selections were made and sent to the Central Division for further consideration for all scholarships. We received 1 Non-Traditional, 10 Children of Warriors, and 1 Junior Member Loyalty. Thank you, Roxie Nicholson for your help!

April 15th Purple Up! Day for military kids (sponsor the day, provide purple items for students), and present the Military Child Table.

Teachers Appreciation Week is May 6-10, 2024, show your appreciation to teachers with (candy, cards, snacks, or think out of the box).

There's still time! Has your unit participated in Give 10 to Education? Reminder, Year-End Education Reports are due no later than April 30th to ensure the Department Education Report is sent on time. Please answer all the questions and include a narrative report.

Get involved! Contact your local representatives and ask them to support legislation that establishes new scholarship opportunities. Be heard and help make a difference! Signup for legislative alerts to support the American Legion's efforts. https://www.votervoice.net/

AmericanLegion/home

To assist you in finding homeschooling groups near you reach out to www.homeschool.com and for homeschooler's network in your area www.homeschoolersnetwork.com

"There's no way to be a perfect mother and a million ways to be a good one." Happy Mother's Day!

Nichole Shepherd Education chair wvalaunit60@outlook.com 304-702-1427

Legislative

This week, we are asking the Legion Family to contact their elected representatives to pass H.R. 1413 Expanding America's National Cemeteries Act of 2023 to safeguard the crucial benefit of full military honors at burial for more veterans. This Act will enable VA-run national cemeteries to conduct full military ceremonies for our fallen heroes and expand a key resource. Go to the Action Center to quickly email a letter of support to your member of Congress.

The Legislative Agenda for the 118th Congress -2nd Session is below:

There is a small explanation of the ones I have not mentioned previously.

Military Quality of Life Pay the Coast Guard Access to healthcare for overseas military and families Improving the military TAP (transition assistance program) Protect the American Flag Suicide Prevention and Mental Health - "Be The One" Alternative Treatments in 2021~2.8 million veterans experience an illicit drug or alcohol use disorder, with 92.4% not receiving treatment. VA Healthcare Modernization PACT Act: Implementation and Oversight Safeguard Veteran Benefits

Concurrent Receipt - to help over 42,000 military retirees who have to forfeit their retired pay to receive equal amounts of disability compensation.

Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity GI Bill for Honorable Service Visit https://www.votervoice.net/ AmericanLegion/home for more information.

***Make sure you go to Grassroots Action Center and email your Legislators to encourage their vote! For God and Country May God Bless Us All Kim Mellie Legislative Chairman

Junior Activities

A virtual "zoom" meeting was held on April 9, District Chair members presented updates of activities Junior members have participated in across eastern United States. The meeting was informative and many program ideas were shared. Large or small Junior units are participating in programs and earning patches. Best of all our Juniors are getting out in the community and are visible to the public. Sharing information and skills they have acquired by being active in the Junior Auxiliary.

Seniors, please continue to work with Junior girls. We all learn best by actively participating. Memorial Day, Flag Day and Independence Day are coming up. Allow your Juniors to be a part of your celebrations. The school year is wrapping up but our work with the Juniors continues all year long! Do not be afraid to "Be the One" to teach our youth and lead by example. As always recruit, recruit!

For God and Country Patsy Greiner Junior Activities Chairman 304-483-8296 (cell & text) Patsygirl2@gmail.com

National Security

We have a special request from one of our overseas commissaries: They need coupons! This is a great opportunity to get members involved in working the mission of National Security, especially those members who may be homebound. Below are some helpful tips and the contact information on where to send the coupons:

- 1. Only Manufacturer's Coupons may be used. This can include coupons for food, non-food items like hygiene or cleaning supplies, baby items such as diapers, and pet supplies. The commissary is unable to accept store coupons, restaurant coupons or internet coupons.
- 2. Cut out the coupons. Please do not send sheets of unclipped coupons.
- 3. Overseas Commissaries are permitted to accept expired manufacturer coupons up to 6 months past the expiration date. Be sure to consider the time it will take to mail the coupons and for the commissary to sort.
- 4. Try and sort the coupons before mailing: separate the expired (or soon to expire) from the nonexpired. Then separate and group together by type: Food, Nonfood, baby & children, and pets.
- 5. Send the coupons to the below address: Yokosuka Commissary PSC 473 BOX 33 FPO AP 96349

For God and Country,

Laura Clark

National Security Chairman 304-939-3607

Laurakclark716@gmail.com

Poppy

Here it is almost the end of the month. I hope everyone is in good health.

I hope everyone is thinking on what to put in their reports that are due here In a short while. Keep up the good work remember to hand your poppies

Remember the Month of May is Poppy Month. Use your poppies, hand Them out, set up a stand for poppy day and take contributions. Give them To all the kids you see and see what the parents will due.

If you need my help just email me at carlajwilfong@gmail.com, or call me At 304-592-0247. Hope to see you at summer convention.

Carla Wilfong Poppy Chairman

Public Relations

Can you believe that it is that time of year again to complete year end reports. It is amazing how fast time flies. Please make sure you submit your Public Relations reports. I know there are some amazing things that were accomplished this year. So, make sure you send in your reports so we can see what you have done. Looking forward to seeing what you did and how you let everyone know who we are. Stephanie Handley Public Relations Chairman stephaniehandley@msn.com (304) 670-4055

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Since we are ALL hopefully working on reports, please remember to list the names and their hours separately for both VA and Service to Veterans. A topic came up during a district conference. Helping Post Veterans and how to report those hours. I wrote National and basically here is how it gets reported. This was filtered down from National Staff by the national Chairman.

- * If you are helping the post do a fundraiser for a Veteran, or something for Veterans such as honor flights, or operation wound warriors those hours count as Service to Vet-
- * if you are helping your post raise funds for Post operations it goes to community service.
- * if you are helping with boys state in any way, it goes to community service.

Lisa Cadwallader Lisac.ala71@gmail.com

NEC

One of the National Policy is Member Benefits. Companies who are interested in providing member benefits for members of the American Legion Auxiliary have to submit an application specifying the type of benefits to be offered to members. When they are accepted members will see the new member benefit. Benefits are changing all the time. Be aware of current benefits.

Another Policy is the Membership List Protection. The ALA protects the national membership list to ensure the integrity of the manner in which it may be accessed and used. This membership list is the corporate property of the ALA, entrusted to the Executive Director for safeguarding.

You may have received a letter stating that the American Legion Auxiliary and American Legion Auxiliary Foundation will no longer use the current marketing company. They are in the process of looking for another marketing and licensing company to use for return address labels, cards, etc. as donations. Stay tuned! Paulette Anderson

Constitution & Bylaws

As we move into selecting nomination committees, election committees and election of officers, review your governing documents to assure you are following the rules your Unit approved. This includes details as to how, when, and maybe where.

Lisa Cadwallader Lisac.ala71@gmail.com

Standing Rules

In the delegate packet at the Department Convention you will see Proposal Change for Department Standing Rules. Please look over before the session on Friday so if you have any questions you can ask the committee there.

Units and Districts, please look at your standing rules for any changes you may want to do. Remember Standing Rules can be changed anytime.

Paulette Anderson Standing Rules Chairman

Convention Chairman

Hello To All,

Just a reminder if you're running for department office please bring a photos.

Each unit needs to be in good standing to be seated as a delegate.

Also I'm asking each unit to bring a door prize. And any individual wanting bring a prize would be great.

"More the merrier" Happy spring. Convention Chairman Debbie Fox

Past President's Parley

Hello Auxiliary Members,

I hope and pray that ALL units sent their reports with narratives in by April 30th. It is important for our department to keep a record of what has happened within the year.

I want to thank Shinnston Unit/Post #31 for their wonderful hospitality at their birthday dinner. The food was delicious, the décor was beautiful and very patriotic. (I forgot to mention last spirit)

It was great to see members at the 10th district conference.

Hope all mothers have a good Mother's Day.

Leave you with a quote: "With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts."

— Eleanor Roosevelt. For God and Country Savanna Kauffman PPP Chairperson





American Legion Auxiliary WV Rhododendron Girls State

Rhododendron Girls State

Time is fast approaching and Girls State Applications are due May 1st and they are coming into headquarters at a slower than usual pace.

This year's Girls State Session which will be held Sun, June 9 – SATURDAY, June 15, 2024 at Davis & Elkins College in Elkins, WV. The Girls State Session will be \$300.00 per citizen. 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). Again, as this past session, 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.

Have you set up an orientation session or a joint orientation with another Unit or asked your RGS District Representative? You are providing an amazing opportunity to your citizens. They become more engaged in leadership, patriotism and being informed citizens and form lifelong friendships.

We look forward to another successful year but we need your help in getting them interested, excited 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



100% AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY RIBBON

The American Legion Family Ribbons will be awarded to any post family that achieves 100% membership by the 2024 100% target date. (American Legion Family is defined as a post <u>and/or</u> any combination of Auxiliary unit or SAL squadron. (Each must achieve 100% to qualify)

TO:	The American	Legion			Date		
	Attn: Member						
	P.O. Box 105:	5					
	Indianapolis,	IN 46206					
	•						
The	Department of				certifies the	at the	following Ameri
Leg	ion posts families	have achieved 10	00% (of their Amer	ican Legion	Famil	y goal. (For exam
		n Auxiliary unit a					
Exa	mples						
	100% Post	100% Auxiliary		100% Sq	uadron		No. of Ribbons
- 4	Post 29	Yes		Ye	s		3
	Post 50	Yes		no squadro			2
	Post 500	no auxiliary unit		Ye	s		2
		C	heck	all that app	y:		
Γ	100% Post	100%		100%	ALF	1	No. of
	(please include	Auxiliary	Squadron		Chapter		Ribbons
	post #)	z ruzinaz y			(yes/n		Tubbons
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DUP	LICATE AS NECE	SSARY					
				Depa	rtment Adjı	utant	

Department



American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

"Dedicated to the betterment of all children"

100% Per Capita Banner Program Request Form 2023 – 2024

Each American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary unit, Sons of The American Legion squadron, American Legion Riders chapter or Eight and Forty salon donating at least one dollar for each member during the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation's award year (1 June - 31 May) may receive a beautiful banner/streamer.

To qualify for the 2023-2024 year a post, unit, squadron, riders, or salon must donate one dollar per member based upon its official membership total from their national organization as of June 1, 2023. The post, unit, squadron, riders, or salon has from June 1, 2023, to May 31, 2024, to submit this form, along with the donation, to the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

Post, unit, squadron, riders, or salon name				
Address				
City	State		Zip	
Post, unit, squadron, or salon membership t	total as	of June 1, 2023:		
Total enclosed: \$				

Banner Request Form

Send completed form to: American Legion Child Welfare Foundation PO Box 1055 Indianapolis, IN 46206

ALL REQUEST FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY May 31, 2024

Ways and Means

There were twenty-three \$25.00 winners for February, and one winner for the \$200 drawing. Congratulation to all the winners!

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

If you have ticket stubs and money still out, I need for you to send them to Department.

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 2024 Ways and Means Winners

Name	#'s	City	State	Date	\$\$\$
Charlotte Bowman	424	Wardensville	WV	3/1/2024	25.00
Lisa Warren	726	Cameron	WV	3/2/2024	25.00
Randy Buckley	810	Romney	WV	3/4/2024	25.00
John Powell	827	Wheeling	WV	3/5/2024	25.00
Jeff Wisley	721	Lavalette	WV	3/6/2024	25.00
Beth Fristick	954	Wheeling	WV	3/7/2024	25.00
Randy Buckley	631	Romney	WV	3/8/2024	25.00
Irene Weber	431	Berkeley Springs	WV	3/9/2024	25.00
Shirley Duncan	084	Elbert	WV	3/11/2024	25.00
	989			3/12/2024	
Randy Roush	323	New Haven	WV	3/13/2024	25.00
	177			3/14/2024	
Bryan Steward	719	Augusta	WV	3/15/2024	25.00
Tammy L Campbell	790	Romney	WV	3/16/2024	25.00
Patsy Vaughnn	666	Moorefield	WV	3/18/2024	25.00
Lynne Oakes	232	High View	WV	3/19/2024	25.00
Paulette Anderson	500	New Martinsville	WV	3/20/2024	200.00
	596			3/21/2024	
Alan Karmazin	931	Canonsburg	PA	3/22/2024	25.00
Pat Shepherd	816	Hedgeville	WV	3/23/2024	25.00
Aleesha Karmazin	673	Canonsburg	PA	3/25/2024	25.00
ALA—1st District	766	Moundsville	WV	3/26/2024	25.00
Mary A Robbins	196	Wheeling	WV	3/27/2024	25.00
Angie Pack	451	Welch	WV	3/28/2024	25.00
Marjorie Wall	151	Whitesville	WV	3/29/2024	25.00
Pam Hebb	926	Edgewater	MD	3/30/2024	25.00
		•			



May 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Red Shirt Friday— Every Friday	Month— Military Care- giver; National Appreciation;		STILVER STAR SERVICE BANNER DAY	NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER	Office Closed— DLNC Meeting	4
5	Office Closed— DLNC Meeting	7 Office Closed	8	9	10	11
12 Morrishes	13	14	15	16	17	18 A R C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C
19	20	21	22	23	HONOR AMERICA'S Wear a poppy with pride. VETERANS AMBRANITION ALBEAN	25
26	27	28	29	30		
					Program of Month Poppy	

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

Date 04/15/2024 Department Goal 4994 — Membership to Date—4332 Department Unit 200 Goal 210 — Membership to Date—110 Next Target Date 6/15/24—100%

Kim

IXIIII			
District 1			
Unit	2024 Goal	2024	% of Goal
Wheeling #1	23	19	82.61%
Moundsville #3	254	256	100.79%
McMechen #5	25	10	40%
Weirton #10	68	60	88.24%
Cameron #18	130	114	87.69%
New Martinsville #28	104	104	100%
Wellsburg #34	30	19	63.33%
Follansbee #45	50	58	116%
Pine Grove #81	75	61	81.33%
Paden City #86	80	73	91.25%
Wheeling #89	20	3	15%
Newell #114	20	15	75%
Chester #121	136	117	86.03%
TOTALS	1015	909	89.56%

District 4			
Unit	2024 Goal	2024	% of Goal
Parkersburg #15	394	364	92.39%
Spencer #21	29	26	89.66%
Pt. Pleasant #23	225	198	88%
Tyler County #48	42	42	100%
Sistersville #67	48	21	43.75%
New Haven #140	135	118	87.41%
Williamstown #159	85	62	72.94%
TOTALS	958	831	86.74%

District 6			
Unit	2024 Goal	2024	% of Goal
Welch #8	45	36	80%
Bluefield #9	27	17	62.96%
Beckley #32	25	13	52%
Gary #38	90	78	86.67%
Cowen #62	23	14	60.87%
Richwood #97	33	21	63.64%
TOTALS	243	179	73.66%



Stripes Team Goal— 2568 To Date—2303 89,68%

Membership Chair Uncle Sam



Stars Team Goal 2216 To Date 1919 85.25%



Laura

District 3			
Unit	2024 Goal	2024	% of Goal
Buckhannon #7	40	41	102.5%
Clarksburg #13	54	38	70.37%
Elkins #29	115	91	79.13%
Shinnston #31	267	250	93.63%
Braxton County #33	30	28	93.33%
Bridgeport #68	62	62	100%
Belington #96	20	12	60%
Pickens #122	22	16	72.73%
Morgantown #174	102	112	109.80%
TOTALS	712	650	91.29%

District 5			
District 5			
Unit	2024 Goal	2024	% of Goal
Huntington #16	130	129	99.23%
Logan #19	22	11	50%
Charleston #20	25	16	64%
St. Albans #73	32	26	81.25%
Ceredo-Kenova #93	215	207	96.28%
So. Charleston #94	13	6	46.15%
Hamlin #111	40	33	82.50%
Milton #139	75	63	84%
Barboursville #177	154	136	88.31%
TOTALS	706	627	88.81%

51 . 1 . 10			
District 10			
Unit	2024 Goal	2024	% of Goal
Martinsburg #14	77	56	72.73%
Piedmont #52	20	18	90%
Berkeley Springs #60	187	182	97.33%
Charles Town #63	40	34	85%
Moorefield #64	89	78	87.64%
Charles Town #71	146	129	88.36%
Petersburg #78	71	51	71.83%
Romney #91	164	130	79.27%
Paw Paw #128	44	39	88.64%
Kirby #134	35	26	74.29%
Ridgeley #136	70	64	91.43%
Capon Bridge #137	167	187	111.98%
Keyser #152	40	32	80%
Totals	1150	1026	89.22%

2024 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION RESERVATION FORM

July 11-13, 2024 Doubletree by Hilton 1001 3rd Avenue Huntington, WV 25701

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

Name	e				
			AM		Departure Date
Room	Type: (c	ircle one)	Doubles	King	
Non-S	Smoking	Facility			
Handi	icap Roor If you c	m: (circle one) circled "other"	wheel , please explai	chair n.	oxygen tank other
	*				
vitho Enclos night	iight's de ut a depo	eposit must ac osit will be re	ccompany this turned.	reque	receive first priority. st to reserve a room. Any form, \$108.00 (plus 13% tax) = \$122.04 per
	check	cash	credit	card	
	#	_		credit	card #
				type	
				expira	tion date
	Your cre	edit card may		the one	e night's room deposit.
	I	Mail to:	Doubletree b		n
			ATTN: Euge		
			1001 3rd Ave	nue	
			Huntington	West V	irginio 25701

This form must be mailed to reserve a room at Doubletree by Hilton. (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

106th Annual State Convention 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 106th State Convention of The American Legion, Department of West Virginia, Inc., scheduled July 11-13, 2024, at Doubletree by Hilton, Huntington, 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 (Color) \$70 Quarter Page \$35 Eighth Page (Color) \$ 50 Eighth Page \$25 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 30, 2024. Full Page 8 ½ x 11in No Deviation Half Page 8 ½ x 5 ½ in Quarter Page 4 1/4x 5 1/2 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		
	Quan	ity
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.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

X MEANS PAID UNIT AUDIT OF MEMBERSHIP & MANDATORY FUNDS — June 11, 2024

FIRST DISTRICT - Paulette Anderson President, Christy Bland Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	10%	Membership
#1 Wheeling	X	X		X	X	19
#3 Moundsville	X	X	X	X	X	256
#5 McMechen	X	X	X	X	X	10
#10 Weirton						60
#18 Cameron						114
#28 New Martinsville	X	X	X	X	X	104
#34 Wellsburg						19
#45 Follansbee	X	X	X	X		58
#81 Pine Grove						61
#86 Paden City	X	X	X	X	X	73
#89 Wheeling						3
#114 Newell	X	X	X	X		15
#121 Chester	X	X	X	X	X	117

THIRD DISTRICT - Kim Mellie President, April Wallace Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls	10%	Membership
				State		
#7 Buckhannon						41
#13 Clarksburg						38
#29 Elkins						91
#31 Shinnston	X	X	X	X	X	250
#33 Braxton County						28
#68 Bridgeport						62
#96 Belington						12
#122 Pickens						16
#174 Morgantown						112

<u>FOURTH DISTRICT</u> - Patsy Greiner President, Melinda Roush-Braxton Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	10%	Membership
#15 Parkersburg						364
#21 Spencer						26
#23 Mason County	X	X	X	X		198
#48 Tyler County						42
#67 Sistersville						21
#140 New Haven						118
#159 Williamstown						62

FIFTH DISTRICT: Laura Clark President, Kimberly Evans Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	10%	Membership
#16 Huntington	X	X		X	X	129
#19 Logan	X	X	X	X	X	11
#20 Charleston						16
#73 St. Albans						26
#93 Ceredo-Kenova	X	X	X	X	X	207
#94 South Charleston						6
#111 Hamlin	X	X	X	X		33
#139 Milton						63
#177 Barboursville	X	X	X	X	X	136

<u>SIXTH DISTRICT</u> - Peggy Swartz President, Mary Spence Vice President

Unit	/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	10%	Membership
#8	Welch	X	X	X	X	X	36
#9	Bluefield						17
#32	Beckley						13
#38	Gary						78
#62	Cowen						14
#97	Richwood						21

TENTH DISTRICT- Diana Teter President, Jill Davis Vice President

Unit/Number	Bonding	Scholarship	Veterans Fund	Girls State	10%	Membership
#14 Martinsburg	X	X	X	X	X	56
#52 Piedmont						18
#60 Berkeley Springs	X	X	X	X	X	182
#63 Charles Town	X	X	X	X	X	34
#64 Moorefield						78
#71 Charles Town	X	X	X	X	X	129
#78 Petersburg						51
#91 Romney	X	X	X	X	X	130
#128 Paw Paw						39
#134 Kirby	X	X	X	X	X	26
#136 Ridgeley	X	X	X	X		64
#137 Capon Bridge	X	X		X	X	187
#152 Keyser	X	X	X	X	X	32

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

The Hundred-SECOND 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 11, 12, 13, 2024 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 11, 2024 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.

DEPARTMENNT FINANCE COMMITTEE

This committee will meet on Thursday July 11, 2024 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.

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

STATE:	_