

The Missouri Legionette



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NUMBER 4

President's Message



Department President
Sharon Slagle
Unit 315, District 4

Let Our Light Shine

It is an honor to serve as your Department President and at the same time very humbling. Your confidence in me means so much. I will strive to do my best and not let you down. I thank Unit 315 and District 4 for their support. I will need your help in "Letting Our Light Shine" to carry out our service to others.

Congratulations to the Department Officers, District Presidents, Department Chairmen, Committee Members and Unit Presidents. Working together we can accomplish our goals.

We need to strive to *Let Our Light Shine* every day as we are serving our veterans, military, children and youth, and their families. We are all caring women as we reach out to touch other people's lives. Please let everyone know about your good deeds. There are many people who have not heard of The American Legion Auxiliary. We can change that by finding ways to *Let Our Light Shine*.

My President's project this year is "Kids of Our Heroes Adventure Camp." This camp is FREE TO ALL KIDS ages 11-17. It is a camp for military, police and firefighters, kids, wounded warriors' kids and first responders' kids. Retired veterans Darrell and Michele Hovland started the camp to help children in need and remember, children are our future. I hope you will support this worthwhile project throughout the year to *Let Our Light Shine* on these children. When we are serving veterans and their families never forget the children who might need our help.

God bless our veterans and military! God bless America!

Department of Missouri 2018-2019 President Mrs. Sharon (Marlin) Slagle

Sharon earned her eligibility for membership in The American Legion Auxiliary through her Legionnaire husband, Marlin Slagle, a veteran of the Vietnam War.

She has been an active member of Unit 315 and District 4 for 14 years. She is currently serving her 10th term as Unit President. Sharon has also served as Vice President, chairman of Americanism, Americanism Essay, Education, Past President's Parley, Leadership, Community Service, Children & Youth, and Membership.

On the District level Sharon has

served as President three years, First Vice President, Sgt-at-Arms and Chaplain. She has been chairman of Membership, Leadership, Junior Activities, Past President's Parley and Gold Star members.

Sharon has been the Department of Missouri Chaplain, Historian, Second Vice President/Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Chairman, and First Vice President/Membership Co-Chairman. Slagle has also served on the Department VA & R Audit Committee for eight years.

Sharon and Marlin have four children, 14 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. All family members are part of The American Legion Family. The girls/women are either American Legion Auxiliary members or Junior Auxiliary members. One son is a retired career Army master Sergeant and Legionnaire, one granddaughter is a Legionnaire and continues to serve in the Air National Guard. The other boys are members of the Sons of The American Legion.

Sharon worked by operating a home day care business for over 23 years. She was selected "The Nodaway County Outstanding Young Woman of the Year" by the Maryville JC's for her dedication and caring for children.

American Legion Auxiliary members are caring people who exemplify the motto "Service not Self" supporting all veterans, as well as the children and youth of our communities. It is up to us to teach others about our organization by promoting what we do. Sharon is honored to serve as the 2018-2019 Department of Missouri American Legion Auxiliary President. As we celebrate our 100th birthday, let us work together and "Let Our Light Shine" all the time - every day - around Missouri.

President's Project

President Sharon's project for this year is *Kids of Our Heroes Adventure Camp*. Kids of Our Heroes Adventure Camp is a 501(c)(3) organization committed to helping children of fallen and wounded warriors and first responders. The mission of the organization is to help the children (ages 11-17) of our heroes to develop the coping skills of courage, confidence and resiliency to overcome the fears and challenges of living and rising above the injury of a parent or family member who made the ultimate sacrifice of service to our nation. The organization provides a one-week adventure camp at NO COST to the campers. Founders Col. (retired) Michele Hovland and CW3 (retired) Darrell Hovland had a dream of having a kids' camp for at-risk kids. Kids of Our Heroes Adventure Camp was created to honor and support America's wounded and fallen heroes' legacy, their children. The camp is nestled along the beautiful Flat Creek in the Ozarks of Southwest Missouri. It is located 45 miles west of Branson in a quaint little community of Jenkins. For more information go to: www.kidsofourheroes.org.

President Slagle operated a day care in her home for 23 years. She worked with various organizations that were part of the school where her children attended. These included serving as PTO officer, Red Cross volunteer at the school, Cub Scout Den Mother for 12 years, and helping with Bible School. Caring for and teaching children has always been a big part of Sharon's life and although she no longer operates the day care in her home, it is often filled with children when her 14 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren visit. Sharon's heart goes out to any child who is struggling or suffering to cope with a situation. This describes the children who attend the Kids of Our Heroes Adventure Camp. It has daily excursions, group therapy and journal entries to teach coping skills. It also helps kids face fears while instilling courage, confidence and resiliency. Sharon wants to make a difference and "Let Our Light Shine" for Kids of Our Heroes.

(Further information and thoughts from website)

Why We Are So Unique:

- Free to all campers
- Our camp is one week long
- Designed to support kids (neither parent nor guardian accompanies)
- Therapeutic counseling camp
- Daily thrilling adventures are paired with coping skills
- One counselor per 4 kids
- Up to 16 kids per camp
- Primitive camping
- Camp staff are all combat veterans, police officers and firefighters
- Counselors are licensed or have a Master's degree in counseling

Why We Do This —

We know the most precious thing to an American Hero is the CHILD.



~ Let Our Light Shine ~

President Sharon's theme this year is "Let Our Light Shine." We need to strive to make this happen all the time every day around Missouri. As members of the largest patriotic women's organization in the world, we need to let everyone know what we do to serve out veterans, their families, our children and

youth, and our local communities. American Legion Auxiliary members are caring women who reach out daily to touch the lives of others. The only way people are going to know the impact we make is if we show or tell our story. We should be shouting our accomplishments from the rooftop, not hiding them. When people learn more about our organization they will want to join us in our service to others. There are many in our communities who have never heard of The American Legion or The American Legion Auxiliary. We can change that by finding ways to "Let Our Light Shine."

The 100th-year celebration should give us many opportunities to talk about The American Legion Auxiliary and what we do. If your Post or Unit is hosting a 100-year celebration, invite your neighbors and work colleagues. Publish newspaper articles about our activities. Remember a picture is worth a thousand words. Do a public service announcement about an activity, post information and pictures on your website or Facebook page. Junior members like to participate and have their pictures taken; so take advantage of this. Working with and mentoring our Juniors will strengthen our Units, Districts and Department by showing them how to love and serve veterans and communities. Our youth are the future. They need to be guided to become future leaders in our communities and The American Legion Auxiliary.

DEPARTMENT 1ST VICE PRESIDENT



Marsha Mooney
Unit 21, District 5

Thank you for your support the past two years. As your Department 1st Vice President I will be working on membership. We will be shining our light throughout the state looking for members to help us with our mission of helping our veterans, military and their families. Sheridan Mires and I will be working together on membership so if you have any questions or need help do not hesitate to contact us. I am looking forward to visiting many Districts and Units this year. Let's have a shiny great year!

2ND VICE PRESIDENT



Victoria Ornelas
Unit 55, District 1

I thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your 2nd Vice President. It is a privilege and honor. Thank you for your support. I look forward to seeing everyone at Fall Conference. May God bless all of you and your families.

Department Historian



Vera Gerner-Taylor
Unit 218, District 9

Thank you for electing me your Historian for 2018-2019. Please send me information on the travels of President Sharon as she visits your units and districts this year. I want to include her activities as much as possible in her history book. I wish all of you a wonderful and busy Auxiliary year.

National Executive Committeewoman



Carolyn Sanford
Unit 217, District 7

I look forward to serving as National Executive Committeewoman for the Department of Missouri. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent you at the National level. I feel this is a very important position. I will try to bring you information about what is happening and at the same time pass on our feelings about current issues.

MEMBERSHIP



Marsha Mooney Co-Chair Membership

Welcome to the 2018-2019 Membership Year! This year we are going to "Let Our Light Shine" across the state of Missouri. Your membership team wants you to be excited about working membership this year. It is so important to keep our membership numbers up, so we can have the woman power to support our veterans, military and their families.

I know what everyone is asking, "What is our goal this year?" I have good news for you, your final numbers from last year will be tallied at the end of July and your goal will be one more member than you had last year. Let's make this happen and along the way if you pick up a few more, that would be wonderful. I know that we can make this happen working together.

You Are Invited to The American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Missouri

President Sharon Slagle's Homecoming Dinner

hosted by

American Legion Auxiliary Unit #315

Rolla Dicks American Legion Post

120 W. Main Street, Burlington Junction, MO 64428

On Saturday, October 6, 2018

\$25.00 per person

Meet and Greet at 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m.

Broasted Chicken and Beef Brisket

Cheesy Potatoes - Green Beans

Garden Salad - Dinner Roll - Dessert

Hotel Information

All hotels located in Maryville - 15 miles from Burlington Junction

American's Best Value Inn 1700 E. 1 st Street 660-562-3111 Variety of rooms ranging from 79.95 to 99.95 Hot Breakfast	Country Hearth 222 E. Summit Drive 660-582-8088 Double Queen - \$70.00 Mention ALA when making reservation
Holiday Inn Express 2929 South Main St Call for room rates Ask for Front Desk and mention ALA 660-562-9949	Red Roof Inn 2817 S. Main Double Queen - \$79.99 King - \$82.99 Handicapped rooms may be available

Dinner Reservation RSVP ~ by October 1, 2018

Name: _____

Address: _____

Number Attending: _____ X \$25.00 = Amount Due: _____

Please make dinner reservation checks payable to:
Mail check and reservation form to:

Sharon Slagle
1260 W. Crestview Drive
Maryville, MO 64468
Maryville, Missouri 64468

For more information contact Sharon at 660-582-2914

MOVED?

New address _____

Please forward to:
ALA Department Office, 600 Ellis Blvd.
Jefferson City, MO 65101-2204



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Greetings



Department Chaplain Louise Welsh Unit 444, District 10

I am honored to have been elected and proud to serve as Chaplain for the Department of Missouri for 2018-2019. With God's help, I pledge to give Him and the organization the best that is within me. My best wishes to you President Sharon and all the newly elected officers. My prayer is that you will have a successful year.

Chaplain's Corner



Department Chaplain, Louise Welsh

Lord, you are the light of the world. Thank you for wanting to shine that light in our lives. Cleanse me today so that I may let Your light shine through.

PRAYER: Dear God, we bow humbly before you to thank you for the many blessings that you have given us. We pray that we may live our lives by the golden rule. May the new officers of the Department, Districts and Units be blessed with grace and strength for the coming year as we face the new year together, give us wisdom in our decisions and help in building a stronger organization. Walk with each of us in our hearts and minds, day by day, so that we many continue to serve you and our country. We ask this in your Holy Name. Amen.

Let your light shine — whether you're a candle in a corner or a lighthouse on a hill.

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2018-2019

- President: Sharon Slagle, District 4
First Vice President: Marsha Mooney, District 5
Second Vice President: Victoria Ornelas, District 1
Historian: Vera Gerner-Taylor, District 9
Chaplain: Louise Welsh, District 10
National Executive Committee Woman: Carolyn Sanford, District 7

ALTERNATE NEC: Sharon Slagle, District 4
APPOINTED OFFICERS 2018-2019
DEPARTMENT SECRETARY: Nancy Reeves, District 8

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN
Americanism: Catherine Auffert, District 4
Americanism Essay: Christine Schepers, District 8
Children & Youth: Linda Jelinek, District 15
Community Service: Shanna Jelinek, District 15
Conferene Directors: Dorothy Goodin, District 8
Constitution and By-Laws/ Policies & Procedures: Lori Millam, District 9

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN (continued)
Cavalcade of Memories: Vera Gerner-Taylor, District 9
Missouri Girls State Trust Board: Linda Shivers, Chairman, District 16
Legislative: Margie Koch, District 9
Membership Co-Chairmen: Marsha Mooney, District 5

Distinguished Guest Committee: Rosemarie W. Hauck, District 10
Northwest Division: Wilma Jobson, District 2
Southeast Division: Wanda Kinder, District 13
Southwest Division: Linda Jelinek, District 15
Music: Sheila Buus, District 15
National Security: Carolyn Sanford, District 7
Purses Scholarship: Rosemarie W. Hauck, District 10
Fundraising Committee: Sandy Findeiss, District 4
Sandy Findeiss (Chair): 102 McClay Village Dr. St. Peters, MO
Evelyn Cox, District 10
Whitney Nolan, District ??
Tina Anderson, District 3
Shanna Jelinek, District 15
Patty Pink, District 1
Missouri Girls State Trust Board: Linda Shivers, Chairman, District 16
Legislative: Margie Koch, District 9
Membership Co-Chairmen: Marsha Mooney, District 5

Public Relations: Lindy Capp, District 8
Cameron Veterans Home: Wilma Jobson, District 2
Rules and Regulations: Patty Garrett, District 15
Strategic Plan Committee: Laura Mosby, District 3
Women Veterans: Barbara Ebersole, District 4
Cathie Goth, District 6
Evelyn Cox, District 10
Patty Kellet, District 13
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Audit Committee: Linda Schaap, District 5
Darline Enloe, District 16
Ellen Arnce, District 15
John Cochran VAMC: Evelyn Cox, District 10

Kansas City VAMC: Helen Hatz, District 5
John J. Perishing VAMC: John J. Perishing VAMC, District 14
Dwight D. Eisenhower (Kansas) VAMC: Cindy Newton, District 8
Fayetteville (Arkansas) VAMC: Ellen Arnce, District 15
Mexico Veterans Home: Victoria Ornelas, District 1
Warrensburg Veterans Home: Doris Raber, District 6
St. James Veterans Home: Carolyn Sue Isgriggs, District 16
St. Louis Veterans Home: Rosemarie W. Hauck, District 10

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS 2018-2019

Linda Maddox, District 1
Rosie Rhodes, District 2
Karen Bumgarner, District 3
Sheridan Mires, District 4
Bonnie Sweeney, District 5
Shirlee Schroeder, District 6
Carolyn Sanford, District 7
Connie Pack, District 8
Margie Koch, District 9
Coretta Schoer, District 10
Roselee Buate, District 11/12
Vickie Wilson, District 14
Ellen Arnce, District 15
Darline Enloe, District 16
Jaretta Holt, District 17



Missouri Girls State

Macae Mickens, Director

The 77th session of Missouri Girls State was held June 24-30, 2018, on the campus of the University of Central Missouri. It has been held at UCM since 1998. ALA MGS 2018 finished the week with 744 delegates. We did have seven "no shows" which was down in number from 22 last year. The last two years we have continued to do our in-person briefings across the state, but have also added an online video and follow-up survey option. This year we had almost 200 girls complete this option, which we consider to be a great opportunity. We have continued to find that citizens are getting varied information from Auxiliary units, Legion posts, schools and ALA MGS staff. When we provide packets in October for 2019, it will be especially valuable if you contact the ALA MGS Director or Dean of Admissions with questions. We can then be assured to provide a uniform response to all citizens and families.

ALA MGS was honored to hear from elected officials during the week, including both US Senators Roy Blunt and Claire McCaskill, State Auditor Nicole Galloway, Representative Hannah Kelly, KC Councilwoman Alissia Cannady, and former Missouri Speaker of the House Catherine Hanaway. We also heard from the first female superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, Colonel Sandra Karsten, Colonel Michelle Hovland, and former Governor Bob Holden. He not only taught in our International Politics class, but presented the US-Midwest China Association's Youth Cultural Exchange with five ALA MGS staff members who traveled to Beijing in January.

The Western District Court of Appeals held oral arguments at ALA MGS. Our representatives and senators were able to travel to Jefferson City on Wednesday where they were assisted by former and current representatives and senators. Judge Julilah Otto spoke at Inauguration and swore in our newly elected officials Friday evening.

Our ALA MGS Alumni banquet held on Thursday night was very well attended. It allowed for increased awareness of staffing the ALA Missouri Girls State program and also American Legion Auxiliary membership opportunities.

Our 2017 governor, Wei Wei Kellmann, and Superintendent Haley Wingender were outstanding as they presided over the 2018 session. Former Governor Kellman will be attending Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla or St. Louis University in the fall. Superintendent Wingender will be attending Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Arizona. Both plan to participate in their respective colleges' Air Force ROTC Program.

Newly elected Governor Camille Shoals was elected at the General Assembly Thursday night and announced at Friday morning assembly. Governor Shoals addressed the Auxiliary convention Saturday morning. Her superintendent of Highway Patrol is Courtney Wille.

Our journalism program is a great addition, delivering daily broadcasts and full print newspapers. We have additional copies of the Girls State Gazette available in the back of the room. Our citizens participated in service projects during the week, including writing letters to Honor Flight participants, folding pocket flags, and donating activity books for Missouri veterans homes and hospitals.

We were happy to have ALA representation from Festus' Honor Guard present the colors at our Opening Assembly on Sunday. At Saturday's Closing Assembly American Legion Post 464 presented the Tribute to a Fallen Soldier.

We happily hosted visitors from American Legion Posts and Auxiliary Units during the week. Our program has changed dramatically over 77 sessions. We want to showcase it to you! If you can come to our session, please let us know. We will figure out someone to tell you more about the events going on at the time.

I thank Department President Carolyn Sanford for entrusting me with this program and being Director. I had the pleasure of working with amazing staff members at ALA MGS 2018. They provided great support in addition to strong partnership with the American Legion Boys State program and the University of Central Missouri. The program had minor issues throughout the week; however, we were able to overcome all of them together. We hope that we can continue the legacy for years to come.

County Government & Bylaws

Joan Vanfossan, Chairman

I was pleased to receive more reports than usual for County Government this year. Thanks to each unit or district chairman who took time to respond. I believe more events are held than are reported to this chairman. Some events are sponsored by American Legion posts.

Across Missouri 9 County Government Days were held involving 28 schools, 630 students, 39 teachers, 48 Auxiliary members and 53 Legionnaires. These events included five flag-folding ceremonies and one flag disposal ceremony. Special recognition should be given to District 4 for its outstanding County Government Day history. This year marked the 64th anniversary of District 4 County Government Day. Five events were held involving 19 schools and 473 students. A Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to District 4 and Catherine Auffert for organizing County Government Day in Nodaway County that included seven schools and 182 students.

I appreciated the reports from Lori Miller in Holt County; Barb Ebersole, Andrew County; Sheridan Mires, Atchison County; Marta Barnes, Buchanan County; and all in District 4. Good reports were also received from Ruby Steffens, Unit 133, District 13; Berniece White, Unit 551, District 2; and Roselee Buatte, Unit 150, District 13. My personal thank you to each of these ladies for providing CGD in your communities and for sharing this information with our members.

District 4 is the only district that conducted an essay contest. Winners were Gage Salsbury from Holt County and Dalanie Acklin from Nodaway County. Congratulations to these students. My thanks to all the ladies of the American Legion Auxiliary across Missouri who worked so hard to provide this program for the 650 students in our communities. At this time in history it is most important for us to encourage civic participation in America's youth.

By: Roberta Pointer and Lori Millam, Co-Chairmen, members Michele Emmerich, Connie Pack and Cathie Goth

This is part of the year-end narrative report we sent to the National Constitution and Bylaws Chairman. The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Missouri Constitution and Bylaws committee continues to stress the importance of reviewing one's constitution and bylaws each year – whether it be a Unit, District and even the Department.

The Units in the Department of Missouri have been busy this year with the Constitution & Bylaws program. Twenty-four Units have reviewed their documents. Five of these Units have made necessary changes. A reorganized Unit, in Trenton, Missouri, sent a copy of their Constitution & Bylaws to the Department chairman with questions and for review. Units that had to make changes in their Standing Rules, due to the increase in dues, reported making the changes. One Unit had to lower their quorum at their regular Unit meeting to be able to conduct business.

Committees were formed in some Units to take on the task of reviewing the documents, making the necessary and mandated changes and taking them to the membership for approval. After changes were made and voted on, the revised Constitution & Bylaws were sent to Department office to be put on file.

Some Units reviewed their documents at the regular Unit meeting. The Bylaws were read and each section was discussed so everyone at the meeting would have a good understanding of what was meant by the wording in each section. One Unit reported going over the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary at two of their meetings. Copies of Unit Constitution & Bylaws are made available to new members and any other

members who request a copy. At the first of the year, several Units send new copies of their Constitution & Bylaws to all members.

Several Districts in Missouri reported to their Department chairmen. The District chairmen gave reports about the Constitution and Bylaws program to their membership of which included "What is this program, and why do we have it?" One district reported spending \$96.00, 13 members volunteering a total of 23 hours toward this program. District chairmen urged their Units to review their documents. Many of the Units in the Districts reported to their District chairman that their Constitution & Bylaws were up to date.

As you can see, the Units and Districts within this Department were very busy this year promoting, reviewing and revising their Constitution and Bylaws and this program.

Awards are as follows:

First-Place Unit Report – Sikeston Unit 114, Vickie Wilson chairman

Second-Place Unit Report – Louisiana Unit 370, Roberta Pointer chairman

First-Place District Report (tie) – District 14, Vickie Wilson chairman and District 9, Lori Millam chairman

Second-Place District Report – District 13, Virginia Schnurbusch chairman

Third-Place District Report – District 15, Ellen Arnce chairman

The proposed Constitutional Amendment to Elect the National Executive Committeewomen and Alternate National Executive Committeewoman did not pass at the Department convention.

Americanism

Catherine Auffert, Chairman

The Department of Missouri had 100 percent District reporting and 55 percent Units reporting. Two districts were lucky with all Units reporting. There were 34 Patriotic programs for children, including the Americanism programs, with 875 volunteer hours for these activities. Six units participated in a Flag Education Program and 16 units participated in a Flag Disposal ceremony. Fourteen units participated in the Flag Folding or Meaning of the Folds ceremony.

There were 224 members participating in the following activities: event to support the flag; recognition or letters presented; Pocket Flags; repaired flags for businesses; get out to vote campaign; Americanism essays; Veterans Day; Memorial Day (put flags & markers on all veterans graves, placed wreath at flag pole); Wreath Across America; Flag Distribution days; Fourth of July (participated in parades distributing candy and toy soldiers with a prayer request for our active military, held a breakfast for the community & a bake sale); County Government Day; Bake Sales; Poster Contest with the theme "Honoring All Who Served"; taking colored pictures and letters from local school children to the VA hospital and veterans in nursing homes; handing flags to community people to fly at home; Flag Day, put flags along the highway entrance at their post home; helping at the Vietnam Memorial Wall; JROTC meetings discussing relevant current events; and Red Cross Comfort Kits.

There was \$2,106 spent on these programs. There was probably more money spent and more volunteer hours that were not reported. These listed activities, other projects and events help show the communities what the American Legion Auxiliary does and how we work together with our American Legion family to make a difference.

Americanism Essay Contest

Lucille Armbruster, Chairman

The following are the 2017-2018 Americanism Essay Contest winners:

Class I – Coltin Potter, District 3-Unit 132

Class II – Jillian Huellinghoff, District 9-Unit 218

Class III – Bailey Whitaker, District 14-Unit 59

Class IV – Tatum Legan, District 13-Unit 416

Class V – Emma Dieckmann, District 7-Unit 305

Class VI – Kelsey Pflasterer, District 9-Unit 226

Each received a certificate and \$25. The winning essays were sent to National Central Division Chairman for judging.

2017-2018 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Department Membership Co-Chairmen Sharon Slagle and Sheridan Mires

Members, Units and Districts have been busy working membership this year. At this time Department Membership is 88.62 percent.

Unit and District membership teams have made phone calls, sent emails, written letters, and made road trips to encourage and support the members across Missouri. Several District Presidents met with struggling Unit leaders to offer assistance in filling out paperwork and answering questions.

Units have pushed to achieve the goals set by the membership team:

- 14 Units received the Family Reunion Award "Remembering Pearl Harbor" for reaching 100 percent of their 2017 membership by December 7, 2017, Unit # 13, 26, 39, 65, 102, 134, 163, 177, 189, 261, 340, 392, 487 and 622.

- 49 Units received the Poppy Parade Award for reaching 102 percent of their 2017 membership by May 28, 2018, Unit # 5, 13, 20, 26, 32, 34, 65, 69, 78, 102, 117, 134, 162, 163, 174, 177, 189, 189, 191, 208, 209, 213, 226, 230, 274, 281, 283, 284, 289, 317, 331, 340, 362, 366, 371, 376, 392, 393, 419, 434, 444, 488, 556, 586, 587, 596, 623, 643 and 783.

- 43 Units received the ALA Sparkler Award for reaching 105% of the 2017 membership by July 4, 2018, Unit # 2, 5, 13, 26, 32, 34, 49, 61, 65, 78, 102, 117, 134, 163, 174, 177, 180, 189, 191, 208, 209, 213, 281, 284, 289, 317, 331, 340, 362, 371, 392, 393, 419, 434, 444, 488, 556, 586, 587, 596, 623, 643 and 783.

- 24 Units received special recognition for maintaining their membership when compared with 2017 membership.

- 11 Districts received the "Zip-A-De-Do-Dah Award" for having all the Units in their Districts turn in some membership by March 15, 2018. Districts reaching this goal were District 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15 and 16

The winners of the drawings for \$25 for those Units and District reaching the goals set by the membership team were:

1. Family Reunion Award – Unit 392 – District 15
2. Poppy Parade Award – Unit 393 – District 3
3. ALA Sparkler Award – Unit 134 – District 7
4. District – Zip-A-De-Do-Dah Award – District 2

Education & Scholarship Report

Jackie Sutor, Chairman

The units and districts have been very busy promoting the ALA Education program.

It emphasizes a quality education for every child and supports students in their desire to continue their education beyond high school. Many units worked with the "Give 10 to Education" program by donating money and supplies. One unit collected enough school supplies to fill a wheelbarrow. The local newspaper in several communities became involved. Items collected by units were sanitary wipes, paper towels, pencils, pens, erasers and scissors. Units donated to the Backpack program as well. A unit donated to the Maker Space that one school started. It is a platform for learning and an inviting place to play, create, learn, mentor and invent. To learn more about this program the website is www.makerspaces.com/what-is-a-makerspace.

Several units invited veterans to visit school and share their war experience with the students. Many did this around Veterans Day. A number of schools invited veterans to visit school for a patriotic program to honor their service. One unit helped a veteran further his education by donating money after he lost his job.

Fourteen applications were received for Children of Warriors National Presidents Scholarship. The winner was Delanie Fohey, Unit 174, District 1. Two applications were received for the Lela Murphy scholarship. The winner was Madaline Thomas, Unit 218, District 9.

There were various activities for Education Week. Apples and cookies were delivered to schools along with thank-you cards and U.S. flags. Donations were made to Project Prom and Project Graduation.

There were 65 scholarships awarded for \$23,070. Donations to the Department Scholarship fund were \$505, and \$879 given to "Give 10 to Education." Ten units participated in AEW, 26 schools were recognized during AWE and \$557 was spent by units during AEW.

I received reports from all districts. Best District report was a tie – District 9, Roberta Pointer, Chairman, and District 14, Anne Quick, Chairman.

Best Unit report was also a tie – Unit 218, Laverne Fleer, Chairman, and Unit 114, Anne Quick, Chairman.

LEADERSHIP

Ruth Wiemann, Chairman

Leadership emphasis was the Auxiliary Basics Course found on <http://www.alaforveterans.org>. Participants read and answered 100 true or false questions about our great organization. Then they submitted their answer papers to the Department Chairman. I received the answers from National and graded the papers.

First-place gift and certificate was awarded to Linda Maddox, Unit 36, District 1, who answered 97 questions correctly.

Second-place gift and certificate was awarded to Connie Pack, Unit 5 District 8. She missed only eight questions.

Third-place gift and certificate went to Christina Arth, Unit 360, District 1, with 86 correct answers.

Honorable mention gift and certificate was awarded to Anne Quick, Unit 114, District 14. Anne answered 85 correctly. She also submitted a unit and district report.

Kids of Our Heroes Adventure Camp

Article #1 2018-2019

By Ellen Arnce for Sharon Slagle

Just imagine you are 11-17 years old, a child of a **Hero**, a veteran. Your parent was deployed and killed in action or your parent came home but couldn't live with the horror of that deployment and committed suicide. Just imagine you are a child of a veteran with TBI, (Traumatic Brain Injury), or PTSD, (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder), daily trying to cope with the changes in this parent and the rippling effects in your family. Just imagine there's a place, a camp, where you can find a **Haven, Healthy atmosphere, Help with coping, patriotic Honor, Healing, and Hope. WELL, THERE IS SUCH A CAMP!**

Kids Of Our Heroes Adventure Camp, (KOOH-AC), is located in southwest Missouri, 45 miles west of Branson and nestled along beautiful Flat Creek. It is free to children of fallen or wounded heroes.

On your first day you are given a journal, where you read "Staff's Mission Statement To Campers: We are committed to providing a safe and supportive environment. We will offer a variety of adventures coupled with a different coping skill and Bible verse to support resiliency. We will help you look your fears in the face as you have had to do to overcome the challenges of living with a parent wounded in the line of duty or rise above the loss of a parent or sibling who made the ultimate sacrifice for this nation." You then read "write to scream, write to shout, write to ramble, write to brain storm, write to laugh, write to cry, etc. Journal for peace." The next page reads: "KOOH-AC Core Values Courage is the ability to do something that frightens. Strength in the face of pain or grief (physical and moral). I Corinthians 16:13-14 "Be on guard. Stand firm in your faith. Be courageous. Be strong. And do everything with love." Confidence is belief in oneself and one's abilities. Philippians 4:13 "For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength." Resiliency is the ability to readily recover from personal crises by bouncing back stronger, wiser in oneself. Micah 7:8 "Do you not gloat over me, my enemies! For though I fall, I will rise again. Though I sit in darkness, the Lord will be my light."

Such core values should be ours, also. The camp also reaches out to kids of fallen or wounded first responders. Contact information:

By mail: Kids Of Our Heroes Adventure Camp, 9441 Farm Road 1195, Aurora, MO 65605, by phone: (417) 574-6250, by email TheCamp@KidsOfOurHeroes.org, on the World Wide Web: www.KidsOfOurHeroes.org, on Facebook www.facebook.com/KOOHAC. Stay tuned for more articles on this amazing camp!

District 1

Linda Maddox, President

The First District consists of 11 Units with eight reporting that their service to veterans included 2,219 hours with \$9,831 spent to assist 3,759 veterans. We have volunteered 218 hours, spent \$8,866 for 377 active military families.

We have been active in the communities by volunteering 2,626 hours and spent \$3,353. We supported our children and youth by raising and providing funds to sponsor 34 delegates to Girls State, donating to After Prom parties, helping/teaching at Vacation Bible Schools, sponsoring the Poppy Poster & Miss Poppy contests and the Americanism Essay contest. Units have been busy educating our members and our community about the need to support our veterans, active duty military and their families by reporting their ALA programs and service with photos in the local newspapers and on the radio, participating in classroom reading programs, delivering apple baskets to teachers during American Education Week. Three units provided \$1,620 in scholarships. Units also reported serving church member and veteran funeral dinners, members of the Legion Riders participated in Legacy Run Scholarship fundraisers, Honor Flights and the Auxiliary flag was displayed at Memorial Day services. Our Junior members have been active in promoting and distributing Poppies, helping with parties on July 4th and Christmas Gift Shop, dispersing stuffed animals to organizations for displaced children and working on projects to secure patches for their vests.

Our units have made donations to local food banks, sent gifts and volunteered time at the Mexico Veterans Home for their Christmas Gift Shop, sent money for the wreaths across America at the Jacksonville State Cemetery, Wounded Warriors, Special Olympics, Seg's For Vets and collected coupons for overseas military bases. We hold draping ceremonies of our Charters for deceased members and include their families. Our District collected \$72 for the quarter & dime Emergency Fund collection. One unit presented their Gold Star mother with a rose at their Memorial Day ceremony and recognized her with a certificate. Several units promoted the Oratorical Contest with four participants at the District level, participated in the Pocket Flag project and sent letters or Certificates of Recognition to unit members.

VA & R reports from ten units stated 3,527 hours volunteered, \$10,005 spent and 10,961 miles driven to assist 1,058 veterans. Our District distributed 2,010 Poppies and collected \$2,122 to better serve our veterans and active military. Unit #360 recognized one of their young auxiliary members as she entered the Army National Guard by awarding the Blue Star Banner to her father and siblings.

Thank you to all the members for your service and dedication!

District 2

Rosie Rhodes, President

District meetings are held quarterly and some Department Officers were present at each. I have installed officers in several units and have been in contact with others concerning questions they had on issues.

Several units have been very busy with various activities. They have helped at the Veterans Home wrapping Christmas gifts, made lap blankets and walker aprons. They have assisted the American Legion distribute flags in cemeteries and raised funds for grave markers. Other units hosted funeral dinners, honored all veterans with programs and dinners. Several units are hosting birthday parties with cake and ice cream and have a Spa Day at the Veterans Home. The veterans really like this activity, especially the female veterans.

Many units are still sending boxes of personal care items to Afghanistan for active military, participating in parades, collecting pull tabs for Ronald McDonald house, hosting soup suppers, fish fries, spa day and distributing Poppies. These are some of the ways unit members keep busy with service to the veterans.

District 3

Karen Bumgarner, President

Some of the units have been very busy assisting in their communities. Unit 56 served cake & ice cream

to the veterans at the Cameron VA Home, distributed Poppies and served a ham luncheon to the American Legion members.

Unit 61 members distributed Poppies, sponsored Girls State delegates, assisted veterans, children & youth, donated to Child Service Charities, Christmas families, participated in fundraisers for the post, donated money, organized annual garage sale, made personal donations, sent valentine cards, delivered cheer baskets, donated to the Department President's project, helped at Cameron VA Home, KC tiny houses project and participated in a flag disposal ceremony.

Unit 117 sponsored delegates to Girls State. During a church service on Veterans Day a program for children about American flag etiquette was held. The presenter was dressed and portrayed Betsy Ross. They presented 20 small flags, participated in teaching proper etiquette during the Pledge of Allegiance and singing the "Star-Spangled Banner."

Unit 169 assisted veterans and sponsored delegates to Girls State.

Unit 216 participated in Girls State, served eight youths, donated to Child Service Charities, awarded scholarships, collected items needed by DES for children, participated in Wreaths Across America, and hosted a District 3 meeting.

Unit 236 volunteered and assisted veterans, distributed Poppies, sponsored delegates to Girls State, volunteered and served children & youth, donated to Child Service Charities, volunteered in the community, awarded scholarships and contributed to Department scholarships, participated in Special Olympics, sent Hero Packs, awarded certificates in school and donated money, Community Service loaning medical equipment, recycling, donated to Food Bank, participated in Town Hall meetings and Meet the Candidate night.

The unit has bingo, raffles, spaghetti dinners, members served as Color Guard and laying a wreath for the American Legion, offered Poppies at a Memorial Day ceremony. They also hosted a District 3 meeting. One member donated money for a Department raffle basket.

Unit 257 Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts assisted with the flag disposal ceremony, supper was served, flags were displayed on July 4th, led the annual town parade and gave away candy along the route, donated candy for Christmas and Easter. This is the first year to sponsor a delegate to Girls State. The money was donated from CWF club. One member sent get well and sympathy cards to people in the community.

Unit 393 donated money to Cameron VA Home, sent Christmas cards, took magazines and books, cookies every other Tuesday for Tea Day and two members were the servers. They sent three girls to Girls State.

District 5

Bonnie Sweeney, President

Fifth District has 11 units; however, two are in the process of canceling their charter. The majority of the members have transferred to other units. Our membership chairmen continue to reach out to members who have not yet paid and to recruit new members.

The units had successful and fun Poppy days. It is one of the most enjoyable programs to volunteer and work. It is truly a family program with Legionnaires and SAL members working together on this program.

Truman Day was held May 7 and 8. It was well attended by Missourians and members from surrounding states. Girls State followed in June with an outstanding group of young ladies, dedicated workers and volunteers.

Election of unit officers has taken place. Now everyone looks forward to Department Convention and then on to National Convention in August. The new Auxiliary year will begin with renewed enthusiasm.

Keep up the good work with pride. Thank you for all your help for the ALA. God bless America!

District 7

Deanie Koon, President

All 17 Units have been busy working with the programs this year. We have five meetings a year and each is held at a different post.

Several members have attended the Department Convention, Fall Conference and Spring Conference. We were represented at the Truman Day Ceremony. Many volunteered for the VA & R projects, sponsored several delegates to Missouri Girls State and hosted a Girls State Briefing at Post 642 in Sedalia. Several members helped with the Christmas Gift Shops, adopted needy families for Christmas and Thanksgiving, presented flag etiquette classes at

schools, sponsored the Americanism Essay Contest, gave scholarships to students, participated in Memorial Day ceremonies and distributed Poppies. I'm very proud of the ideas and projects the units sponsor in our small communities to promote and serve our many programs.

Units have donated hundreds of dollars to veterans hospitals and nursing homes, and volunteered many, many other hours of service. Donations were made to the Fisher House.

We have recruited, transferred and signed new members. At this time three units have reached 100 percent or more in membership and seven units 90 percent or higher. One unit is canceling their charter so we have lost 19 members. Ladies, please remember membership is very important and every member needs to help recruit new members. Always carry a membership application with you. Don't miss the opportunity to invite someone to join our wonderful organization.

We plan to be represented at Department Convention in July. September meeting will be installation of District Officers at Blackburn Post 478. Thanks to all of the active, energetic members for making this world a better place to live.

May God bless "The American Legion Family."

District 8

Connie Pack, President

It has been a busy year for the 15 units in District 8. A big thank you to all units. The membership has been great. Unit 317 jumped up early to get over 100 percent with Units 5 and 229 following. Unit 506 did not collect any members and with regret lose them.

Department President Carolyn attended the January District meeting. We sold more of the cookbooks that were printed a few years back along with a raffle for a mink bear. The winner of the bear was President Carolyn. Various units held fundraisers for events. Some of the ideas used were having: Bakeless Bake Sale, raffles for money or prizes, country store, fashion show, and dinners (pork steak, chicken, chili, ham & beans to name a few).

I am happy to report that scholarships were awarded to 11 students, amounting to \$5,200. One unit purchased 424 flags for a school to replace the old ones and gave to rooms that did not have one.

Money was donated to a high school band so it could travel to Washington, D. C. The district sponsored 87 girls to Girls State. Community service was promoted with an overwhelming 7,700 volunteer hours and contributed \$9,435 in various causes. Blood drives were held in two units to help people in need. They helped at the event and made desserts for the donors. VA & R program totaled 6,347 volunteer hours and spent \$12,108 assisting 200 veterans with 7,272 miles driven to assist them.

Many units reported veterans were helped by driving them to medical appointments, mowing their yard, playing bingo/card games, or just spending time with them. Some ideas for Poppy distribution was at church, post homes, and several units had juniors helping them. One member brought a small dog along that was fun for everyone.

I am very proud of District 8 for their support to the community, veterans and active military personnel.

District 9

Margie Koch, President

District meetings were held quarterly with the American Legion Family. I have installed officers in several units and have met with a couple units helping submit and maintain their membership. Two units have reached 100 percent and several are very close to being quota. Currently our membership percentage is 87.11 percent.

We have sent 94 delegates to Missouri Girls State. Approximately 11,250 Poppies were distributed throughout the district and collected in excess of \$17,000. District 9 was active in the Americanism and Poppy Poster contests.

Veterans were honored on Veterans Day and units participated in memorial services on Memorial Day. Members also helped serve meals in their communities. Gifts were made for veterans, volunteers participated in various activities at veterans homes, and helped at Christmas gift shops. Christmas and Easter parties were sponsored for children throughout the district. Bloodmobiles were hosted, meals on wheels were delivered, coupons clipped and mailed, financial support was given to various schools for Veterans Day activities, Backpack programs and Give 10 for Education. Twenty scholarships were awarded totaling

over \$8,000. One unit reported high school graduates entering the military service were recognized with certificates and monetary appreciation awards. Teachers were honored with appreciation gifts and goodies.

I am sure many other things were completed this past year that were not reported. The 9th District is proud of the accomplishments that were achieved. I look forward to all the opportunities we will have serving veterans next year.

District 16

Darline Enloe, President

District 16 continues to serve and honor veterans and their families. We focus much of our volunteering at St. James Veterans Home. We also donate money to the home. We play dominoes, checkers and bingo. We help with a Halloween party and Christmas Gift Shop. The members make Christmas Cheer baskets. We participated in the Wreath Across America program.

We participated in Memorial services for veterans, held flag programs and a Poppy program in schools and gave information about both.

FISHER HOUSE

Thank you to all who donated to my President's Project - the Fisher House to be built at Truman VAMC in Columbia. To date in excess of \$5,000 has been donated. I've been told there are a few more donations out there. I will announce the final donation amount at Fall Conference.

Carolyn Sanford
President 2017-2018

We donated to the Backpack program, Toys for Tots, USO and the lunch program. Girls were sent to Girls State. Units purchased flags for cemeteries and helped put the flags on graves.

Fundraising activities were bake sales, barbecues, turkey shoots, garage sales, sold raffle tickets and 50/50 tickets.

Scholarships were awarded. We also help with many other programs in the communities that benefit veterans and their families.

One unit canceled their charter.



Gratitude from Victoria Ornelas

Thank you Roberta Pointer for letting me share the prayer you submitted for President Carolyn's Prayer Book with the members at convention.

Thank you Patty Garrett and Linda Jelinek for judging the Prayer Books. Thanks also to Sheila Buus for the beautiful music at our Memorial Service.

Best District Chaplain Report—Mary Ellen Carr, District 14.

Best Unit Chaplain Report—Lilly Sexton, Unit 153, District 14.

The awards have been mailed.

Due Date September/October

Information and articles about the American Legion Auxiliary programs are due September 20 for the September/October issue. Remember Chairmen, it is up to you to share information about your program and be creative with your ideas. Focus on your program to make it successful for the year.

Please remember to type double-spaced. Thank you for your efforts.

Virginia Schnurbusch
Editor

Deceased Members

MAY 19 – JULY 23, 2018

District	Unit	Name	Location
1	174	Bernice L. Cassidy	Palmyra, MO
3	58	Julie M. Hampe	Kansas City, MO
3	257	Pauline Jones	Plattsburg, MO
4	102	May Connor	Shenandoah, IA
4	359	Georgia Thomas	Saint Joseph, MO
6	131	Clara A. Reed	Warrensburg, MO
8	5	Ruth E. Landrum	Jefferson City, MO
8	5	Arlene F. Foster	Jefferson City, MO
8	226	Margaret Chamberlin	Boonville, MO
9	226	Brigitte E. Steavenson	Elsberry, MO
9	312	Leaetta Boschert	Saint Charles, MO
9	347	Lois M. Huff	Saint Clair, MO
11	555	Virginia Huckeby	Golden Eagle, IL
13	133	Vera Vogel	Frohna, MO
13	416	Martha J. Steinbruegge	Farmington, MO
13	416	Teresa M. Seals	Farmington, MO
14	63	Louise Wallace	Cape Girardeau, MO
16	12	Colleen Fannon	Vienna, MO
17	138	Geraldine L. Brown	Bolivar, MO

Calendar of Activities

August 24-30 National Convention; Minneapolis, MN
October 26-28 Fall Conference; Capitol Plaza Hotel; Jefferson City, MO

District Meetings

District 4 September 8; Burlington Junction Post #315; 9:30 a.m.
District 5 August 15; Hostess Unit #189; Installation of Officers
District 8 September 9; Columbia Post #202; 1:00 p.m.
District 9 September 9; St. Clair Post #347
District 13 September 9; Farmington Post #416; 2:00 p.m.
District 14 November 4; Sikeston Post #114; 2:00 p.m.