

# The Missouri Legionette



Official Publication for the American Legion Auxiliary of Missouri

Volume LXXVII

THE MISSOURI LEGIONETTE

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

NUMBER 6

## President's Message



Department President  
Marsha Mooney  
Unit 21, District 5

I hope everyone who attended Fall Conference found it informative, interesting and had an enjoyable time. Thank you to all the Committee Chairs who distributed information about our programs. The District Presidents were given copies of information that needs to be shared so units can begin working the programs and report the accomplishments and activities. If you have not received your information, please contact your District President or Program Chair.

On our 100th Anniversary year we would like to have more units report their numbers and participation. I understand that we have several programs that your unit can't work and do a good job. I also am sure there are Units that do work all the programs, do wonderful things, but don't report the activities. They don't get the recognition they deserve. Let's try to make reporting happen this year.

Connie Pack has volunteered to organize my Scrapbook. If you have any pictures of my travels visiting your Unit or District, please send them to Connie or the Department office. Please date and identify the event. I usually try to hide from the camera, so be fast.

A BIG Thank You to Evelyn Cox and the ladies who helped with the Chinese Auction fundraiser. Everyone enjoyed the event and we raised funds for the Department office and the MGS Trust Fund. I am now ready for the next time because I finally figured out how to play the game.

Our 100th Anniversary Committee is planning a celebration at the July Department Convention in St. Louis. They are planning a Gala dinner and Silent Auction. If your Unit or District has had or is planning to have your own celebration, please send pictures of the event to the Department office. It is important for us to send this information to National. Polo shirts for the Missouri 100th Anniversary are available to purchase at the Department office.

Our National President Nicole Clapp will be visiting with us April 27, 2020, through April 30, 2020. Please put this date on your calendar. She will be in Kansas City on April 28 and the rest of her schedule is TBA. I know we will have a good crowd to meet and greet National President Nicole and welcome her to our state.

Christmas Gift Shops will be held in December. The hospital and vet-

eran homes representative will need help. Please contact the one nearest you and participate. It is a great activity and gives you the true meaning of Christmas to see how happy the veterans are to see us and take part.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## MEMBERSHIP



**"Keeping Our Promise,  
Past\*Present\*Future"**

Victoria Ornelas,  
Department 1st Vice President  
Membership, Chairman  
Linda Maddox, Co-Chairman

Did you attend Fall Conference? If not, you missed a golden opportunity to see the Division and District leaders use their creative talents to show us how to "Keep Our Promise, Past\*Present\*Future." The participants were energetic and proud of their accomplishments. Thank you for making the Membership Parade a fun and successful event.

EVERY BIRTHDAY IS A GIFT. EVERY DAY IS A GIFT. HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY. The ALA members exemplify service not self through countless hours of volunteering. Although things have changed since our founding in November 1919, our members' unwavering commitment to honor those who served our country remains the same.

Bless everyone and your families this holiday season. Be thankful and be merry!

### Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary now open to male spouses of U.S. veterans and service members

The American Legion has voted to extend membership in the American Legion Auxiliary to male spouses of U.S. veterans and servicemembers. During The American Legion National Convention in Indianapolis in August, delegates of The American Legion voted to replace the word "wife" with "spouse" in their constitution and bylaws, opening up membership in the American Legion Auxiliary.

Why are The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary making this change? Currently, 1.9 million women veterans are living in the United States, and 9 percent of the U.S. military is female. By 2045, it's estimated that 18 percent of the U.S. military will be comprised of women.

This new membership eligibility

has much promise for growth in the American Legion Auxiliary, leading to new resources, increased funding opportunities, and additional diversity and talent among our leadership, as well as general membership.

American Legion Auxiliary members, since the founding of our organization in 1919, have been committed to meeting the needs of veterans, the military, and their families. The American Legion Auxiliary will continue its century-old legacy of Service Not Self well into the future. An increasing number of veterans, servicemembers, and their families will need support. The American Legion Family is taking a "big picture" look at how to help these future families, and keeping our membership strong.



The ALA's 100th anniversary creates an opportunity to reflect on the past and showcase our success and contributions as we advocate for our veterans, active military, and our communities; it is also an occasion to celebrate your "Longest Living Auxiliary Charter Member" or "Youngest Auxiliary Member," or your "Oldest Member," and of course "Eat Cake" to name a few ideas. On Sunday, November 10, 2019, our 100th Birthday Celebration began. We will be partying until August 2020 at the National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. The Department Committee is busy working on various plans for the celebration. There are still many updates to be made.

Have you joined the 100th Anniversary Facebook group and other social media? The Facebook group is private, there are two questions that need to be answered prior to acceptance in the group. Only you know the answer to the questions. There is a wealth of information about the ALA's 100 Anniversary Celebration available.

What plans do your Unit and District have? Please make sure to share them on social media, with your District and the Department. When sharing your events and activities be sure to share using #ala100 or #ala100celebration. Has your Unit created incentives for members to celebrate? Will there be certificates, awards and prizes? Will you be studying or dressing in each decade? What era has your District been assigned? Let's have some fun at the convention! Dress in your District's era on Saturday of the convention to support your District during the membership parade. Remember to have fun as you celebrate. Please let us know what you are doing!

#### DID YOU KNOW:

- You may create a video greeting for the ALA's 100th birthday. It's easy to do! Sign on to the National ALA website for instructions. Your message may appear on the ALA NHQ Facebook page.

- You may promote your events and activities by using the 100th anniversary media toolkit available for download on the national website. It includes sample proclamations, radio ads and so much more.

- Our Department has 100th Anniversary Polo Shirts available for purchase. Yes, they are available in men's sizes. Contact your District President or the Department Office for an order form. Checks must be included with your order.

- Plans are in work for celebrating during the entire Department Convention in July at the St. Louis Airport Hilton Hotel.

- We need your support for the midyear report. Please email a short narrative and/or pictures to Rosemarie W. Hauck, hauckrw@sbcglobal.net.

On behalf of the Committee, we look forward to an exciting Centennial Celebration in Missouri!

## National President's Visit



Nicole Clapp  
National President

National President Nicole Clapp from the Department of Iowa will make her official visit to Missouri on Monday, April 27, through Thursday, April 30, 2020.

In keeping with President Nicole's theme of "The health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families," we in Missouri are working to include this theme in her visit as we continue to celebrate our 100th Birthday. President Marsha Mooney is asking the Auxiliary, The Legion, The SAL, The Legion Riders and friends for your participation and support as we give National President Nicole a big Missouri "SHOW ME" welcome.

The following activities are confirmed:

#### Tuesday, April 28, 2020

10:00 a.m. - Visit and tour the Veterans Community Tiny Homes for Vets, 8900 Troost Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

#### Wednesday, April 29, 2020

10:00 a.m. - Tour and Lunch, Missouri Veterans Home - 1300 Veterans Rd.

5:00 p.m. - Dinner at Matthews-

Crawford Post 131, 733 Young Ave., Warrensburg, Mo.

POC: Martha Yancey, 660-909-2786

**Other ideas in work include:** a Service Project for the Tiny Homes residents (a wish list will be available); a Box Packing Party on Monday, April 27, 2020; lunch/dinners at Legion Posts; and possibly visit the KCMC. For further information, please watch your mail, email, and the February issue of the Legionette. For additional information, call Rosemarie W. Hauck, 314-355-4675; Mary Harper, 660-652-3291; Barbara Sheets, 636-698-4114.

## Greetings from National President

Happy Halloween from the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival in Kalamazoo, Mich!

I am excited to see our membership numbers continuing to rise! In just a couple of months, we have achieved more than **48 percent** of our goal. We are up over 17,000 from last year. This is definitely a reason to be **Celebrating A Century of Service!** As we build the momentum, successful results are happening because of it.

**THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS!**

Please continue to be the spark to light our centennial fireworks! Consider giving an ALA membership instead of a treat for Halloween.

National President,  
Nicole Clapp



## DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE NOT SELF

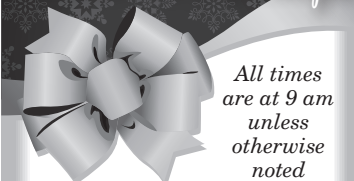
#### In The Works

- Birthday and Veterans Day Celebration, Monday, November 11, 2019, at Post 5 Jefferson City
- Polo Shirt fundraiser-Order forms to be mailed after Fall Conference
- Gala and Silent Auction at Department Convention in July
- Banner for the Department Office proclaiming our 100th Anniversary

#### Committee Contact Information:

- Gayle Metzinger, 816-260-7798
- Rosemarie W. Hauck, 314-355-4675
- Kathy Cox, 417-294-1707
- Nancy Reeves, 573-298-2261
- Department Office, 573-636-9133

## Christmas Gift Shops



All times  
are at 9 am  
unless  
otherwise  
noted

#### VETERANS HOMES

- Cape Girardeau - Dec. 9
- Cameron - Dec. 12
- Mexico - Dec. 2-3
- Mount Vernon - Dec. 10
- Warrensburg - Dec. 5-6
- St. James - Dec. 9
- St. Louis VA - Dec. 13

#### VA MEDICAL CENTERS

- Jefferson Barracks - Dec. 2
- John Cochran - Dec. 3
- Harry S. Truman TBD
- Kansas City VA - Dec. 2, 7 am - 9:30 am
- John J. Pershing - Dec. 6
- Dwight D. Eisenhower (Kansas) - Dec. 2-5
- Fayetteville, Ark - Nov. 30-Dec. 4

## MOVED?

New address \_\_\_\_\_

Please forward to:

**ALA Department Office, 600 Ellis Blvd.  
Jefferson City, MO 65101-2204**



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**Mrs. Virginia Schnurbusch,**  
Editor  
1615 Red Wing Ct.  
Perryville, MO 63775  
Phone: 573-547-6150  
Email: vlsjts@sbcglobal.net

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Department President — Marsha Mooney, 16004 E. 31st Terrace South, Independence, MO 64055 H: 816-373-2275 C: 816-225-1836, Email: mlynnm55@aol.com

Department Secretary — Nancy Reeves, 600 Ellis Blvd., Jefferson City, MO 65101-1615, (573) 636-9133.

Fax: (573) 635-3467.

Email: dptmoala@embarqmail.com.

### Chaplain's Corner



**Shanna Jelinek,**  
Department  
Chaplain

**Scripture:** I pray that from His glorious unlimited resources, He will empower with inner strength through His spirit. *Ephesians 3:16*

Dear Lord, as we come into the fall season, let us be ever mindful of others. Help our members as we get our programs underway for our veterans and communities. Help us always to keep them uppermost in our minds and never stray from the desire to help others. Guide our hearts and minds as we work together for You and our country. We thank You for all things. In Thy holy name, we pray. *Amen.*

## Americanism Essay

**Christie Schepers, Chairman**

The title for this year's Americanism essay is "How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families?"

Children are exposed to so much that their perspective on the subject should be very interesting! I believe this is the same question that we as members of this organization are asking ourselves. This may be an opportunity to actually visit classrooms and talk about the issues the veterans, military and their families are facing. Hold a town hall meeting at your post and invite students, parents, and teachers. Have veterans and current military or their families visit and talk about their needs. This is a good place for your city, county and state officials to also participate.

Unit winners should be sent to their District President before the deadline. District winners should be sent to me no later than March 15, 2020. The state finalist will be sent to National. The state winners will be announced at the 2020 Department Convention in July.

Be sure to use the official Americanism Essay Contest cover sheet for each applicant.

This is available on the National website at <https://www.alafveterans.org/Resources/Americanism/>

Please contact me with any questions: Christie Schepers, 1723 Green Berry Rd., Jefferson City, MO 65101; 573-821-7807; Christieschepers514@gmail.com



## American Legion Auxiliary

*In the Spirit of Service Not Self for Veterans, God and Country*

October 11, 2019

National Executive Committee Members and Department Secretaries:

The IRS regulation concerning auxiliaries to veteran service organizations states in part: "At least 75 percent of its members are veterans, spouses of veterans, or related to a veteran within two degrees of consanguinity (i.e., grandparent, brother, sister, grandchild represent the most distant allowable relationships)."

This has been a regulation for many years, and with the recent review of the Auxiliary eligibility criteria, the issue was evaluated, and the decision was to ensure the organization was compliant.

This means that no great or great-great-granddaughters can join the Auxiliary. Current members whose eligibility relationship is great-granddaughter, great-great-granddaughter or direct descendant can continue being a member, as long as their dues are kept current.

In order to align with IRS regulations, the most distant allowable will be granddaughter. Great-granddaughter, great-great-granddaughter and direct descendant will no longer be available for selection on the relationship tab in ALAMIS.

Membership applications available for download off the website have already been updated. Print applications in the form of our *ALA at a Glance* and *TAL Family* brochure will be updated as stock is depleted.

Currently we have:

- 8,649 members designated as direct descendants
- 5,901 members designated as great-granddaughters
- 311 members designated as great-great-granddaughters

Total of 14,861 = 2.5% of total membership

Linda Boone  
National Secretary

American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters: 3450 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268  
P: (317) 569-4500 | F: (317) 569-4502  
ALAHQ@ALAFveterans.org | www.ALAFveterans.org | www.ALAFoundation.org

## CHAPLAIN REPORT

**Shanna Jelinek, Department Chaplain**

It is the objective of the chaplain to pray for the American Legion Auxiliary, its members and leaders, and for success in carrying out our mission; to guide members through prayer experiences that are appropriate for the situation; and act as a spiritual ambassador of the organization.

It is the belief of our organization that God will guide us in our work, in our community, with our children, and with our veterans. We want to preserve our freedom to worship God as we feel is right and not take that right from others. We thank the veterans who have kept this a strong and free nation. May we always be one nation under God.

The chaplain should attend all meetings and is responsible for all invocations, benedictions, and memorial services at official meetings. These may come from the Unit handbook or may be others you have found or written yourself.

Chaplains are the spiritual leaders of their Unit or District. Some duties and suggestions for activities include: reporting names of members that are ill at meetings and presenting cards for all who are present to sign; sending sympathy cards to the family of a member who has passed, visiting members in hospitals, nursing homes, and shut-ins; making a prayer/devotional book; volunteer in community projects; and encouraging members to send prayers and devotional thoughts so they can be used to make a prayer book.

Districts, please send me your midyear and end of year reports by the deadlines and forward the best year-end unit report to me. An award will be given for the best overall unit and district Chaplain report.

Districts, please send reports to me by email, sjelinek33@gmail.com, or by mail to Shanna Jelinek, 17977 Lawrence 1080, Monett, MO 65708.

A Unit or District prayer book is a collection of prayers, devotional thoughts and poems that mean something special to its members. All members are encouraged to contribute to the book.

The following are some rules to follow:

- Cover - 20 points for creativity and originality
- Title page - 20 points to include
  - District and/or Unit Name and/or Number
  - Department Name
  - Year
  - District/Unit Chaplain
- Dedication page - 5 points
- Pledge of Allegiance - 5 points
- Content - 30 points
  - The book may be typed, handwritten or a combination
  - Pictures may be used
- Neatness and grammar - 20 points

An award will be given to the unit and district Chaplain submitting the best overall book.

### Chaplain Report Form

*"Auxiliary chaplains provide spiritual and emotional guidance when needed or requested, always sending dignity and respect to the occasion."*

Unit \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Do you open meetings with a prayer? \_\_\_\_\_ Close meetings with prayer? \_\_\_\_\_

Are the prayers from the ALA Prayer Book or your own creation? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you provide and promote emotional and spiritual support to members? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you perform, or in conjunction with the American Legion, the Four Chaplains ceremony? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you perform any memorial service for deceased members? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you distribute any educational materials that promote a spirit of unity and love? \_\_\_\_\_

Numbers of Charters draped \_\_\_\_\_

Did you perform a POW/MIA ceremony? \_\_\_\_\_ How many? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you visit members and veterans in hospitals, nursing homes, shut-ins? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you send cards to members and/or members' families? \_\_\_\_\_

Number of messages left on funeral home websites: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Children and Youth

**Linda Jelinek, Chairman**

This is a milestone year in the American Legion Auxiliary - what better way than to recognize our 100 years of Service, Not Self, than by, "Celebrating a Century of Service." This year, National President Nicole's special emphasis will be "The Health and Well-Being of our Veterans and Their Families." One hundred years ago, our Mission was to take care of our veterans, military, and their families, and that purpose remains. Remember "well-being" reaches beyond the health status of an individual; it encompasses all aspects of someone's life.

The American Legion Auxiliary's Children & Youth program emphasizes protecting, caring for and supporting children and youth, particularly those of veterans' and military families - their "health and well-being."

In order to help with this task, there are three documents - 2017-2022 Program Action Plan, the 2019-2020 Supplement and the National President's Award For Excellence - that should be referred to frequently and in conjunction with one another throughout the year as we endeavor to support our Children and Youth.

There are a few items that need to be pointed out in both the Program Action Plan and its Supplement. Two include:

- Sadly, due to circumstances beyond our control, the company that manufactures and distributes Josh Dogs/GI Josh is closing operations. It is our hope that this is a temporary situation and Josh will simply be in hiatus for a year.

- Star Spangled Kids (SSK) is moving to the Americanism program. Don't stop working this initiative; simply report it under Americanism.

So without those two initiatives in our C&Y program this year, it is understandable that the Good Deed Awards and Youth Hero Awards will play a larger-than-life role this year.

- Good Deed Award - Youth should demonstrate a leadership role in community service, a specific deed should be present.

- Youth Hero Award - Youth should demonstrate a physical act of valor in celebration of our 100th anniversary. The goal is to present 100 of each award this year! That's an average of about two a Department. As you can imagine, the Youth HeroAward might be a bit more difficult to find.

The criteria to receive the National President's Award For Excellence has been streamlined. There will be five Unit and five Department awards (one in each Division), that demonstrate "Celebrating a Century of Service," with the focus centering on "The Health and Well-Being of our Veterans, Military, and Their

Families." The winners will be recognized on stage at the 2020 ALA National Convention.

April is "Children and Youth Month," so as Americans we need to remember, amid the problems we face daily with the environment, crime, unemployment and financial uncertainty, the one constant which will make or break this nation is our young people. During this time the American Legion Family emphasizes its commitment to our nation's children and do all that we can to help them.

One way is with a food bank at your Post and Unit. Having special bags that would provide a birthday party for a child that does not usually get a birthday celebrated is easy to have on hand. Fill the bag with items that would make a cake, cups, plates, candles, napkins party favors, etc. Give of your time and your talents to the young people in your community and watch them grow into productive adults. Remember, be on the outlook for children that would qualify for the Good Deed or The Youth Hero Award. Children learn by example and what better way than to see a peer being rewarded for displaying good judgment and sound thinking.

## CHANGE TO THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY PREAMBLE

**Per notice from National Secretary Linda Boone:**

"Resolution 1 was adopted by the Legion NEC on October 16, 2019, which amends the Preamble wording from 'the Great Wars' to 'all wars.' The American Legion Auxiliary needs to follow and amend our Preamble. **This takes effect immediately and automatically.**"

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order, to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our association during the Great Wars associations in all wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion; to consecrate and sanctify our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

### ORDER FORM-100 Year Logo POLOS

American Legion Auxiliary  
600 Ellis Blvd, Jefferson City, MO 65101  
573-636-9133 Email: dptmoala@embarqmail.com



Stock # L100



Stock # K100

**Port Authority Core Classic Pique Polo**  
60/40 Cotton/Poly pique

Pricing-Small to Xlarge \$30.00 2xLarge \$32.00  
3XLarge \$34.00 per shirt

Women's Sizes	QTY
Small	
Medium	
Large	
Xlarge	
2Xlarge	
3Xlarge	
<b>Total</b>	

Men's Sizes	QTY
Small	
Medium	
Large	
Xlarge	
2Xlarge	
3Xlarge	
<b>Total</b>	

Please make checks payable to American Legion Auxiliary. Send checks to 600 Ellis Blvd., Jefferson City, MO 65101

Ship To:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_



# Americanism

Catherine Auffert, Chairman

Americanism is a term that became relevant in the late 19th century standing for allegiance to traditions. When the concept of Americanism was first used, nearly half of all Americans had not attended high school. Many were immigrants who did not speak English. Education came to the forefront to teach English, Americanism and Patriotism, as well as understand what our veterans had endured during the war. As the programs of The American Legion Family grew, so did the knowledge and feeling of Americanism and the U.S. flag. These became our symbol of freedom and patriotism known all over the world.

Americanism is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship. The focus is on three things we can do.

1. Be knowledgeable about flag history, etiquette and proper disposal methods; and promote the observation of patriotic holidays so your community will look to the American Legion Auxiliary for information. Use social media to get information about the flag so you have information to share, especially with schools. The American Legion holds flag folding and flag disposal ceremonies.
2. Increase participation in the Americanism Essay Contest. Essay information will be in a separate article.
3. Participate in the promotion of The American Legion Americanism programs. This may include working with the baseball program, oratorical contest, and junior shooting sports.

You can provide programs to the local schools that are brief and have much information for the students. Other activities can include: publish flag etiquette tips in your newspaper and on social media, model respect for our flag at public events, volunteer to keep up the area around the flag pole at the community civic center, plant seasonal flowers and pick up trash in this area, and order pocket flag kits and distribute to members. These are only a few activities you can do.

Questions to be answered in your narrative report includes:

- How did you promote the Americanism essay contest?
- How did units promote the flag programs?
- How did you promote patriotic holidays?
- How did units encourage support of the flag amendment?
- Did units support The American Legion Americanism program?

How?

- How did units promote Americanism in your community?

There are awards you and your unit can work toward. Information is in the District President's packet. The packet also contains deadline dates for mid-year and end of year reports. My address and email are also included and in the Unit Guide.

# Missouri Girls State

Mae Micken, Director

The 79th session of American Legion Auxiliary Missouri Girls State (ALA MGS) will be on the campus of the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg Sunday, June 21, 2020, through Saturday, June 27, 2020. As a reminder, the ALA MGS committee will continue not distributing or mailing Unit Packets this year. A copy of the packet will be emailed to all District Presidents and District Girls State Chairs on November 1. All units can also access this packet on our website [www.missouri-girlsstate.org](http://www.missouri-girlsstate.org). We are following the same online application process that we have utilized the previous three sessions. Thanks to some amazing assistance from staff members of the American Legion Missouri Boys State program for making this possible. In case you aren't familiar, a female junior who wishes to attend ALA Missouri Girls State will need to enter her information by completing our online application process. Then she will print her completed application, sign it, and return it to the ALA unit or school. The deadline will again be March 1, 2020. The fee will remain \$300 per delegate.

The ALA MGS Committee has worked over the years to continue to streamline efforts associated with planning the program and all the informational efforts each year prior to the session. We will continue with each of our schools of instruction offered to our citizens that provide them the opportunity to receive dual credit eligibility through the University of Central Missouri. At registration we will continue to have photo identification for citizens that connects to our electronic voting system. Each year brings unforeseen adjustments with planning and carrying out our program. We always strive to provide the utmost excellence to our citizens, staff and the American Legion Auxiliary.

The ALA MGS Committee has implemented a few other changes/adjustments that make a difference in our deadline schedule starting with the 2020 session. A copy of these deadlines will be included in the packet on our website in addition to the district materials for dispersal.

- March 1 is still the deadline for original paperwork to be sent to Department office. We are encouraging ALA units and high schools to send alternate paperwork at the same time with the delegate paperwork.

- April 1, a letter will be sent to all delegates, as well as alternates, with Briefing information and deadline reminders.

- May 31 is the deadline for full refund of any delegate (\$300). It is also the deadline for any delegate or alternate paperwork (substitutions included) to be postmarked to the ALA Department office. In the past we have selected new citizens as late as the week of ALA MGS. We will no longer do this.

- June 9, (new this year) all delegates must complete an online or face-to-face Briefing meeting by this date. **Any individual who has not completed a Briefing by this date is no longer able to attend ALA Missouri Girls State.** The individual will be notified via phone call AND the Unit/School will also be notified. To fill the position they must have an alternate on file. The alternate must have completed a Briefing to be able to attend. Otherwise, the unit or school will receive the \$225 refund.

- June 16 is the FINAL deadline for partial refund of \$225 for any cancellations. Cancellations after this point, including illness, will not be issued any refunds. There will also be no other alternate replacements after this date.

One additional change that has been made is the addition of a Code of Conduct policy that is with the online application. As a reminder we have a seven-page packet inside the Unit packet that needs to go to each delegate and alternate that you select. It has a printed Code of Conduct at the end of it as a reminder of what the delegate/alternate and their parent/guardian acknowledged and agreed to for the rules and expectations of ALA MGS 2020.

## Missouri Girls State Trust Board

The MGS Trust Board members are Linda Shivers, Chairman; Rosemarie W. Hauck, Vice President; Virginia Schnurbusch, Secretary; Patty Garrett, Treasurer; and Roselee Buatte, Member.

The Board has joined the Department Fundraising Committee to help raise funds for both groups. Members assisted with the Chinese Auction on Saturday evening.

We will complete the last Districts to select a Girls State delegate sponsored by the Board. Virginia will contact District 1; Linda will contact District 2; Patty contacts District 3; and Rosemarie contacts District 9.

A gentle reminder, we will have a **Parade of Checks** at Department Convention in July. Please remember this activity in your budget. Thank you!

# Community Service

Margie Koch, Chairman

What is this program and why do we have it? That is the question asked in every program within the American Legion Auxiliary. What exactly is community service and why should we as auxiliary members care? Service in the community extends to a variety of sources. The major emphasis is how we as Auxiliary members conduct ourselves and make ourselves visible to the community. Get involved in community service projects to bring awareness of our mission to support our veterans, service members and their families, as well as the communities in which we live. Sign up for the National E-Bulletin and join the ALA Community Service Facebook page. Post pictures of your events on the Facebook page.

There are a variety of ways we can support the Community Service Program as individual members and units. Always wear your American Legion Auxiliary apparel or pin while volunteering. Reach out to the community and get involved by supporting activities and projects. You can serve on local community boards and committees. Sponsor and participate in activities at the local library, senior center and help at blood drives. Find a way to serve the veterans and service members in your community.

I challenge you to do ONE new activity this year. Remember to involve your Juniors.

Log onto the website, [ALAforVeterans.org](http://ALAforVeterans.org). There is much information to help you plan and organize ways to serve. I look forward to working with each unit and hearing about the fabulous work you are doing.

Your mid-year reports are due to me by December 15, 2019. The end of year report is due April 30, 2020. One Best Unit Report and one Best District Report will be selected. If you have a question, please contact me by email: [marjoriekoch81451@gmail.com](mailto:marjoriekoch81451@gmail.com) or phone/text 636-485-3162.

## Eligibility Wording Change For Your Constitution & Bylaws Effective August 30, 2019

This is in your Constitution Article III – Eligibility:

### Old Wording

Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion, and to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of the following periods

April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918

December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946

June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955

February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975

August 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984

December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990

August 2, 1990 to date of cessation of hostilities as determined by the Government of the United States; all dates inclusive, or who being citizens of the United States at the time of their entry therein, served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during any of said periods, and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge; and to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.

### New Wording

Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, **spouses**, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion, and to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, **spouses**, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of the following periods:

**April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941;** or who being citizens of the United States at the time of their entry therein, served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during any of said periods, and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge; and to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.

# HISTORY

Sheridan Mires, Department Historian

Every day we are making history. I'm sure many of us remember where we were and what we were doing when we heard the announcement of President Kennedy's assassination. For some people this and other events will be a vivid memory for our lifetime, while other events seem to fade quickly. This is one of the main reasons we need to keep a written record through the years of our Units and Districts. Time goes by so quickly; people pass away or are unable to pass the stories along to others so those stories and memories are lost.

Every Unit needs to have a method to preserve their history. This method may be different for each Unit or District. The most important concept here is the events are recorded so in the future others will be able to read and see what the Unit did, who was involved and how the events impacted our veterans and our children and youth.

One of the suggestions from National to celebrate our 100th anniversary is to identify the oldest member and the longest tenured member in your Unit, District, and Department. So find the oldest and longest tenured members and send the names to me so we can reveal them at Convention. I can't wait to find out who is the oldest and the longest tenured member in Missouri.

National would like Units to interview and record Unit members, especially those who were very active and now for whatever reason do not or cannot attend meetings. What an interesting and rewarding project this would be for everyone. This would be a great project for our Junior Members, along with the Veterans History Project.

As Units and Districts hold 100-year celebrations around the state; record these events both in narrative form and with pictures. Reading articles and looking at pictures from past Auxiliary events, conferences, and conventions is interesting and fun. They bring back so many memories of people who are no longer with us or are unable to attend meetings.

One project the Department of Missouri is working on to celebrate the 100th-year anniversary is we are entering into an agreement with Lincoln University to help us digitize our past 97 years of records and history. The need to preserve and protect our documents and history was certainly brought to our attention this past spring when the devastating tornado barely missed our Department office. The storm destroyed buildings and roofs across the street from our building.



## Unit – District Historian Contest and Scoring

2019-2020

Sheridan Mires

Department Historian

	Score
<b>I. Introduction, Inclusions (10 scoring points)</b>	_____points
1. Title page	
a. Unit name and number/District number	
b. Year of History	
c. Name of Historian	
2. Forward or dedication	
3. A Prayer	
4. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America	
5. First verse of the "Star Spangled Banner"	
6. Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary	
All items in this section may be single-spaced and are to be centered on the page. No pictures in this section.	
<b>II. Unit/District Information (10 scoring points)</b>	_____points
1. List of elected and appointed officers for the current year	
2. Photograph of current President (5x7 or smaller). This is optional.	
3. List of Chairman or Committee appointments for current year.	
4. List of Department or National Officers of committee people from your Unit/District	
5. List of Department awards received at last year's convention.	
This section is double-spaced	
<b>III. Appearance (10 scoring points)</b>	_____points
1. Please use a blue binder or blue soft cover binder preferably with an Auxiliary seal decal on the front. The regulation binder with imprinted seal sold by emblem sales is also acceptable.	
2. Text: Use 12 point font, Times New Roman or Arial style font	
3. Paragraphs: may be indented or in block form.	
4. Spacing	
a. The introduction section is single-spaced. The Unit/District information and the other content is double-spaced	
5. Page setup	
a. The introduction section is centered on the page.	
b. The remaining material should have consistent margins throughout.	
c. Page numbers are only on the narrative of your History.	
d. Index is optional and is to be placed in the back of the book.	
<b>IV. Content (70 scoring points)</b>	_____points

The ALA Missouri Unit/District annual history shall be written as a factual narrative beginning with the Installation of Officers for the current year and ending with the summary of end of year reports and closing events for this year.

1. The History shall be written in third person.
2. Use clear, concise language with correct spelling.
3. Do not include computer graphics, pen and ink drawings, illustrations, extra material, newspaper clippings or other embellishments.
4. You may include pictures placed in your History section only. This is optional. You are not required to use them or penalized for not using them. They should be used only to help tell the story of your Unit/District.
5. Make sure that the History tells the story of your Unit/District. It is not about one person. It is about what your Unit/District has done this year.
6. The signature of the Historian should be the last page of your narrative History.

## National Security

Kathy Cox, Chairman

National Security is of the utmost importance not only to the ALA, but also to families and communities across our nation. As members of this organization it is our duty to promote this program in each community. The program that Past Department President Sharon Slagle reported in our previous Legionette is just a starting place for this important program.

A few suggestions for other events and ways to promote National Security in whatever ways best suit your unit and community.

- Support the Blue Star and Gold Star programs.
- Greet service members and families as they deploy or return.
- Support families while a service member is deployed or displaced from the home.

Organize a "Welcome to Our Hometown" event to welcome military families who are moving or transitioning out of the military to your community.

Encourage your members to complete the CERT training that is available.

Probably your unit can do only a few activities that have been suggested. Select a few and do them to the best of your ability. Most of all, don't forget to REPORT your participation.

Unit chairman, please adhere to the reporting dates and get reports to the District Chairman. Mid-year reports are due to me by December 15. Send to Kathy Cox, 318 Arrowhead Circle, Rockaway Beach, MO 65740. If you have any questions please call me at 417-294-1707.

## Constitution & Bylaws

By: Lori Millam and Roberta Pointer, Co-Chairmen

You are probably wondering why we are dressed the way we are. Well, if you haven't heard, the American Legion has voted to extend membership in the American Legion Auxiliary to all spouses of U.S. veterans and service members who meet The American Legion eligibility requirements. During The American Legion National Convention in Indianapolis in August, delegates voted to replace the word "wife" with "spouse" in their constitution and bylaws, opening up membership in the American Legion Auxiliary to male and female spouses of those eligible for American Legion membership.

As we the members of the American Legion Auxiliary are celebrating our 100th anniversary this year, this change in our Constitution and Bylaws is by far the biggest and most impactful change that has been made in our lifetime. Who knew that in 1921 at the Auxiliary's first National Convention, the 26 women from 26 different states appointed to the Constitution Committee whose job it was to draft a National Constitution, would have ever dreamed that spouses would one day be included in the Auxiliary's eligibility.

To some people Constitution and Bylaws seem far out, boring and not understood. As we celebrate the 100th year of service, we are still promoting the Constitution and Bylaws. Yes, Constitution and Bylaws can be a dry subject if you permit it to be; but by expending a little effort, it can be made very interesting. The American Legion Auxiliary Constitution is the foundation upon which we base all the activities of our organization. The study of it is necessary to our Auxiliary's success.

Anyone unfamiliar with the American Legion Auxiliary could quickly learn of the organization's goals, its composition and its operation by examining the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules. The Constitution contains a description of the organization: its name, nature, purpose and structure. The Bylaws comprise the operational procedures of the American Legion Auxiliary. Standing Rules list specific rules governing its operation and for conducting responsibilities of committees and chairmen.

At the DEC meeting it was voted on and approved to change Standing Rule 24: **Rules For National Candidates.** This change is included elsewhere in the Legionette.

At some point all Units and Districts will need to update their Constitution and Bylaws due to the changes from National. However, since we do not have the final wording, **please wait** to do this. As soon as we have all the information we will notify the District Presidents. The changes in the eligibility wording that were passed out at Fall Conference to each District is included elsewhere in the Legionette. Also, elsewhere in the Legionette, there is a letter that was received from National Secretary Linda Boone regarding eligibility criteria. Please go to the National website to get a current membership application. **Do not use the membership application that was included in the District packets.**

We also received word from National Secretary Linda Boone that our Preamble has changed. The exact wording is included elsewhere in the Legionette.

A year-end narrative report is due to us by **May 1, 2020.** We would like to have all districts send us your Best Unit Narrative and a Narrative from the District chairman. Awards will be a certificate and personal award for the Best Unit Narrative and a certificate and personal award for the Best District Narrative. As part of your Narrative report, please include answers to the following questions.

- Have you done an annual review of your Constitution & Bylaws?
- When was your Constitution & Bylaws last revised?
- Has your unit/district sponsored any Constitution & Bylaws activities?

If so, what were those activities?

Please send your narrative reports to either Roberta Pointer or myself, Lori Millam. If you are going to email your report, please send it to both of us.

Remember that if your Unit or District has any questions about your Constitution and Bylaws, just let us know and we will be more than happy to help. Also, if you would like us to review your Constitution and Bylaws, please email them to both Roberta and myself. Please remember that any updated Constitution and Bylaws should be sent to the Department office.



## Poppy Report

Shanna Jelinek, Chair

As Poppy Chair, it is my duty to provide and distribute information and materials from National to the districts and unit members. The purpose of the poppy is to educate people about the sacrifices of our military service members and raise awareness of The American Legion family.

There are several ways that members can help. This can be done by promoting the poppy program and increasing poppy revenue, increasing poppy makers, celebrating National Poppy Day and the history of the poppy.

Members can promote the poppy program by contacting local businesses to distribute poppies, send a thank-you note to those who allow distribution, and wear a poppy to promote interest. Units can also educate the community about how funds collected help veterans. I encourage you to wear your poppy or poppy attire on more than just the days you distribute poppies. This will help promote the program year around..

Members and units can increase the number of poppy makers by reaching out to VA medical centers or community hospitals to incorporate poppy-making into their therapy programs. Members can celebrate National Poppy Day by making a poppy wreath for their home or office. They can promote the meaning and history of the poppy by telling the story on Facebook. Include the tags #PoppyDay and #LegionFamily. Members are also encouraged to like the Poppy group on Facebook "American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Program." Sign up for the ALA In the Know Ebulletin on the National website for various messages and ideas throughout the year.

The following is an important reminder: In accordance with The American Legion Poppy Program and Poppy Fund Rules, as revised in 2013 and 2014 by The American Legion National Executive Committee,

Poppy funds may only be used for:

- The rehabilitation of veterans honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces after April 6, 1917.

- The welfare of the families of veterans of the above-named period.

- The rehabilitation of hospitalized military service personnel returning home and awaiting discharge who require treatment in service hospitals.

- The welfare of veterans, active military personnel, and the families of veterans and active military personnel of the above-named period where financial and medical need is evident.

- For the purpose of Poppy Kits and supplies used to make symbolic poppies and poppy items that will be distributed for donations to the Poppy fund.

**Special 100th Anniversary History Facts:**

The Remembrance Red Poppy began on Saturday, November 9, 1918, as a memorial to those who sacrificed their lives in WWI. Ms. Moina Belle Michael read a poem written by Lt. Col. McCrae titled, "We Shall Not Sleep" (later titled "In Flanders Fields") in the November issue of the *Ladies Home Journal* while she was on duty at the 25th Conference of the Overseas YMCA. Ms Michael's desk was located in a room called GEMOT. It was a gathering place where servicemen said farewell to family members. She purchased 25 poppies and distributed them to the businessmen in New York attending the conference.

In her autobiography, "The Miracle Flower," she described how the idea came to her after she read Lt. McCrae's poem. Ms. Michael went on to lead a campaign for the adoption of the poppy as the national symbol of sacrifice. On September 27, 1920, the Red Poppy became the official flower of The American Legion Family to memorialize the soldiers who served during WWI.

For almost 100 years, 100 percent of the funds raised through distribution of poppies by American Legion Auxiliary members has been exclusively supporting active-duty military, veterans and their families. National Poppy Day is celebrated on the Friday before Memorial Day.

## Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

Cathie Goth, Chairperson  
Louise Welch, Co-Chair  
Evelyn Cox, Committee Member  
Patty Kellett, Committee Member

The VA & R committee met on October 15 to recommend an appointment to fill the vacancy at the Harry S. Truman (VAMC) left with the passing of Past Department President Carolyn Sanford, who was the representative at the Harry S. Truman Medical Center. At Fall Conference Christie Schepers of Unit 5 was ratified as the representative.

The committee discussed the necessity of having the VA Homes and Hospital financial records audited. This was discussed with Audit Committee Chair, Linda Schaap. This will be done in a timely manner in the spring. The representatives will be given specific information later.

**Mid-year Narrative Reports**

Mid-year reports reflect the program participation of the units. The deadline of unit reports to District chair is by **December 1**; District unit report to Department chair is by **December 15.**

**Year-end Narrative Reports**

The end of the year report reflects the program work of the units. One advantage of completing a mid-year report is having a basis and starting point for the end of the year report. Year-end reports may result in a National award for participants if award requirements are met. These requirements can be found in the Annual Supplement to the Program Action plan VA & R on the National website of [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org). Year-end report deadlines are as follows: Units to District by **April 5**; District to Department Chair by **May 1.**

**As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions:**

- How did the units participate in the caregiver support program?
- Describe any exceptional efforts members made in earning their Service to Veterans hours.
- What assistance did units give at a stand down in your unit, district, or department? What did units, districts, department learn about hosting a stand down? What went well; what would they do differently?

## County Government

Joan Vanfossan, Chairman

A few weeks ago an Auxiliary member called to ask how her unit could start a County Government Day in their community. I visited with her, gave suggestions, and sent a packet of information her way. Later I wondered if there were other units that wanted to participate in the CGD program, but did not know how to begin. So I decided to hold a COUNTY GOVERNMENT DAY 101.

**Lesson 1. Purpose and Proposal –** Meet with ALA and American Legion members to discuss goals and ideas for your County Government Day. Put together a proposal outlining the aims and possible activities of the program.

**Lesson 2. Selling the Program –** Take the proposal to the County Court and local school(s) to determine if there is interest in the program. Here is where you establish what grade students should attend and any security issues at the courthouse. If both school and court officials would like to pursue the idea...

**Lesson 3. Establish a date –** Ask court officials to submit several dates they could host the event. Take the dates to school officials to determine what date would work for them. Both the school and the court will have busy calendars.

**Lesson 4. Set Program –** Most County Government Days begin with an Opening Ceremony with the Pledge of Allegiance, the national anthem, introduction of Auxiliary and American Legion hosts, and perhaps a flag folding ceremony. This is usually followed by a tour of county offices and a mock court session.

Here is where your County Government Day is tailored to your community situation. No two CGDs are alike. Each is planned to accommodate factors like security issues in the courthouse, the number of students who attend, and the resources available in your county. In an urban community students may need to meet in the courtroom and have county officials come to speak with them. In rural communities where security is more lenient, students may be divided into small groups to go to the county offices. If one school is attending, it is easy to accommodate them at one time. If several schools and a large number of students are attending, they can be divided into groups with one touring while another has a mock trial; then switching places for a second round.

Many CGDs include lunch and have an afternoon session. Lunch can be provided by the host Post/Unit or students can bring a sack lunch. Available space will be a factor. Some groups solicit donations from local businesses.

Other participants tour places of interest such as the canine officer and his dog, the 911 call station, public safety and fire departments, State Highway Patrol, National Guard Health Department Nurse, and Public Administrator, etc. These will be determined by the resources of your county.

**Lesson 5. Follow Up –** Have literature to hand out, a history of the courthouse, a listing of county officials and their responsibilities, and a flag etiquette flyer. Some units have an essay contest, "What I Learned at County Government Day" with local winners, and perhaps a Department winner.

**Lesson 6. Evaluation –** Take time to review the day to see where you can improve the program for next year.

**Lesson 7. Pat on the Back –** Give yourself congratulations on providing this program for the students in your community. You have promoted patriotism, Americanism, knowledge and respect for government that are all good ideals for our youth. You have promoted the American Legion Family brand!

**Lesson 8. Report –** Send your District and Department County Government Day Chairman a report of your event. Include number of students, teachers, and schools who participated, number of Auxiliary and American Legion members who assisted. A narrative, pictures, newspaper clippings, etc. would be enjoyed and shared with others.

Good Luck! I look forward to hearing from you.

**Photos accompanying your narrative of events and activities are encouraged and welcomed.**

Please remember to keep track of your impact numbers. These numbers are vital to maintaining congressional support of Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation. Please make note of deadlines for reporting.

For more information visit [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) and review the 2019-2020 Annual Supplement to the Program Action Plan VA & R or the American Legion Auxiliary Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation: A Guide for Volunteers also available on the National website.

Please submit mid-year and year-end reports to VA & R Chair, Cathie Goth, 1905 Rustic Way, Clinton, MO 64734. Email: [Cgoth1@charter.net](mailto:Cgoth1@charter.net)



## IMPORTANT THINGS

*Some things are too important*

*To be set aside too long,*

*The watching of a sunrise;*

*The righting of a wrong;*

*The rocking of a baby;*

*The soothing of a pain;*

*The satisfying breathing-in*

*Of fragrance after rain;*

*Exchanging confidences*

*While twilight fires burn;*

*Some things will bear repeating,*

*Some never will return.*

(Unknown)

### Standing Rule 24: RULES FOR NATIONAL CANDIDATES

- a. This wording stays the same

*(No letter of intent for National Office shall be printed in the Missouri Legionette or other publication before endorsement by Department Convention)*

- b. **Change from**...When a candidate is endorsed for National office through her Unit and District, and reaches Department level, the Department shall present the endorsement yearly for five(5) years, or until endorsement is dissolved, whichever is first.

**Change to**.....When a candidate is endorsed for National President or Central Division National Vice President through her Unit and District, and reaches Department level, the Department shall present the endorsement yearly for five (5) years, or until endorsement is dissolved, whichever is first.

- c. **Add**..... When a candidate is endorsed for National Historian or National Chaplain through her Unit and District, the candidate is responsible for presenting her endorsement to Department each year the candidate is interested in running for said office.

- d. **Move "c" to "d"**

*(When more than one candidate desires to file intention for National Office, vote shall be by individual ballot, at a Department Convention, and the candidate receiving the majority of votes cast shall be elected to file for said office)*

- e. **Move "d" to "e"**

*(Only those persons who meet the foregoing qualifications and who have signified their consent to stand for election to office shall be sponsored by Department for said office)*

# Education

Lori Yount, Chairman

As we continue our participation in the Education program, we need to determine what is our next step for our districts, units, and members as we continue the ALA Education program.

Some suggestions:

1. If your district has an active and effective education program, do you need to draw others to participate and learn how to keep the program going, in the event the current key leaders and members aren't available to help in the coming years?

2. Do we need to document what we do, why, how we do it, and whom we work with in our schools and community?

3. If your district or unit hasn't been involved in ALA education programs, perhaps this is the year that you look over the information that has been given to each district president to distribute. Look at the ALA Program Action Plan and select one or two ideas to try this year. The national website for the plan is: <https://www.alaforveterans.org/members/programs-action-plan/> The education section begins on page 47.

Please take a look. You may find something that your district or unit can implement simply and with minimal cost. This could be school supplies drive or collecting Box Tops for Education! Some other suggestions for participation:

1. Schedule **Veterans in Community Schools** Programs at local schools. This is a great way to enhance respect for the sacrifices of our military among schoolchildren. Find veterans willing to share their experiences with schoolchildren. Consider collaborating with your local post. You can provide needed transportation. Use available resources including a sample agenda and potential questions and talking points in the Program Action Plan at the link provided.

2. Promote **American Legion Auxiliary Scholarships** and award local scholarships at department and unit level. Consider making a donation to the ALA scholarship fund. Units can create their own scholarship fund with suggested criteria and information. Units can request applications that are available in the Program Action Plan.

3. **Support Schools, Education Week and Teacher Appreciation Week.** School Supply Drives (Give 10 to Education program promotes the collection of school supplies for local schools in increments of 10). We typically think of doing school supply drives during "back to school" season, but schools use supplies all year. They may appreciate efforts to replenish needed items during the year. Consider partnering with one or more local schools and find out what specific items they need. Others in your community may support your collection drive if you place a collection bin or box where contributions can be placed.

Promote **Teacher Appreciation Week**, the first full week in May. This can include cards or other items of appreciation. Find out if there are children in need in the school and determine what resources your unit might be able to provide. You can consider planning a special teacher appreciation event.

Save **Box Tops for Education** for a local school. Please note that the Box Tops program is transitioning to an electronic scan system using smartphone app. More information is available at this website: <https://www.boxtops4education.com>. Users will need to establish an account and log on. It is important that receipts must be scanned within **2 weeks of purchase** or no credit will be given. You can still submit the original style of box tops, as long as they are available and unexpired. You will likely see both types of products during the transition from traditional tops to the new "scan" codes. You can send in both types of box tops even if they are on a receipt with items that have the scan code. Schools will essentially get double credit for those during the transition.

Promote **American Education Week** that is the week prior to Thanksgiving. Send a card to local school staff to thank them for the work they do. Please include all school personnel with whom the children interact, such as custodians, bus drivers, etc.

Another suggestion is **Assist and Support Veterans pursuing higher education and vocational education.** Please contact a campus student veterans group at colleges or universities in your area to ask what kind of help is needed. The college may have a VA counselor who can assist in locating the veterans groups. Promote the ALA Non-Traditional Student Scholarships for students returning to the classroom after a period of time. Consider making your post home available for off-campus events or chapter meetings.

A more recent challenge is **Assist and Support military children** with educational opportunities. Encourage junior members to contact school counselors and volunteer to be a mentor to new military children. Provide school supplies/backpacks welcoming military children to school. Inform schools of a free tutoring website for military children: [www.tutor.com/military](http://www.tutor.com/military). Provide information on the ALA Children of Warriors National Presidents Scholarship.

For additional ideas and support for the ALA Education program, check out the Facebook group, **ALA Education Program.**

## Finance

Claudia Goodin, Chairman  
Linda Maddox, Member  
Martha Yancey, Member

We would like to thank Secretary Nancy for her help in gathering information and maintaining our financial records for the committee and the Department.

Evers & Company has been working on the audit for the third year. We have contacted them to take advantage of a lower fee. The firm has not finished the audit, but it is close. There are new guidelines and procedures for auditing nonprofit organizations this year; therefore, the audit process is taking longer to complete. I feel we receive a thorough and detailed audit with Evers & Company. When it is completed if anyone would like a copy of the report, contact Nancy or Claudia Goodin, Chairman.

The Stock Market continues to be up and down lately. Our investments held at Stifel as of 10/1/19, is \$68,337.45. So far this fiscal year we have earned \$320.89 in interest that was deposited in the General Account.

The National Organization is keeping the same incentive as the last few years to sign new members. National is waiving their portion of dues (\$12) when we sign women veterans as new members. The Department voted to waive our portion of dues for the first year. We do this as long as National continues the practice. This is a good way to sign new members and our way of honoring

their service.

This year is our 100th anniversary. We would like to celebrate and share the great history of our organization. We did not plan for this when developing our budget. The extra expense associated with the plans for our celebration was approved during the Executive Committee meeting.

## Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

Louise S. Welch,  
2nd Vice President

On April 8, 1946, representatives of several veteran service organizations, including The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary, met in Washington, D. C., with the Assistant Administrator for Special Services. This meeting resulted in the still new Veterans Administration developing regulations and procedures making provisions for the use of volunteers through the VA Special Services program for hospitalized veterans. Before this meeting concluded, their first VA Voluntary Service (VAVS) Advisory Committee was formed.

The ALA has adopted a code of ethics to guide both VAVS and Service to Veterans volunteers while serving in their communities. This code is meant not only to protect veterans and their families, but also to protect volunteers and the integrity of the service programs.

As a volunteer, your main purpose is to make sure that all veterans and service members are treated with

the compassion, dignity, and respect they have earned and deserved.

### QUALIFIES FOR SERVICES TO VETERANS HOURS

Hours for your Service to Veterans pin or bars can be earned through work done on behalf of veterans in state or community-based nursing homes/soldiers homes, contracted veterans homes, day care centers, foster homes, halfway houses, hospices, homeless shelters, Christmas Gift Shops (not at a VAMC), veterans cemeteries, or gravesites for any service tasks, including, but not limited to, transportation, snow removal, landscaping/yard mowing, and assisting with tax preparation. Hours can be earned through work done in your home for the benefit of homebound, sick or injured service members and veterans. Sewing, mending, and/or babysitting while the veteran attends medical appointments or rehab sessions or making quilts or knitting for hospitalized or homeless veterans.

Please, you must keep a record of your hours and where you volunteer.



Kris Marsden, Chair

## POPPY POSTER

Thank you to everyone who supports the Poppy Poster program. CONGRATULATIONS to the Department winners. They are: Malia Gutting, District 10; Brooklyn Huffman, District 15; Ashlyn Javau, District 9; Anais Moua, District 15; Chelsea Whiteman, District 2; Dylan Burt, District 15; and Connor Cross, District 1. They each received \$20 and the entries were submitted to National for judging.

Congratulations to Malia Gutting, District 10, Class I, for winning a National award.

My apologies to Connor Cross and his family, Unit 360 and District 1, for my mistake in naming him the National winner.

Mistake number 2, the mobile phone number given to District Presidents at Department Convention last July is incorrect. Please note the correct number that is given with the poster rules.

Thank you for the inquiring minds that keep me on my toes. Please note that rule #12 is not included. The rule stated if the Holy Cross is used, it must also include the Star of David; that rule is no longer a requirement.

Please enjoy the process of presenting, judging, and submitting some great Poppy Posters where the patriotism from children shines.

The National Chairman says that in her opinion this is a Poppy Poster contest and not a Flag Poster contest; therefore, do not focus on flag etiquette. You should see a bright vibrant red as you look at the poster.

All mediums can be used, including paper cutouts, paint, markers, etc; however, colored pencils are not the brightest tools to use. Let's have much participation. Copies of the rules were given to the District Presidents and also printed with this article.



## A VETERAN'S REQUEST

When I die and you lay me to rest

Please place a poppy on my chest

To show the world I did my best

To have peace on earth for those I left.

Let no man say I did not try

To make a better world for you and me.

I fought the foes to keep man free

And now it's time for me to sleep.

There's just one thing I ask thee.

Please place a poppy on my chest

To show the world I was a vet.

By: Jeanette Gundrum

### Poppy Poster Contest Rules

Units shall sponsor contests in local schools. When schools do not conduct activities, other youth groups, including Junior members, may participate under direct supervision of the unit.

#### Contest Classes

- Class I: Grades 2 and 3
- Class II: Grades 4 and 5
- Class III: Grades 6 and 7
- Class IV: Grades 8 and 9
- Class V: Grades 10 and 11
- Class VI: Grade 12
- Class VII: Students with special needs defined as:
  - a. Those in special education classes
  - b. A student recommended for special education classes but who has not been admitted due to a waiting list or various other factors.
  - c. A child identified as having a disability, but not in a special education class due to lack of facilities; identification contingent upon discretion of school officials.

#### Poppy Poster Requirements

1. Each poster shall have a fitting slogan not to exceed 10 words. Articles "a", "and", "an", "the" are not to be counted as words. The words "buddy" and "buy" cannot be used.
2. The words "American Legion Auxiliary" must be used in the design of the poster and will not be counted in the 10-word count.
3. Each poster must include a picture of the red Flanders Field poppy.
4. The department shall determine the closing date of the unit contest. The poster shall be on 11x14" poster board. (Drawing paper will not be accepted).
5. The United States flag may be used as long as there are no infractions of the flag code.
6. Posters will be judged using the following criteria:
  - 50% - poster appeal (layout, message, originality)
  - 40% - artistic ability (design and color)
  - 10% - neatness
7. Media used shall be watercolors, crayons, powder or oil paint, handmade paper cutouts, ink or textures, acrylics, pencils and markers.
8. Written in ink on the back of the poster (not attached) shall be the class in which the entry is submitted, the name, address, age and grade of the contestant and the name of the department. Please include District and Unit.
9. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians' grant non-exclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.
10. The poster shall be the work of only one individual.
11. The label "In Memoriam" from the veteran-made poppy may not be used.

#### Poppy Poster Contest Judging and Awards

1. Each department shall establish its own procedure for judging.
2. A citation will be given for the most outstanding poster in each classification within the five divisions.
3. Unit members should follow deadlines and process for the department. All department entries are due to the division chairman by June 1.
4. While ALA representatives will do their best to return all posters, it is not guaranteed. We recommend participants take a picture or scan their poster for their records.
5. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians grant nonexclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted, and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.

Have all winning posters to Department of Missouri Chairperson by **May 1, 2020**.  
Kris Marsden, 4109 Faredale Ln., St. Charles, MO 63304.  
636-447-2394 or 636-219-5282.

# POPPY REPORT

Betty Altnether, Poppy Director

Such sacrifice

Through valor made.

A debt too deep

To be repaid.

From their courage

Freedom born.

To remember them

The poppy worn.



What will you be doing on Veterans Day 2019 and Memorial Day 2020? Will you be wearing a poppy and encouraging others to do the same? I hope so.

Order forms can be obtained from Department, online, or I can send you a copy. The change this year is that you will pay the postage. The Jefferson Barracks VA will no longer pay the postage. The postage price is indicated on the new form.

Again, I ask that you please print name, address, and city where the poppies are to be sent. Please send your orders early so that there is ample time to fill the orders.

Thank you for the wonderful work and support you do for the VETERANS.



## Scrapbook

Connie Pack, Chairman

Units and Districts, please send me photos with information about the event or activity with President Marsha. I am looking forward to capturing all of Department President Marsha's travels with pictures and narratives from all around the state. Please help me compile more than one scrapbook. I am looking forward to hearing from everyone.

Please send the information to: Connie Pack, 4015 Cambridge Circle, Jefferson City, MO 65109. Email: [packwm@gmail.com](mailto:packwm@gmail.com)



# Leadership

Patty Garrett, Chair

*"The greatest leader is not necessarily the one who does the greatest things. He is the one that gets the people to do the greatest things." — Ronald Reagan*

As we reflect on one 100 years of service to our veterans and related programs, we know the success of the American Legion Auxiliary is due in part to many great leaders, but as the quote implies, success is a team effort.

In your Units and Districts leaders need to be identified and then tasked with ensuring all the members feel valued and confident to work the programs. When only a few are doing the work of many, failure is likely. Everyone has gifts, and they should be used and encouraged. There are many articles and quotes written on leadership, including pages on the ALA website which are included in the District packets, but they have no effect if not used as a group effort. Leadership is finding ways to empower all members to find success in their volunteer efforts.

A few ideas for implementing a leadership role include:

1. Identify your resources, such as the documents that govern your Unit/District and make them available to the membership.
2. Understand the programs of the ALA and their primary goals.
3. Learn to listen to the members and find their strengths.
4. Have a positive attitude, give praise, acknowledge achievements.
5. Lead by example, it is fine to offer ideas but you must be willing to join into the activity, be willing to "walk the talk."
6. Act professionally, leadership is a mindset, not a title.

As a Leadership Chair, you may want to hold a workshop to explain the workings of the ALA, utilize the course offered through the ALA website, start a mentoring program in your Unit, apply for the Leadership awards by working the program through the National organization.

Please feel free to contact me if I can offer further assistance to your Unit/District.

Patty Garrett, Leadership Chair, 3909 W. Sexton St., Battlefield, MO 65619. garrmrt@hotmail.com or 417-343-8712.

References: 2107-2022 American Legion Auxiliary Programs Action Plan, Leadership 2107-2022 Programs Action Plan How to Guides; How to be a Good Leader.

# LEGISLATIVE

Claudia Goodin, Chairman

If you don't like what is going on in Washington, D.C. – Let your voice be heard! We need to be sure that our military and veterans and their families receive the benefits they deserve. How can I do that you ask? I am only one person. The American Legion Auxiliary has several legislative resources on their web page that you can download from <http://www.ALAforVeterans.org>. You may also go to The American Legion website at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org) and here you will click on "Programs" and then scroll down to "Legislative." When you click on that button you will be taken to the "Legislative Center" where you will find a lot of information.

You can sign up for text alerts on the following website: <http://cap-wiz.com.com/legion/mim/signup>.

I would ask all members to join the ALA Legislative Facebook page. Search for it in on your Facebook page and then click the "join" button and you will get information and alerts when you need to write your legislators. This is a great way to stay on top of legislation and to be an advocate for our military and veterans. Don't forget to check for the monthly updates on the second Monday of each month by one of the Legislative Committee team.

There have been a few questions on what is new with The American Legion Legislative Agenda. We are still in the 116th Congress and the Legion Legislative Agenda was updated February 12, 2019. The Legion will again update the Legislative Agenda for the 117th Congress after the first of the year.

Don't forget legislation in our home state. The American Legion Auxiliary is an Associate member of the Missouri Association of Veteran Organizations (MAVO). We work together to promote legislation in Missouri to benefit active military and veterans. So there are times when we need to contact our Missouri legislators on issues concerning our legislative agenda. This agenda is currently being developed for Missouri's 117th Congress. I will send this out when it is developed.

So Auxiliary members, I ask that you stay aware of legislation that needs action and you ACT!

# GOLD STAR MOTHERS

Jackie Sutor, Chairman

Who is a Gold Star mother? During the early days of World War I, a Blue Star was used to represent all men and women in military service in the USA. As the war continued and the service members were killed in combat, others wounded and/or died from their wounds or disease there began the use of the Gold Star.

The Gold Star was substituted and put over the Blue Star to completely cover it. The idea of the Gold Star was to honor and give glory to the people who gave the supreme sacrifice while serving their country. This full measure of devotion showed pride to the family for this ultimate sacrifice.

The service flag is displayed in the homes to indicate the number of members of the family serving in the Armed Forces or who have died while serving in the military. The Blue Star is for family members serving in the military and the Gold Star indicates a family member died while serving in any war or conflict.

Gold Star Mothers are honored the last Sunday in September. If you would like to order Gold or Blue Banners, certificates, magnets, bumper stickers or coins, go to the American Legion Emblem Sales website [www.emblem.legion.org](http://www.emblem.legion.org) and request a catalog.

A Unit and District report form was put into the District President's packets. A certificate and \$5 will be awarded to the best Unit report and the same will be awarded to the best District report.

# Junior Activities

Jessica Childers, Chairman

The Juniors are an important part of every unit. Please involve them in your activities and events including your District. The Patch Program is an easy project for Juniors to participate in. Most of the events they do at school and in meetings. The Sons of the American Legion can also participate in the Patch Program. I will present an award for the best Junior Unit report and the best District Junior report at Department Convention.

We will also assemble 50-60 backpacks for homeless veterans. We appreciate any donations for the backpacks. REMEMBER, OUR JUNIORS ARE OUR FUTURE SO PLEASE INVOLVE THEM!!!



# Cameron VA Home

Wilma Jobson,  
Representative

Cameron Veterans Home Family Fun Day was held September 14. Since I am the representative I spent many hours helping. The activity I helped with was the Cake Walk since my unit donated 17 dessert items.

The home sponsored a "Volunteers Annual Update Training" in October. The Christmas Gift Shop will be December 12 at 9 a.m.

# The Missouri Legionette

Virginia Schnurbusch, Editor

As members of this great patriotic organization you are a powerful source of life, goodness, and a spirit of growth. You have the opportunity to affirm, spread and radiate the principles of justice, freedom and democracy. This is exactly what our membership theme suggests — "Keeping Our Promise, Past\*Present\*Future." This is done by volunteering your time and talent, helping veterans and their families.

Through your commitment as a member, you participate in the many programs of the ALA. As a chairman you have the responsibility of sharing information you received from National. You develop awareness of our programs and encourage support by participation.

The Legionette is our communication tool. The Editor can only publish the articles that are received. Thank you for submitting articles. Earlier is better than later. Carefully compose your information to include the pertinent facts and deadlines necessary to make the program successful. It takes teamwork to achieve our goal. The Legionette is your newspaper.

Let's review the guidelines for sharing program information in the Legionette.

1. Deadline date for submitting articles is still the 20th of the month. This reminder is also on Page 2, top left corner of the Legionette and in the Unit Guide.

2. The list of deceased members should be sent to the Department Office because the Editor does not have a membership roster.

3. The Department program chairmen are the reporters for sharing information they received from National. The chairmen compile the facts using who, what, when, where and why. This helps capture your information and you are able to compose your information for sharing.

4. The Editor edits, types and proofs the articles that are to be published. Point #3 says you write the article.

Please type and double space your article for easier reading. Continue to send District meeting dates, times and places. Some units meet at a different time than the post.

"Around the State" is used when space is available. This should be an unusual activity to spark an idea for another unit. Please send a clear picture. Newspaper pictures don't copy well.

In closing, do all you can with what you have — in the time you have — in the place you are. Do your best always by keeping our promise of service to the veterans and their families.

Thank you!

# A Servant's Heart

By Ellen Arnce



How do you know if someone has a servant's heart?  
They're the ones who say, "I'll do it. Where do I start?"

They don't run from commitment. They're thorough and true,  
Steadfast and dedicated to seeing it through.

Some lead, some follow, but their purpose is the same.  
They put others first, not wanting money or fame.

For God and Country, willing to serve night and day,  
Quick to encourage, willing to listen and pray.

Father God, bless the willing, strengthen, lead, provide.  
Honor their servant's hearts. Be their shelter and guide.

(Written as a Thank You to District 15 Officers  
and District 15 Chairmen.)



# A GOOD REMINDER

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer-contractor of his plans to leave the house-building business and live a more leisurely life with his wife enjoying his extended family. He would miss the paycheck, but he needed to retire. They could get by.

The contractor was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house as a personal favor. The carpenter said yes, but in time it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior materials. It was an unfortunate way to end a dedicated career. When the carpenter finished his work the employer came to inspect the house.

He handed the front door key to the carpenter. "This is your house," he said, "My gift to you." The carpenter was shocked! What a shame! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently.

So it is with us. We build our lives, a day at a time, often putting less than our best into the building. Then with a shock we realize we have to live in the house we have built. If we could do it over, we'd do it much differently, but we cannot go back.

You are the carpenter. Each day you hammer a nail, place a board or erect a wall. "Life is a do-it-yourself project," someone has said. Your attitude and the choices you make today, build the "house" you live in tomorrow. Build it wisely!!! REMEMBER ....

Work like you don't need the money.

Love like you've never been hurt.

Dance like nobody is watching.

(Author Unknown)



# A Christmas Poem

*Twas the night before Christmas,  
He lived all alone,  
In a one bedroom house made of  
Plaster and stone.*

*I had come down the chimney  
With presents to give,  
And to see just who  
In this home did live.*

*I looked all about,  
A strange sight I did see,  
No tinsel, no presents,  
Not even a tree.*

*No stocking by mantle,  
Just boots filled with sand,  
On the wall hung pictures  
Of far distant lands.*

*With medals and badges,  
Awards of all kinds,  
A sober thought  
Came through my mind.*

*For this house was different,  
It was dark and dreary,  
I found the home of a soldier,  
Once I could see clearly.*

*The soldier lay sleeping,  
Silent, alone,  
Curled up on the floor  
In this one bedroom home.*

*The face was so gentle,  
The room in such disorder,  
Not how I pictured  
A United States soldier.*

*Was this the hero  
Of whom I'd just read?  
Curled up on a poncho  
The floor for a bed?*

*I realized the families  
That I saw this night,  
Owed their lives to these soldiers  
Who were willing to fight.*

*Soon round the world  
The children would play  
And grownups would celebrate  
A bright Christmas Day.*

*They all enjoyed freedom  
Each month of the year,  
Because of the soldiers,  
Like the one lying here.*

*The very thought  
Brought a tear to my eye,  
I dropped to my knees  
And started to cry.*

*A soldier awakened  
And I heard a rough voice,  
"Santa don't cry,  
This life is my choice."*

*I fight for freedom,  
I don't ask for more,  
My life is my God,  
My country, my corps.*

*The soldier rolled over  
And drifted to sleep,  
I couldn't control it,  
I continued to weep.*

*I kept watch for hours,  
So silent and still  
And we both shivered  
From the cold night's chill.*

*I didn't want to leave  
On that cold, dark night,  
This guardian of honor  
So willing to fight.*

*Then the soldier rolled over,  
With a voice soft and pure,  
Whispered, "Carry on Santa,  
It's Christmas Day, all is secure."*

*One look at my watch,  
And I knew he was right  
"Merry Christmas my friend,  
and to all a good night."*

Written by a Marine,  
Dennis J. Blakemore, Retired



# AROUND THE STATE



Unit 253 members held their first Bunco party in August. The proceeds from this successful project will benefit various Veteran programs throughout the year. The participating members were Mary Jo Bradford, Patty Denton and Sherill Compton; Row 2: Mary Levitt, Donna Floyd, Joyce Carr, Rose Wills and Rita Stites.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

## Due Date for JANUARY-FEBRUARY LEGIONETTE

Material for the January-February issue of The Missouri Legionette is **DUE BY JANUARY 20, 2020**. The Editor will welcome your articles earlier if possible.

Please type and double space the articles and meet the deadline. We want our programs to move forward and improve as the year progresses. The sky's the limit with our accomplishments for the coming year for the American Legion Auxiliary. Do your part to fulfill our Promise, Past\*Present\*Future.

Thank you for the many articles I received at conference.

*THANK YOU!*  
Virginia Schnurbusch, Editor

## Deceased Members

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2019

District	Unit	Name	Location
0	1000	Marie Roseberry	Saint Joseph, MO
1	0020	Amy L. Buckwalter	Kirksville, MO
1	0174	Rhonda J. Dodd	Palmyra, MO
1	0282	Shirley Matticks	Dallas, TX
1	0282	Wanda L. Crawford	Kirksville, MO
1	0376	Agnes J. Williams	Manhattan, KS
2	0007	Jo Ann Ousley	Brunswick, MO
2	0007	Vicki Spence	Brunswick, MO
2	0007	Jean Patrick	Moberly, MO
2	0007	Marjorie Wattenbarger	Brunswick, MO
2	0274	Lavina Owens	Kansas City, MO
2	0365	Molly M. Kelley	Green City, MO
2	0365	Doris Kent	Green City, MO
2	0538	Sharon Munsterman	Linneus, MO
2	0551	Frieda Hannsz	Norborne, MO
4	0284	Mary A. Pennel	Fairfax, MO
4	0287	Marilyn Paxton	Saint Joseph, MO
5	0021	Letha Medek	Independence, MO
5	0021	Bonnie J. Sparks	Independence, MO
5	0021	Edie M. Quigley	Surprise, AZ
5	0021	E. Jane Petrie	Independence, MO
5	0499	Lillian Lawrence	Independence, MO
6	0131	Shirley W. Brockman	Warrensburg, MO
7	0217	Carolyn Sanford	Warsaw, MO
8	0105	Inah L. Wilson	Iberia, MO
8	0229	Norma G. Roland	Richland, MO
8	0266	Angeline F. Richerson	Pilot Grove, MO
8	0343	Linda S. Hudson	Cole Camp, MO
8	0424	Virginia L. Birdsong	Columbia, MO
9	0180	Paula M. Pursley	Marthasville, MO
9	0218	Mary A. Emke	Washington, MO
9	0347	Breitta M. Tetidrick	Union, MO
9	0347	Robin A. E. Juergens	Grubville, MO
10	0208	Pat Sexauer	Ballwin, MO
10	0208	Eleanor M. Epperson	Valley Park, MO
10	0213	Laverne Jones	Saint Louis, MO
10	0213	Joyce A. Prueitt	Saint Peters, MO
10	0338	Judith A. Thurmond	Overland, MO
10	0338	Wilma S. Stroot	Saint Charles, MO
10	0338	Mary J. Enlow	Arnold, MO
10	0338	Rachel R. Garbo	Chesterfield, MO
10	0400	Betty J. Niswonger	Imperial, MO
13	0150	Rita Kist	Sainte Genevieve, MO
14	0059	Wilma Quick	Dexter, MO
14	0059	Lois Vaughn	Dexter, MO
14	0153	Wilma Hesselrode	Poplar Bluff, MO
14	0153	Pam Weatherford	Poplar Bluff, MO
14	0153	Carolyn S. Davis	Poplar Bluff, MO
14	0158	Carolyn Myer	Jackson, MO
14	0362	Mary A. Emerson	Marmaduke, AR
14	0643	Mary I. Julian	Corning, AR
16	0099	Patricia Schafer	Salem, MO
16	0522	Ann E. Mullally	Cuba, MO
16	0559	Bettie L. Hill	Houston, MO
16	0559	Betty S. Crow	Licking, MO
17	0306	Jean Carpenter	Seymour, MO

Sharon Elliott of ALA Unit 488, District 6 was recently presented a certificate of appreciation for "Excellence in Community Service" from the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Grandview, MO Chapter. She is an exceptional volunteer and an outstanding asset for numerous projects and several civic organizations in the community. Her outstanding use of time and talent makes her truly deserving of this prestigious award. Congratulations!



## District 15

Linda Jelinek, President

The new ALA year began with installation of officers by Past Department President, Joanne Snodgrass at the September meeting.

Units reported activities for the past three months. One unit helps the American Legion members with the monthly breakfast. Another unit helps with the third Friday dinners. A monetary donation was made for school supplies at the beginning of the school year. Donations were made to Kids of Our Heroes Camp. A fundraiser was held at a local Arby's restaurant in remembrance of 9/11. Forty girls were sponsored as Girls State delegates. They reported to their sponsoring unit about their experiences.

A barbecue was held to recruit new members at one unit. They gained one new member. Poppy money was used to help the family of a veteran for meals and gas while he was in the hospital in Fayetteville for two weeks.

We are very proud to have Shanna Jelinek serve as Department Chaplain.

## District 16

Darline Enloe, President

The new ALA year began with installing officers for several units and delivering membership packets.

Department President Marsha Mooney was a guest at our September meeting. She gave an update on several issues from the recent National Convention. President Marsha installed the District 16 officers.

We still participate in programs for the veterans and their families. We had floats in parades, walked in parades, hosted meals for veterans and their families. Unit members continue to volunteer each month

at St. James VA Home with bingo, checkers, dominoes and other available veteran programs.

Schools are getting ready for Veterans Day programs. We have collected items for backpacks, sponsored game nights, held Halloween parties, and had Trunk or Treat for Halloween. We also help with the community Food Pantry with supplies. Wreaths Across America is another project some units help. The St. James Christmas Gift Shop will be December 9.

## District 17

Jaretta Holt, President

District 17 has nine units that meet quarterly at different posts. The meetings are the second Sunday. Lunch is served at 1 p.m. and meeting starts at 2 p.m.

Unit 38 is our newest unit and has been very busy since convention. A military uniform was donated to be used for craft items to sell. The auxiliary members have been very busy making purses, wreaths and potholders for the Fair Grove Heritage Reunion Days. They sold almost everything. The Post and Auxiliary was asked to participate in the flag raising at the new Kum and Go in Fair Grove.

Unit 69 has been busy with bingo every weekend.

As usual Unit 639 has kept occupied by serving dinner one Friday night a month and selling desserts every Friday. They are gearing up for the Halloween and Christmas parties for the kids in the community.

Seymour Unit 306 had a table at the Apple Festival where they raffled a \$375 gift card to PFI Western Wear. They had a veteran appreciation lunch for the community and surrounding area in September.

Unit 434 was busy with a Poppy fundraiser at Walmart and Harter House.

### Life is Like a Game of Baseball

Life is like a game of baseball, and you play it every day. It isn't just the breaks you get, but the kind of game you play. Stop and look the whole team over. You've got dedication there. You're bound to be a winner, with those who really care. Your pitcher's name is Courage; you'll need him in the game. For truth and faith your keystone ones, the grounders they will tame.

Your centerfielder is very fast, though small and hard to see. So watch out when he gets the ball, he is opportunity. At first base there's religion, he's stood the test of time. At third base there's brotherhood, a stalwart of the nine. Your leftfielder is a husky one. I'm told his name is work. Your catcher's name is humor; he's important to the scheme. While honor's pitching from the bullpen, your game is always clean. With love on your bench, you've perfection no less; and a winning team with joy and happiness.

THE OTHER TEAM IS STRONG...

Greed, envy, hatred, and defeat are four strong infielders; you'll have to buck to make your game complete. Discouragement and falsehood are the big ones in the pen. You'll have to swing hard, my friend when you meet up with them. Carelessness and a man called Waste. You will find them playing hard. Selfishness and jealousy you cannot disregard. There's one more person you'll need to watch, he's always very near. He's the pitcher for this team; I'm told his name is Fear. This game won't be easy, there'll be struggle and there'll be strife. To make the winning runs, they are played on the field of life. So stand behind your team, friend; there will be many who will applaud. Remember you are the player, and the umpire is GOD!

(Unknown)

## Calendar of Activities

Spring Conference Discontinued

- June 21-27** Missouri Girls State; UCM Warrensburg
- July 8-12** Department Convention; Hilton St. Louis Airport - (1-314-426-5500)
- October 16-18** Fall Conference; Jefferson City, MO

## District Meetings

- District 1** **January 5, 2020;** Palmyra Post #174; 2:00 p.m.; Oratorical contest
- District 2** **January 4;** Brookfield Post #182; Trinity Church
- District 4** **November 9;** Burlington Junction Post #315  
**March 7;** Parnell Post #528
- District 6** **January 12;** Warrensburg Post #131; lunch 12:30 p.m.; Oratorical Contest; meeting follows
- District 8** **January 5;** Jefferson City; Post 5
- District 9** **December 8;** New Haven Post #366
- District 10** **December 12;** Post #400; 7:30 p.m.
- District 13** **December 8;** Perryville Post #133; 2:00 p.m.  
**March 8;** Ste. Genevieve Post #150
- District 15** **December 8;** Joplin Memorial Hall; 2:00 p.m.