# The Missouri Legionette



Official Publication for the American Legion Auxiliary of Missouri

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Volume LXXV

THE MISSOURI LEGIONETTE

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017** 

**NUMBER 6** 

# President's Message



**Department President** Carolyn Sanford Unit 217, District 7

If you were unable to attend Fall Conference, you were missed. Everyone enjoyed the session. We were honored to have Central Division National Vice President Trish Ward with us. In addition to valuable information about membership and reporting, she told us the story regarding her Past Department President's pin. She bought it on eBay and discovered it had previously belonged to 1955 Missouri Department President Mrs. George Bellerson. She related the fun she had researching the family of Mrs. Bellerson. Trish reminded us what fun you could have researching your own genealogy. She assured us the pin would be returned to Missouri when she is finished with it.

Vice President Ward shared the "Passport" used in Kansas to track hours, miles and dollars spent for volunteering. A template will be sent for us to review. It is always nice to receive new ideas.

Thank you Trish Ward for your visit and words of wisdom. Sylvia Jackson, Director of Volunteer Services at Harry S Truman VA Medical Center, explained more about my project, The Fisher House. She also gave an overview of what VAVS is and how our volunteering helps the Medical Centers.

Lots of poodle skirts were evident at the Sock Hop Saturday evening. It was a fundraiser for Fisher House and netted over \$700.

Speaking of fundraising, Connie Pack made special white Poppy pins for Chaplains and sold them for \$2. She raised \$240. If you didn't get one, they will be available at Spring Con-

Program Chairmen provided information to each District President. Please contact your District President for information about the projects your unit supports.

By the time you receive this Legionette we will be a quarter of the way through the year. Be sure to keep track of your hours, donations and miles. This information will be gathered for reports. The information collected shows Congress and the American people what an important part we take in supporting our veterans and active duty military.

Thank you everyone for making Fall Conference successful.

I wish each of you and your family a happy and safe holiday season.



**New address** 

Please forward to:

#### "WE ARE **FAMILY"**

Sheridan Mires. Membership Co-Chairman Sharon Slagle, Membership Co-Chairman



Greetings from the Department of Missouri Membership Team! If you did not attend Fall Conference you missed a great membership parade. The Unit, District and Division leaders did a fantastic job of carrying out the theme "We Are Family" with their various costumes and gimmicks. The goal for Fall Conference was for every Unit to have member-ship turned into Department office. There are 207 Units in our Department; 184 Units have turned in membership, which means 23 have not turned in any membership as of the October 18, 2017, membership report. Last year at this time there were 33 Units that did not have any membership turned in by Fall Conference, so this is an improvement. Good job ladies. The 184 Units with membership turned in were placed in a drawing at Conference. Congratulations to Unit 528 of Parnell, District 4, the winner of the \$25.

District 4 and District 5 are the only Districts with all Units turning in membership. There are 10 Districts that only have 1 Unit that has not turned in membership. Please contact those Units and members who have not paid their dues. Open the lines of communication with them. Remember, one of the awards is a drawing for all Districts who have no "0" Units.

When total Department membership is compared to last year at this time, we were 487 members less this vear. However the week of Conference the Department membership increased by 1,438 members. Ladies, if we keep up this pace we will meet our goals.

The December 7, 2017, drawing will be for Units reaching 100 per-cent. Make sure you make those phone calls and personal contacts. This helps build a culture of goodwill and strengthens our Units, Districts and Department. Outstanding things can happen when we open the Outstanding lines of communication and build a relationship with our members.

Thank you for all you do to assist our many veterans. As the holiday season approaches, remember a membership to one of the American Legion Family organizations makes a gift that keeps on giving. What an awesome way to thank a veteran and his or her family for their ser-

**MOVED?** 

ALA Department Office, 600 Ellis Blvd.

Jefferson City, MO 65101-2204

# **National Mission Training**

Sharon Slagle, 1st Vice President

Mission training along with National Junior Meeting was held Saturday, October 14, in Springfield,

Several ideas that were suggested by members present are: Girls who go to Girls State to promote our Brand, stay connected and Units should invite them to help with our missions.

Some ideas for projects were: Purchase pet supplies for Service Dogs and the Humane Society, Poppy kits for Girls State and buy computers or other electronic items for veterans homes and hospitals. Other ideas were 10 for 10, dust rags for janitors, hand crème for cooks, have Bakeless bake sales, thank-you cards, poppies for teachers, celebrate National Poppy Day (the Friday before Memorial Day), pumpkin carving contests, contest for Turkey Day and deliver dinners to shut-in veterans.

There were 120 present. The question was asked, what is the difference between National Security and VA & R? The answer was that National Security is serving the present military. VA & R is serving past military, the veterans.

The responsibility of the Unit is to motivate with kindness and goodwill and have a vision for the Unit's future. (Smile)

There are 17 million veterans and 1.8 million are female. When we sign new members oftentimes there are 25 percent that don't come to the meetings and after 3 years 45 percent don't attend.

We should always remember Service Not Self. The Juniors had a great time. It was well worth the time to attend and participate.

#### FRIENDSHIP

FRIENDSHIP is the opportunity to lighten another's cares and is a flame of concern for another special person or persons. FRIENDSHIP is like a comforting clasp of a friendly handshake. FRIENDSHIP is an intangible bond that is unseen, but strong and is tied by a golden string which becomes closer day by day, and more treasured year by year. FRIENDSHIP is giving and

sharing built on trust and with

God's love.

(Author Unknown)

#### Centennial Cookbook Instructions

- List all ingredients in order of use in ingredient lists and directions. Include amounts and sizes, e.g. 2 (8-oz.) cans, temps and baking/
- Keep ingredients separate and directions in one paragraph.
  Use names of ingredients in the directions, e.g. "Combine flour and sugar." Do not use statements like "Combine first 3 ingredients."
- Include temperatures and cooking, chilling, baking and/or freezing
- Sign your name to each recipe sent.
- Any special recipe notes (anything rather than ingredients, serving size, etc.) write on bottom of the recipe, even if you do not know the origins. On one of my grandmother's recipes is the notation, "Don't stub your toe when carrying on you head." I wish I knew what she
- Please mark your recipe with one of the following categories:

  Appetizers & Beverages

Soups & Salads Vegetables & Side Dishes **Main Dishes** Breads & Rolls Desserts Cookies & Candy This & That

Send your recipes in any form and send as many as you can. Please include your phone number so that if there are questions I can call you to clarify

Address: 3816 S. Crane Independence, MO 64055 Email: gaylemetzinger@att.net

Thanks! Gayle

#### **Strategic Planning Committee**

Judy Donati and Laura Mosby

Have you heard the great news? Under a new academy training program, the American Legion Auxiliary is providing all members with the tools they need to help grow the organization as a team. The training is designed to help members learn as part of a process that includes learning the information, sharing it with others, practicing their new skills and eventually, making those new skills a habit.

Currently available curriculums include ALA 101; ALA available Communications 201; and ALA Leadership 201.

ALA 101: is the introductory course to the ALA Academy, focusing on who we are, what we do and why we matter. ALA 101 provides a general overview of the ALA and our mission, with information helpful for most new (and not-sonew) members to learn. The entire online course will take about 35-40 minutes to complete. That includes watching the videos and playing the

fun learning games. ALA Communications 201 is the first class in the Effective Module: Communications introduction to how the ALA uses E-Communication. It also provides basic how-to information about

using social media. This class is part of the Effective Communications Module and only takes about 15

ALA Leadership 201: Living Our Motto of Service Not Self. This course goes over what it means to be a leader and reviews that leadership is not a title — it is helping others to stay mission-focused and leading by our guiding principles. You'll also learn to recognize what leadership is and isn't. By the end of this course, participants will have the tools they need to develop a personal leadership plan.

Coming soon will be other curriculums in the area of Handling Conflicts, Marketing Leadership, Team Building and Mentoring just to name a few.

Learn more about the ALA Academy on page 34-35 of your August issue of the National magazine.

If you do any of the training programs, we'd like to hear about it.

# Secretary's Corner

Nancy Reeves, **Department Secretary** 

Hello from Department Office! thank everyone for the Well Wishes during my medical leave. I am doing well and looking forward to getting back to work. I will only be working part-time the first few weeks.

Department Christmas Party is scheduled for Tuesday, December 19 at 12:00 noon.

Office is closed for Thanksgiving November 23-24.

Closed at noon Friday, Deconset at hoof Friday, De-cember 22 and closed December 25-January 1. Office will reopen Tuesday, January 2, 2018. Elizabeth and I wish you a very

Happy Holiday Season. God Bless!







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Department President — Carolyn Sanford, P.O. Box 893, Warsaw, MO 65355. C: (660) 723-0411, Email: carolyns217@gmail.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**



Victoria Ornelas, Department Chaplain

It is November already and Christmas is just around the corner. I hope Halloween brought many goblins to your door. Remember, they are our future.

November 11 is Veterans Day. Our veterans are the reason we have the freedom we all cherish and enjoy. Now is not the time to forget them. December 7 is Pearl Harbor Day — Lest we forget.

forget.

Remember, to send me your prayers for President Carolyn's Prayer Book. I hope you will take part in the Prayer Book contest. Awards will be presented to the Unit that sends the most prayers and the Best Prayer Book submitted. If I can help your unit or district in any way please feel free to contact me.

Dear Lord, this Christmas let us mend a quarrel, seek a friend, dismiss your doubt with trust, write a letter, share some treasure and answer softly. May we also encourage our youth, show mercy in word and deed, keep a promise, find the time to forego a grudge, forgive an enemy, listen, apologize, try to understand, flout envy, examine your demands on others, think first of someone else, appreciate everything, be kind and gentle, laugh a little, take up arms against malice, go to church, welcome a stranger, gladden the heart of a child, and love. Amen

#### **LEADERSHIP**

Ruth Wiemann, Chairman

A quote from National says, "The ALA is an organization that provides women of all ages, Juniors and adult members, the opportunity to develop and hone their leadership skills. Our organization depends upon an ever-emerging stream of competent new leaders, trained and guided by experienced ones, to assume leadership within the Auxiliary and advance its mission long into the future.

"The Auxiliary offers a variety of opportunities for members to serve in leadership roles from chairing a short-term community service project at the Unit level to running for National office."

The ALA offers The Leadership Basics Course PowerPoint online at www.ALAforVeterans.org.

I urge you to go online and open the PowerPoint and take the true/ false questionnaire about our organization.

You may work individually or as a unit. The answer sheets and cover sheets when completed, should be submitted to me by May 4, 2018. Awards will be given at convention.

Your Juniors can take the Junior leadership PowerPoint and exam. They will be eligible for certification and awards. The answer and cover sheets should be sent to me by May 4, 2018.

4, 2018.

I will also give awards for the most outstanding leadership narrative by a unit and most outstanding

narrative by a district.

District Presidents or Leadership chairmen please send me a mid-year report on your leadership activities by December 15, 2017. Anyone who has taken the ALA Senior or Junior Basics Course may send to me by this time too.

I have a limited supply of the questionnaire and cover sheets at conference. Thank you for your participation.

# The Constitution & Bylaws Committee:

Lori Millam and Roberta Pointer, Co-chairmen Michele Emmerich, Cathie Goth and Connie Pack, Members

Our committee met September 25 at Department Office to review the Constitution, Bylaws, standing rules, policies and procedures, and other parts of the Unit Guide. We made grammar and punctuation changes, and any information we knew to be incorrect.

The following are changes for clarification that were voted on and approved by the DEC.

Standing Rule 12. Department Core Standing Committees: f) Constitution and Bylaws/Policies and Procedure: One (3)-year member, two (2)-year members, two (1)-year members. (Added: Chairman shall be a Past Department President.)

Standing Rule 14. Department Member/Organizational Support Chairman d) Past Presidents Parley/Nurses Scholarship/Woman of the Year Chairman. (Added: Chairman shall be a Past Department President.) (Added to the title Honoring Active Duty Servicewomen)

Standing Rule 33. In addition to Article II, Section 2, Districts with nominees shall present one candidate for one office only. If no nominees for any office occur, there shall be a recess for 5 or 10 minutes to come up with a candidate or candidates from Districts with no nominees.

The DEC voted and approved taking to the membership at Department Convention in July 2018 the change on the title of Department Secretary-Treasurer to Department Secretary-Treasurer/Chief Operating Officer.

The Constitution and Bylaws committee is going to make a "Renewal of Motion" on the election of the NEC and Alternate NEC at Department Convention July 2018. An informational sheet was handed out to all DEC members and articles will appear in the Legionette.

# V A & R Report Judy Donati, Chairman

Let's make Missouri proud by applying for more National awards this year. Awards can be submitted by members, Units and Departments. If you need more information, contact Judy Donati at (314) 616-8099 or by email stlcardinalfan64@yahoo.com.

Keep in mind that not all awards are due next year. Some are due in November. The Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) Volunteer of the Year nominations forms are due by November 1 along with the James H. Parke Scholarship applications. This scholarship is awarded annually by Veterans Affairs to student volunteers. Nomination forms must be submitted to the Medical Center director by November 1. The ALA contributes \$2,000 annually to this scholarship fund. Applications can be found on their website, www.

# ST. JAMES VA HOME

Carolyn Isgriggs, VA Representative

We have 150 residents and five are female veterans. We are looking forward to another successful year with your help. We continue our regular activities such as bingo, dominoes and checkers, cheer baskets, Halloween, Veterans Day Dollar Bill program and Christmas Gift Shop.

We are in need of monetary donations to continue providing these activities. The residents look forward to our visits and enjoy the game competition.

If your unit or post would like to sponsor an activity, please call me at 573-205-0119. They enjoy the activities and visitors.

Our Christmas Gift Shop will be Monday, December 4. We will meet in the Activity room at 8:30 a.m. All volunteers are welcome.

#### PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY

Linda Shivers, Chairman

All past presidents at all levels (unit, district, department and national) are encouraged to continue their support of our organization. This means they will accept the responsibility that the knowledge as a past leader will make a difference by developing and mentoring members. We join the group as ambassadors for the organization with the knowledge that we have the information to share to make each level stronger.

This chairmanship has three main parts to it. They are: Unit Member of the Year, honoring our active duty servicewomen and Nurses scholarship.

First is the **Unit Member of the Year,** recognizing the contributions made by a valued unit member.

Guidelines for this are: Only senior members in good standing are eligible.

Current membership dues must be paid.

The member cannot have obtained an elected or appointed leadership role higher than Unit President.

Selection is based on accomplishments, activities, etc. for the current administrative year.

Years of membership are not a part of the criteria.

One entry per Unit.

The Unit must submit a narrative of 1,000 words or less describing the nominee's accomplishments and activities together with the nominee's name and address. The unit president and secretary must sign the entry form unless the nominee is one of them. Then a past unit president must give the entry.

unit president must sign the entry.
All entries must be received by April 1, 2018.

The cover sheet has been enclosed for this entry.

Honoring an active duty servicewoman rules. Nominee should be on active duty and willing to attend National Convention if selected.

A brief narrative (750 words) of their military service should be included with entry form. This narrative should answer the question: "Why Are Women Vital to Today's Armed Forces?"

Entry must have the nominee's name and address, unit name and address and most importantly, contact information for the servicewoman.

One applicant for each branch of service per unit.

Nurses scholarship rules: Must be resident of Missouri and shall have graduated from high school in the mid-term or immediately before the Missouri Department Convention.

Applicant must be a member of a Veteran's family.

Applicant must be submitted through an Auxiliary Unit.

The applicant must include: Name, address, and age of applicant, a photograph and four letters attesting to the character, scholarship and qualification for the nursing profession, and basis of need. The letters should be from the following:

One from the high school principal or counselor of school applicant graduated.

One from clergyman or a high school teacher from their school.

One from a citizen of the

applicant's hometown.

A personal letter from the

A personal letter from the applicant explaining "What a nursing profession means to me."

All entries must be received

All entries must be received by April 1, 2018. Send to: Linda Shivers

P.O. Box 173 Richland, Missouri 65556 Questions call: 573-216-9922 or text Email: lsshivers@hotmail.com

#### 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)

# Unit/District Historian Contest and Scoring 2017-2018

Marsha Mooney Department Historian

Introduction (Items to be included in introduction chapter) (10 points)

Score\_

- 1. Title page
  - a. Unit name and number/District number
  - b. Year of History
  - c. Name of Historian
- 2. Foreword 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.

#### Unit/District Information (10 p

(10 points) Score\_

- 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 Chairmen or Committee appointments for current year.
- List of Department or National Officers of committee people from your Unit/District.
- 5. Department awards received at last year's Convention.

This section is double-spaced.

#### Content

(70 points) Score\_\_

- 1. The ALA Missouri Unit/District annual history shall be written as a factual narrative beginning with Installation of Officers for the current year and ending with the summary of end of the year reports and closing events for this year.
- 2. The History shall be written in third person.
- 3. Use clear, concise language with correct spelling.
- 4. Do not include computer graphics, pen and ink drawings, illustrations, extra material, newspaper clippings or other embellishments.
- 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.
- Make sure that the History tells the story of your Unit/District. It is not about 1 person. It is about what your Unit/District has done this last year.
- 7. The signature of the Historian should be the last page of your narrative History.

#### Appearance

(10 points) Score\_

- Please use a blue binder or a 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.
- a. Spacing the introduction section is single-spaced. The Unit/District information and the other content is double spaced.
  - b. Please use a business font (Arial, Times New Roman, Calibri, etc.) in 12-
- 3. 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 portion of your History.d. Index is optional and is to be placed in the back of the book.

UNIT MEME	BER OF THE YEAR
i	
Nominee Name:	
Nominee Address:	
i	
Nominee Phone Number:	
Nominee Email:	
Nominee Unit Name and Number:	
-   	
Unit President	Unit Secretary
L — — — — — — — —	

#### Constitution & Bylaws

Roberta Pointer and Lori Millam, Co-Chairmen

Pride in our organization is strengthened by our knowledge of the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules – Unit, District, Department and National. It is known that for many Auxiliary members Constitution and Bylaws appear to have little or no appeal. It is to many a committee without glamour, one which many consider a boring assignment. We know this is not true, for this committee can be a fascinating appointment filled with challenge and appeal if we wish it to be. The committee should look forward to promoting a better understanding of the functioning of the American Legion Auxiliary under its own governing rules.

The Constitution and Bylaws of any organization contains its own basic rules relating principally to itself as an organization. These documents provide how we function, and include all rules which are considered important. It not only sets forth the ideas and principles for which we stand, but also defines the procedures that should be followed in all matters. Study your Unit, District, Department and National Constitution and Bylaws. Each section of each article should "say it like it is," with no wording that may be misinterpreted. Including or omitting one word may change the meaning, so let us be sure our Constitution and Bylaws leave no question in the minds of our members.

All members are urged to memorize the Preamble to the Constitution that expresses in beautiful language the basic reasons for our existence as the largest patriotic organization of women in the world. At each Unit meeting, every District meeting, Fall Conference and Department Convention the Preamble of the American Legion Auxiliary Constitution is recited in unison. Some of us have memorized it; some members must read it. That isn't important. What is important is that we understand what and why we are saying it or reading it.

The Constitution and Bylaws committee is going to make a "Renewal of Motion" on the election of the NEC and Alternate NEC at Department Convention, July 2018. An informational sheet was distributed to all DEC members at the Executive Board Meeting and articles about this will be published in the Legionette.

A year-end report is due to us by May 1, 2018. We would like to have all districts send us your Best Unit Narrative and a Narrative from the District chairman. Awards will be given. An informational packet was given to each District. On the cover it has our contact information.

Remember, if your Unit or District has any questions about your Constitution and Bylaws, let us know. We will be happy to help.

### Education

Jackie Sutor, Chairman

The Education program helps the American Legion Auxiliary's role in providing quality education for children and adults through classroom activities, literacy programs, giving scholarships and support of education going beyond high school and especially for military children.

A suggestion to promote this idea is enhancing respect for the sacrifices of our military heroes among schoolchildren through veterans in community schools, which was formally called "Veterans in the Classroom." They visit the classroom and discuss their military experience with the students.

Promote the American Legion Auxiliary scholarships at all levels. The applications for different types of scholarships offered can be found on the website www.ALAforVeterans. org/Scholarships. Please provide copies of those requested.

Support the program Give Ten to Education, American Education Week and Teacher Appreciation Week. Save box tops for Education and Campbell Soup labels. Donate these to the participating schools. To recognize American Education Week, November 13-17, 2017, you can send thank-you notes to teachers, bus drivers, custodians, nurses and other staff members. You can send sweet treats, give them apples or provide lunch one day. You can be as creative as you want. Teacher Appreciation Week is May 7-11, 2018.

Help support and assist veterans who are pursuing a higher education or vocational education. Perhaps contact the campus student veterans group at the colleges. The VA counselors can help locate the veterans groups. Volunteer with a group. You can receive the Volunteer American Legion's Action Alerts and support alerts regarding the GI Bill. Support the military children with educational opportunities. Be sure to provide the local schools a copy of the Educator's Guide to the Military Child during deployment. The website is www.2.ed.gov/about/ offices/list/os/homefront.pfd. Let the schools know that tutoring is available through the website for military children www.tutor.com/ military. Also provide information on the ALA children of Warriors National President's Scholarship, Non-Traditional Student, and Spirit of Youth Scholarship.

These are just a few ideas. I have included a copy of this report in the District President's packet to give to the District Education chair and also information from the Program Plan of Action.

A mid-year report is due to me by December 29, 2017. End of year reports are due to me by April 15, 2018. My award will be \$5 for the Best District report and \$5 for the Best Unit Report.

Please send reports to me, Jackie Sutor, 1009 Yankee Court, Warrenton, MO 63383-7094.

Email is trslrs3@yahoo.com.

# Children and Youth

Linda Jelinek, Chairman

According to Webster, a child is considered a person of recent birth until they are a youth. The age of being a youth is the age of growth and development.

Children and youth are our most precious natural resource. The American Legion Auxiliary needs to be a strong source of care and support for military families. Who better to adopt these military families than a force of nearly 800,000 ALA members who are experts on life as a family member of a veteran? What can you do at your post home? You can partner the local National Guard, Reserve units or military bases or installations. Invite school counselors and teachers along with the military families. Work together to find ways to support these children and their families.

Contact your local homeless shelter. Since one in five veterans is homeless, there is a good chance there will be children of a homeless veteran living in a local shelter. Find out what your unit can do to help them. Develop relationships between Legion Family members and military children and families and children of the veterans. Contact local schools to access their need for supplies and extra clothes for the homeless children. Offer to supply items as needed. Help raise awareness for the needs of homeless children in your community by sharing unit activities on your Unit website, social media pages and newsletters.

Suicide and depression have become real problems among military children. Military children whose parents are deployed are using mental health services at a rate three and ½ times greater than their civilian counterparts. "Adopt" children of the military families. Ways to help are through "operation military kids" www. operationmilitarykids.org, the Boys and Girls Club of America www. bgca.org or ALAforVeterans.org

April is Children and Youth

Month. 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. During this month child health such as Children's Miracle Network, Spinoza "Buddy Bear" project, immunization programs and prevention of Teen Pregnancy program are some of the activities you can help promote. Child safety is an ever increasing problem with the internet and cellphone use. Child pornography, drugs and drug abuse, alcohol abuse prevention, child, sexual abuse and neglect, and teenage suicide prevention are hot topics. Under Family Preservation.

National Family Week activities help keep the families involved with each other, Day Care Safety, Foster Care and Missing Children are all programs that can be included in your Unit's work.

A special program that helps give birthday parties for children in need is promoted at some of the food banks and Units. Most everything that would be needed is put in a grocery bag or a large gift bag. They include a cake mix, frosting, cups, plates, napkins, forks, party favors, candles, and anything else that would suit a young person. The cost of the bag is approximately \$20. The bags include a label which states the gender and the age appropriate for the contents. This program is much appreciated in their community.

National is promoting The American Legion Auxiliary Hero and Good Deed Award. Youth under 18 years of age who have performed specific good deeds are great examples of community service in action. The youth is not required to be a part of an American Legion Family. The instructions are on the form which is included in each District packet. The awards are to be sent to the Department Secretary who will, in turn, send it to National. Do not send straight to National or it will not be considered. Please include news clippings or the website where the good deed is being recognized. Please be on the lookout for these deserving children and youth.

There are many activities that can be done, but you must do what fits your Unit and community the best. Please report all your activities. I have compiled a report form for the Unit and the District. I know that National wants only narrative, but if you cannot write one, I know you can fill out the form and send it to your District Chairman who will send it to me. Your District Chairman is receiving material for each Unit. She will distribute it to you or you can go to ALA.org and get the whole program on the national website and find all the information you will need. Have a great year helping the children of our veterans and report, report, report. Remember, the Future of Our Nation Lies in the Hands of Our Youth of Today.

# Public Relations

Vera Gerner-Taylor, Chairman

The Public Relations program promotes who we are, what we do, and why it matters. By promoting who we are strengthens the American Legion Auxiliary and makes us appealing to potential members who will recognize our common goal of helping veterans, service members and their families.

The units getting the word out about what we do is critical for the public to become aware of the American Legion Auxiliary's work for our veterans and active duty servicemen and -women. We are here to promote, publicize and reeducate the general public and our members about our core program values of serving veterans and their families. Spread the word. Tell everyone what we do!

How can we do this? As a member you can wear your Auxiliary shirts at public events, give your local library a subscription to the Auxiliary magazine, and distribute ALA brochures and posters in your community. As a unit contact your local newspapers and send them a news release. Ask them to come take pictures of your events and/or send them pictures of your events. Get to know your local newspaper reporters and editors. Reporters are always looking for information about events.

Promote your unit and the ALA by setting a website or share one with your American Legion post. Get your unit set up on Facebook. Let the community know what you are doing through these two avenues.

The National American Legion Auxiliary website is the place to find out more information about Public Relations. Go to www. ALAforveterans.org. There you find ideas about how to improve your Public Relations options. They also have ideas on how to write news releases for all patriotic days. Make use of these ideas to promote programs through your local newspapers.

Units and districts are asked to submit a mid-year report and also a year-end report that should be done in a narrative report. The district presidents have been given this information to pass along to their units. I hope to hear from all districts in December. All units, no matter how small, have something to report.

There will be a Unit and

District Press Book competition at Department Convention in July. I encourage all units and districts to participate. Awards will be presented at convention. The rules for the Press Books were given to the District Presidents and they will also be published in the Legionette.

Please send the pictures and news articles that were in your local newspapers. I will need these to put into the Department Press Book. I will accept copies of your unit newsletters to your members as well as copies of your emails to members. These can be mailed to me at 1928 Anniston Drive, Washington, MO 63090 or emailed to me at veragerner@charter.net.

Remember to go to the National American Legion Auxiliary website to see all the information on Public Relations. www.ALAforVeterans.org.

#### Unit & District Press Book Rules for 2017-2018

• Use a three-ring binder

UNITED STATES

- First page should list: a. Unit (District) name &
- # with address (no address
- for district)
  b. Unit (District) President's
- name c. Total membership number

- d. Unit (Distict) PR Chairman's name
- e. Date of year 2017-2018
- Second page is a copy of your Unit (District) Annual Report Form.
- Third page is an essay describing
  PR promotion in your unit (district).
  Place articles in chronological
- order.
   Place pictures in chronological
- order.
   Each article and picture must have name of newspaper and publishing date at the top of each
- article or picture.
  NO photographs...only articles and pictures that were published in the newspaper.
  NOTE: Please include copies
- NOTE: Please include copies of your unit (district) newsletter, emails to members and other types of communications to your unit (district) members.

Units: Please send copies of your unit articles, pictures, etc. to your District PR Chairman so that she can put these in your Distict Press Book.

Also send copies to the Department Public Relations Chairman for the Department Press Book. Mail these to Vera Gerner-Taylor, 1928 Anniston Drive, Washington, MO 63090. Email: veragerner@charter.

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Renewal of Motion ("Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised" pg. 62)

Proposed Constitutional Amendment to Elect National Executive Committeewomen

**Department Convention 2018** 

Informational Sheet

Reasoning as recommended from National (condensed)

Why departments should consider allowing their NEC members to serve longer than a single one-year term.

- Effective governance of a large organization such as ours with a large governing committee, the NEC, whose members only serve one year inherently, limits the effectiveness of the organization because lack of continuity provides no opportunity to develop the kind of expertise that comes with experience.
- The effect of this reality is compounded by the fact that our ALA NEC is not empowered to recruit any of its members, eliminating the opportunity to recruit specific expertise such as legal, financial, management, marketing, development, etc. The current system of serving one year on our ALA NEC makes it difficult to build proficiency when those serving on our ALA NEC change committee members every year.
- As of October 13, 2017, twenty-seven (27) departments have voted to elect their NECs for multiple year terms beginning with the 2017-2018 year. The more Departments moving to making some provision for their NECs to serve multiple years, the more stable this organization will become and the more experience Departments will gain in the governance of our ALA.
- The recommendation that Departments allow the option for their NEC members to serve longer that a single one-year term is also being made by the team of the ALA Centennial Strategic Plan for Goal 4: Strengthen Departments and Units, Strategy A: Build capacity of all Departments.
- · Each Department is a corporation, and the American Legion Auxiliary is a national brand, part of the American Legion brand family. To grow our organization, we must build brand loyalty, strengthen Departments and Units, develop leadership at all levels, and foster good will so that we can grow our membership. The Auxiliary at all levels must operate in proper ways that respect members' rights and build our capacity to deliver our mission. To do in today's legal and regulatory environment, we must build our governance expertise.

#### Additional Reasoning:

- · Within the Department of Missouri, it has been the practice that the out-going President automatically become Missouri's NEC for a one-year term. This is many times considered an honor, an award for the many years this individual has spent seeking Department offices. This s not always the desire of the out-going President to fulfill this obligation but has no graceful way of side stepping this appointment for fear of disappointing mentors and supporters. With electing an individual to this position gives all members in good standing the opportunity to
- As to being given the experience as NEC to attend the American Legion's Washington DC Awareness Conference, the American Legion Auxiliary is no longer participating in this Conference as of the 2017-2018 year. The spring NEC meeting, a one-day conference, will now be held in late February in Indianapolis, Indiana, home of our National Headquarters. This change was made as a cost saving effort by our National organization.
- ALA Departments that allow their NEC member to serve longer that a single 0neyear=27

1. Alaska	10. Massachusetts	19. Rhode Island
2. Colorado	11. Minnesota	20. South Dakota
3. Connecticut	12. Mississippi	21. Texas
4. Delaware	13. New Jersey	22. Vermont
5. Hawaii	14. New Mexico	23. Virginia
6. Iowa	15. New York	24. Washington
7. Idaho	16. North Dakota	25. Washington DC
8. Maine	17. Oregon	26. Wisconsin
9. Maryland	18. Puerto Rico	27. Wyoming

Any questions please feel free to contact anyone on the Constitution and Bylaws committee.

#### **AMERICANISM ESSAY 2016-2017** NATIONAL WINNERS

Lucille Armbruster, Chairman

Missouri was much honored to have received four (4) National Awards for the Americanism Essay Contest.

Each winner received a Citation, \$50 prize and an additional \$50 donation

to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship Fund. District 2 Corbin Rodenberg Unit 25 Class II Class III Emma McIntyre Unit 366 District 9 Class IV Unit 287 District 4 Class V Rylee Neill Unit 372District 15

We are very proud of these young people.

# Poppy Poster Contest

Kris Marsden, Chairman

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

\*The contest shall have seven

- 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:
- i. Those in special education classes.

ii. A student recommended for special education classes but who has not been admitted due to a waiting list or various other factors.

iii. 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

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 determine the closing date for 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:

 ${\bf a.\,50\,percent\,-\,poster\,appeal}$ (layout, message, originality)

b. 40 percent - artistic ability (design and color) c. 10 percent - neatness shall 7. Media used

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. (Department of <u>Missouri</u>)

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.

12. When the Holy Cross is used, the Star of David also shall be used.



### **Poppy Report**

Dr. Cynthia Gray, Chairman

My duties include providing information so people can do their efficiently, effectively and legally.

When I was asked to be Poppy Chair, I found from the Poppy Program Guide that Poppy resolutions adopted by the American Legion in 2014 changed two essential aspects of the program: Use of the Funds and Expansion of the types of poppy beyond standard crepe paper ones. New rules have been in effect since 2013 and are in our 2014 unit Guidebook (p78) and the 2016 Poppy Program Guide (p6). Units must publicize Poppy Program uniformly and correctly using only current information from these American Legion sources

The National Rules of the Poppy Poster Contest are important to follow, so their hard work is not eliminated.

UNITS: Posters deadline to the District Chairperson April 1st

**DISTRICTS:** Posters deadline to the Department Chairperson May 1st.

Each unit and district will judge and submit their top winners for each classification and at their own expense and decide on monetary amounts and media attention.

All artwork that is submitted will be judged and given a citation for the winners per classification that will move on to National.

Department will have all winners on their website. The winners from 2016/2017 are still available to view at https://www.alaforveterans.org/ Programs/Poppy-Poster-Winners/

#### Poppy Poster Contest Judging and Awards

Each department shall establish its own procedure for judging. A citation will be given for the most outstanding poster in each classification within the five divisions.

I have decided to give a \$5 award along with a certificate to the winner of each class.

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.

Department Poppy Poster Chairperson: Kris Marsden, 4109 Faredale Ln., St Charles, MO 63304 ndtmann@yahoo.com, 636-447-2394

#### and Emblem Sales.

This is a brief summary of the use of funds which now includes active military in specific circumstances. "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.
- The **welfare** of the families of veterans.
- rehabilitation 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 where financial and medical need is evident.

• For the purpose of poppy kits and supplies used to make symbolic poppies.

Change in the American Legion Poppy Program expanded our opportunities to promote poppies to increase donations.

 "greater flexibility...not limited to paper poppies (p7)

"poppy labels don't need calendar year"(p7)

• "poppy may be made from any material and other poppy items may be made" (8)

• distribute poppy symbol in nontraditional ways: buttons, balloons, stickers, pencils, temporary tattoos, T-shirts, cookies, cupcakes, wreaths, Christmas decorations, note cards...

any occasion" (p7) "Branded items" include the ALA emblem...Use of this image and any other poppy graphic design that incorporates the ALA emblem requires approval from the National secretary...approval from National Headquarters is not necessary (for other poppy images). (p 10)

• "poppy image always symbolizes blood sacrificed. Rules governing number of petals and leaves no longer apply." (p 10)

On the last change while it may be interesting to give meaning to four petals, this is not part of official literature and should not be used.

The new rules emphasize that all poppy activities should automatically include the entire Legion Family.

We have traditional poppies to distribute, but we now have unlimited ways to be creative with our items with "a suggested donation of..." or "sold as a project for the restricted poppy fund." should not limit distribution to a few days near patriotic holidays such Veterans Day. Every occasion is Poppy Day.

I encourage you to wear a poppy image ALWAYS at Poppy distribution activities and every day. The National Poppy Day pin (\$2.95) is a good investment and sparks conversation. Other items from Emblem Sales are: Poppy tack (\$3.95) Poppy T-Shirts (\$11.95) and polo shirt (\$15.95)

# **County**

Joan Vanfossan, Chairman

Bette Williams is a pioneer of County Government Day in the Department of Missouri. She served as both Department and District County Government chairman for many years, promoting the program and participating in many events. While she has stepped down as Chairman, she is still active in County Government Day in Holt County where she lives and where the day is called "Bette Williams Day" in her honor.

While serving as District 4 Chairman, she attended all County Government Days in six counties, speaking with the students about the purpose of the event. I would like to share with you a portion of her speech.

think "Sometimes we government only as what is done in Jefferson City or Washington, D. C. But in the final analysis, it is just as important for America what is done on the local level as it is in those

capitols.
"The need for well-informed, young citizens in Americanism and government becomes more important each year. You young people will be the teachers, business leaders and elected representatives of tomorrow, and to you will be given the responsibility to chart the future course of America.

"America of today must be the guardian of tomorrow. We cannot as a nation stand still if we expect to survive as a free people. There is no greater privilege than American citizenship, but you must remember that with privileges there are responsibilities, and I hope that each of you, as you enjoy the privileges, will be willing to accept the responsibilities. Be a good citizen — by that I mean a participating citizen. Learn all you can about your government. It is an instrument of our own creation, and we must show respect and abide by the laws that were created to keep America a nation of free people."

Bette's words inspired generations of students as they attended County Government Days. I hope they might also inspire you to bring this excellent program to the students in your community. The need for informed and motivated young citizens is just as vital now as it was the first time Bette spoke those words. Those of us who have long enjoyed the benefits of being citizens of a free nation have an obligation to do our best to ensure those same benefits will be passed on to the generations to come.





# Missouri Girls State

Macae Mickens, Director

The 77th 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 24, 2018, through Saturday, June 30, 2018. A reminder that 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.missourigirlsstate. org. We are following the same online application process that we have utilized the previous two sessions, thanks to some amazing assistance from staff members of the American Legion Missouri Boys State program. 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 online application process. she will print her completed application, sign it and return it to the ALA Units or schools. The deadline will once again be March , 2018. The fee will remain at \$300 per delegate. There is one form change on the Auxiliary Pledge form. The delegate should check the box if she is a Junior Auxiliary member.

The ALA MGS Committee has worked over the years to continue to streamline efforts associated with planning the program and all of the informational efforts each year prior to the session. We will continue with each of our schools of instruction offered to our citizens that provides them the opportunity to receive dual credit eligibility through the University of Central Missouri. Based on feedback at the ALA National Based on Leadership Conference for Girls State, we are the only program nationwide with this opportunity. 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, but we always strive to provide the utmost excellence to our citizens, staff and to the American Legion Auxiliary.

The crucial part for American Legion Auxiliary Units is to allow the Committee to continue to plan and carry out informational briefings in the spring. We have worked hard with many senior staff members to provide valuable information to our delegates and want to ensure that all girls get the same information prior to arriving at ALA Missouri Girls State. To continue this unified endeavor, we would like to ask that you provide us with any ideas of locations, dates and times that will work with the delegate schedules. District

**National** 

**Junior Meeting** 

Abby Bragg, Junior Vice President

from Unit 315 District 4, recently attended the National Junior

Meeting in Springfield, Ill. We had

the opportunity to meet girls from

Ohio, Illinois, Michigan and Indiana.

We witnessed the installation of

the new Honorary National Junior

Division Vice President. We played an ice-breaker game and learned

some weird things about each other.

We made some Poppies from red felt,

black felt sticker, small yellow flower and a magnet. We also decorated a pillowcase to send to the troops

overseas. We also folded pocket flags

One was a Command Sgt. who is

completing her 28th year in the

Navy. The other is a Navy recruiter and in her sixth year working with

It was great to listen to these two

females and hear their point of view about boot camp and the military.

Another interesting point was their

response when asked what they

liked to receive in a care package.

They said they like to receive

a package just for women with

feminine products, good shampoo

game. I dressed up with wigs and

old-fashioned clothes to look like

I was a past president or a woman

who fought for rights and such

turned on music and had a dance

party...a lot. Gracie and I had a

good time and it was much fun. We

are so glad we had the opportunity

We occasionally took breaks so we

I also participated in a knowledge

and conditioner, etc.

issues. It was funny.

to attend.

We had two guest speakers.

to send overseas.

technology.

Gracie and I, Abby Bragg,

Junior

Presidents and ALA Girls State Chairmen, please note that again NO Briefings may be arranged without approval of the ALA MGS Committee. We appreciate your help in continuing to eliminate the confusion of misinformation or various sources of information to the large pool of our citizens. The earliest Briefings will again be held mid-April through the first week in June.

Our mid-year report is due to National early January 2018. I need some continued assistance Units on the following question: How do you involve your Girls State delegate(s) in your Unit activities or events after they have attended MGS, even if they do not join the American Legion Auxiliary

The ALA Missouri Girls State program was proudly represented by seven ALA members at the National Girls State Leadership Conference in September. addition to a wrap-up meeting in August with ALA MGS committee, planning has begun for 2018. We couldn't be more excited! Expect new adventures with some staff moving roles in the coming year. However, we hope ALA MGS will bring nothing but the same excitement and patriotic spirit as previous sessions.

US-Midwest China The Association, ALAMissouri Girls State, and The American Legion Boys State are once again arranging a trip to China in January. ALA MGS is fortunate to have representation. Between five and 10 staff and delegates travel on this journey for more than 10 days in the Far East.

At convention the ALA had the privilege of meeting our 2017-2018 Missouri Girls State Governor, Wei Kellman, and our Superintendent of Highway Patrol Haley Wingender. We will hear from of our Girls Nation Senator, Ashlyn Wadle, at this conference. She will share her experience at ALA Girls Nation last July.

The last exciting announcement we are proud to have representation in the National Samsung Scholarship finals. The Missouri finalist, Lauren Gately, was recently named as one of the 10 runners-up for the Samsung Scholarship, awarding her \$5,000 toward her college expenses next

The Executive Committee approved and ratified the following staff members for Missouri Girls State for 2018:

Dean Linda Schaap, Admissions:

Sara Dubbert, Dean of Counselors;

Catherine Auffert, Office

Manager; Tina Anderson, Sales Manager; and such other staff as the Director and Committee deem necessary.

#### **National Security**

Cathie Goth, Chairman

The purpose of the National Security Program promoting of a strong National defense by supporting service

members and their families.
The 2017-2018 American Legion Auxiliary Program Action Plan for National Security can be found on the Auxiliary's National website www. ALAforVeterans.org. Copies of the National Security Programs Action Plan were forwarded to District Presidents shortly after the first of September. Additional copies will be given to the District Presidents at Fall Conference.

Key components for the National Security Program are:

• Support of the emotional and social needs of active, reserve and transitioning military service members and their families;

• Assist military spouses getting and maintaining employment: and

• Support of the National Security programs of the American

National Security's Program Action Plan offers many ideas and tips for members, units, districts department to successfully work this program. Please use the Program Action Plan as a resource for working this or any of our programs. Not all units are near a military base, but there are many things you can do that applies to National Security, such as complete a Community Emergency response Training known as CERT. Have you considered hosting a CERT program at your post? Contact your Emergency Response personal your community for more information and how to become involved with CERT. How about emergency preparedness kits for the types of emergencies that affect your area? How many members donate blood? Have you or would you consider hosting a blood drive in your community? These are all things that can be done on local levels and be reported to the National Security program.

Have you participated in efforts to provide supplies and assistance for the recent natural disasters that have affected our country? Unfortunately, the opportunities for providing much needed relief of natural disasters have recently been bountiful.

Mid-year narrative reports should reflect the program work of units within your district. They are due to me by December 15, 2017.

End of year narrative reports should again reflect the work of the units within your district and are due to me by May 1, 2018. The yearend report should be conclusive. Remember, our reporting year is April 1 of the current year through March 31 of the following year, i.e. April 1, 2017, to March 31, 2018.

Although awards are why Auxiliary members work the programs of the ALA, it is nice to be acknowledged for services completed. Awards from National are for outstanding Unit National Security Program and an outstanding Department Award. Please help me tell our story of who we are and what we do and most importantly, why it matters.

Please contact me if there are any questions. Together we will work to find answers.

#### **POPPY** DISTRIBUTION

Dr. Cynthia Gray, Chairman Poppy Distribution—Important Clarification from National

The National office indicates that poppy items should be "distributed." Poppy Program Guide (05/2016) uses the term "donations." I have asked National if the phrase "a suggested donation of..." is satisfactory for items that have a suggested value. This is the OFFICIAL answer: "The red crepe paper poppy with the memorial banner is never It is distributed with hopes that the person receiving it will make a donation. Items such as hats, T-shirts, buttons, etc. can be sold as a project for the restricted poppy fund." This is from Carol T. Robinson, Chairman National

Poppy program (10/16/17). Although we have traditional poppies to distribute, we now have unlimited ways to be creative and significantly increase our funds. We should not limit distribution to a few days near patriotic holidays. EVERY DAY IS A POPPY DAY! I encourage you to wear some poppy representation ALWAYS at Poppy distribution activities. The national Poppy Day pin (\$2.95) is a good investment and sparks conversation. Emblem Sales has other items or make your own creation.

Poppy Item Suggestions/Patterns: Poppy seals sheet of 100 seals for \$.50 from Emblem Sales on letterheads, business cards, envelopes, cards, Badge-A-Minute buttons.

Patterns for appliqué and needlepoint/cross stitch poppies.

"2016 Poppy Program Guide" has sources for patterns for felt poppies and knitted poppies.

• Rubber stamps and a red stamp pad for note cards and place cards. • Earrings (purchased for \$3.75 on eBay made from Polymer Clay).

• Beaded poppy bracelets on elastic cord or beading wire using glass red rose beads ("wanna-be poppies") and red, white and pink beads and pearls.

REPORTS: See "2017 Annual supplement to Program Action Plan—Poppy" for complete instructions. Due dates for reports to me from districts: Mid-Year is December 15, 2017, and Year-End is May 1, 2018.

For a constant reminder of our fundraising efforts, use "Sunrise and Poppies" from Microsoft Windows as a desktop background.

#### POPPYREPORT

Betty Altnether, Chairman

Let us do everything we can to promote the awareness of the program, especially during this time when there is a lack of respect and patriotism everywhere,

Order forms are available from Department or online. I can send you a copy. Please get your orders in early so there is ample time to get it filled. The new label no longer needs to be glued. There is less chance of it drying and falling

Let's all work together and make this the best Poppy program year.

### **AMERICANISM ESSAY**

Lucille Armbruster, Chairman

The Americanism Program promotes Patriotism and responsible Citizenship.
This year's theme is "What can I personally do to promote Americanism

in my school or community?" The contest includes six classes: Class I thru V includes grades three thru 12. Class VI is students with special needs.

In the information you received you will find more facts and the criteria for special needs. Please use the information to promote the essay contest. It is very important that the Americanism Essay Contest cover sheet be attached to each essay and properly completed. Only those essays can be judged. We cannot forward an essay to National without the cover sheet.

A copy of the cover sheet has been sent to each District President and included in their packets at Fall Conference. Please make sure all Units in your District have received the information.

District essay chairmen please send the first-place winners in each class to the Department Essay Chairman by **April 1, 2018**, Lucille Armbruster, 8 Alma Drive, St. Charles, MO 63304-5512. Please adhere to the April 1 deadline. The winners in each class will be forwarded to National Central Division Chairman.

When sending the winning essays to me please include the following information:

How many schools were contacted?

How many volunteers helped with the activity?

How many essays were written?

How did you promote the Americanism Essay Contest?

Essay Title: "What can I personally do to promote Americanism in my school or community?"

**Grade Level Word Requirement** Class 150-250 3 and 4 5 and 6 II 250-300 7 and 8 350-400 450-500 9 and 10 11 and 12 450-500 VI Special needs students Word count correspond

Grade level Cover Sheet to be completed by the Student/Parent:

1 0
Student Name:
Address
City, State, Zip
Email Address:
Phone:
School Name:
School City/State:
Teacher Name:
Signature:
Please return the winning essay in each class to: Department Essa

Chairman, Lucille Armbruster, 8 Alma Dr., St. Charles, MO 63304-5512

Deadline: April 1, 2018

#### LEGISLATIVE

Michele Burnett-Emmerich, Chairman

I will begin with a brief civic The government consists of three branches that are all independent of each other, but are connected by a set of checks and balances. I am the Legislative Chairperson, not the Supreme Court or Executive Branch Chairperson. I am happy to listen to kind and civil grievances, but the other branches of government are not in my area. I cannot change a Supreme Court decision like any other person.

Copies of Legislative information have been given to the District Presidents. It was very difficult trying to summarize 11 pages of information to one page. Please check the section in the Consolidate report form to know what guidelines are for your unit/district. The mid-year narrative report is due December 15, 2017. Year-end report is due to me by May 1, 2018. Either email or postal mail is acceptable.

Congress passed and the President igned legislation allowing for a 100th Anniversary Silver Medallion that will be on sale March 2018. It will be serial numbered and made of 5 oz of 0.999 silver. This information came from the Central Division Legislative Chairperson.



 $Our\ todays\ and\ yesterdays$ are the clocks with which we build. (Longfellow) The blocks from which our organization has been constructed over the years provide a solid foundation. Its future will be influenced by the degree each member accepts the obligation to rededicate herself to the personal visions and programs that we promote.

#### **Directions** To Home

Make a Right turn onto Believeth Blvd. Keep straight and go through the Green Light is Jesus. There you must turn onto the Bridge of Faith, which is over troubled water. When you get off the bridge make a Right turn and Keep straight. You are on the King's Highway Heaven bound. Keep going for three miles: One for the Father, One for the Son, and One for the Holy Spirit. Then exit off onto Grace Blvd., now make a Right turn on Gospel Lane. Keep Straight and then make another right on Prayer Road. As you go on your way, yield not to the traffic on Temptation Ave. Also avoid Sin Street because it is a Dead End Pass up Envy Drive and Hate Avenue. Also pass Hypocrisy Street, Gossiping Lane and Backbiting Blvd. However you have to go down Long-suffering Lane, and Trials & Tribulations Ave. That's all right because VICTORY Street is straight ahead! Amen!!!

> (Author Unknown —from the Internet)



# Community

As we begin our volunteer work this year for veterans, military families and their children, let us think what we can do to make their lives better and happier.

Community Service program demonstrates who we are, what we do and why we matter. National has five goals in the Centennial Strategic Plan. Community Service is goal 5.

The American Legion Auxiliary Programs Action Plan for Community Service only has a few changes. The Community service program promotes the American Legion Auxiliary's visibility within our localities through our commitment to community, state and nation.

What you can do is become more visible within your community as a link to the veteran community. Get involved in community service projects to bring awareness of our mission to support veterans, service members, their families and the community. Fall is here and our Department project is to collect and donate hats, gloves, blankets and quilts for homeless veterans or shelters that serve them. your donations we will help ensure that homeless veterans or shelters that serve them, will have items to keep them warm.

Members, please always wear your ALA apparel or pin while volunteering in the community. It reinforces our brand promise by telling people outside our Legion family who we are, what we do and why we matter. This is an open door for new members.

Here are some suggestive ideas for your Community Service volunteer

- Get involved with neighborhood by volunteering at your library, food pantry, domestic violence shelter, senior citizen centers and nursing homes.

  • Represent the Auxiliary as a
- member of local community boards and committees.
- Volunteer with your local Meals on Wheels, to deliver meals on days when they are typically closed (Thanksgiving and Christmas).

  • Volunteer to organize or assist

with your community's Veterans Day observance.

- Attend and represent the ALA Special Celebration events in the community.
- Host or volunteer for Halloween "Safe Night."

• Volunteer/sponsor a blood

drive. Please Please get the Juniors and high school students engaged in community activities. Many of our hours for school.

Auxiliary American Legion suggested days of service:

• Make a Difference

- Saturday, October 28, 2017.

   Veterans Day November 11,
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day January 15, 2018
- National Volunteer Week April
- Additional resources you can use: ALA Service Not Self Volunteer
- Toolbox Partner How to Organizations for Community
- Move to Mobilize Community

Support for Those Who Serve How to Serve on National Day of Service

Please keep good records for your mid-year and end of year reports. set our goal for 100 for both activity reports. We can do it! Mid-year report is due to me no later than December 15, 2017. The end of year reports are due to me no later than April 27, 2018. Awards will be presented at the Unit and District levels. Please when completing your reports use blue or black ink, preferably black.

District Presidents, please copy and share my information that I put into your packets and give it to your District Community Service Chair. Thank you!

- Winners build confidence and destroy fear! You are a WINNER!!.
- -Never make a promise unless you have a plan.
- I've learned that a kindness done is never lost. It may take awhile, but like a suitcase carousel, it will return again.

 $(Reprinted\ from\ quick inspiritations.com)$ 

### **National Security Report** 2016-2017

Gayle Metzinger, Chairman

National Security is one of four pillars upon which The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary were founded. The National Security pillar benefits our nation's veterans, the service members and

The National Security pillar benefits our nation's veterans, service members and their families. The American Legion Auxiliary members serve, through guidelines of National Security, make a difference on the local, state and national levels

By providing for the needs of our military families on the home front, we ease the minds of our deployed service members so they do not worry about their loved ones back home.

Other pillars include Americanism, VA & R and Children and Youth. Let's talk about Americanism. What are some of the responsibilities found within this pillar?

Answer: Pocket flags, flag etiquette, ROTC medals and certificates

The National Security pillar benefits our nation's veterans, service members and their families. The American Legion Auxiliary members serve through guidelines of National Security, making a difference on the local, state and national levels.

Now VA & R pillar. What is the purpose of VA & R? Answer: Christmas Gift Shop, dollar bills, care packages, provide

meals to soldiers' homes and help at VA hospitals and VA homes

The National Security pillar benefits our nation's veterans, service members and their families. The American Legion Auxiliary members serve through the guidelines of National Security by making a difference on the local, state and national levels.
What are the responsibilities for Children & Youth?

Answer: Camps, Josh dogs, backpacks, providing school supplies,

making Christmas for veterans, their families and others.

By providing for the needs of our military families on the home front, we ease the minds of our deployed service members so they do not worry about their loved ones back home.

Do you understand that each and every one of our Auxiliary programs is geared to enhance National Security by taking care of our military and their families? Can you see a short heavyset grandma carrying a gun and walking up and down the fence that the Mexican president is building to protect our border from illegal immigrants? I am too old to join the army, but I can serve by working Auxiliary programs. I am serving National Security with every pocket flag I fold. I am serving National Security by volunteering at the KCVA. No job is too small or too large for us to undertake in order to strengthen America's National Security. Service members and their families should be the focus. If

they feel their needs are being met, then our country will be secure.

National Security must be diligent to protect the United States. We should never again face another September 11. Never again should we witness planes falling from the sky. We should never again feel the blast of suicide bombers. We must be proactive in keeping our borders safe. We should be diligent of events occurring in this global world today. By doing so we protect our citizens and the oppressed in third world countries. Do your part by being a volunteer in your community providing service through the ALA.

### Legionette

Virginia Schnurbusch, Editor

We look to see, listen to hear, and read to learn. Combine these elements with talking, and we will have communication.

Communication is learning and gathering information to improve our skills so that we can strive to greater heights in our journey of service to the veterans and their

families, and also the community. We dare to venture into new ways of achieving our dreams for a great year as we promote America and serve the veterans.

All program chairmen have the responsibility to share information received from National and in the Plan of Action. The Legionette continues to be our tool for communication. It provides guidelines for Units and Districts to set the wheels of activities into motion.

Our membership theme Are Family" is an opportunity to get more members involved in projects and activities. It takes teamwork to achieve our goals and make this a fantastic year. Present your programs with spirit and enthusiasm. Work diligently and proudly to promote the programs our unit and district can handle.

Your presence here indicates you are ready to learn something new. Sorry to disappoint you. There really is nothing new with the Legionette. The Editor can only print the articles that are received. The deadline is still the 20th of the month. This is printed on page 2, top left corner, and in the Unit Guide. It can be sent anytime, the sooner, the better. Continue to send address and name changes to the Department Office. Please send the list of deceased members to the office. Keep it current and accurate. It is important to keep the July/August issue for the list of Department Chairmen and addresses. I need District meeting date and place. This sometimes gets confusing because of changes

Oliver Wendell Holmes said, "The great thing in this world is not so much where we stand as in what direction we are moving." Keep moving forward and embrace your passion for the Auxiliary and all it represents. Thank you!

# I AM

I am education. I bear the torch that enlightens the world, fires the imagination of man and feeds the flames of a genius. I give wings to dream's and might to brawn and brain. From out the silent shadows of the past I came, wearing the scars of struggle and the stripes of soil, but bearing in triumph the wisdom of all the ages. Man because of me holds dominion over earth, air and sea. It is for him I leash the lightning, plumb the deep and shackle the waves of ether.

I am the parent of progress, the creator of culture and the molder of destiny. Philosophy, science and art are my hand works. I banish ignorance, discourage vice and disarm

Thus have I become freedom's citadel, the arm of democracy, the hope of youth, the pride of adolescence, and the joy of age. Fortunate are the nations and happy the homes that welcome me.

The school is my workshop. It is here I stir ambitions, stimulate ideals and forge the keys that open the door to opportunity. It is here I am the master of human destiny. I am the source of inspiration, the aid of aspiration, for I am an Irresistible Power.

(Unknown)



# **VA VOLUNTEERS**

If you have never guided the wheelchair Of a patient down the hall; Helped a man who has given his country Of his love, his health, his all — If you never have sat with the ailing, Seen their pain and sensed their fear, Then you cannot share in the feelings Of the VA Volunteer. Have you paced with the wife of a veteran

And discussed the time of day? Tried diverting her mind for a moment As her husband passed away? Have you offered a shoulder to lean on

And a Kleenex for a tear? It's all part of the life that's lived daily

By the VA Volunteer. Sympathetically listening to memories

Of a patient racked with pain; With a smile, cheerful word, and a handshake

That evokes, "Please come again." If a patient has said, "Thank you kindly,"

And the greatest payment in this world Of the VA Volunteer.

It was music to my ear

For those faithful volunteers.

If each one of us walked down those hallways With the volunteer one day, If each one gave a thought to the veterans And the price they've had to pay, Then our blessings we'd spend succeeding years Giving thanks unto God our Creator

> (Author Unknown) (Submitted by: Evelyn Cox, Volunteer)

#### **FOLLOW YOUR DREAM**

A dream is a daring adventure, A journey to carry you far, for when you can hold a dream in your heart, You surely can reach any star! A dream is a beautiful vision that looks beyond what you can see, That lifts you and guides you and grows strong inside you To help you be all you can be. A dream is your door to tomorrow, A secret reflection that leads to a wonderful future where nothing's Too good to be true.

(Amanda Bradley)

#### **District 1**

Linda Maddox, President
We Are Family

Our first District meeting for 2017-2018 was held in August at Hannibal Post 55. Eight units attended and our special guest was Department President Carolyn Sanford. President Carolyn installed our newly elected Department Chaplain, Victoria Ornelas.

The Department Chaplain and the District Chaplain conducted a Memorial Service for 10 deceased Unit members in our District last year. Membership is showing progress. One Unit has 54.55 percent, two are over 30 percent, one has 27.45 percent and the remainder are less than 15 percent; however, Northeast Division is in first place for now! Yeah!!

I have installed new officers at two Units and visited three other Units.

Several Units and the District sent scrapbooks to Department Convention. They were disappointed that no recommendations were received about how to improve their work next time. Perhaps guidelines/judging rules should be given to follow.

Units reported that they have been in community parades distributing popsicles and candy, helped sponsor a movie in the American Legion Park, had a Poppy booth and recruitment table at community fairs, have held picnics and dinners for veterans, and Girls and Boys State delegates and their families, helped with American Legion fish fries, Junior members sent over \$6k worth of manufacturing coupons to overseas military bases, have given homemade cards to Honor Flight veterans, mailed holiday and birthday cards, given 4th of July gifts of personal hygiene items, given lottery tickets to veterans in nursing homes and visited veterans.

Units are donating money to purchase items for the Mexico Veterans Christmas Gift Shop in December. One Unit purchased 35 branded shirts to wear for public recognition.

Thanks to all the Units for the hard work and support to our veterans and active military personnel. God bless our veterans!

#### District 2

Rosie Rhodes, President

Since the beginning of the new year I have conducted a District Meeting, installed officers in three units and have been in contact with several units discussing questions on various topics.

Membership has been discussed. They are encouraged to send dues to Department when collected instead of holding them.

We have one unit waiting to get re-chartered again. Now a younger group of members wants to get the

### **District 3**

Karen Bumgarner, President

District 3 members have been trying to send me a few reports. I am happy with their continued efforts.

Kansas City Unit 61 reported officers have been installed, meals were prepared and served to the veterans, it participated in the car and bike show with a bake sale, supported SAL's pancake breakfast, attended a fish fry, holds monthly meetings, hosted a District meeting and will plan and participate in the children's Halloween party.

Osborn Unit 169 served ice cream and cake to the veterans of its post, donated \$25 to a veteran whose wife was in the hospital and sent \$300 to the Cameron Veterans Home.

Excelsior Unit 236 donated 40 boxes of clothing to DAV, donated \$100 to Cameron VA Home, an additional \$25 was sent to Family Fest, three local veterans were provided rides to the hospital and local clinics, partnered with Veterans Outreach to raise funds and awareness, and support local children through Good Samaritan Center, monthly meetings, volunteer for weekly bingo at the post, food products are collected for the local food pantry, thank a vet shirts were sold to raise money for a picnic to serve 200 veterans, distributed fliers for car and bike show, and one member bought boots for a veteran who didn't have shoes.

Hamilton Unit 285 served a meal for the American Legion meeting as a fundraiser, provided cakes, live music and gifts for residents who had September birthdays at the local Hillcrest Care Center, are currently conducting a knife sales fundraiser, and conducted a Gold Star Sisters Ceremony.

I am encouraging more units to send me reports so that ideas can be shared within the district.

#### **District 5**

Bonnie Sweeney, President

Fifth District officers were installed on August 16, 2017, with Past 5th District President Dorothy Ballew being the installing officer. Missouri Department Girls State Committee member and Past District President Linda Schapp was the installing Sgt-at-Arms and Past Department President Gayle Metzinger was the installing chaplain.

Fifth District has 11 units. The 11 units take turns hosting the monthly meetings. Each monthly meeting is designated for a particular American Legion Auxiliary Program. 21 sponsored the September 20, 2017, meeting wherein the program centered around leadership. Past Department President and 5th District Leadership Chairman Gayle Metzinger provided educational handouts on leadership, which was appreciated by all members in attendance. Gayle also reminded us of John C. Maxwell's quote which is, "A leader is one who knows the way, "A leader is one who knows the way."
goes the way, and shows the way."
hosted the Past

Unit 21 hosted the Past Presidents' Parlay on September 13, 2017, with Marsha Mooney hosting this luncheon, which was enjoyed by several members. All those attending reported a very enjoyable lunch, which included a salad and baked potato bar.

Unit 189 will be hosting the October 25, 2017, joint dinner followed by meetings wherein the program for this meeting will be membership. Department 1st Vice President Sharon Slagle and Department Membership Co-Chairman Sheridan Mires will be welcomed at this meeting. 5th District Membership Chairman Arlene Choat will be explaining our role in the Northwest Division, wherein we are in the "Army" now in the circle of the American Legion Family.

The 5th District's Ways and Means project for 2017-2018 is a 50-50 raffle. We will have a table set up in the atrium at fall conference, spring conference and at the July convention. We will also have raffle tickets available in the 5th District Hospitality Room each evening and at other events when it is appropriate. Tickets are \$1 each or six tickets for \$5. Additionally, 28 chances may be purchased for \$20. The winner will be drawn on Saturday evening July 14, 2018, at the Department Convention. The winner's name will be announced at the time of the drawing and again at the meetings on Sunday, July 15,

5th District President's project for 2017-2018 is the Airmen's Attic at Whiteman AFB. Whiteman AFB is approximately 2 miles south of Knob Noster, Mo., and is the home of the 509th Bomb Wing, which operates and maintains the Air Force's premier weapon system, the B-2 bomber. Monetary donations, along with clothing, diapers and food donations, are being collected to be presented to the Airmen's Attic at various times throughout the year. These items, along with many other items, are then available free of charge to the military personnel and their family, staff sergeants and

5th District Veterans' Affairs Chairman Helen Hatz will be working with many members to have a successful Kansas City VA Christmas Shop.

Many units in 5th District are planning special events for Children and the community during the Halloween weekend. This can be a wonderful opportunity to show the community what the American Legion Family does and invite those eligible to join our family.

eligible to join our family. Several of our units are also planning special dinners for our Veterans and community on and around Veterans Day. Numerous members from all of our units will be passing out Poppies at this time and accepting donations at various stores and/or restaurant locations. This program gives us the opportunity to elevate community awareness and display respect for our veterans by educating our membership and the public about the poppy's significance and the financial benefit realized by our nation's veterans as a result of its distribution.



### District 6

Shirlee Schroder, President

Goodwill: Unit and district meetings were made fun by including door prizes. Examples of units' projects are displayed at District meetings.

Two units coordinated with the American Legion for a potluck meal and the monthly meeting followed. Social gatherings, in addition to the regular meetings, also help promote socialization. One unit had a catered meal for the men and women with prizes for both. A fish fry was held in a member's garage. A campfire was enjoyed by everyone. Guests who attended joined the unit. Several attended social functions of other veterans organizations. This allowed us a fun atmosphere to get acquainted with local people. We have new friends to partner with for future veterans events.

future veterans events.

<u>Leadership:</u> An example of leadership is shown by the nine units that regularly attend District meetings. Four of the nine units attend conferences and convention. One of the units included members in planning the meeting agenda. It keeps members informed and allows for reminders of items you may have forgotten. This chance brings forward things important to them.

Our District used the resources that are available to us. We asked the Department membership team to come to the meeting to present examples and information about reporting. These are the people who have the answers. At the end of the meeting was a question and answer period. Blank copies of the end of the year report were distributed so everyone could see what was required. Units were held accountable for reporting. If a unit did not report, a personal phone call was made to gather the information or plan a date when the information would be received.

Strengthen the Units: Several Units contacted members by mail at least twice a year. End of the year newsletters are sent to keep members informed and thank them for their continued support of the veterans.

Over half of the members who attended the last District meeting indicated they used the National website for information. Since more members are able to access this information, they can teach others in their unit. One unit had several members train as volunteers at a new VA clinic. One of the trained volunteers attended the District meeting and proudly shared her experience at the clinic. She also displayed the identification badge necessary to wear while working as a volunteer at that clinic.

Branding: Unit members wore Auxiliary attire when they partnered with other veteran organizations on community projects, participated in parades, attended funerals and participated in Auxiliary fundraisers.

Professional signs were purchased by one unit to help identify the Poppy distribution event to the public. The use of a professional sign shows our American Legion Auxiliary pride.

# District 7

Deanie Koon, President

Seventh District is proud to announce that Department President Carolyn Sanford is from our District and a member of Warsaw Unit 217. Her Homecoming was very nice; a delicious dinner was served and much fun and laughter was enjoyed by everyone.

The first meeting for this year was well attended. Cathy Goth, NEC, conducted a lovely installation ceremony. President Carolyn and Cathy shared much valuable information to the members.

There are 17 units in the district and we have five meetings during the year. We have our own meeting, followed by a joint meeting and then refreshments.

It was thrilling to learn that Unit 520 reached 100 percent membership by September 23. That's great! This sets the "mark" high for the remainder of the units.

The units are busy serving veterans, their communities and children in their hometowns. Several participated in POW/MIA ceremonies. Now they are preparing to participate in Veterans Day activities, and the Christmas Gift Shops at the Warrensburg Veterans Home and Harry S. Truman VA Medical Center in Columbia.

I am excited about the units being busy working the many Auxiliary programs.

Thank you for your love of country and love of The American Legion Family. God Bless America!





#### **District 9**

Margie Koch, President

The Ninth District consists of 18 units with 1,505 members. At the September quarterly meeting at Union Post 297 the District Officers were installed by Past Department President Roberta Pointer. The SAL provided a delicious lunch. They have volunteered to host the installation meetings and dinners for future years. I was honored to install officers at New Haven Unit 366.

The District Chairmen are working hard to promote Department President Carolyn's "We Are Family" theme and always strive to show our ALA pride.

I send a monthly newsletter by email to all District Presidents and any ALA member wishing to receive one. Those presidents without email are mailed a copy of the newsletter. Several units have had or are planning fundraisers, ranging from yard sales, trivia nights, meat shoots and craft fairs.

I will soon begin visiting units and look forward to putting names with faces.

#### District 13

RoseLee Buatte, President

District 13 has nine units and we meet quarterly at various posts and a meal is served afterward. The Legionnaires meet at the same time.

The September meeting starts the new auxiliary year when District Officer installation is held. District President discusses her project and goals for the year. The budget is presented and audit report given.

Units continue to serve the veterans by volunteering at the Cape Girardeau VA Home, contribute to Christmas Gift Shop and make lap robes. We also sponsor Girls State and host a MGS Briefing, Americanism Essay Contest, County Government Day and Unit 253 formed a Color Guard.

At the December meeting, we have a Christmas party with an optional gift exchange. Program chairmen give reports, provide documentation and recommendations. Unit presidents also give a report.

In March chairmen report on programs again with emphasis on deadlines

Election of officers is held at the June meeting and plans are made to attend Department Convention in July.

## **District 15**

Ellen Arnce, President

Because The American Legion is the root of our organization and we are established to support it, I chose to address its four pillars as my project this year. Our September meeting addressed VA & R. Our District donated to the AEF for hurricane victims and to President Carolyn's cause, Fisher House. In December we will address National Security and donate to the USO. The March meeting will address Americanism and the June meeting, Children & Youth.

Prior to our September 10 meeting held at The Civic in Neosho, there was a joint memorial service with TAL on the front steps to honor and remember our patriots, veterans, military, fire fighters, law enforcement and emergency medical services. We were joined by Trinity Circle Horses Healing Hearts Ranch located west of Diamond, Mo. in District 15. It was having its second annual Suicide Awareness Ride. Dawn Newlan, founder and CEO of the ranch, and ALA member, spoke about PTSD, but to be proud because they had the courage to serve our country. Mustangs once wild but are now tame, stood in the street with volunteer riders. After the memorial service the Auxiliary joined TAL in a joint meeting and heard Judge Sifferman. The problem exists with veterans with PTSD ending in the court system. Judge Sifferman started the SW Missouri Veterans Treatment Court in Lawrence County in District 15 to solve this problem. This court now has expanded to include more counties and other courts elsewhere are being formed. "Where treatment and justice meet" is on it's logo. Thank God there are these services for veterans in need.

Our Units are striving to maintain and increase membership. We are planning for the Christmas Gift Shop and Adopt-a-Vet program at Mt. Vernon Veterans Home. We are a busy family, united in purpose and service. God bless us all!



## **District 16**

E. Darlene Enloe, President

Department President Carolyn installed District 16 officers at the September meeting at Post 240 in Richland. She was happy to perform the installation. Thank you, President Carolyn.

We sponsor several fund-raisers to help the veterans and their families.

We are planning our November

We are planning our November and December school programs for the veterans. We have hosted breakfast, lunch and dinner for them at the post homes. We have volunteered at St. James Veterans Home each month with their programs. We will volunteer at the Christmas Gift Shop on December 4 and participate in Wreath Across America.

We have awarded scholarships,

we have awarded scholarships, helped with the community blood drives and participated in other community programs.

We continually work to improve our membership.

#### YOUR DAY

Every sunrise is the beginning of a new day. You have been given this day to use as you will. You can waste it or use it for good. What you do today is important because you are exchanging a day of your life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever. In its place is something that you have left behind. Let it be something good. Make every day count and have a wonderful day TODAY!!!



#### Kindness

How many smiles from day to day

I've missed along my narrow way!

How many kindly words I've lost

What joy has my indifference cost!

This glorious friend that now I know

Would have been friendly long ago.

(Unknown)

In the middle of every difficulty lies an opportunity.

(Albert Einstein)

Failure is only an opportunity to begin again more intelligently.

(Henry Ford)

It is not enough to have a good mind. The main thing is to use it well.

(Rene Descrates)



### **AROUND THE ST**

#### Cole Camp Unit #305

Three Junior members, ages 5-8, from Cole Camp Unit #305 made Poppies for veterans. They delivered them to the nursing homes and visited with the residents. The veterans really enjoyed the friendly chatter of the children. The grandmothers also helped with the project. Thank you for your thoughtful-





Marsha Mooney, Unit 21, VA & R Chairman, presented a check for \$1,800 and donated \$500 worth of paper products to the Kansas City National Guard Armory Food Pantry.

Unit #643, District 14, in Naylor recently honored two members for outstanding service to the veterans.

Martha Bruner is a charter ALA member and has held several offices. She is always available to assist veterans when

Lola Forney has provided many lap robes and bibs for the residents in the veterans homes.

Both ladies are willing volunteers and help provide food for many occasions plus special events at the post home.

Pictured are Martha Bruner, President Omhala Hudson Snelson and Lola Forney. Thank you ladies!



ALA Unit #274 in Browning recently treated the veterans at Cameron Veterans Home with a cake and ice cream birthday party. The members attending and serving refreshments were Charolette Brinkly, Jan Shebetka, Bernice Ludwig and District 2 President Rosie Rhodes. Everyone enjoyed the treat!





District 15 President Ellen Arnce and Lana Martin attended the Open House of Kids of Our Heroes Adventure Camp located south of Aurora, Mo. Retired veterans Col. Michele Hovland and her husband CW3 Darrell Hovland had a vision of a kids' camp for at-risk kids. They had a piece of creek-front land, passion and time to make their vision become a reality in 2013. Since then many children's lives have been changed and hearts healed.



Unit 55 members participated in the local Hannibal 4th of July parade. They were Melisa Ann Clevenger, Linda Smith, Melissa Lippicott and Victoria Ornelas.



The background quilt is currently being raffled. It was made by the "Patriot Pieces." They have stitched and donated many quilts to true American heroes. Pictured in the back row,  $L\hbox{-}R\hbox{: } {\it Dixie \ Cunningham, \ Millie}$ Henry, Margaret Fines, Pat Kirkpatrick, District 8 President Connie Pack, Georgia Coder and Marie Reynolds. Front row, L-R: Sherin White, Thelma Koester, Barbara Wyatt and Cheryl Wolf.

#### **Due Date for** JANUARY-FEBRUARY LEGIONETTE

Material for the January-February issue of The Missouri Legionette is DUE BY JANUARY 20, 2018. 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.

Thank you for the many articles I received at conference.

THANK YOU! Virginia Schnurbusch, Editor

# Deceased Members

#### SEPTEMBER 2017 - OCTOBER 2017

District	Unit	Name	Location
2	477	Carleta R. Foreman	Saint Joseph, MO
4	359	Helen L. Donly	Saint Joseph, MO
4	464	Mary Walter	Saint Joseph, MO
5	21	Shirley Driver	Oak Grove, MO
5	21	Mary H. Winfield	Lees Summit, MO
5	609	Carmen Rodriguez	Kansas City, MO
5	609	Isabelle Troncoso	Versailles, MO
6	131	Alma Adams	Warrensburg, MO
6	230	Wilma A. Nash	El Dorado Springs, MO
6	230	Ruby Tucker	League City, TX
7	258	Shirley Nierman	Concordia, MO
7	279	Lucille Vogelsmeier	Sweet Springs, MO
7	642	Barbara Leaver	Sedalia, MO
8	5	Catherine J. Nilges	Holts Summit, MO
8	5	Marjorie T. Kiesling	Jefferson City, MO
8	317	Anita Beck	Freeburg, MO
8	544	Marilyn Linnebrink	Jefferson City, MO
9	297	Iris Jean Walls	Union, MO
9	370	Wanda S. Dietle	Frankford, MO
10	101	Doris Taylor	Saint Louis, MO
10	208	Paula L. Dower	Saint Louis, MO
10	397	Judith L. Spector	Sioux City, IA
10	397	Delores T. Frank	Saint Louis, MO
10	397	Marietta Fleshman	Maryland Hts., MO
10	397	Laverne Gifford	Florissant, MO
11	186	Noreen Herzog	Saint Louis, MO
13	133	Alice Carron	Sedgewickville, MO
13	150	Mary A. Zerwig	Bloomsdale, MO
13	150	Mercedes K. Giesler	Sainte Genevieve, MO
13	783	Laetitia J. Tenison	House Springs, MO
14	88	Mary M. Farrow	Orange Beach, AL
14	595	Lisa A. McKay	Dyersburg, TN
15	322	Louise Marsh	Webb City, MO
15	372	Linda K. Johnson	Omaha, NE
15	372	Ruth Shorter	Lockwood, MO
16	99	Peggy L. Cubbage	Nixa, MO
16	128	Emma F. Hansen	Denison, TX
16	331	Mary S. Richards	Waynesville, MO
0	1000	Dian M. Potter	Otterville, MO
0	1000	Marie C. Walker	Kahoka, MO
0	1000	Minnie Hazzard	Raymore, MO
0	1000	Dorothy Mesecher	Kahoka, MO

# Calendar of Activities

February 12, 2018 February 16-18, 2018 Lincoln Pilgrimage; Springfield, IL

**Spring Conference;** Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO, 573-635-1234

May 8, 2018

Truman Pilgrimage;

June 24-30, 2018

Independence, MO

July 12-15, 2018

Girls State; UCM, Warrensburg, MO

**Department Convention:** Ramada Oasis, Springfield, MO

August 24-30, 2018

**National Convention**;

October 26-28, 2018

Minneapolis, MN Fall Conference; Capitol Plaza Hotel;

Jefferson City, MO

# District Meetings

District 1 January 7, 2018; Palmyra Post #174; 2:00 p.m.

District 2

January 6, 2018; Post #182; Brookfield Methodist Church; Oratorical Contest

District 4

March 3, 2018; Maitland Post #256

District 5

**District 8** 

District 9

**December 20, 2017;** Hostess Unit #598; VA & R

January 17, 2018; Hostess Unit #622;

Legislation/Nat'l Security

January 14, 2018; Concordia Post #258; District 7 Oratorical Contest; 1:00 p.m.

January 21, 2018; bad weather date

January 7, 2018; Jefferson City Post #5; Oratorical Contest; 1:00 p.m.

March 8, 2018; Louisiana Post #370 registration

9:00; meeting 9:30; joint session after lunch

District 10 **December 14, 2017;** Post #400

District 13 December 10, 2017; Perryville Post #133;

District 14 February 11, 2018; Cape Girardeau Post #63;