

The Missouri Legionette



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THE MISSOURI LEGIONETTE

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020

NUMBER 6

President's Message



Department President
Marsha Mooney
Unit 21, District 5

The Auxiliary year may end in July but this calendar year 2020 has been quite the year! I almost bought a Christmas sweatshirt with a Grinch on it that said "2020, Stink, Stank, Stunk!" I, personally, would like to thank every member for hanging in there with us this last year and hope that you all continue to do so. Our mission to help our veterans, military and their families is more important than ever.

I did get to attend the District 1 November meeting in Macon, Mo.; it is becoming a tradition to spend my birthday with them. At that meeting the Units were giving their reports of what each Unit had been able to do and if they had made any donations. I suggested one of the American Legion programs "Operation Comfort Warriors" as an alternative to a non-legion or Auxiliary program. Sadly, some seemed unaware of this program. I promised them more info on it so I went to the Legion website and "borrowed" the information.

About OCW

As the war in Afghanistan winds down, U.S. military personnel are coming home where they join other recent veterans who served in Iraq. Many of these service members have left the battlefield only to be faced with a new fight: a struggle to overcome the mental and physical wounds suffered during deployment. Those with traumatic brain injury (TBI) or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) are returning home in unprecedented numbers. In fact, the Army has said that up to 20 percent of the men and women who served in Afghanistan or Iraq have suffered TBI.

Even as the wars conclude, those in the military still face inherent dangers while fighting the global war on terrorism, during training exercises and while performing other dangerous duties.

While the care at many military hospitals and warrior transition units is extraordinary, The American Legion's Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW) program was created to provide "nonessentials" — items that help wounded warriors' recovery but don't usually show up as a budget line on government spreadsheets.

How It Works

The Legion contacts officials at military hospitals, warrior transi-

tion units and surrounding communities, and obtains lists to determine which items are needed by wounded, injured or ill service members. Once a need is identified, the items are ordered by the Legion and delivered in an expeditious manner. It's as simple as that. No red tape.

How Recipients Benefit

Today, wounded warriors need a variety of items to help in their recovery. Some patients might need loose-fitting sweatsuits to cover their healing wounds without adding pressure to burns sustained during a rocket attack. Others might need an iPod to help drown out the tinnitus that has plagued their ears since their vehicle struck an IED. Still others might need fitness equipment to rebuild strength in their muscles.

From gift cards to patients at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, to electronics for Marines at Camp Pendleton, OCW represents the Legion's expression of gratitude. These gifts will not make our wounded warriors whole again, but they do express the Legion's gratitude.

The program relies on funds, which are used to purchase items for the service members.

How You Can Help

Most military medical centers are not equipped to store large quantities of care packages. The Legion strongly prefers monetary donations so that it can expedite the purchase and delivery of items to troops.

How to donate

Checks may be mailed to:
Operation Comfort Warriors
The American Legion
5745 Lee Road
Indianapolis, IN 46216

Online: www.legion.org/troops/operationcomfort

How to raise money

A fundraiser such as a motorcycle run or a fish fry can be a great way to gather donations. A local Legion post, auxiliary unit, Sons of The American Legion squadron, Legion Riders chapter, church group or other charitable organization could assist in holding a fundraiser. Proceeds from a fundraising event can be donated to the Legion via the website or mailing address listed above.

I hope that this answers some questions and that your Unit or members will consider a donation. Remember, all donations to an American Legion Family Charity goes to that charity. We still have several months in the Auxiliary year and I hope that we will be able to maintain or increase our membership. We are dependent on our dues, especially considering how COVID has affected our fundraising capacity. We do have the quilt raffle you can participate in for my Presidents Project of the State Office. It is a beautiful queen size quilt with a patriotic color scheme.

Your Auxiliary family and I pray for you and your families' well-being this holiday season. Stay safe and wear your mask, hopefully by summer the new vaccines will be available to everyone and we can gather at the July convention.

MEMBERSHIP



"Keeping Our Promise, Past*Present*Future"

Victoria Ornelas
Department 1st Vice President
Membership Co-Chairman

I am proud to say we have a GREAT TEAM. Living with this pandemic has not been easy. We are going to make it! LET'S KEEP GOING!

The American Legion Auxiliary does several important things. First, we support our veterans, military and their families. We also teach the Junior members the importance of service to others. We provide care to homeless veterans. The poppy is a symbol of ALA service to veterans. We spread veteran awareness. We sponsor the Girls State program that helps build leaders and productive citizens.

You need to find a way the ALA's mission is served by doing what you can. Our veterans, military and their families deserve our support.

The time is now to update our activities, move ahead vigorously, and strengthen our organization with the greatest membership of all time. We don't just equal our number, but exceed all past membership records.

We are members of the American Legion Auxiliary because of a veteran in our life. Everything we do is in honor of their service. Our ALA has impacted the lives of many! This is our legacy, and our selfless service continues.

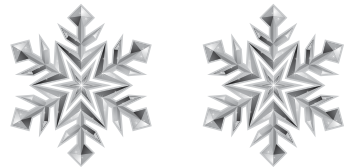
I do hope everyone enjoyed a blessed Thanksgiving with family and friends. I wish everyone a very blessed and Merry Christmas.

Missouri Girls State Rule #5 Revised

MGS Rule #5 currently reads: "A girl is eligible to attend ALA Girls State who has completed her Junior year at a Missouri high school and has at least one more semester of high school remaining."

A motion was passed to add Subsection A to Missouri Girls State Rule #5.

"A catastrophic event or pandemic can result in the cancellation of an ALA MGS session as voted on by the ALA committee and approved by the ALA Department of Missouri. In this event, a modification of eligibility can be made to the following session. This would result in both completed high junior and senior previously selected to be able to attend in a combined session of ALA MGS."



What is SOCIAL MEDIA, And Why Should I Care?

Social Media is your online presence, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

It is a network, allowing your messages to spread beyond your own contact list.

Our online presence will never grow if we don't spread the word.

If you don't have a Facebook account you know someone who does.



Kids and Grandkids do! Let them help.

How do you spread the word?

When viewing the ALA Facebook page

• LIKE the Post

If you like our post others will see that it was liked.

The more likes the more interest it will draw.

• SHARE the post

When you share our post on your page all your followers get that post on their page and they share it and then their followers get it and share it and it keeps going and building views.

That is how you spread the word. LIKE and SHARE!

Look for more information on how to Spread the Word in the next Legionette issue.

DEPARTMENT RAFFLE FUNDRAISER



Department office is raffling this beautiful quilt. All proceeds to go to 20/21 Department Presidents project which is the Department Office Special Projects income.

Tickets are \$5 each or 6 for \$20

You can send in the raffle ticket below or send your check to the department office with Raffle in the memo line and we will fill out the ticket/s for you.

Drawing will be held at the 2021 Department Convention

RAFFLE TICKET

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____

I WANT (1) CHANCE \$5 _____ (6) CHANCES \$20 _____

Valuable Reading

Have you read your November issue of the National American Legion Auxiliary magazine? The exciting news is page 20 names the two new committees recently appointed by National President Nicole Clapp. These were recommended by the Strategic Planning and the Constitution & By-laws committees.

The first is **Inclusion & Diversity Special Committee**. The second is **National Code of Ethical Conduct Review Committee**. The article explains the committees in detail. Now is your chance to volunteer to be a committee member.

A neat side panel on page 23 gives a brief explanation to help with membership recruiting. It provides details that explain eligibility.

The page 39 panel lists available grants to help support veterans, military and their families. Another condensed version of important facts.

Scholarships offered by National are explained on the page 51 panel.

Learning to lead Junior members is explained on the page 53 side panel. This is a brief list of suggestions that can spark enthusiasm.

The articles on all the other pages are valuable and important. The panels provide a quick and easy view of various topics. You can start collecting them and use as an easy resource.

If you have not become accustomed to reading the Auxiliary magazine, now would be a good time to start the habit. You probably have some "stay at home" time. This would be an excellent opportunity to learn more about the ALA, and how they keep in tune with modern technology. Happy Reading!



Secretary's Corner

Nancy Reeves,
Department Secretary

Hello from the Department Office! We hope everyone is staying safe. Debbie and I are taking the necessary precautions to avoid becoming sick.

We are receiving membership steadily. Please remember to allow two weeks from the time you mail the list until you can compare your number on the bi-weekly report.

The renovation is complete and everything looks great. Thank you again to all who have donated to the fund. Please consider donating if you have not already done so. You can participate by buying a raffle ticket or tickets.

The Department office will be closed December 24 – January 4, Christmas and New Year holiday. Debbie and I will be in and out during this time checking phone messages and collecting mail. This is work time for us to catch up on tasks without distractions.

Looking ahead — 2022 Dues Verification form and 2022 Officers list form will be sent in the mail by February 1.

No other news for now. We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Hopefully 2021 will be a better year.

For God and Country!

MOVED?

New address _____

Please forward to:

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



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Chaplain's Corner



Shanna Jelinek,
Department
Chaplain

"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness, come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God, it is he who made us, and we are his, we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise, give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good; his love endures forever, his faithfulness continues through all generations." Psalm 100:1-5

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank you for your goodness and for your blessings in our lives. Forgive us for when we don't thank you enough, for who You are, for all that You do, for all that You've given. Please be with our members, veterans and their families during this time. We're so grateful for your amazing love and care, for your mercy and grace. Thank you that you are always with us and will never leave us even through loss and the most difficult times. Thank you for your incredible sacrifice so that we might have freedom and life. Help us to set our eyes and our hearts. Renew our spirits this holiday season, fill us with your peace and joy, today and every day. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

FINANCE REPORT

Claudia Goodin, Chairman

Thank you for approving the budget, securing Evers and Company as our auditors, and again using Remote Computer Service for the office.

The renovation to our ALA headquarters looks great! Thank you for the donations that have been received for President Marsha's project. We hope to receive more because it is important to keep our headquarters up to date to maintain its value. We received a donation of another curio cabinet to display items from each of our Past Department Presidents featuring their theme (formally called Cavalcade of Memories). Our other two cabinets are full. Any Past Departments President who have not donated an item to commemorate their year are encouraged to do so to keep our history current.

Evers and Company has recently completed our Audit for the 2019-2020 year. The overall audit was positive in the procedures we have in place. There were a few items that we will work on as they suggested. When we look at the amount of our income we had versus the expenses for the year — we were in the red by \$1,095. This is not horrible but "if" we consider the expenses that would have incurred with Department Convention and National Convention, the amount would be much larger by about \$10,000.

This would not be a sound financial practice. Ambitious fundraising is needed along with increased membership. It may be time to

consider a dues increase. Large expense items are the Legionette and per diem paid for conferences and conventions. Can we cut back on the number of Legionette issues? Is it possible to reduce or stop paying per diem? These are things to consider and I would appreciate feedback. Everyone is aware of the unusual circumstances we have endured this past year. We will see what this year brings to our organization. We do have money in reserve, so it is not all doom and gloom. As of 10-14-20 our Stifel investment account is valued at \$75,064

Thank you to committee members Linda Maddox and Martha Yancey for their support, and to Nancy for keeping our books in order.

County Government

Joan Vanfossan, Chairman

For the 2019-2020 County Government Day, it was "all in the timing." Three districts reported to me — Districts 2, 4 and 13.

District 2 held its CGD on November 2, with 31 students from three schools attending; District 13, Post and Unit 133, met on March 2, with 29 students from two schools; and Nodaway County in District 4 held CGD on March 11, with 217 students from seven schools in attendance.

Then COVID-19 hit hard. Just like dominoes toppling, schools closed, and the CGD that were scheduled were canceled. Three counties in District 4 had events scheduled for late March and April, but were canceled. I was sad for all of them because I know how much planning and advance work happens before an event. I was doubly sad for Holt County. It had to cancel for the second consecutive year in its long 50-plus year history of successful County Government Days. They were dealing with flooding in 2018-2019.

As we all know, almost everything in our lives has been altered by this virus. ALA and the CGD program will adjust and regroup for the future.

My congratulations to those who were able to have a CGD in 2019-2020, and my thanks for your good reporting. I received outstanding reports from District 2 and 13. When we meet again, I will have Certificates of Appreciation for them.

The winning essayist was Kayla Larkin from Norborne High School in District 2. Congratulation, Kayla!

Thank you to all who have the CGD program as part of your ALA activities. I know your efforts plant seeds of Americanism, citizenship and patriotism in our future.

The Holy Alphabet...

Although things are not perfect

Because of trial or pain
Continue in thanksgiving

Do not begin to blame

Even when the times are hard
Fierce winds are bound to blow

God is forever able

Hold on to what you know
Imagine life without His love.

Joy would cease to be
Keep thanking Him for
all the things

Love imparts to thee
Move out of "Camp
Complaining"

No weapon that is known
On earth can yield the power
Praise can do alone

Quit looking at the future
Redeem the time at hand
Start every day with worship

To "thank" is a command
Until we see Him coming
Victorious in the sky

We'll run the race
with gratitude
Exalting God most high

Yes, there'll be good times and
yes some will be bad, but...
Zion waits in glory...where
none are ever sad!

"I am too blessed to be
stressed!" The shortest distance
between a problem
and a solution is the distance
between your knees
and the floor.

The one who kneels to the Lord
can stand up to anything.
Love and peace be with you
forever. (Amen)

(Unknown)

ALA Missouri Girls State

Mae Mickens, Director

We all know 2020 has been a year like no other, and it continues to put a damper on so many plans. The ALA Missouri Girls State program was no different. While we attempted to continue plans for the session, it was the safest decision to cancel the 79th session to take place in 2020 and return in 2021.

The ALA Missouri Girls State Committee, along with many senior staff members, and the University of Central Missouri are collaborating regarding the safest, most inclusive decision for our 2021 session. We are aware that many of our planned 2020 delegates are still waiting this decision. It is too early for us to release a plan at this time. We are continuing to monitor the progress of re-entry plans of school districts, both large and small, across the state, as well as what other organizations and camps decide. All American Legion Auxiliary units and sponsoring schools have been sent reimbursement checks in April. If you still have concerns about those reimbursements, please contact Mae at mae.mickens@missourigirlsstate.org and/or Nancy at Department office.

I would like to thank all the ALA units that planned to sponsor and send delegates to our 2020 session, and their support of our decision. I would also like to recognize the efforts of the members of the ALA Missouri Girls State committee, including Linda Schaap, Shanna Jelinek, Tina Anderson, Whitney Nolan, Patty Pink and Natalie Riley. I would be remiss if I also did not recognize an extended leadership team of honorable staff members of ALA MGS that is included in the decision-making process with the committee year-round. Their continual efforts have not gone unnoticed and have resulted in continued advancement of our program year after year. Lastly, I want to recognize Nancy Reeves, Claudia Goodin and Debbie Anthony for the extensive hours spent preparing delegate and alternate notifications, reimbursement checks, and sponsor letters from the Department office (and their own homes). We thank you as you greatly assisted the ALA MGS program during this time.

What we can be certain of going forward is uncertainty. We will probably be in a position that not all of us will be happy or content with.

We hope that all of us can continue to support the next generation of female leaders across the state and put our mark on our democratic society for years to come.

The 2021 session is scheduled for June 20-26 again on the campus of the University of Central Missouri. For updates regarding decisions for next year's session, please consult our program's website www.missourigirlsstate.org, the Department website, and the ALA MGS social media accounts (Facebook — ALA Missouri Girls State / Instagram and Twitter@MOGirlsState). Additional questions may be sent to me at mae.mickens@missourigirlsstate.org (please note the email address update).

THANKSGIVING

*Tw'as the night of Thanksgiving,
But I just couldn't sleep
I tried counting backwards.
I tried counting sheep*

*The leftovers beckoned
The dark and white
But I fought the temptation
With all of my might.*

*Tossing and turning with
anticipation,
The thought of a snack became
infatuation.
So I raced to the kitchen, flung
open the door,
And gazed at the fridge, full of
goodies galore.*

*Gobbled up turkey and buttered
potatoes,
Pickles and carrots, beans and
tomatoes.
I felt myself swelling so plump
and so round,
'Tis all of a sudden, I rose off the
ground.*

*I crashed through the ceiling,
Floating into the sky,
With a mouthful of pudding
And a handful of pie.*

*But I managed to yell as I soared
past the trees...
Happy eating to all — pass the
cranberries please.*

*May your stuffing be tasty,
May your turkey be plump,
May your potatoes' n gravy
Have nary a lump.*

*May your yams be delicious,
May your pies take the prize,
May your Thanksgiving dinner
stay
Off of your thighs.*

(Unknown)

May your THANKSGIVING
BE BLESSED!!!

Christmas By The Cupful

*A heaping cup of happiness,
2 cups of love and caring,
1 cup of understanding,
1 cup of joyful sharing,
A level cup of wisdom
1 cup of thoughtful insight,
1 cup of selfless giving,
Mix ingredients together
Toss in a little flair,
Serve to everyone you know
Topped with a tiny prayer
May every measure of health and
happiness be yours this
Christmas time and in the
coming Year!*

(Unknown)

MOUNT VERNON VETERANS HOME

Victoria Ornelas,
Representative

Mount Vernon Veterans Home Gift Shop is canceled for 2020. The volunteer service director at Mount Vernon Veterans Home says that due to the quarantine, they do not want to have a Gift Shop in December.

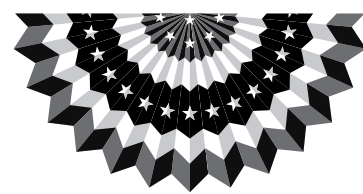
We are talking about having Christmas in the spring or sometime after the home is open to families. Currently families cannot enter the facility to get a gift, even if we drop it off. The facility does not have room to store gifts.

I will be notified when the home is reopened. At that time we will set a date to proceed with the Gift Shop activities. Currently if you want to donate money to the VA & R fund, send to Department as usual with a memo for Mt. Vernon VA Home.

If your unit still plans to send gifts to the veterans, they need to be received by December 1. They will need to be quarantined for two weeks before the veterans can receive them.

Janyce Chouteau-Musgrove
Mount Vernon VA & R
Representative

ATTENTION!!!
*The Mexico VA Home
Christmas Gift Shop has been
canceled.*



A Thanksgiving Prayer

Lord,
We humbly ask Thy blessing
on the turkey and the dressing,
on the yams and the jelly.
And the pickles from the deli.

Bless the apple pie and tea,
bless each and every calorie.
Let us enjoy Thanksgiving dinner,
Tomorrow we can get thinner.

For all Thy help along the way
we're thankful for this Thanksgiving Day.
We're thankful, too, for all the dear ones.

Far away and near ones.

Although we may be far apart,
we're together in my heart.
Keep us in Thy loving care
This is my Thanksgiving prayer.

(P.S. Anyone who wishes may help with the dishes!)

(Author Unknown)



District 1

Linda Maddox, President

The first District 1 meeting was held in August at the Post 55 in Hannibal with five units, nine members and one guest attending. We are honored to have Department 1st Vice President Victoria Ornelas always attending. District Chaplain Gail Dietrich and District President Linda Maddox conducted a Memorial Service for 13 deceased unit members.

Fifteen members from eight units voted by email to accept the updated District Constitution and Bylaws. Twenty-one year-end reports were submitted to the Department Committee Chairmen. We had several Poppy Poster and Americanism Essay Contest winners that were sent to Department for judging. Department President Marsha is scheduled to attend our November meeting. Due to the COVID pandemic, units have canceled meetings; therefore, I only installed new officers at two units. Membership is looking good even with little contact. Edina is at 95.83 percent, Palmyra at 80 percent, Hannibal, Knox City, LaPlata, Lewistown and Macon are in the 50 percentile with the remainder of the units at 46 percent and below as of October 14, 2020.

District and units are preparing scrapbooks and Press Books for the July Department Convention.

Several units reported they have participated in community parades and gave candy to the crowd; collected medicine bottle caps to be made into benches for veteran tiny homes; collected soda can tabs for Ronald McDonald house and box tops for education; collected labels to help purchase Chromebooks for grade school children; distributed poppies or had a booth; and contacted local businesses for poppy donations. Lewistown unit collected hygiene items for Quincy Hospitality House and members made face masks for their churches and area hospitals. They also had a recruitment table at community fairs; held picnics and dinners for veterans; helped with American Legion dinners and soup suppers; participated in Memorial Day and Flag Day ceremonies. Palmyra's Miss Poppy laid a wreath honoring veterans; members are making cards to be given to veterans when the Honor Flights resume; mailed holiday and birthday cards; gave 4th of July gifts to veterans in nursing homes; and Unit 174 paid for Meals on Wheels for veterans for a month. Members have sent over \$5,685 worth of manufacture coupons to overseas military bases since July. Units are donating money to special projects, canned goods for emergency pantries, and some are in the process of sending boxes to overseas military. Callao and Palmyra Units donated to the Van Project at Mexico Veterans Home. Donations were made to the Shriners Hospital for Children.

Thank you to all Units for the hard work and support to our veterans and active military personnel.

God bless our veterans!!

District 3

Karen Bumgarner, President

District 3 has tried to keep busy doing what they can to have some activities.

Smithville Unit 58 sponsored a sixth-grader to attend STEM summer camp, but the student will attend next year. They sponsored an after prom event, but the money will be used for next year's prom. They participated in Community in Action, which is an organization that helps youth who are drug users. A funeral meal for a veteran was served and monetary donations were made for three veterans. Some members helped with the post bingo. Five girls were sponsored to attend Girls State, which was canceled. A virtual program was on Facebook for Memorial Day. Poppy wreaths were placed on graves of departed Auxiliary members with a prayer said at each wreath placement. Wreaths were also placed on post members graves where there were no tombstones. Small American flags were placed on veterans' graves at Smithville Community Memorial Cemetery. Flags were purchased for the downtown flag poles to be flown from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. Unit 97 had a garage sale, making \$1,300. Poppy donations netted \$800.

Bethany Unit 216 hosted a District meeting with prepared snacks.

Excelsior had a meeting in June and elected officers for next year. Their \$250 scholarship was via a virtual presentation. They are currently working on a fundraiser for a veterans project that is connected with the upcoming Car & Bike Show. Poppies will be worn at

this event. They work at the Friday night bingo and collect items and donations to support care packages for the troops. They also held a garage sale to help the local VFW and Excelsior Springs Museum.

Unit 393 was able to have a fish fry.

I know that the other units will assist our veterans when they feel it is safe to do so.

District 7

Melissa Beal, Vice President

A reminder that the Unit Essay Contest winners are due to Kathy Lehigh Bruner by March 1, 2021.

Does anyone have information about our history books? They haven't been located.

District 9

Sandy Gordinier, President

We have all learned to say CANCEL often. Ninth District started great. We were off and running, renewing memberships and recruiting new members. Units began Girls State interviews, plans were in place for fundraisers to help the American Legion Auxiliary's efforts, and poppies were ordered, etc.

We started hearing about the coronavirus in other countries and then it arrived. All the important activities were canceled here, which included Girls State, Poppy Days, post, unit and district meetings, convention and conference, plus schools were closed.

Our membership ended with 92.81 percent, and we were still ahead of our district challenge, which was District 14. That was a bright spot in all this doom. End of year reports were sent to the Department Chairmen.

By continuing to send monthly newsletters, I was able to keep the units updated on current bills that will affect our veterans and any current information about activities.

I miss my Auxiliary family very much. Hopefully we will have a Spring Conference in 2021 that won't have the word cancel appear.

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

**Louise Welch,
2nd Vice President**

This year began with the COVID-19 pandemic and is ending the same way. The crisis is all over the world. On that note, we as volunteers have limited face to face or personal contact with our veterans, military and families.

We need to create a plan that is different so we may continue our mission of service.

Do a **drive-by parade for our veterans at the VA homes** to let them know they are not forgotten. Donate funds to the homes for bingo or items that the residents may need. Contact the veterans homes and VA medical centers, checking if we can do something for the staff. Remember, the staff and residents have been locked up for eight months.

Our Christmas parties are limited for wrapping gifts for the veterans families. A small gift would let them know they are not forgotten.

Units and Districts, please do not forget to keep a record of the funds spent and the mileage you used for our veterans, military, and their families.

Please, everyone be safe — **Wear a Mask, Stand 6 feet distance, and use hand sanitizer.**

The Secret of LEADERSHIP is...

...To think of your position as an opportunity to serve, not as a trumpet call to self-importance.

...To hold always to the principle, "People are more important than things."

...Giving loyalty to those under you, and not demanding it first of them.

...Sharing the credit, but sharing with others their blame.

...Allegiance to truth. Remember truth alone wins in the end.

...Bearing the larger picture in mind. Ask yourself, "What are we really trying to accomplish?"

...Even-mindedness; not being elated by success nor depressed by failure, but simply doing your best and letting the results take care of themselves.

...To concentrate on what you are doing, not on yourself as the doer.

Veterans Day

National observance of this day traces back to the great exposition of patriotism rendered by the nation at the end of World War I. The official name Armistice Day was given on November 11, 1926. In 1954 President Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day.

A veteran stands for peace, for courage and for faith in America. He stands for peace because he fought for it; he stands for courage because he stood tall in the face of danger; and he stands for faith because he returned in confidence to work, to grow in family and to participate in the affairs of this country as a full citizen. He is a patriot born free in a land of plenty, seeking to right the wrongs he finds, working to better his life and that of his fellow man.

We are constantly reminded of the challenges and attacks on our freedom from other parts of the world. Freedom extracts a price. Our veterans of today and yesterday have paid that price. This price tag enlivens our spirit of Americanism by striving to keep alive the principles of justice, freedom and democracy.

From the grand and solemn ceremonies at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery to the thousands of smaller commemorations that take place in communities across the nation, we try our best to thank those who have lost their lives and risked all to make certain our freedom is preserved.

Please participate in your local celebration. Stand up and be counted as a proud and thankful American!

Virginia Schnurbusch, Editor



LEGIONETTE REPORT

Virginia Schnurbusch, Editor

This past year has been exceedingly difficult to receive committee reports for the Legionette. A few activities were reported for the first part of the year. There is no record of activities for the remainder of the year. I understand the difficulty in being able to serve the veterans like our mission states; however, we still need to be creative and try to implement service in a different way.

District Presidents, please emphasize to the Department Chairmen in your area that it is most important to instill enthusiasm for participation in their program. We need to keep our presence visible and attainable to those who need our assistance. Ideas can still be obtained from the National Program Action Plan.

I look forward to sharing information in the Legionette. Let's begin this auxiliary year with renewed strength and ideas.

The deadline is still the 20th of the month as stated on page 2, top left corner. Thank you in advance for assuming your responsibility for sharing pertinent information to the members.

...Never ask others what you would not willingly do yourself.

...Being impersonal where your own well-being is concerned, but personally concerned for the well-being of others.

...Listening for the voice of reason in others. Listening to what is really trying to happen in every situation.

...Working with things as they are, not as they were; nor as you think they ought to be, for the "impossible" dream can be attained only in possible stages.

...Working with others' abilities as they are; not as you wish they were, nor as you think they ought to be.

...Far-sightedness is gazing beyond the visible to the potential on the horizon.

...To be solution-oriented, not problem-oriented.

...Not shackling yourself with what is merely customary; on the other hand, not confusing merit with novelty. Do what is intrinsically right, and even if others have done it a thousand times, it will seem new.

...Sharing with others your goals and ideals. Include them as friends and you will have their support.

...Appealing to high principles, and not seeking support by an appeal to people's prejudices.

...Recognizing in kindness and compassion higher principles than can be found in rules and precedents.

...To consider the team more important than the product.

Remember a good team can develop

many products.

...Not allowing your decisions to be influenced by personal likes and dislikes.

...Inviting cooperation from others, rather than demanding their obedience.

...Enthusiasm. Winning others to your ideas by the joy you yourself feel in them.

...Doing willingly whatever needs to be done.

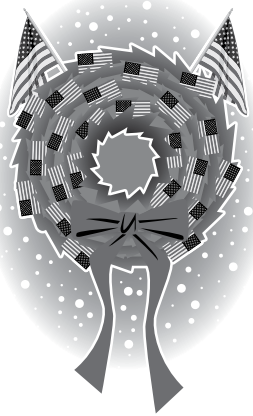
...Finding joy in the doing rather than in the things done. Thus through change, your ability to inspire others will remain constant.

...To view whatever you do as a path to some greater good.

...The ability to inspire others with faith in their own potential.

...Putting your heart in your work, and not merely giving the work your endorsement.

...A sense of humor, laughing with others, never at them.



Let Us Live Christmas Every Day

Christmas is more than a day at the end of the year,

More than a season of joy and good cheer,

Christmas is really God's pattern for living

To be followed all year by unselfish giving...

For the holiday season awakens good cheer

And draws us closer to those we hold dear,

and we open our hearts and find it is good

To live among people as we always should...

But as soon as the tinsel is stripped from the tree

The spirit of Christmas fades silently

Into the background of daily routines

And is lost in the whirl of life's busy scene,

And all unawares we miss and forego

The greatest blessing that mankind can know...

For if we live Christmas each day, as we should,

And made it our aim to always do good,

We'd find the lost key to meaningful living

That comes not from getting but from unselfish giving

And we know the great joy of peace on earth

Which was the real purpose of our Savior's birth,

For in the glad tidings of the first Christmas night,

God showed us the way and the truth and the light!!!

(Helen Steiner Rice)



AROUND THE STATE



Unit 38, District 17 sponsored the traditional Veterans Day Breakfast November 11 in spite of COVID-19 canceling several ALA activities.

Previously the breakfast was held at Post 38 in Fair Grove; however, due to current circumstances, a change of venue was necessary. The unit partnered with Kad-K-Korner, a store/deli and veteran-owned business in Springfield. They provided biscuits and gravy with coffee refills from 7 To 10 A.M. on Veterans Day. Unit officers with spouses greeted the veterans and served food and coffee. They also distributed coupons to veterans for free meals at restaurants in the Fair Grove area.



Unit #331, District 16 in St. Robert held a special event. Vice President Alice Wood led a mask making day. Eight members including District President Darlene Enloe made over 100 masks that were donated to the local schools. Donated material was used for this activity. This was a wonderful day filled with fun and fellowship, using sewing skills, and helping the community.



WINNERS vs LOSERS

- THE WINNER** is always a part of the answer.
- THE LOSER** is always a part of the problem.
- THE WINNER** always has a program.
- THE LOSER** always has an excuse.
- THE WINNER** says, "Let me do it for you."
- THE LOSER** says, "That's not my job."
- THE WINNER** sees an answer for every problem.
- THE LOSER** sees a problem in every answer.
- THE WINNER** sees a green near every sand trap.
- THE LOSER** sees two or three sand traps near every green.
- THE WINNER** says, "It may be difficult, but it is possible."
- THE LOSER** says, "It may be possible, but it is too difficult."
- BE A WINNER!!!**

(Unknown)



- Gifts of Thoughtfulness
- Gifts of Compassion and Understanding
- Gifts of Sharing Talents and Skills
- Gifts of Cooperation and Support of Unit/District Officers
- Gifts of Willingness and Helpfulness
- Gifts of Encouragement to Others
- Gifts of Participation and Commitment
- Gifts of Happiness
- Gifts of Positive Attitudes
- Gifts of Planning
- Gifts of Challenging, Interesting Activities
- Gifts of Time

Whatever we possess becomes double in value when we share it with others!

(Author Unknown)

Due Date for JANUARY/FEBRUARY Legionette

Material for the January-February issue of The Missouri Legionette is DUE BY JANUARY 20, 2021. The Editor will welcome your articles earlier if possible.

Please type and double space the articles and meet the deadline. We want our programs to move forward and improve as the year progresses. The sky's the limit with our accomplishments for the coming year for the American Legion Auxiliary. Do your part to fulfill our Promise, Past*Present*Future. During this pandemic you need to be creative with your activities. Please support the programs with renewed enthusiasm.

THANK YOU!
Virginia Schnurbusch, Editor



Deceased Members

OCTOBER THRU NOVEMBER

District	Unit	Name	Location
1	20	Jolene Pink	Kirksville, MO
1	55	Leore M. Graves	Hannibal, MO
1	221	Norma J. Deornellas	Stoutsville, MO
2	7	Evelyn L. Pattie	Carrollton, MO
2	7	Beverly Newsom	Oak Grove, MO
2	57	Evaseen Terrell	Marceline, MO
2	538	Mildred Gudgell	Meadville, MO
3	393	Helen Engelbrecht	Gower, MO
4	102	Mary Byergo	Ozark, MO
4	199	Bonnie L. Whited	Maryville, MO
4	287	Doris Schopfer	St. Joseph, MO
4	287	Norma J. Dunninghoo	Savannah, MO
5	21	Betty J. Bolin	Independence, MO
5	499	Helen Browns	Grain Valley, MO
5	499	Cari Martin	Kansas City, MO
5	499	Patricia G. O'Hare	Oak Grove, MO
5	596	Tessa M. Calegari	Kansas City, MO
6	82	Beverly Beach	Windsor, MO
6	131	Louise Humphreys	Warrensburg, MO
7	191	Mildred M. Gilliam	Marshall, MO
7	642	Nellie Brownfield	Sedalia, MO
7	642	Jenifer D. Mather	Sedalia, MO
8	5	Loretta M. Kemna	St. Elizabeth, MO
8	5	Marilyn Bexten	Jefferson City, MO
8	5	Betty J. Bernskoetter	Jefferson City, MO
8	624	Norma K. Lovell	Gravois Mills, MO
9	218	Norma Swoboda	New Haven, MO
9	218	Mignon Roettering	Washington, MO
9	218	Mable L. Scego	Washington, MO
9	218	Judith M. Glenn	Cuba, MO
9	297	Glenna Hoemann	Chicago, IL
9	313	Barbara S. Hembree	St. Peters, MO
10	208	Judith A. Niebling	Ballwin, MO
10	208	Patricia A. Loehr	Manchester, MO
10	208	Alice M. Mertz	O'Fallon, MO
10	397	Dorothy Rogers	Wildwood, MO
10	397	Mildred Dickherber	St. Louis, MO
13	133	Judy Chesnick	Old Appleton, MO
13	150	Jean A. Henson	Ste Genevieve, MO
13	150	Nichole D. Reed	Bloomsdale, MO
14	153	Mary Pennington	Poplar Bluff, MO
14	560	Betty R. Smith	Ellsinore, MO
15	392	Mary A. Bradley	Joplin, MO
0	1000	Darlene Sheridan	Sheldon, MO
0	1000	Helen S. Schulte	Parkville, MO

Sincere Apology

The names Eudora Fitzpatrick, Unit 538, District 2, and Lona D. Wallace, Unit 370, District 9 were incorrectly included in the Deceased list in the September/October issue. We sincerely regret the error. They are still current active members.

Calendar of Activities

JUNE 20-26, 2021

Missouri Girls State
UCM Warrensburg

District Meetings

- District 1** January 3, 2021; Palmyra Post #174; 2:00 p.m. meal after meeting; Oratorical Contest after meal
- District 3** March 14; Braymer Post #117; corner of 9th & Murray; 3:00 p.m.
- District 7** January 3, 2021; no place noted
- District 10** December 10; Teleconference meeting — 1-425-436-6260; code 1186595
- District 13** December 13; Perryville Post #133; 2:00 p.m.