

The Missouri Legionette



Official Publication for the American Legion Auxiliary of Missouri

Volume LXXVI

THE MISSOURI LEGIONETTE

MAY/JUNE 2018

NUMBER 3

President's Message



Department President
Carolyn Sanford
Unit 217, District 7

Since this is my last Legionette article as Department President, I begin by thanking everyone for all the work you have done to support our veterans, military, children and youth, as well as your own units. Thank you also for your support of my project the Fisher House at HST VA Medical Center and for your support of me personally. I enjoyed visiting many Districts and getting to meet members who are unable to attend conferences and conventions. I look forward to working with members continuing your good works.

Thank you for promoting my theme "We Are Family," working with the American Legion and SAL, supporting the many programs each member promotes. This was especially accomplished when members from each organization helped with holiday gift shops at all seven VA homes and seven VA medical centers. Your participation helping and visiting with the veterans is appreciated sometimes as much or more than the gifts received. Remember to keep in touch with all these veterans throughout the year.

I can't begin to recognize all the wonderful things done by units across Missouri. I do want to mention the famed "Cotton Carnival" held in Sikeston every September. The members of Post 114 family work together to make this three-day event a successful celebration. This fundraiser supports veterans activities, community activities and helps maintain the Bloomfield Veterans Cemetery. The ALA, SAL and Junior members are an integral part of this celebration. This activity exemplifies what is possible when we all work together.

I hope to see many of you at Department Convention in Springfield. If you can't come for all three days, try to attend at least one day.

The Fisher House

Because a family's love is good medicine — that is why Fisher Houses are so important to help our veterans when hospitalized. They provide a "home away from home" for the family of hospitalized veterans, providing free temporary lodging to military and veterans families, allowing them to be close to their loved one during a medical crisis and focus on what is important — the healing process.

As a government entity the VA

medical centers cannot raise funds. A not-for-profit corporation, "Friends of Mid-Missouri Fisher House, Inc." has been established for the purpose of raising funds to build and maintain a Fisher House on the grounds. I am honored to be selected to serve on this board and look forward to continue raising funds. Continued support from the Department of Missouri Legion Family would be appreciated.

"WE ARE FAMILY"

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



The membership year is winding down but there is still time to reach out to a member who has not paid her dues. Reaching out to members who have not paid their dues is the responsibility of every Auxiliary member. We need to make a personal contact to let each of these members know they are important and that we value their membership. By the time you receive the paper the Poppy Parade Award will be finished. Congratulations to the 42 Units that have already reached the goal of 102 percent of their 2017 membership; your Unit will be placed in a drawing. There are still two weeks left to reach this goal and we are hoping to have more Units to add to the drawing. ALA Sparklers is the final membership award given on July 4, 2018, Independence Day. Units reaching 105 percent of their total membership on July 31, 2018, will be placed in a drawing.

The Membership co-chairmen would like to thank the Unit Presidents for their hard work on membership. It is for sure that without your diligence in your Units the total Department membership would not be where it is today. A special thank you goes out to everyone who is working to transfer the members in Units that have turned in their charters. From our conversations with members of some of the closing Units, we know many of them want to retain their membership but maintaining the Unit has become difficult. We need to continue working together with our American Legion Family to reach our goals and make contact with our members.



OFFICIAL CALL FOR THE ANNUAL CONVENTION AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI

The 99th Department Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary is hereby called to convene at the Ramada Plaza Hotel & Oasis Convention Center in Springfield, Missouri, on July 12-15, 2018, in conformity with Article VI, Section 1, of the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Legion Auxiliary which provides, "The Legislative body of the American Legion Auxiliary shall be the Department Convention to be held annually at the same time and place of the American Legion."

PURPOSE: "The Convention is called for the election of Department Officers for the ensuing year; receiving reports of the Department Officers, Executive Committee and the Chairmen of all standing committees; electing delegates and alternates to National Convention; and the transaction of such other business as may be brought before it."

REPRESENTATION: "Section 2. This Department Convention shall be composed of delegates and alternates from each Unit. Each Unit shall be entitled to one delegate and one alternate for the first ten members and one delegate and one alternate for each additional twenty-five members or major fraction thereof paid to the Department thirty days prior to the date of the Convention." Delegate strength shall be based on Unit membership into Department Office by close of books, June 15. Delegates and /or alternates have voting power of all questions brought before the Convention. Alternates may vote only in the absence of the delegates. There is no proxy vote.

COMING TO DEPARTMENT CONVENTION IN JULY



QUARTER AUCTION

TO BENEFIT AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISING SATURDAY, JULY 14, 2018

*PADDLES WILL BE \$10.00 EACH, WITH A VERY LIMITED NUMBER OF RED, WHITE AND BLUE PADDLES AVAILABLE FOR \$50.00 WHICH ENTERS YOU IN ALL PRIZES.

*WE ARE ASKING EACH UNIT TO DONATE A GIFT OR BASKET VALUED AT \$25. OR \$50. OR \$75. OR \$100. IF ANY LEGION POST, SONS, OR RIDERS WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE, THAT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

THEY MAYBE GIVEN TO:

SANDY FINDEISS	ST PETERS	636-486-2482
SHANNA JELINEK	MONETT	417-235-9272
EVELYN COX	OVERLAND	314-429-7664

OR BROUGHT TO CONVENTION, PLEASE ADVISE ONE OF THE ABOVE WHAT YOU ARE BRINGING SO IT CAN BE IN THE PROGRAM.

*WE NEED VENDORS TO HAVE A TABLE AT OUR AUCTION. THE TABLE IS FREE AND THEY WILL RECEIVE ONE PADDLE, BUT THEY ARE REQUIRED TO DONATE THREE GIFTS TO THE AUCTION. PLEASE CONTACT SHANNA JELINEK, 417-235-9272 ASAP, THESE TABLES ARE LIMITED.

*WE HOPE YOU WILL ALL JOIN US FOR A FUN EVENING TO HELP THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT. FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

G.R.I.P.E.

Recently a few officers attended a workshop/meeting at the National office in Indianapolis. One session focused on how to identify and stop complaints. The information came from a book "A Complaint Free World," by Will Bowen. It has become a required reading in many companies and colleges worldwide. Perhaps this information can help us listen and find a guiding light.

Key Concept

It is **NOT COMPLAINING** to speak directly and only to someone who can resolve the issue you're facing.

Example: If there's something wrong with your food at a restaurant, tell the server. That's not complaining.

Example: If your computer freezes and you call tech support, you're not complaining.

Gripping to other people who cannot improve your situation about your bad restaurant experience or how your computer is a piece of junk — that's complaining.

Complain (definition) *To express grief, pain or discontent.*

By its definition, a complaint must be spoken. Therefore, the thoughts in your head — however negative they may be at times, are not complaints.

The good news is that, if you take the Complaint Free challenge — attempting to go 21 consecutive days without complaining, you'll discover that over time your mind will think happier thoughts AND you will feel more optimistic.

Continued On Page 2



Secretary's Corner

Nancy Reeves,
Department Secretary

Hello from department office! I hope everyone is well. We have much going on at the office right now. I recently sent two separate documents and both are very important.

One was the registration form for the delegates/alternates to the National Convention. This form and payment is due to the office by July 6. If you are not elected to attend and sent your fee, you will be reimbursed.

The second form sent was the delegate/alternates registration form for the Department Convention. Ladies, please have this form returned to the office with your payment by June 29, 2018. It is very important to have the form returned prior to the convention so that we can have your name badge already made and have correct numbers for the Credentials report. When we need to make badges at the registration desk, it slows the line and causes much stress for staff. It also makes the Credentials report incorrect.

Please continue to turn in your unit Data form even though it is late. I cannot make changes to the national database without a form, but it is important that we have these forms in the office as well. Please return your 2019 Officers list as soon as possible.

Membership packets will be distributed at the Department Convention. If your unit is not in attendance, your membership packet will be given to the District president for her to distribute. If you do not have your packet in a timely manner, please contact your District President before calling the department office. There will be much information in the packets this year so make sure you get yours!

That's all from the department office. Enjoy your summer and see you at convention in July.

MOVED?

New address _____

Please forward to:

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



Girls State Alumni Event

Thursday - June 28, 2018 @ 6 pm

University of Central Missouri

Dinner (\$25)* Flag Lowering * Talent Show

Reservations: Pattyjpink@gmail.com

Or 660-341-4233

www.mgsalumni.org (on-line reservations)

Can't make it 6/28/18 but still want to visit? Contact Patty and select a time that DOES work for you.

www.missourigirlsstate.org



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

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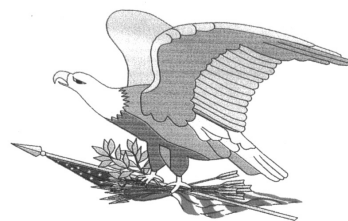
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Department President — Carolyn Sanford, P.O. Box 893, Warsaw, MO 65355. C: (660) 723-0411, Email: carolyns217@gmail.com

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
Mother's Day, May 13

Loving God, you wrap your arms around your people and show your everlasting love in the same way a mother loves her children. We are so grateful for the love you have taught us through the mothers in our lives. Bless all the mothers in this world. Amen.

Father's Day, June 17

Fathers play a very important role in the lives of their children. A father leads, a father teaches and a father provides. Fathers have the opportunity to set an example of what it means to live a righteous life.

Almighty God, you gave us the Commandment to honor our Father and Mother. In your loving kindness, hear our prayer for our parents. Give them long lives, and keep them well in body and spirit. Bless their labors and keep them always in your care. Amen

As Independence month approaches, let us remember all those who have sacrificed for our freedom, following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ. Let us not take our freedom, both physical and spiritual, for granted. May we always remember that a very high price was paid for our freedom. Our freedom cost others their lives. Lord, today bless those who served and continue to give their lives for our freedom. Meet their needs and watch over their families, watch over this country and those who are in a Leadership capacity. Amen.

Note: **THANK YOU** for giving me the opportunity to serve as your Department Chaplain this year. I have really enjoyed the experiences. It has been a great honor serving you and our Department. **THANKS AGAIN!**

Please don't forget to bring your prayer books to Department Convention for judging. Thank you to everyone for sending prayers for President Carolyn's Prayer Book.

WELCOME TO THE 98TH CONVENTION AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2018

1:00 pm-5:00 pm REGISTRATION *Fiji/Coco*

3:00 pm Department Executive Committee Board Meeting

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Dist. 1 Linda Maddox (Unit 360) | Dist. 9 Margie Koch (Unit 312) |
| Dist. 2 Rosie Rhodes (Unit 274) | Dist. 10 Coretta Schroer (Unit 397) |
| Dist. 3 Karen Bumgarner (Unit 61) | Dist. 11/12 Christina Portell (Unit 404) |
| Dist. 4 Sheridan Mires (Unit 199) | Dist. 13 Roselee Buatte (Unit 150) |
| Dist. 5 Bonnie Sweeney (Unit 21) | Dist. 14 Vickie Wilson (Unit 114) |
| Dist. 6 Shirlee Schroder (Unit 230) | Dist. 15 Ellen Arnce (Unit 163) |
| Dist. 7 Erldene "Deanie" Koon (Unit 191) | Dist. 16 Darline Enloe (Unit 81) |
| Dist. 8 Connie Pack (Unit 05) | Dist. 17 Jaretta Holt (Unit 434) |

REPORTS

- Finance Committee _____ Claudia Goodin, Chair
Linda Maddox & Martha Yancey, Members
- Constitution and Bylaws _____ Roberta Pointer, Chair
Lori Millam Co-Chair
Michelle Burnett-Emmerich, Connie Pack & Cathie Goth Members
- Legionette _____ Virginia Schnurbusch

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 2018

7:00 am District Pages & Color Bearers meet with Sgt.-at-Arms/Chairman of Pages _____ Kathy Cox

7:00 am-1:00 pm REGISTRATION and EXHIBITS

8:00 am OPEN SESSION *Fiji/Coco*

Processional of Department Colors, District Presidents, Past Department Presidents, Past National President and Department Officers

CALL TO ORDER _____ Carolyn Sanford, Department President

Invocation _____ Victoria Ornelas, Department Chaplain

Pledge of Allegiance _____ Catherine Auffert, Americanism Chairman

National Anthem _____ Shelia Buis

Preamble _____ Marsha Mooney, Historian

WELCOME:

Roll Call & Introduction of DEC _____ Nancy Reeves, Department Secretary

Convention Directors _____ Connie Pack/Jaynece Musgrove

Seventh District President _____ Deanie Koon

Greetings _____ Sharon Slagle, Department 1st Vice President

Introduction of National Committee Appointees

Past National President _____ JoAnn Cronin

National Committee members

Centennial Strategic Plan & National Security _____ Rosemarie W. Hauck

Long Term Strategic Plan Goal 5 _____ Laura Mosby

Strategic Plan Goal 4 Strategy B _____ Patty Garrett

Departmental Chapeau 8&40 _____ Darlene Forest

Sgt.-at-Arms/Chairman of Pages _____ Kathy Cox

Color Bearers _____ Roberta Pointer and Laura Mosby

Personal Pages _____ Regina Bidwell

Honorary Junior Vice President _____ Abby Bragg

JUNIOR AUXILIARY MEETING *Pool Area*

REPORTS:

National Executive Committeewoman _____ Cathie Goth

National Security _____ Marsha Mooney

Historian & Cavalcade of Memories _____ Victoria Ornelas

Chaplain _____ Martha Yancey

Parliamentarian _____ Catherine Auffert

Americanism Chairman _____ Lucille Armbruster

Americanism Essay _____ Joan Vanfossan

County Government _____ Linda Shivers

Past Presidents Parley/ Nurses Scholarship/Women of the Year _____ Michelle Emmerich

Legislative _____ Donna Morice

Rules and Resolutions Committee Chairman _____ Roberta Pointer

Constitution & Bylaws Chairman _____ Lori Millam

Member _____ Connie Pack

Member _____ Michelle Emmerich

Member _____ Cathie Goth

Gold Star _____ Lindy Capps

10:00 am **GREETINGS** Cary Kellet, Department Commander
Kerry Boardman, Department Sr. Vice Commander
John Buckner, SAL Commander
Jim Rosenberg, Director, American Legion Riders
Lowry Finely-Jackson, Department Adjutant

Finance Committee Chairman _____ Claudia Goodin

Member _____ Linda Moddax

Member _____ Martha Yancey

Women Veterans _____ Christina Portell

Auxiliary Emergency Fund _____ Barbara Sheets

12:00 pm **LUNCH**

12:00 pm-1:15 pm **Past Presidents Parley Luncheon** *Mojave*

1:30 pm **RECONVENE** *Fiji/Coco*

CALL TO ORDER _____ Carolyn Sanford, Department President

REPORTS: (cont)

Department Consolidated Report _____ Sheridan Mires

Scrapbooking _____ Lindy Capps

Children & Youth _____ Linda Jelinek

Legionette Editor _____ Virginia Schnurbusch

Community Service _____ Louise Welch

Education _____ Jackie Sutor

Music _____ Shelia Buis

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation _____ Evelyn Cox

Member _____ Anita Smith

Member _____ Wilma Jobson

VA MEDICAL CENTERS (HOSPITALS) REPRESENTATIVES

Jefferson Barracks _____ Evelyn Cox

John Cochran _____ Christina Portell

Harry S. Truman _____ Maria Heard

Kansas City _____ Helen Hatz

John J. Pershing _____ Betty Gilmore

Dwight D. Eisenhower _____ Cindy Newton

Fayetteville _____ Marie S. Jones

VETERAN HOME REPRESENTATIVES:

Cape Girardeau _____ Barbara Yallaly

Mexico _____ Victoria Ornelas

Mt. Vernon _____ Jaynee Musgrove

Warrensburg _____ Doris Raber

St. James _____ Carolyn Sue Isgriggs

St. Louis _____ Rosemaire W. Hauck

Cameron _____ Wilma Jobson

CREDENTIALS REPORT

NOMINATION OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS FOR 2018-2019

ANNOUNCEMENTS _____ Nancy Reeves, Department Secretary

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY BANQUET
Ramada Plaza Hotel & Oasis Convention Center
6:00 PM Dignitaries Reception
6:30 PM Dinner
7:00 PM Program

RECESS UNTIL 8:00 AM SATURDAY, JULY 14, 2018

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 2018

7:30 am-10:00 am **REGISTRATION**

8:00 am **RECONVENE**

CALL TO ORDER _____ Carolyn Sanford, Department President

REPORTS:

Membership Chairman _____ Sharon Slagle

Membership Co-Chairman _____ Sheridan Mires

Northeast Division Chairman _____ Linda Maddox

Northwest Division Chairman _____ Wilma Jobson

Southeast Division Chairman _____ Wander Kinder

Southwest Division Chairman _____ Kathy Cox

Junior Membership _____ Abby Bragg

Leadership _____ Ruth Wiemann

Poppy Director _____ Betty Altnether

Poppy Chairman _____ Dr. Cynthia Gray

Poppy Poster _____ Kris Marsden

Public Relations _____ Vera Gerner-Taylor

Strategic Planning Committee _____ Laura Mosby

Member _____ Patty Garrett

Report of Credentials Committee _____ Linda Schaap

Member _____ Cindy Newton

Member _____ Robyn Boardman

Constitution & Bylaws Chairman _____ Roberta Pointer

Member _____ Lori Millam

Member _____ Connie Pack

Member _____ Michelle Emmerich

Member _____ Cathie Goth

10:00am Guest Speakers

Camp Valor Outdoors _____ RADM John Pendfield, USN Retired (Power Point Presentation)

Fisher House Representative _____ Fisher House

Election of 2018-2019 Department Officers

Election Rules _____ Nancy Reeves, Department Secretary

Election of Delegates and Alternates to National Convention

REPORTS: (cont)

Girls State Director _____ Macae Mickens

Member _____ Linda Schaap

Member _____ Shanna Jelinek

Member _____ Tina Anderson

Member _____ Patty Pink

Member _____ Jackie Rahm

2018 Girls State Governor _____

ANNOUNCEMENTS _____ Nancy Reeves, Department Secretary

11:30 am **LUNCH**

11:30 am-12:45 pm **Membership Luncheon** *Mojave*

1:00 pm **JOINT SESSION** *Fiji/Coco*

5:00 pm Catholic Services

Protestant Church Services

6:00pm **Department Fundraiser-Quarter Auction**

7:30pm **RECEPTION FOR INCOMING PRESIDENT**

SUNDAY JULY 15, 2018

8:30 am **CALL TO ORDER** _____ Carolyn Sanford, Department President

Memorial Service _____ Victoria Ornelas, Department Chaplain

REPORTS:

Girls State Trust Fund Chairman _____ Linda Shivers

Member _____ Cathie Goth

Member _____ Virginia Schnurbusch

Member _____ Rosemarie W. Hauck

Member _____ Patty Garrett

VA&R Audit Report _____ Linda Schaap

Member _____ Robin Boardman

Member _____ Darline Enloe

Junior Activities _____ Liz Rodabaugh

Fundraising Committee _____ Sandy Findeiss

Member _____ Evelyn Cox

Member _____ Gayle Metzinger

RAFFLES

Installation of 2017-2018 Junior Officers

Courtesy Resolutions Chairman _____ Jackie Sutor

ANNOUNCEMENTS _____ Nancy Reeves, Department Secretary

10 Minute Recess for Installation of 2018-2019 Officers

Installation

Processional of District Presidents and Department Officers

Closing Prayer _____ Victoria Ornelas, Department Chaplain

Adjournment _____ Carolyn Sanford, Department President

Retirement of Department Colors

POST EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

G.R.I.P.E. Continued From Page 1

The 5 Reasons People Complain

True complaining, that is, whining to someone who cannot improve the situation you're complaining about, is always done to get one of five social needs met.

Behind the complaint is a human connection that the complainer perceives to be missing such as getting attention, forgiveness for not doing well at something, or a lack of approval.

When you understand the real reason behind your and other people's complaints, you'll find a way to get social needs met without the toxicity of complaining.

G R.I.P.E. - Get Attention

Connecting to other people is a basic human need.

Silence the Complaints: When someone complains to Get attention, ask,

"What's going well with (whatever they're complaining about)?"

For example, if they're griping about their job, keep asking, "What's going well with your job?" Or, "What do you like about where you work?"

R R.I.P.E. - Remove Responsibility

When given a task, people complain about the conditions surrounding the task as a way of getting off the hook.

Silence the Complaints: When someone complains to Remove Responsibility they are building a case to prove that what is being asked of them is impossible.

They are complaining to be let off the hook.

With every complaint about the assigned task, keep asking,

"If it were possible, how might you do it?"

Their intention is to either get you to admit that the task is impossible, or, to prepare you for the fact that they are not going to do good job.

It's excuse-making in advance of even attempting to do something.

Mentoring Auxiliary

Gayle Metzinger

You are a mentor, whether you realize it or not, you are a mentor. Within the confines of our American Legion Auxiliary the definition of a mentor is:

A relationship in which an experienced person (member-mentor) assists another (mentoree) in developing knowledge that will enhance her development within the Unit and offer personal growth.

The member-mentor teaches the mentoree about specific programs such as Children & Youth, Community Service, Poppy Month and many more. Are we asking the right questions? Why did the mentoree join the Auxiliary? What can we provide to promote the mentoree for their personal growth? Interest is functional, arising out of the need to ensure that individuals can perform the tasks required to the best of their abilities.

The Auxiliary now looks to mentoring to implement a strategic plan that includes:

- Recruitment
- Retention
- Re-sign

The Auxiliary is not a business and so promotes informal mentoring:

- Goals are not specific
- Outcomes are not measured
- Mentoring may last a long time

One-on-one mentoring matches one mentor with one mentoree. This allows both mentor and mentoree to develop a personal relationship and provides individual support for the mentoree.

Eight qualities of an effective mentor:

1. Be a friend
2. Have realistic expectations
3. Have fun together
4. Give your mentoree a choice on what programs they wish to learn
5. Be positive/patience
6. Listen — What does the mentoree want to do or does not want to do?
7. Respect each other
8. Communicate — People vary in their styles of communicating. Take responsibility for making and maintaining contact

The one-on-one quality of the relationship cultivated within mentorship programs helps a new member integrate quickly into your Unit culture and become a productive member of the group.

• These pairings supplement your programs, helping fill in the gaps where needed.

• Mentors can introduce newcomers to individuals in other chairs and serve as a sounding board for thoughts, ideas and concerns.

• Good mentor-mentoree relationships also nurture an inviting culture, demonstrating to newcomers the benefits of an open environment where people are constantly sharing knowledge, generating ideas and are mutually committed to building a successful Auxiliary Unit.

With our diminishing membership we need to be a proponent of mentorship. Good for the mentee, good for the mentor and good for the entire organization. Large or small Units may have different challenging goals and needs but, in many respects, the most challenging for all of us is membership retention. Setting up a mentoring group from your

long-term members can be as simple as assigning one to a new member. Not everyone would be a good mentor, so pick wisely. A short course of what is expected as a mentor to an orientation class and given precise instructions of the program.

The formal dictionary definition of a mentor is an experienced and trusted advisor. It is defined as someone you can tell “the good, the bad and the ugly” to and who expects you to do the same for them in return.

The pay off? A triple win for everyone involved when mentees and mentors are able to form a relationship based on trust and honest dialogue.

At the start of this article you were told that you are a mentor whether you realized it or not. Did you go to an athletic event of your child or grandchild? You're a Mentor. Did you make a home-cooked meal? You're a Mentor. Did you teach your toddler his ABC's? You're a Mentor. Children look up to you as an adult and by your actions you mentor your family, church, business and volunteer at the VA.

At the Unit/District and Department levels, beyond the clear ways that mentorship helps to develop and grow talent across all levels of an organization, mentoring significantly improved new member retention within the organization. Research has also shown that two-way mentorship helps to better transmit Auxiliary cultures and values.

So if you're thinking of becoming a mentor, seeking a mentor or starting a mentorship program at your Unit, do it. The wins for each are definitely worth the effort.

Fourth District

Sheridan Mires, President

Fourth District Auxiliary met for our first meeting of the year at Unit #315 in Burlington Junction. Department President Carolyn Sanford installed our officers. The highlight of this meeting was having The National President's Award of Excellence presented to Unit #315.

We are again proud of the fact that all our officers, elected and appointed, started their Auxiliary journey as Junior members. We continue to invite the Junior members to our District meetings and encourage them to participate in our opening before dismissing them for “Junior Time” with their leaders. These young ladies are such a delight to have at our meetings and what an opportunity for us to mentor them and instill in them a love for our veterans, as well as a passion for what we do. We have almost 200 Juniors in our District with several Units having active Junior groups. These young ladies are making a difference in the lives of our veterans and in our communities; as they volunteer many hours helping veterans, their families and helping with projects in their own communities.

Members spent countless hours shopping, collecting and delivering items for the Christmas Gift Shops. Many members attended the Gift Shops to help the veterans shop and to wrap the many presents. It always brings a smile to my face when the veterans that are shopping for a gift take the time to thank us for being there and for the gifts.

Other projects for veterans and active military included donations to Camp Hope, Camp Valor, Missouri Veterans Assistance League, shipping care packages to deployed troops, Welcome Home events, Wounded Warrior guide service, poppy distribution, delivering many cookie plates to veterans and shut-ins at Christmas, helping the Legionnaires with Veterans Day assemblies and Memorial Day activities.

Another highlight of the year was having two of our District officers go on a Northwest Missouri Honor Flight as attendants for two veterans. They shared stories, information and pictures at a District meeting. I believe they would recommend this trip.

County Government Day was held in five counties in the District, each county has a unique plan for the day that works best for that county's facilities and county officials. Units supported National Education week by delivering apples, snacks and cookies to the schools for the teachers and staff. Six scholarships were offered by Units.

Auxiliary members in Fourth District have worked hard to promote brand awareness. As members have helped in their communities at festivals, fairs, dinners, benefits and various other projects, they wear their Auxiliary branding items on floats, in parades and while working at Unit and Post activities. This is an excellent way to let the people in the community know who we are and learn what we do. Many people in our communities that have the ability to help our organization with our programs, especially our service to our veterans and active military. We need to be proud of who we are and what we do. We need talk to our friends, neighbors and many times people we don't know about what we do. This will not only let others learn about this great organization but it will help grow our membership.

Reports were received from all 16 Units. Each Unit does their best to do what they can within their ability at the time. This may not look like what other Units do but they are still working the programs and the service they provide is important, and those receiving the service are grateful.

DISTRICT 13

Roselee Buatte, President

District 13 has nine Units and I have had the pleasure of visiting all of them this year. I am amazed at everything the units do for the veterans and their communities. I have stressed reporting so the Units can get the recognition they deserve.

We currently have the highest percentage in membership with Units #39, #281 and #783 being over 100 percent. Several are very close to being 100 percent.

Perryville Unit #133 has participated in events related to the Vietnam Wall being completed in their community. The Wall2Wall function in September was very impressive and attended by many, many Auxiliary and American Legion members honoring Veterans of that era. Recently they participated in the Mark of Remembrance Day that provided citizens the opportunity to sign the concrete supporting wall before it is entombed behind the granite wall. This was another heart-warming experience.

Units have reported participating in parades, Veterans Day and Memorial Day programs, making comfort care kits, hosting Halloween, Christmas and Easter parties, sponsoring bingos, and providing Thanksgiving and other holiday meals for veterans. Several Units serve the veterans by volunteering and donating to the Christmas Gift Shop and coffee hours at the veterans homes, as well as donations to Camp Hope and the USO. Scholarships were awarded, members helped with blood drives and participated in various other community programs, including Americanism Essay Contest, County government Day and sponsoring delegates to ALA Missouri Girls State. Plans are in place for poppy distribution. Four units have updated their Constitution & Bylaws. Two documents were sent to Department Chair with suggested revisions made. Two units have a Past Presidents Parley and six female veterans were recognized.

Festus Unit 253 has the only non-military female Auxiliary Color Guard recognized by the state to perform funeral honors with American Legion members at Jefferson Barracks. In September the color guard members were issued a proclamation and resolution from the governor and their state senator. They also make shell-casing bags for the funeral honor team to give to

families. The bags are big enough to fit the nine fired shells.

I will lay a wreath for 13th District at the Truman Pilgrimage May 8. Election of officers for the Units and District will soon be held. Plans are being made for Department Convention in Springfield in July.

Thanks to District 13 Units for all they do for the veterans, ALA programs and their communities. The American Legion Family has been very busy.

District 15

Ellen Arnce, President

I was honored to place a wreath at Harry Truman's grave on Truman Day, installed officers at one unit, attended a Girls State briefing and helped with the Mt. Vernon Christmas shop. Due to my left knee replacement, I visited only four units this year and missed one quarterly District meeting. However, I have been privileged to meet many members exhibiting loyalty, faithfulness, endurance, initiative, and just plain determination and hard work to make the ALA successful in service. This is my time to shine light on SOME of that success. My project this year was to honor the four pillars of TAL: VA&R, National Security, Americanism, Children & Youth. This was done by units donating to Fisher House, the USO, making pocket flags (300 flags will be sent to Marines at Camp Lejeune), and donating to Kids Of Our Heroes Adventure Camp.

Year End Summary of seven Units (plus one unit reporting VA&R only), by committees: VA&R:

• Money was donated to Fisher House, Fayetteville VAMC, Mt. Vernon Veterans Home and their Christmas Shop.

• Cards/gifts to veterans for Mother's Day, Christmas, Valentine's Day.

• Meals served to veterans for Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day and other times.

• Celebrated 99th birthday of TAL with Posts.

• Gave emotional support and money to needy veterans.

• Buddy baskets to homeless veterans.

• Participated in Memorial Day and Patriot Day services and Patriot Day Parade.

• Neosho donated to David Mc Nerney Post in TX and Trinity Circle Horses Healing Hearts and had their sixth annual Women Veterans Tea.

• Mt. Vernon served water and tea to Legion Riders passing through town.

• Webb City and Lockwood did Veterans in Community Schools presentations.

Military:

• Sent gifts to deployed troops.

Children and Youth:

• Five units sending delegates to Girls State.

• Three District members volunteered at Girls State last year.

• Webb City and Mt. Vernon sponsored sports teams.

• Neosho “adopted” a boy with spinal muscular atrophy and his brother for friendship.

• Mt. Vernon gave to Childrens Emergency Services.

• Neosho: volunteered for Backpack program and Project Linus, donated to Camp Barnabas.

• Webb City: gave to Special Olympics and participated in community events, (Easter Egg Hunt, Holiday Express).

• Neosho: Nominated Carly Anderson for Good Deed Award which she received.

Americanism:

• Four units did Americanism essay contest.

• Webb City helped with ROTC banquet, flag disposal, and flag folding programs.

Education:

• Mt. Vernon and Neosho gave scholarships totaling \$1,750.00.

• Pierce City sent National Scholarship entry.

• During Education Week Lockwood gave gifts to teachers and staff members at three schools and Neosho had an article printed in the newspaper honoring all teachers and staff in Neosho schools.

Community Service:

• Volunteered at/for blood mobiles, food banks, libraries, hospital, hospice, election polls, a museum and other worthy projects.

• Pineville served a monthly community dinner.

• Mt. Vernon gave to foster and needy families, and to “Christmas in July.”

Poppy Program:

• Five units distributed poppies.

• Four units did Poppy Poster Contest.

Now for a few words of encouragement. I read this recently from a very wise member: “Take a good look at yourself. Are you in the boat with the rest of your ALA team or are you a member who has stopped rowing, rows in the opposite direction or throws others from the boat?” With God's help, we will be in the boat with the team and never give up. God bless us all.

G.R.I.P.E. Continued From Page 2

G.R.I.P.E. Inspire Envy [Brag]

We complain about people who are not like us as a way of making ourselves seem superior by comparison.

Silence the Complaints: Someone complaining to Inspire Envy is actually wanting to be complimented and reassured. Therefore,

Compliment them for the opposite of whatever they're complaining about

In the two examples, above, you might say, “You're a great leader and your team produces what they promise on time, every time.”

And, “You seem to know a lot about movies, what's the coolest trend you've seen in films recently?”

G.R.I.P.E. - Power

Others will complain to get you on their side.

There is strength in numbers.

People complain to build alliances with others who agree with them to increase their power.

Silence the Complaints: There is an old saying, “When two gorillas are fighting in the jungle, stay out of the jungle.”

When someone complains to get you on their side and gain power over someone else, refuse to get involved.

Put the problem right back in their hands.

Keep telling the complainer,

“It sounds like you and he (or she) have a lot to talk about.”

You might even offer to set up a meeting between the two of them. This will clearly show them that you choose not to get involved with their complaining power struggle.

G.R.I.P.E. - Excuse Poor Performance

Excuse Poor Performance is the past tense version of Remove Responsibility (the R in G.R.I.P.E.).

Both are about being let off the hook.

When someone complains to Excuse Poor Performance, they have already failed and are complaining to justify what happened—and, as before, it's not their fault.

Silence the Complaints: A person complaining to Excuse their poor performance has already messed up or not done something you've asked.

If you start asking, *Well, why didn't you think of this?* or, *Why didn't you plan for that?* he or she is just going to defend their poor performance with more complaints.

Instead, ask, **“How do you plan to improve next time?”**

This removes their defenses and opens them up to making plans to do better in the future.



National Poppy Day®

Dr. Cynthia Gray, Chairman

Let's plan significant activities to celebrate May 25, the second anniversary of National Poppy Day®. Buy from Emblem Sales: National Poppy Day pin (\$2.95), a Poppy tack (\$3.95), Poppy T-shirt (\$11.95), Poppy polo shirt (\$15.95) — or your own creation. Wear a poppy to honor those who have worn our nation's uniform.

The red poppy is a universally recognized symbol of sacrifice worn by Americans since World War I to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by our veterans while protecting our freedoms. After World War I, a beautiful red poppy grew from the dirt and mud in battlefield areas. Scientists attributed its growth to soils in France and Belgium becoming enriched with lime from the rubble left by the war. Red symbolized the blood the soldiers shed during battle. The poppy was memorialized in the wartime poem “In Flanders Fields” written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, M.D., while serving on the front lines. On September 27, 1920, the poppy became the official flower of The American Legion family to memorialize the soldiers who fought and died during the war. In 1924, the distribution of poppies became a national program of The American Legion.

Pages 33-35 of the May issue of the *National News* magazine have some great ideas for Poppy promotion. The reformatting of the “In Flanders Field” is perfect to use in ceremonies. It reads with meaning, not rhyme.



AROUND THE STATE



American Legion Post #114 Adjutant Ed Carr and Unit Chaplain Mary Carr recently delivered 235 pounds of aluminum can tabs to the Ronald McDonald House in Columbia, Mo. This is the 24th year they have participated in this activity. The Post and Unit recently were the winner of the 2018 Pull Tab Pandemonium. Congratulations for your participation and large collection.

For the second year Unit 34 has presented a special Poppy program to the third-graders at the Putnam County R-1 School. The book "The Poppy Lady," the story of Moina Belle Michael written by Barbara Walsh, is read to the students. They are also shown all the beautiful illustrations from the book. The poem "In Flanders's Field" is also read. The students are given a poppy to commemorate the event. A discussion follows about veterans. Students discuss their experiences with family and friends who have served our country. The ALA members inform the students why we distribute poppies and collect money and how it benefits the veterans.

For Veterans Day the fifth-grade teachers help the students create a small flag. After it is framed a picture of the student is inserted and this special gift is presented to a loved one during an assembly.

It is an enlightening experience for students, as well as the Auxiliary members, in connecting with the children of the community.



The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 434 sponsors the Poppy Poster contest as part of the Poppy Program. The red poppy became known as a symbol to those who shed blood to protect America's freedom. Moina Michael read the wartime poem "In Flanders Field" by Lt. Col., John McCrae that is in memory of our veterans. This was her inspiration to promote the red poppy. Since 1923 millions of red paper poppies are distributed by the American Legion Auxiliary members in their communities. It continues to symbolize those veterans who gave the ultimate sacrifice for the American people.

Twenty-four students from Nixa High School submitted artwork. The posters were judged on poster appeal and in compliance with specific contest rules. Each contestant received a participation award. The winning posters were then submitted to District 17 committee for further judging. Those winners were forwarded to the American Legion Auxiliary Department. The final level for judging is National. The winners here will then receive recognition at the National Convention.

The winners of the Poppy Poster Contest sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary Nixa Unit 434 are 9th-grader Jasmine Lejune and 10th-grader Lauren Embry from Nixa High School. Congratulations!

(Submitted by Julie White)



Members of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 478 have a yearly project with Children's Mercy Hospital. The ladies sew approximately 1,200 small bears and mini pillows each year for the PIC unit to help support the tubing used on the babies. Each of the members loves to combine her favorite colors to make these special bears and mini pillows.



Angel Pennies

I found a penny today
Just laying on the ground
But it's not just a penny
This little coin I've found.

Found pennies come from Heaven
That's what my grandpa told me
He said angels toss them down,
Oh how I loved that story.

He said when an angel misses you
They toss a penny down,
Sometimes just to cheer you up
To make a smile out of your frown.

So don't pass that penny
When you're feeling blue
It may be a penny from Heaven
That an angel has tossed to you.

(Unknown)

Always Remember

- ...the power of prayer.
- ...the success of perseverance.
- ...the pleasure of working.
- ...the value of time.
- ...the influence of example.
- ...the power of kindness.
- ...the obligation of duty.
- ...the virtue of patience.
- ...the worth of character.
- ...the wisdom of economy.
- ...the improvement of talent.
- ...the presence of God.

(Author Unknown)



DUE DATE for JULY/AUGUST LEGIONETTE

The material for the July/August issue of the Missouri Legionette will be due no later than JULY 20 and best given to the Editor at Convention. All newly elected Department Officers, please submit a photo and message. This issue will contain the list of program chairmen. **PLEASE KEEP FOR FUTURE REFERENCE!**

Please remember to type and double space articles. Department Chairmen may begin submitting program information.

Thank you!!!

Virginia Schnurbusch, Editor

Deceased Members

APRIL 2018 - MAY 18, 2018

District	Unit	Name	Location
0	1000	Geraldine M. Skaggs	Aurora, MO
1	174	Anita Schaeffer	Palmyra, MO
1	360	Cathy L. Bocke	New Cambria, MO
2	7	Wanda Kistler	Brunswick, MO
3	236	Betty S. Hall	Cameron, MO
4	288	Margaret Florea	Hopkins, MO
4	359	Vida V. Crowder	Saint Joseph, MO
5	21	Shirley M. Shanahan	Dallas, TX
5	21	Pearl M. Strobel	Independence, MO
5	499	Mildred L. Edie	Sibley, MO
6	82	Helen A. Heck	Windsor, MO
6	131	Violet G. Schonberger	Independence, MO
7	223	Evelyn Mabary	Higginsville, MO
7	623	Verba Mueller	Cross Timbers, MO
8	5	Dolores E. Herring	Mountain Top, PA
8	5	Margaret A. Burmeister	Jefferson City, MO
8	5	Peggy L. Lovell	Versailles, MO
8	5	Bonnie M. Hoglen	New Bloomfield, MO
8	105	Birdene Cochran	Brumley, MO
8	266	Helen Gramlich	Pilot Grove, MO
8	424	Barbara Brune	Ashland, MO
9	312	Bonnie Briegel	Saint Charles, MO
9	312	Patricia L. Coleman	Saint Charles, MO
9	312	Karen L. Maupin	Saint Charles, MO
10	177	Judith L. Kitson	Eureka, MO
10	556	La Verne Reuther	Chesterfield, MO
11	186	Evelyn Hafemeister	Saint Louis, MO
11	186	Dolores H. Frueh	Saint Louis, MO
13	133	Vera E. Moll	Morton, IL
13	150	Mary J. Kreitler	Sainte Genevieve, MO
13	150	Bernice M. Gettinger	Sainte Genevieve, MO
13	150	Ruby Weiler	Sainte Genevieve, MO
13	253	Mary M. Bequette	Crystal City, MO
14	114	Jolene Tyrone	Bertrand, MO
14	158	Naomi V. Hartle	Jackson, MO
14	293	Helen Cowart	Cape Girardeau, MO
14	293	Mary Wheeler	Bourbonnais, IL
14	293	Patricia Shaw	Malden, MO
16	81	Ruthene M. Kitchen	Bourbon, MO
16	298	Norma Riddle	Dixon, MO
16	298	Velma L. Kelley	Dixon, MO
16	331	Emma O. Mann	Camdenton, MO
16	331	Rabel G. Bledsoe	Alpharetta, GA
17	413	Christine M. Russell	Aurora, MO

Calendar of Activities

- June 24-30** Girls State; UCM, Warrensburg, MO
- July 12-15** Department Convention; Ramada Oasis, 2546 Glenstone, Springfield, MO; 888-532-4338
- August 24-30** National Convention; Minneapolis, MN
- October 26-28** Fall Conference; Capitol Plaza Hotel; Jefferson City, MO

District Meetings

- District 1** June 3; Shelbina Post #376
- District 2** June 2; Chillicothe Post #25; 10:00 a.m.
- District 5** June 20; Hostess Unit #609; Election of Officers
July 18; Hostess Unit #340; Girls State Honored/
District Memorial Service
- District 6** June 10; Lowry City Post #604; 12:30 p.m. lunch;
meeting follows lunch.
- District 7** June 10; Sedalia Post #642; 2:00 p.m.
- District 8** June 3; Sunrise Beach Post #625; 1:00 p.m.
- District 9** June 3; New Haven Post #366 registration 9:00;
meeting 9:30; lunch; joint session after lunch
- District 13** June 3; Festus Post #253; 2:00 p.m.
- District 15** June 10; Webb City Post #322; 2:00 p.m.