

The Missouri Legionette



Official Publication for the American Legion Auxiliary of Missouri

Volume LXXIX

THE MISSOURI LEGIONETTE

MARCH/APRIL 2021

NUMBER 2

President's Message



Department President
Marsha Mooney
Unit 21, District 5

Happy springtime to everyone! I am so glad to be finished with winter and looking forward to better times. We have hope and are planning our Department Convention in July at the Drury Inn and Conference Center in Cape Girardeau. Let's hope all goes well with restrictions becoming less stringent so we can resume our meetings.

I visited District 15 in Mt. Vernon last month. The attendance was good, and everyone enjoyed being together again. Some Districts have not met since the quarantine started; hopefully this will soon change.

Our National President Nicole Clapp will be visiting our state near the end of April. Unit 21 in Independence will be hosting a dinner in her honor on Wednesday, April 28, Warrensburg Unit 131 will also host a dinner. Please come and welcome President Nicole to Missouri.

May is the month of National Poppy Day. I would like to share some information about the Poppy Program from the National website: ALA Poppy Program

Connecting the visual image of the poppy with the sacrifice made by our veterans has been an important goal of the American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Program since its inception in 1921. On Memorial Day and Veterans Day, millions of red crepe paper poppies—all handmade by veterans as part of their therapeutic rehabilitation—are distributed across the country in exchange for donations that go directly to assist disabled and hospitalized veterans in our communities.

The Poppy

After World War I, the poppy flourished in Europe. Scientists attributed this to soils in France and Belgium becoming enriched with lime from the rubble left by the war. From the dirt and mud grew beautiful red poppies. The red poppy came to symbolize the blood shed during battle following the publication of the wartime poem "In Flanders Fields." The poem was 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.

Led by the American Legion Auxiliary, each year members of the American Legion family distribute poppies with a request that the person receiving the flower makes a donation to support the future of veterans, active-duty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs.

Poppy Distribution

Millions of American Legion Auxiliary poppies are distributed annually by ALA unit members, raising money for veterans, active-duty service members and their families. Children are involved in spreading the poppy message also. Poppy Poster Contests are held in local schools for students in grades 2 to 12. The Little Miss Poppy Contest is a fun event for Junior Auxiliary members ages 6-12 who promote the Auxiliary memorial poppy.

Meeting the continuing needs of our veterans should be the concern of every American who values his or her freedom. The ALA promotes the poppy as a symbol of the sacrifices our military has made, a symbol to open people's hearts and inspire them to donate.

National Poppy Day

Poppy Day is celebrated in countries around the world. The American Legion brought National Poppy Day to the United States by asking Congress to designate the Friday before Memorial Day as National Poppy Day.

On the Friday before Memorial Day, please wear a red poppy to honor the fallen heroes and support the living who have worn our nation's uniform.

Hope to see you soon!

Past National President



Jo Ann Cronin
April 7, 1953 - December 14, 2020

Jo Ann Cronin of Imperial died in Kansas City on December 14, 2020 from complications with Alzheimers. She was a loving daughter, sister, aunt and community leader. She enthusiastically and selflessly gave her time to her community on a local and national level. Her kindness and commitment to family, friends and community will certainly be missed.

Jo Ann was a lifetime member of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 283, District 13. She was elected the Missouri Department President in 1990-1991. Cronin received many National Committee appointments. In 2001 she had the honor of being the National Convention Chairman when the convention was held in St. Louis. Her big challenge was being elected National President in

2006-2007. During this tenure, she focused on creative arts, raising over \$100,000 for the National Creative Arts Festival. As the official representative of the American Legion Auxiliary, she visited local units and met dignitaries across the United States, territories, Europe and Asia. Jo Ann remained an active member of the ALA following her presidency, initiating the Strategic Planning Committee for the National ALA, and was instrumental in the establishment of the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation.

Her support for Missouri Girls State was recognized in 2015 by having a city named in her honor.

Jo Ann graduated from St. Pius X High School, completed a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Notre Dame College and a master's degree in computer science from University of Missouri-St. Louis. She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, served on the finance committee and taught RCIA. Jo Ann worked for over 30 years at the Department of Defense, serving on numerous special projects and holding several leadership positions. She is survived by her mother,

Adeline Cronin; brother, Gary (Karen); brother-in-law, Bob Hardin; several nieces, nephews and all their families. She is preceded in death by her father, Jack M. Cronin, and sister, Patti Harden, deceased since her passing.

Services for Jo Ann will occur later. Memorial donations may be made to the ALA Foundation, 3450 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268; alafoundation.org/donate/.

BRIGHT NEW WORLD

We feel so sad when those we love
Are touched by death's dark hand,
But if we would ease our sorrow
If we could understand
That death is just a gateway
That all men must pass through
And on the other side of death,
In a world that's bright and new,
Our loved ones wait to welcome us
To that land free from all tears
Where joy becomes eternal
And Time is not counted by years.
(Helen Steiner Rice)

Department of Missouri Welcomes National President Nicole Clapp



National President Nicole Clapp will visit Missouri April 27-29th

April 27th volunteers needed to pack meal boxes for Veterans. Time is TBD

Basic pantry items needed:

Canned Meat (Chicken, Tuna, Spam)	Instant Potatoes
Pasta/Noodles	Canned Fruit/Applesauce
Spaghetti Sauce	Peanut Butter
Mac & Cheese	Canned Soup/Ramen Noodles
Canned Vegetables	Breakfast Bars
Canned/Dried Beans	Instant Oatmeal
Rice	

You may bring your donations to the department office if you can not make it. No time for shopping-Home Depot Gift Cards are needed. Mail gift cards to Department office.

- April 28th 10:00AM - Tour Veterans Community Tiny Homes 8900 Troost Ave, Kansas City, MO
 - 2:00PM Tour-KCVMC
 - 3:30PM visit St Michaels Veterans Center Apartments
 - Dinner at Post 21-Happy Hour 5:30PM Cash Bar Dinner 6:30PM Cost \$15 per person
- RSVP deadline by April 17th to Dorothy Ballew at 16701 East Hwy 40, Independence, MO 64055 816-373-0221

- April 29th 10:00AM Tour and Activities at MVH-Warrensburg
 - Post 131 will host a dinner in the evening.
 - Doors open at 5:00PM Cash Bar
 - Dinner at 6:00PM Cost \$15 per person
- RSVP deadline April 20th to Belva Farnsworth at 209 Seliman St, Warrensburg, MO 64093 660-422-1147

For more information contact Rosemarie W. Hauck at 314-355-4675 Or Department Office at 573-636-9133

Subject to change

2021 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

HOUSING REQUEST

July 9-11, 2021

HOUSING/HOSPITALITY/CAUCUS ROOM & VENDOR TABLE REQUEST

Drury Plaza Hotel Cape Girardeau Conference Center
3351 Percy Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
1-800-325-0720 Group #2404261

Make reservations directly with the hotel, using a credit card for confirmation be sure to mention you are with The American Legion.

****CUTOFF DATE FOR ALL HOUSING RESERVATIONS IS JUNE 5, 2021****
(Group room rates is not guaranteed after the cutoff date)

Cost per night is \$96.00 (plus Sales and Lodging tax)

Check in time 3:00 p.m. No exceptions

HOSPITALITY ROOM

We will have one shared Hospitality Room for Candidates Only
Please call Department Adjutant for details

DISTRICT CAUCUS ROOMS

Will be assigned by Department Adjutant at Convention

Table Request for Vendors, Post and Auxiliary

All table requests will be reserved through Department Headquarters.
Please call Theresa Boss to make your request 573-761-4143
Vendor Tables are limited.
Deadline for table request: ***June 17, 2021***

MOVED?

New address _____

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

MEMBERSHIP



"Keeping Our Promise, Past*Present*Future"

Victoria Ornelas
Department 1st Vice President
Membership Co-Chairman

A belated Happy Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, and hopefully you had a happy Easter. I hope everyone is doing well and staying healthy. I am looking forward to seeing you at convention in July.

It is in the heart of all American Legion Auxiliary members to improve the lives of our service members and their families. Together we will continue finding ways to make a difference. We must remain resilient, resourceful and creative in finding ways to continue fulfilling our mission of selfless service.

We shouldn't back down or take a break because of COVID-19. Now is the time to become more focused on our mission to those we serve.

I know as American Legion Auxiliary members we will continue to find special ways to support our active and reserve military service members and their families during this pandemic.

Thank you all for your dedication to our organization and military.



Secretary's Corner

Nancy Reeves,
Department Secretary

Hello from the Department office! Spring is in the air! Debbie and I are both doing well, and we hope you are well, too. We are busy with Girls State applications arriving in full force. Some days it takes both of us to get caught up.

Membership continues to steadily arrive. I recently sent out a mass email regarding membership for Great and Great-Great Granddaughters. No applications with these terms will be accepted. New applications must be used. You can find them on the Department website under forms. dptmoala2wixsite.com/deptmoala.

Dues verification forms have been sent and are being returned. Remember, this form is due to the Department office by May 1, 2021.

The Department office is currently sponsoring a quilt raffle, and the winning ticket will be drawn at Convention in July. The flyer is featured on page 1 of the Legionette. Many renovations have been completed in the office, but we still have some items that need to be replaced, as well as the general upkeep of the office. I will create a craft item to be raffled also.

Department Convention planning is taking place. When I have more confirmed information, I will pass it on to you. The convention date is July 9-11, 2021, at the Drury Inn and Convention Center in Cape Girardeau. The hotel information is also on page 1 of this issue. At this time only a certain number of delegates will be allowed, but the number is not announced yet.

Remember, we are here to help you in any way we can.

— Nancy and Debbie



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

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Department President — Marsha Mooney, 16004 E. 31st Terrace South, Independence, MO 64055 H: 816-373-2275 C: 816-225-1836, Email: mlynmm55@aol.com

Department Secretary — Nancy Reeves, 600 Ellis Blvd., Jefferson City, MO 65101-1615, (573) 636-9133. Fax: (573) 635-3467.

Email: dptmoala@outlook.com.

Chaplain's Corner



Shanna Jelinek,
Department
Chaplain

"For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle dove is heard in our land."

Song of Solomon 2:11-12

Spring. Spring is finally here! It is the time of year that we think of new beginnings. We move from the cold, dreary days of winter into the bright, warm days of spring. Springtime brings us a hope of things to come. Days are becoming warmer and longer, and our spirits are renewed.

Please use this time to renew your commitment and passion for your work with your community, the American Legion Auxiliary and our veterans. Be a light in someone else's darkness. Look for new or different ways to engage and volunteer. You can offer help or companionship to those who are lonely or donate to your local shelter, veterans home or food pantry.

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you for the newness of spring. We are blessed by the beauty that surrounds us and what new beginnings mean. During this season, renew the passion and commitment of our Auxiliary members to help those who have given so much to our great country. Continue to watch over us and lead us with Your Mighty hands as we work to provide for our veterans and their families. In Your loving name, Amen.

I want to remind everyone that I would still love to receive any prayers, devotional thoughts or poems for President Marsha's book. I would also encourage everyone to bring your own prayer book to the Department Convention in July.

Don't forget your year-end report. Unit reports are due to district by April 15; District reports are due to me by May 1. As a reminder, awards will be given for best overall year-end district report and unit report (as forwarded by their district).

More Valuable Reading

In the February 2021 issue of the ALA magazine on pages 32-33, part one of a four-part series is about 'Membership Recruitment Made Easier.'

This article contains valuable information about recruiting members to keep our patriotic organization growing and continuing our service to veterans, military and their families. One idea states that it is easier to focus with someone you know. Please read the article, gather helpful hints, and proceed to show your enthusiasm with recruitment. It's a good idea to keep this issue for future reference.

Only as far as I can reach can I grow.

Only as far as I seek can I go.

Only as far as I look can I see.

Only as much as I dream can I be.

LOOK - SEEK - SEE - BE

Searching!!

Last year in the May/June Legionette, we were able to collect a few pictures of Junior members who were 2020 graduates. This seems like a nice gesture since they are our future senior members.

If your unit has a 2021 graduating Junior, please send her picture with her name, name of school and unit & district where she is a member. Please send information to the Legionette editor to be recognized in this issue. Thank you in advance.

News And Updates From The Department Office

Nancy Reeves, Department Secretary/Treasurer

We hope everyone is doing well and staying safe. We have a few things we wanted to let you know about, so here goes it.

The department office has had many calls this past week regarding new membership for great and great-great granddaughters.

- I contacted National for verification and was sent the attached memo.
- It states in order to be compliant with the IRS regulation, no great or great-great-granddaughter is eligible for new membership. Please read attached memo for more information.

- The new membership application that everyone should have and be using does not have great or great-great granddaughters on it. If we receive an old application in the office for membership of a great or great-great granddaughter, we have to reject it and send it back. So please use the new application that just reads granddaughter. I have attached the application to this email and it is also available on the Department website as well as National's.

National President Nicole Clapp is coming to Missouri April 27-29 in the Kansas City Area. I have attached a flyer. Please pass this flyer out to members, and let's show her a great Missouri welcome.

Department Fundraiser — Department office is currently holding a raffle for a quilt that will be drawn for at the Department Convention in July. A flyer is attached. We have done many renovations, but we still have items that need to be replaced and just general upkeep on the office.

Department Convention planning is starting to take place, and when I have more confirmed information, I will pass along to you. The dates for Convention are July 9-11 at the Drury Inn and Convention Center in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

2022 dues verification forms have been mailed. If you have not received yours, please contact the Department office. The forms are due back by May 1. The forms are available on the Department website. Also included with the dues verification form was the form to use for your 2022 unit officers.

Office staff vacations — Debbie is scheduled to be on vacation May 11-18, and I will be on vacation May 20-28.

Missouri Girls State

Macae Mickens, Director
Patty Pink, Committee Member

The American Legion Auxiliary Missouri Girls State Committee and Staff are hard at work preparing a limited, in-person session for 2021 to be held on the campus of the University of Central Missouri from June 20-26. Although we had to cancel our session in 2020, we have created protocols for how to address the health and safety of all of our ALA MGS citizens and staff, including mandatory mask-wearing, daily health assessments and the use of single-person dorm rooms to accommodate our much smaller program population. Many of our other events, locations or plans will also have slight modifications due to changes with the university or as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We want to thank all of the ALA Units who have continued to prioritize and find a way to sponsor a delegate to this year's session. We know we could not do this without your support, and we understand the hardships all of our Units and communities have faced during this past year. However, we can all attest to the value of our program and what it can do to inspire our youth to participate in our democratic society at the local, state and national level.

Among the changes that we have planned for this year's session, we will not be allowing outside visitors to the session outside of arranged speakers. This includes hosting our annual Alumni and Friends event that we have previously held on the Thursday of our ALA Girls State session. While we know there is no way to replace the experience of coming to visit our session in person, we are hoping that you may consider donating an item to ALA MGS that we feel will be necessary to conduct our session this year. You can find these items on our Amazon Wish List at amzn.to/3vTN03k. These items include thermometers for temperature checks, detergent to launder fabric masks, disinfecting wipes and hand soap (to provide to all participants). We also acknowledge that many of our Units were not able to send a delegate this year due to financial hardships and hope that those Units or any members in the Department may purchase an item from this list. By utilizing this wishlist the items will also automatically ship to our director in Warrensburg, so we will have them available for our session!

We will not hold any in person briefings this spring! All delegates and alternates will receive a letter in mid-April regarding downloading our informational packet and completing an all-online orientation process. As mentioned in the Unit sponsorship packet, completing this orientation by June 8th will be required for all participants. Therefore, we will contact your Unit Chair or President if your delegate does not meet this requirement.

We encourage all members and ALA MGS alumni to follow the week's activities via Facebook and Instagram. The social media links will be available on missourigirlsstate.org during the 2021 session.

Thank you again for your support! Feel free to send any admission questions to Ms. Linda Schaap at linda.schaap@missourigirlsstate.org or other program questions to me at director@missourigirlsstate.org.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit #208 Sponsors A "Little Library"

Jeannette Dowling, Chair

Jeannette Dowling, Unit #208, District 10, Children & Youth Chair, reports that the unit took under advisement a proposal to construct a "free" library for children as a Children & Youth project. The members wanted to encourage young children to begin reading at an early age. Our conversations were constructive and provided many ideas toward accomplishing this effort. The auxiliary began collecting books from friends, neighbors and other sources to put into this library.

We were able to enlist the help of a young man who needed a project in order to obtain his Boy Scout "Eagle Badge." He was so wonderful and took great pride in accepting our invitation to build the library. He had to design, get site approval from Valley Park City Hall, submit all his drawings to the Boy Scout board and wait for final acceptance. Approval for all of this planning took many weeks. The unit happily approved the submitted drawings.

The young scout had excellent support from his family. They built the library in the family garage over several months. They decided to paint the library "red" to match the cute "red" caboose that is parked in downtown Valley Park.

This is an excellent way to promote a sense of community and understanding to have a super project like the "Little Library." There is a website where anyone can see these libraries in various communities. Some are even used for health resources like shampoo, band-aids, socks, etc.

When COVID allows, our unit will have a dedication for the community. The plaque on the front has the unit's name under the front door and the Eagle Scout's name. Our aim is to stock gently used books for ages 3 years to grade 6. We encourage RHYME books, NURSERY RHYME books, FAIRY TALE books and books on lives of our HEROES, SCIENCE, MUSIC and ARTS. A small sign says, "Bring One, Take One."

The last line on the sign emphasizes our dearest dream, which is, "EACH ONE! TEACH ONE!"

Leglative Report

Claudia Goodin, Chair

The American Legion Auxiliary is an associate member of the Missouri Association of Veteran Organizations (MAVO). As a chairman I attended those meetings and research bills that may affect veterans and/or military. There is a serious situation concerning the funding of our Veterans Homes and Cemeteries. The homes and cemeteries fall under Missouri Veterans Commission (MVC), which receives funding from gaming boats. This funding stream has been decreasing by approximately 15% each year, not to mention the gaming boats were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The other source of funding for the MVC was to come from the Medical Marijuana revenue to the Missouri Veterans' Health and Care Fund. So far they have not received a lot of money from this fund, and there are other factions that would like to get a "piece of the pie." I am asking you to contact your state congressional members and ask them to make sure our homes and cemeteries will continue to be funded. This would include sources from general revenue to make up for the fiscal shortfalls.

MAVO — Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA 2021

- (Priority) As revenues from gaming continue to decline, it is imperative for the state to ensure veterans commission funding remains a top priority through maintenance of existing revenue sources with inclusion of general revenue to make up for fiscal shortfalls. Maintain the necessary level of funding for the operation and maintenance of State Veterans Homes, State Veterans Cemeteries, Veterans Service Officers Program, Veterans Grant Program and other needs of Missouri veterans. MVC is funded by three major sources: Dept of Veteran Affairs and Missouri Gaming Commission and the Missouri Veterans Health and Care Fund.

- Advocate to maximize allocation of funds from the MO Veterans Health and Care Fund (medical marijuana) to the Missouri Veterans Commission, and emphasize MVC funding on any future recreational marijuana legislation.

- Maintain the 9-person Missouri Veterans Commission with 1 Ex-Officio member from the MMPEC AS STATED IN Chapter 42 RsMO and maintain the governance of Missouri Veterans Commission as stated in Chapter 42 RsMO with NO MERGER WITH ANY OTHER ENTITY; MVC shall remain under the Department of Public Safety.

- Advocate for additional veterans service officers to help ensure Missouri's veterans receive the benefits they have earned and, given that the state's economy receives an influx of \$156 for every dollar spent on a veterans service officer, that Missouri enjoys the healthiest economy possible.

- Implement plans to introduce Adult Day Health Care in our state veteran homes.

- Support Veterans Treatment Courts Statewide.

- Support implementation of new VA home model in ALL HOMES of our state veterans homes to include construction of private rooms and restrooms for our veterans.

- Support the creation of a state-wide Prescription Drug Monitoring program.

- Support the concept of the "Missouri Veterans' Heritage Protection Act" to protect memorials of historic military significance in Missouri.

- Support any other legislation introduced in the legislature determined by the MAVO Legislative Committee to be in the interest of veterans.

Mount Vernon Veterans Home

Janyce Chouteau-Musgrove
VA & R Representative

Since the Christmas Gift Shop was canceled in December due to the quarantine, we are thinking about having Christmas in spring when the facility opens. Currently the family still cannot enter the facility, nor is storage room available if we send gifts now.

I will be notified when the home is reopened. At this time we will proceed with the Gift Shop activities. Currently you still may donate money to the VA & R fund and send to Department with the usual memo for Mt. Vernon VA Home. If your unit still wants to send gifts, they need to be received soon because the gifts need to be quarantined for two weeks before the veterans can receive them.



IRISH WISDOM

Take time to work,

It is the price of success,

Take time to think,

It is the source of power.

Take time to play,

It is the real secret of perpetual youth.

Take time to read,

It is the foundation of wisdom.

Take time to be friendly,

It is the road to happiness.

Take time to love and be loved,

It is a privilege of the gods.

Take time to share,

Life is too short to be selfish.

Laughter is the music of the soul.

(Unknown)

DEPARTMENT RAFFLE FUNDRAISER



Department office is raffling this beautiful quilt. All proceeds 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 _____

ENDORSEMENT DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT VICTORIA ORNELAS

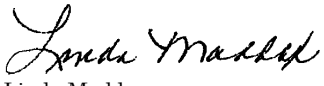
At a regular meeting of District 1, American Legion Auxiliary Department of Missouri, held on January 5, 2020, in Palmyra, MO, Victoria Ornelas was unanimously endorsed for the office of Department President for the year 2021-2022.

Victoria Ornelas gains her eligibility through her Legionnaire husband, Jess Ornelas, a veteran of the U.S. Army-Cold War/Vietnam Era.

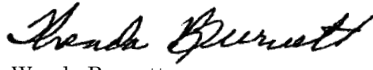
Victoria has been an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary for 15 years. On the Unit level she has held many chairmanships and offices. She is currently serving again as Unit president and is in her 7th term as unit treasurer and membership chairman. On the District level she has served as District 1 president and is now serving as the VA & R chairman. On the Department level, Victoria has served as Chaplain, 2nd vice president, currently serving as 1st vice president. She has served as the Mexico Veterans home representative for several years. Victoria attends the American Legion Conferences and Conventions and participates in all of the educational workshops.

Victoria has 2 daughters, both Auxiliary members, one son-in-law, 2 grandsons and one granddaughter, who is also an Auxiliary member.

Victoria Ornelas is an asset to her Unit, her District, the Department and the American Legion Auxiliary membership. It is with tremendous pride that the members of District 1 endorse Victoria Ornelas as a candidate for the office of President of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Missouri, for the year 2021-2022.



Linda Maddox
President



Wanda Burnett
Secretary/Treasurer

ENDORSEMENT DEPARTMENT FIRST VICE PRESIDENT LOUISE S. WELCH

At a regular meeting held September 17, 2020, American Legion Auxiliary, 10th District of Missouri, unanimously endorsed Louise S. Welch for the office of First Vice President for the Department of Missouri for the year 2021-2022.

Louise, PUFL member, has been a member for 27 years. Louise is eligible for membership in the American Legion Auxiliary through her husband, Robert L. Welch, who served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War.

Louise has served her Unit as president, secretary and chaplain. She has served as committee chairman for Americanism, Community Service, Education and Legislation. She is currently serving as Unit President.

On the 10th District level Louise has served as President for three years, Vice President, Treasurer for two years, and Secretary for four years. She has also served as Constitution and Bylaws, Education, National Security and USO Chairman. Louise is also a volunteer at the Missouri Veterans Home, St. Louis. She is currently serving as Secretary and Constitution and Bylaws Chairman.

On the Department level Louise has served as Leadership Chair for three years, Community Service for two years, Gold Star and Blue Star Mothers Chairman for one year and Chaplain. She is currently serving as Second Vice President.

Louise has been a delegate or alternate to National and Department conventions. She attends fall and spring conferences.

In view of her dedication and service to the American Legion Auxiliary at all levels and veterans in general, the members of the American Legion Auxiliary 10th District proudly present Louise S. Welch as a candidate for the office of First Vice President of The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Missouri, for 2020-2021.



Nymphia Ridley
President



Mary Jane Paulsell
Treasurer

ENDORSEMENT DEPARTMENT SECOND VICE PRESIDENT SHERIDAN MIRES

At the regular meeting of District 4, American Legion Auxiliary Department of Missouri, held on March 6, 2021, at Parnell, Missouri, Sheridan Mires was unanimously endorsed for the office of Department Second Vice-President for the year 2021-2022.

Sheridan earned her eligibility in the American Legion Auxiliary through her father, Clay Staples, a United States Marine veteran of World War II. Sheridan is also eligible through both her grandfathers and two brothers. Sheridan was raised in an active American Legion Family. Her grandmother was the Charter President of Rolla Dicks, Unit #315 and, to date Sheridan and her father are the only father/daughter duo to serve as Fourth District Commander and District President.

Sheridan joined the American Legion Auxiliary Unit #315 as a Junior Member and is a PUPL member of the Allen-Schiffen Unit #199 in Tarkio, Missouri.

As an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary on the Unit level, Sheridan has served her Unit as Treasurer since 1983 and Secretary since 2001 and chairman of Americanism, Children and Youth, Community Service, Constitution & Bylaws, County Government, Education, Girls State, National Security, Poppy, Public Relations, Scrapbook and Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation.

On the District level, Sheridan has served as Sgt.-at-Arms, Chaplain, 2nd Vice President and 1st Vice President and is currently serving her 7th term as District President. Sheridan has also served as chairman of Americanism, Americanism Essay, Membership, Education, Constitution & Bylaws, Poppy, Past Presidents Parley, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Home Service and Girls State.

On the Department level, Sheridan is currently serving her second term as Department Historian and has served as Department Membership Co-chairman for 3 years and 4 years as Northwest Division Chairman. She has served as chairman of County Government, Americanism, Junior Activities, Public Relations, Rules and Resolutions, Education, Poppy, Americanism Essay, Courtesy and Resolutions, Leadership Region 2 Coordinator and Personal Page. She developed an online electronic reporting form and other reporting forms to help improve Unit and District reporting to Department. Sheridan also served on the ALA Missouri Girls State Staff for 15 years.

At the National level, Sheridan has attended the past four National conventions as a delegate and has served as a Missouri page. Sheridan has attended three Department National Leadership Conferences in Indianapolis.

Sheridan and her husband, Richard, live on the family farm in northwest Missouri.

In view of her continued hard work, leadership ability and dedication to the American Legion Family, it is with tremendous pride that the members of District 4 endorse Sheridan Mires as a candidate for the office of American Legion Auxiliary Department of Missouri Second Vice-President for the year 2021-2022.



Joan Vanfossan
1st Vice President



Catherine Auffert
Secretary

ENDORSEMENT DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN SHANNA JELINEK

The executive board of District 15, American Legion Auxiliary Department of Missouri, voted February 10, 2021 to unanimously reaffirm the endorsement of Shanna Jelinek for the office of Department Historian for the year 2021-2022.

Shanna gained her eligibility through her late father, Robert Jelinek, a United States Navy veteran of the Vietnam conflict. Shanna is also eligible through her grandfather Charles Jelinek a United States Army veteran of World War II. She is a 44 year member, raised in the American Legion Family as a junior since birth at the Hubert H. Kiebocker Unit # 419 in Freistatt, Missouri. She is a member currently of the Ozark Unit #65 in Pierce City, Missouri.

Shanna is an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary on the Unit level. She has served as Sgt.-at-Arms, Chaplain, Secretary, and is currently serving as Treasurer. She has also served on several committees including Poppy Poster and is currently the Girls State chairman.

On the District level, Shanna has served as Chaplain, Treasurer, 1st Vice-President, and President and is currently serving as Sgt.-at-Arms. She has also served on several committees including Membership, Poppy Poster, Past Presidents Parley, and has been a Color Bearer attending many ALA Department conventions and conferences. She has currently been serving as the District Girls State Chairman for the last 9 years.

On the Department level, Shanna is currently serving as Department Chaplain, Poppy Chairman and a member of the Girls State Committee for 9 years. She has served as chairman of Americanism Essay, Education, Poppy Poster, Rules and Resolutions, and Community Service, and has been a Department Color Bearer. She has also served on the ALA Girls State Staff for 10 years.

Shanna has been a 4th grade teacher at Trinity Lutheran School in Freistatt, Missouri for 16 years.

In view of her dedication and service to the American Legion Family, it is with great pride that the members of District 15 endorse Shanna Jelinek as a candidate for the office of American Legion Auxiliary Department Historian for the year 2021-2022.



Linda Jelinek, President



Ellen Amce, Secretary

Unit – District Historian Contest and Scoring 2019-2021 Sheridan Mires, Department Historian

I. Introduction, Inclusions (10 scoring points) _____points

1. Title page
 - a. Unit name and number/District number
 - b. Year of History
 - c. Name of Historian
2. Forward or dedication
3. A Prayer
4. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
5. First verse of the "Star Spangled Banner"
6. Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary

All items in this section may be single-spaced and are to be centered on the page.
No pictures in this section.

II. Unit/District Information (10 scoring points) _____points

1. List of elected and/or appointed officers for the current year
2. Photograph of current President (5x7 or smaller- black or white). This is optional.
3. List of Chairman or Committee appointments for current year.
4. List of Department or National Officers or committee people from your Unit/District
5. List of Department awards received at last year's convention.

III. Appearance (10 scoring points) _____points

1. Please use a blue binder or blue soft cover binder preferably with an Auxiliary seal decal on the front. The regulation binder with imprinted seal sold by emblem sales is also acceptable.
2. Text: Use 12 point font, Times New Roman or Arial style font
3. Paragraphs: may be indented or in block form.
4. Spacing
 - a. The introduction section is single-spaced. The Unit/District information and the other content is double-spaced
5. Page setup
 - a. The introduction section is centered on the page.
 - b. The remaining material should have consistent margins throughout.
 - c. Page numbers are only on the narrative of your History.
 - d. Index is optional and is to be placed in the back of the book.

IV. Content (70 scoring points) _____points

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

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

NOTE: It has been suggested by National History Committee to make one History book that will include 2019-2020 and 2020-2021. Another suggestion is to divide the book into two chapters. Information that might be included as part of the Unit/District History is

1. How has the pandemic affected your Unit/District?
2. What changes has your Unit/District made in meetings or activities to enable them to hold meetings and continue working our Auxiliary programs?
3. Have your members developed any new innovative ideas or activities that other Units/Districts might adapt to fit the needs of their Units/Districts? Please explain the idea/activity and how it helped serve our veterans, their families and our communities. What was the most successful new activity sponsored by the Unit/District?
4. Include the names of the eldest member in the Unit/District and the Unit/District member who has the longest tenure. (This is National President Nicole Clapp's project and should be included.)

PASS IT ON

If you receive a smile, pass it on to keep in style.
 If you receive a word of praise, pass it on to ensure it stays.
 If you receive a pat on the back, pass it on to those who lack.
 If you receive a hug from a friend, pass it on, helping others to mend.
 If you receive a financial lift, pass it on, share your gift.
 If you receive a faith that's strong, pass it on to those who long.
 If you receive a message of hope, pass it on so others may cope.
 If you receive an abundance of love, pass it on, praising God above.
 If you receive an answer to a prayer, pass it on, your blessing to share.
 If you receive God's blessing today, pass it on without delay.

(Author Unknown)

History

Sheridan Mires, Historian

As our communities work through obstacles in order to reopen businesses, schools and churches, many of our American Legion Auxiliary Units and Districts are also faced with the challenges of trying to regroup their members so they can plan future activities. I believe it is safe to say lots of things have changed since this time last year. All of us have had to make changes in our Auxiliary activities, and these changes are an important part of our organization's history.

There will be a Senior Member History Book Contest and a Junior Member History Book Contest. The rules and scoring guide are printed in this issue of the Legionette.

This week I received a newsletter from the National History Committee requesting some information and reminding me of some past requests.

As your Department Historian, I have been asked to include in our Department History the effects of the pandemic on the department's activities. This is to include how meetings were held, how voting was handled and what adjustments were made as a result of the virus and any permanent changes that were made. To complete this part of the history I need information from the Units and Districts. I need a short report from each Unit and District that explains how meetings and voting were handled as well as what temporary and permanent changes occurred because of the virus. I have a short report form with some questions that might help you generate some answers as well as information for your history book. I will send this out to District Presidents and Historians. Unit Presidents and Historians, if you want a copy, please contact me, and I will send one to you.

President Nicole Clapp issued a challenge to all Units to submit the names of the eldest member and the longest tenured member to Department. Since this is one of President Nicole's projects, this will be included in our Department History. If your Unit submitted names to me, please double check the names you submitted and forward them to me again. If you have not sent me your names, please submit them to me as soon as possible; I think it will be interesting to find the eldest member and the longest tenured member in Missouri. This information will also be included in our Department History, and it should also be included in your Unit and District History.

American Legion Auxiliary Members are creative, resourceful and determined, especially when it comes to finding ways to serve our veterans, their families and our communities. I know that members across Missouri have come up with unique activities and creative fundraisers. All of your unique and creative activities and ideas are part of our organization's history. Think of reading the American Legion Auxiliary history in 50 years; what would you want to know about how people survived the pandemic, how ALA members continued serving veterans and how the members raised money? Please send me a summary of your unique, creative activities so they will be preserved in the history of our great organization.

You All Can Be Leaders!!!

Create Auxiliary Team Spirit!
 Know the Programs!
 Focus on Your Goals!
 Foster Enthusiasm!
 Members Will Follow Those Who Promise and Deliver a Success!
 Have Confidence!
 Delegate Responsibility!
 Retain a Positive Attitude!
 Have Great Expectations!
 Put Gratitude in Your Attitude!
 Transmit Encouragement!
 True Success is Learning What to Do with Failure!
 Leadership is Helping Members Do the Things They Want to Do!
 Share Knowledge!
 Keep it Simple!
 Success is a Joint Effort!
 Retain Your Humor!
 May You Never Forget What is Worth Remembering
 Or Remember What is Best Forgotten!
 If You Fail to Plan, You Plan to Fail!
 (National Leadership Committee 1997)

People In Our Life

People come into your life for a reason, a season or a lifetime. When you figure out which it is, you know exactly what to do.

When someone is in your life for a REASON, it is usually to meet a need you have expressed outwardly or inwardly. They have come to assist you through a difficulty, to provide you with guidance and support, to aid you physically, emotionally or spiritually. They may seem like a godsend, and they are. They are there for the reason you need them to be. Then, without any wrong doing on your part or an inconvenient time, this person will say or do something to bring the relationship to an end. Sometimes they die. Sometimes they walk away. Sometimes they act up or out and force you to take a stand. What we must realize is that our need has been met, our desire fulfilled; their work is done. The prayer you sent up had been answered, and it is now time to move on.

When people come into your life for a SEASON, it is because your turn has come to share, grow or learn. They may bring you an experience of peace or make you laugh. They may teach you something you have never done. They usually give you an unbelievable amount of joy. Believe it! It is real! But...only for a season.

LIFETIME relationships teach you lifetime lessons – those things you must build upon in order to have a solid emotional foundation. Your job is to accept the lesson, love the person/people and put what you have learned to use in all other relationships and areas of your life. It is said that love is blind, but friendship is clairvoyant.

Thank you for being a part of my life. May God hold you in the palm of His hands and Angels watch over you.

(Author Unknown)



Take a lesson here...

One day, an expert in time management was speaking to a group of business students. To drive a point home, he used an illustration those students will never forget.

As he stood in front of the group of high-powered over-achievers, he said, "Okay, time for a quiz," and he pulled out a one-gallon, wide-mouth mason jar and set it on the table in front of him. He also produced about a half dozen fist-sized rocks and carefully placed them, one at a time, into the jar.

When the jar was filled to the top and no more rocks would fit inside, he asked the group, "Is this jar full?" Everyone in the class yelled "Yes." The time management expert replied, "Really?"

He reached under the table and pulled out a bucket of gravel. He dumped some gravel in and shook the jar, causing pieces of gravel to work themselves down into the spaces between the big rocks.

He then asked the group once more, "Is this jar full?" By this time the class was on to him. "Probably not," one of them answered.

"Good!" he replied. He reached under the table again and brought out a bucket of sand. He started dumping the sand in the jar and it went into all of the spaces left between the rocks and the gravel.

Once more he asked the question, "Is this full?" "No," the class shouted. Once again he said, "Good."

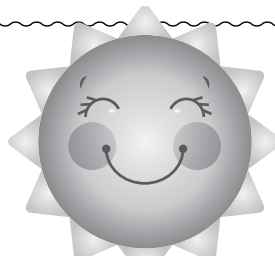
Then he grabbed a pitcher of water and began to pour it in until the jar was filled to the brim. Then he looked at the class and asked, "What is the point of this illustration?"

One eager beaver raised his hand and said, "The point is no matter how full your schedule is, if you really try hard, you can always fit some more things in it!"

"No," the speaker replied, "that's not the point. The truth in this illustration teaches us: If you don't put the big rocks in first, you'll never get them in at all. What are the big rocks in your life? Time with your loved ones, your faith, your education, your dreams, a worthy cause, teaching or mentoring others."

"Remember to put those big ROCKS in first, or you'll never get them in at all. So, tonight or in the morning, when you are reflecting on this short story, ask yourself this question: What are the big rocks in my life? Then put those in your jar first."

(Author Unknown)



SUNSHINE

When I woke up this morning
I found a ray of light
Shining through my window
To chase away the night...

I tried to wrap it up to send
The warmth and light to you...
Boxes don't hold sunshine
So this wish will have to do.

May the sun shine on your
morning
And brighten your day,
May warmth and sunshine
fill your life
And chase your cares away!

(Author Unknown)

a game. People love to compete. Try to beat past goals, other groups or old records. You'll exceed your expectations, and you or those who follow you will have fun doing it.

Only seven simple actions...can they really be so important in getting people to follow your lead? Try them. You may become a world-class leader yourself.

(Author Unknown)

DUE DATE for MAY-JUNE LEGIONETTE

The material for the May/June issue of THE MISSOURI LEGIONETTE will be due no later than May 20. PLEASE be on time. This issue will include the Department Convention program.

District Presidents, have you sent your report during the year? Chairman, if you still have more information about your program, please share it with the members by submitting an article. It is never too late to learn.

Please type double-spaced.

THANK YOU!
Virginia Schurbusch, Editor

Deceased Members

FEBRUARY – MARCH

District	Unit	Name	Location
0	1000	Nancy Streeter	Plattsburg, MO
1	360	Kathryn Thomas	Macon, MO
1	578	Betty Stark	Ewing, MO
2	7	Jean Brandt	Brunswick, MO
2	477	Doris J. Bardwell	Mercer, MO
2	477	Janice Richman	Princeton, MO
2	538	Mary A. Grafton	Laclede, MO
2	538	Betty Buswell	Chillicothe, MO
3	132	Evelyn Ezell	Albany, MO
3	169	Cynthia Thompson	Bucyrus, KS
3	236	Karen Lemoine	Lathrop, MO
3	236	Patricia A. Smith	Orrick, MO
3	237	Rilla Simmons	Richmond, MO
3	257	Dorothy Thomas	Cainsville, MO
4	190	Bette Williams	Oregon, MO
4	287	Kathryn L. Stanton	Savannah, MO
5	379	Norma Howlett	Oak Grove, MO
5	379	Sherry L. Hall	Oak Grove, MO
5	379	Diana K. Wingert	Oak Grove, MO
6	2	Barbara Jacks	Nevada, MO
6	131	Donna S. Cecilia	Warrensburg, MO
6	131	Deloris Duffer	Warrensburg, MO
6	131	Ruby L. Tabor	Warrensburg, MO
6	230	Irma A. Jeffery	El Dorado Spg., MO
7	217	Barbara M Foster	Warsaw, MO
7	217	Michelle R. McCormack	Clinton, MO
7	305	Opal Donnell	Cole Camp, MO
8	105	Nina R. Wilson	Iberia, MO
8	202	Helen R. Zwonitzer	Topeka, KS
8	202	Sherin L. White	Fulton, MO
8	544	Betty L. Stegeman	Westphalia, MO
8	624	Darlene L. Jost	Gravois Mills, MO
8	624	Joyce A. McHenry	Gravois Mills, MO
9	297	Juanita Arand	Union, MO
9	297	Dolores Stallman	Union, MO
9	297	Clarice M. Gerling	Pacific, MO
9	312	Norma Jaspering	Saint Charles, MO
9	312	Shirley Moore	Saint Charles, MO
9	312	Ruth Simcox	Saint Charles, MO
9	313	Isabel Ziegemeier	O Fallon, MO
9	323	Mary C. Beelek	Warrenton, MO
9	370	Lula M. Brower	Clarksville, MO
10	208	Joyce Prainito	Saint Charles, MO
10	208	Dorothy E. Warhol	Manchester, MO
10	556	Vera C. Davis	Chesterfield, MO
11	186	Diane B. Daley	Arnold, MO
13	133	Merle Cissell	Perryville, MO
13	133	Marilyn Taber	Perryville, MO
13	133	Ruby Kiefer	Perryville, MO
13	133	Susan M. McKinney	Perryville, MO
13	150	Mary L. Kertz	Sainte Genevieve, MO
13	150	Ardeth Loida	Bloomsdale, MO
13	253	Lois M. Gibson	Festus, MO
13	253	Darline L. Holt	Festus, MO
13	253	Kathie F. Young	Festus, MO
13	283	Patricia Hardin	Belton, MO
15	13	Maxine M. Milgrim	Joplin, MO
15	91	LaJean Morris	Monett, MO
15	289	Marilyn Dubray	Liberal, MO
15	372	Mildred Weimer	Lockwood, MO
17	676	Marjorie Roper	Gulf Shores, AL

Stress, A Common Feeling

A young lady confidently walked around the room while leading and explaining stress management to an audience with a raised glass of water. Everyone knew she was going to ask the ultimate question, 'half empty or half full?' ... She fooled them all ... "How heavy is this glass of water?" she inquired with a smile.

Answers called out ranged from 8 oz. to 20 oz.

She replied, "The absolute weight doesn't matter. It depends on how long I hold it. If I hold it for a minute, that's not a problem. If I hold it for an hour, I'll have an ache in my right arm. If I hold it for a day, you'll have to call an ambulance. In each case it's the same weight, but the longer I held it, the heavier it becomes." She continued, "And that's the way it is with stress. If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later, as the burden becomes increasingly heavy, we won't be able to carry on."

As with the glass of water, you have to put it down for a while and rest before holding it again. When we are refreshed, we can carry on with the burden. Then we can hold stress longer and better each time we practice. So as early in the evening as you can, put all your burdens down. Don't carry them through the evening and into the night...pick them up tomorrow.

Whatever burdens you are carrying now, let them down for a moment. Relax, pick them up later after you've rested. Life is short. Enjoy it and the now 'supposed' stress that you've conquered!

1. Accept the fact that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue!
2. Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.
3. Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.
4. Drive carefully...It's not only cars that can be recalled by their Maker.
5. If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.
6. If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.
7. It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
8. Never buy a car you can't push.
9. Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you won't have a leg to stand on.
10. Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.
11. Since it's the early worm that gets eaten by the bird, sleep late.
12. The second mouse gets the cheese.
13. When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
14. Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.
15. Some mistakes are too much fun to make only once.
16. We could learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty, and some are dull. Some have weird names, and all are different colors, but they all live in the same box.
17. A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.
18. Have an awesome day, and know that someone has thought about you today.
19. Save the earth... It's the only plant with chocolate!

(Author Unknown)



SEVEN ACTIONS FOR LEADERSHIP

1. Make others feel important. People won't follow when the actions you take are to make yourself feel important. When you make others feel important, they will eagerly acknowledge your lead.
2. Promote your vision. You must have a clear idea of where you want to take the group; then you must promote your vision to convince them that your goal is worthwhile.
3. Treat others as you would like to be treated. This is so basic. Would you want to follow someone who treated you poorly? Wouldn't you prefer to follow leaders who have concern for you and your feelings? So do those who would follow you.
4. Take responsibility for your
- actions and those of your group. Admit your mistakes. If you are the leader, you are responsible for what your group does or fails to do. When things go wrong, don't forget to accept this responsibility.
5. Praise in public, criticize in private. If people have earned your praise, let everyone know about it. If you have something to criticize, do it. But do it in private. Don't embarrass people unnecessarily.
6. Take time to see and be seen. You've got to get around to really know what's going on, to fix what's wrong and to capitalize on what's going right. This provides additional opportunities to talk with and motivate everyone in your group.
7. Use competition to make striving

Calendar of Activities

June 20 – 26	Missouri Girls State, Warrensburg, MO
July 9 – 11	Department Convention, Drury Plaza Hotel, Cape Girardeau, MO
Oct. 15 – 17	Fall Conference, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO
Aug. 27 – Sept. 2	National Convention, Phoenix, AZ

District Meetings

District 1	June 6; Election; Meal; 2:00 p.m.
District 3	June 13; King City Post #132; 104 Pine St, King City; 3:00 p.m.
District 7	June 13; Sedalia Post #642; 2:00 p.m.
District 10	June 10; Teleconference meeting--1-425-436-6260; code 1186595
District 13	June 6; Festus Post #253; 2:00 p.m.