

The Missouri Legionette



Official Publication for the American Legion Auxiliary of Missouri

Volume LXXX

THE MISSOURI LEGIONETTE

APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY 2023

NUMBER 6

President's Message



Department President
Louise S. Welch
Unit 444, District 10

Greeting American Legion Family. Our fiscal year is coming to an end and I am looking forward to reading all of the reports from each committee chair. I have made visits to Districts and was greeted with warm and friendly hospitality. A special thanks to District 2 for welcoming my sister, Helen Smalley, and asking her to sit with the members. Some of the visits I've made included an overnight stay which gave me a chance to realize there are veterans with Post in rural areas miles away from each other.

On February 13th I traveled to Springfield, Illinois. The next day, February 12, 2023, Department Commander Rose Noonan and I laid a Wreath at President Lincoln's Tomb in Springfield, IL.

April 10-16, 2023, The ALA Department of Missouri hosted the 2023 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival at the Hyatt Regency Hotel at the Arch in downtown St. Louis, Mo. What a beautiful eight days to share with veterans from thirty-five states. The Veteran that traveled the farthest was from Alaska. We hosted the Hospitality Room. One veteran brought her service Dog, Charley, with her to the hospitality two or three times a day. After several visits Charley knew where dog treats were kept. When Charley came in the room she would look at a volunteer because she couldn't get them we had to give them to her. The room was for the veterans to relax from a busy day from scheduled rehearsals, workshops, field trips and other activities they had. They had snacks, water, soda, coffee and a Pool Table available. The room was BIG with sofas, chairs and TVs. On Wednesday night a Taste of St. Louis Night was held in the hospital room. It included Gus Pretzels, pizza, gooey butter cake and foods that St. Louis is known for. The highlight with the veterans was Ted Drews Ice cream, what a treat for them. Some just came to fill paper lunch bags with snacks and went back to their room. I would like to thank each Unit and each individuals for donations rather checks, goods or your thoughts for making the event a huge success for our guest. The Show Me State really showed them. Thanks again for everything.

Remember my project Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF). During

these last weeks and months we've had tornadoes and other disasters. Please don't forget about our members who may need some assistance.

May 7th I traveled to Independence. On May 8th, Department Commander Rose Noonan and I laid Wreaths at the tomb of President Harry S. Truman. That afternoon a wonderful lunch held was hosted at Post 21.

I am scheduled to bring greetings at the VFW Department Convention on June 10th in Springfield, MO. Also in June I will visit Districts 6, 13 and 17 to end my visits.

ALA Missouri Girls State is June 24-July 1, 2023 at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, MO. I am excited to be a part of the program.

The ALA Department Convention is scheduled for July 13-16, 2023, at University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Springfield, Mo.

The ALA National Convention is scheduled August 25-31, 2023, Charlotte, NC.

I would like to thank all my Officers, Committee Chairs and ALA members for your support as I traveled the state of Missouri. Also, a thank you to the Legionnaires for their support and friendship. It has been my honor serving as your Department President. I am looking forward to seeing you in Springfield, MO at the Department Convention.

Remember, "THE KEY TO SUCCESS IS HONORING our VETERANS EVERY DAY".



Key to Success Is Honoring Our Veterans Every Day

Sheridan Mires, Co-Chair
Wanda Kinder, Co-Chair

Dear members, summer has arrived and with it a wave of joy as we begin the relaxing months filled with vacations and time with family. It is important to remember that even though reports were due on May 1st, the membership year is not over until the end of August. We encourage you to continue looking for new membership and fostering relationships with existing members.

The latest report from National indicated Units across Missouri have 1,200 UNPAID members.

This means over 13% of our members have not renewed for this year. This many non-renewals affects all levels of our organization. This is a domino effect financially with a reduction of income to the Unit, District, Department and National. For the Department of Missouri alone these non-renewals reduce our Department income by over \$13,000.00 this year and

presents huge problems when trying to balance a budget. Those Units that have several members who have not paid dues will be affected as well. We need all Units to review their non-renewed member lists and make phone calls or personal visits in an attempt to collect dues from these members. The article in the last Legionette listed the main reason people do not renew their membership is they have not felt the value of their membership or they have not felt like their membership was important to the Unit. Units, you work hard to find and sign up new members but you need to work just as hard to renew the members you already had by making them feel like they are an important member of your Unit. Remember there is still time to make that personal contact to renew these members.

Mindi Rue, Central Division Membership Chairman compiled the following list of suggestions for opportunities to talk about American Legion Auxiliary Membership. Look over the fun suggestions for June, July and August; pick one or two and organize a fun event for your American Legion Family. Make sure you invite those members who have not paid their dues for this year; or better yet invite them to help you plan the event which would make them feel valued and needed in your Unit.

Remember one of our "Keys to Success" is membership so let's work diligently to reach out to those unpaid members. Another "Key to Success" is Juniors, please don't lose the membership of those Junior Members that are not being paid by "Grandma" anymore. Many of these Junior Members do not even know they are members; so contacting them in person to make them feel valued is very important for the future of our organization.

Hope to see everyone in Springfield for Convention and the Membership Parade.

How we give ourselves an opportunity to start a conversation about American Legion Auxiliary membership using the calendar:

1. January - ask if you can set out applications at the local gym. New Year's resolutions get people in the gym, so why not invite them to start a new volunteer opportunity also?
2. February - stick a Dove chocolate heart in a Ziploc with an At A Glance brochure and pass them out in the parking lot of the grocery store each time you get groceries.
3. March - hand out chocolate gold coins to random people at church. When they ask what it's for, give them an American Legion Family membership brochure and tell them how lucky you feel to be part of the organization.
4. April - set up a membership table at the community Easter Egg hunt that your unit is already helping with.
5. May - hand out poppies while you wear a pin/t-shirt/have a sign that says, "Ask me how you can honor your loved one's service every day!"
6. June - be branded while posting flags for Flag Day.
7. July - cook hot dogs and hamburgers for your community fireworks. Have people available to talk our programs while they wait. (Use your elevator speech from your membership tool box)
8. August - help your juniors do a lemonade stand and everyone wear the new "Be The One" logo to spark a conversation
9. September - do a school supply drive for the teachers at your local schools and add snack size Doritos with stickers that say "Nacho Average Teacher" and attach a membership app.
10. October - do a Trunk or Treat

at the Post and hand out candy to the kids and have an information table in the parking lot.

11. November - prepare a Thanksgiving meal for the less fortunate that allows community member that are not part of our ALF a chance to serve and be a part of what we are doing.

12. December - host a "Breakfast with Santa" for the community to come in and enjoy the amenities of the post. Have games for all ages of children.

Advertise your events and make sure your community knows what the programs of the American Legion Family are about.

Department Chaplain



Lindy Picray
Unit 5, District 8

I Decided to Succeed

After waiting so long, one day like any other I decided to succeed. I decided not to wait for the opportunities but to look for them myself, I decided to see each problem as the opportunity to find a solution. I decided to see each desert as the opportunity to find an oasis, I decided to see each night as a mystery to solve, I decided to see each day as a new opportunity to be happy.

That day I discovered that my only rival were only my own weaknesses, and that in these, is the only and best way to overcome, that day I stopped fearing losing and I started to fear not to win. I discovered that it was not me Better and maybe I never was, it stopped me from caring who won or lost, now I care only to know myself better than yesterday.

I learned that the difficult thing is not to reach the top, but never stop climbing. I learned that the best triumph I can have is to have the right to call someone "Friend".

I discovered that love is more than a simple state of falling in love, "love is a philosophy of life". That day I stopped being a reflection of my few past triumphs and I began to be my own dim light of this present; I learned that it is useless to be light if you are not going to light the way of others.

That day I decided to change so many things ... that day I learned that dreams are only to become reality, since that day I no longer sleep to rest ... now I simply sleep to dream. - Walt Disney

A Prayer for Summer

Dear God, Thank you for summertime once again! Thank you for bright sunshine, beaches for swimming and warm sand to sink my toes in. Thank you for your summertime gifts of ice cream cones, watermelon, fireworks, and carnivals. Thank you for showers of rain and puddles to splash in. Remind me to think of you when the breeze is blowing, when the birds are singing, and when the sun is warm on my face. All these good things are gifts from you. Remind me to pray to you each and every summer day with joy and wonder and thanks for all your great gifts! Thank you for all your awesome and amazing summertime blessings! Amen

VA & R REPORT

The American Legion Auxiliary members across the state of Missouri have been busy providing support to service members, veter-

ans, and their families throughout this year. Thank you to the members who took the time to report your activities to your units and to the chairmen who compiled the reported information and forwarded it to their district and Department Chairman. VA facilities continue to loosen restrictions allowing for more availability for volunteers to serve. Christmas Gift Shops, Stand Downs and the Creative Arts Festival were just some of the events held throughout the year. When you volunteer at these or other events, don't forget to keep a record of your hours!

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation offers two ways that American Legion Auxiliary members can provide services to our veterans: either as VAVS volunteers in VA facilities or as Service to Veterans volunteers in your communities. If you have never volunteered, please consider volunteering sometime in the coming year. Hours for Service to Veterans can be earned by doing anything directly for a veteran outside of a VAMC like sewing, landscaping, babysitting or making quilts.

The following is a good reminder of some ways you can volunteer. It is taken from the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation: A Guide for Volunteers pamphlet:

Service to Veterans Volunteer Opportunities

After a member has completed their orientation or has made the decision to volunteer outside of a VAMC, the first step should be to identify a service member, veteran, and/or family member's needs within the community. Consider the following when trying to locate where to identify these needs:

- Start with your own post home. Some Legionnaires are now aged, infirmed, confined due to illness or inability to drive, and spend most of their time at home or in assisted living facilities.

- Utilize leaders in your community. Contact government officials, religious leaders, and social service offices to ask about different programs in the community serving veterans.

Once you have obtained contact information, reach out to the various organizations and ask them to

Continued on Page 2

Secretary's Corner

Nancy Reeves,
Department Secretary

Hello from the Department Office! Hope everyone is doing well. Vicki and I are working hard to keep the office running. I want to thank everyone for their patience while I was out on medical leave. I am back now in the office and doing well.

Dues Verification forms were due back to the office by May 1. We had several units who did not turn in a form. If we did not receive your Dues Verification form your dues renewal notice will reflect the dues amount as \$29 for Seniors and \$4.25 for Juniors. National raised their portion of dues this year by \$6 for seniors. The dues breakdown is as follows. National Seniors Dues \$18 and Department Senior dues \$11 Totaling \$29, Junior Dues remain the same. National \$2.50 Department \$1.75.

Department Convention is scheduled for July 13th -16th at the University Plaza Hotel & Convention Center in Springfield, MO. The program is included. There will also be an American Legion Family Celebration Banquet Friday, July 14th. The reception is at 6:30, dinner is at 7:00, and the program is at 7:30. You must RSVP by June 23rd to The American Legion Department of Missouri.

Please remember Vicki and I are here to help. Please give us a call or email us at Nancy-dpt-moala@outlook.com or Vicki at alamembership@outlook.com.

MOVED?

New address _____

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

Date Change

Dates for 2023 Department Conference
have been changed to
October 27th, 28th and 29th.
Capital Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO



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Email: dptmoala@outlook.com.

VA & R REPORT

Continued from Page 1

identify their needs. Once you have identified the needs in your community, brainstorm different ways to meet these needs with your unit or American Legion Family. Following is a list of ideas to get you started:

- Visit with veterans and remember them on special occasions.
 - Offer to drive veterans to doctor appointments.
 - Offer to stay with a veteran while his/her primary caregiver goes shopping or out for a break.
 - Take a veteran for a Sunday drive, picnic, or maybe to see one of his/her friends.
 - Treat veterans to tickets for sporting events or movies.
 - Transitional housing programs have many needs. Secure donations for staple items such as laundry soap, cleaning supplies, kitchen items, new undergarments, etc.
 - Donate a membership to The American Legion.
 - Arrange an outing to a Legion meeting for special events such as a Veterans Day dinner, memorial service, etc.
 - Furnish a room in transitional housing programs as a special project.
 - Help furnish new living space for a veteran graduating from a transitional housing program. This might include the veteran and his/her family. School supplies for children or meals might be extra touches.
- Service to Veterans volunteers are American Legion Auxiliary members who provide service to veterans outside a VAMC. Whether organizing a stand down, assembling care packages/tray favors/greeting cards, assisting with a veteran's burial or gravesite upkeep, sewing, cooking, or shopping for active-duty military/veterans and/or their families, member volunteers are at the heart of the Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Program structure.

Legislative

Claudia Goodin
 Chairman

I have recently returned from the Washington DC American Legion Legislative Conference. I know we all want to help our veterans. This is how we can do it. The Missouri delegation which included our 2nd Vice President Shanna Jelinek visited Capitol Hill to present The American Legion Legislative Agenda (<https://www.legion.org/legislative/agenda>). National Commander Troiola testified in front of the joint session of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs on March 1, 2023. We feel it was a productive trip. We were told by many of the legislators and their staff that it is impressive to see The American Legion Family walk the halls to let them know our agenda for our veterans and our military. Now it is time for you to act to keep our agenda in front of our legislature. If you have not signed up for the Legislative Alert now is the time! Go to <https://votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home> and sign up. Then send an email on each priority. It is very easy as the content is already set up for you. Most importantly is to act

WELCOME TO THE 101th ANNUAL CONVENTION AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2023

2:00 pm to 5:00 pm REGISTRATION

3:00 pm **Department Executive Committee Board Meeting... DISTRICT PRESIDENTS:**
 Dist. 1 Linda Maddox (Unit 360) Dist. 9 Kris Marsden (Unit 312)
 Dist. 2 Rosie Rhodes (Unit 274) Dist. 10 Marybeth Roehr (Unit 338)
 Dist. 3 Karen Bumgarner (Unit 61) Dist. 11/12 open
 Dist. 4 Joan Vanfossan (Unit 102) Dist. 13 Roselee Buatte (Unit 150)
 Dist. 5 Carolyn Bresnick (Unit 596) Dist. 14 Barbara Tyrone (Unit 114)
 Dist. 6 Cyndy Taylor (Unit 82) Dist. 15 Linda Jelinek (Unit 065)
 Dist. 7 Melissa Beal (Unit 060) Dist. 16 Darline Enloe (Unit 81)
 Dist. 8 Dorothy Goodin (Unit 05) Dist. 17 Jaretta Holt (Unit 434)

REPORTS
 Finance Committee Claudia Goodin, Chair
 Linda Maddox & Lindy Picray
 Constitution and Bylaws Marsha Mooney, Chair
 Michelle Burnett-Emmerich, Connie Pack & Cathie Goth, Kris Marsden, Members
 Legionette Nancy Reeves
 ALA Missouri Girls State Macae Mickens

FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2023

8:00 am/1:00 pm REGISTRATION and EXHIBITS
 9:00 am OPEN SESSION

Processional of Department Colors,
 District Presidents,
 Past Department Presidents,
 Department Officers

CALL TO ORDER Louise Welch, Department President
 Invocation Lindy Picray, Department Chaplain
 Pledge of Allegiance Catherine Aufferf, Americanism Chairman
 National Anthem Patty Pink
 Preamble Sheridan Mires, 1st Vice President

WELCOME Nancy Reeves, Department Secretary
 Introduction of DEC Louise Welch, Department President
 Convention Directors Janyce Musgrove, Cecilia Miller
 Tenth District President Marybeth Roehr
 Greetings Sheridan Mires, Department 1st Vice President

Introduction of National Committee Appointees
 National Committee Members
 National Security, Foundation Board & Past National Chaplain Rosemarie W. Hauck
 Central Division Poppy Chairman Cathie Goth

INTRODUCTIONS
 Sgt-at-Arms/Chairman of Pages Carolyn Bresnick
 Color Bearers Evelyn Cox, Betty McCormick, Catherine Aufferf
 Personal Pages Gayle Metzinger & Helen Hatz
 Honorary Junior President Danika Jelinek

JUNIOR AUXILIARY MEETING Barbara Tyrone

Rules and Resolutions Committee Chairman Janet Barton
 National Executive Committee woman Victoria Ornelas
 National Security Victoria Ornelas
 Historian & Cavalcade of Memories Wanda Kinder
 Chaplain Lindy Capps
 Americanism Chairman Catherine Aufferf
 Americanism Essay Christine Schepers
 County Government Joan Vanfossan
 Legislative Claudia Goodin
 Gold Star Kaye Weerts

10:00 am GREETINGS Rose Noooan, Department Commander
 Mark Clark, Department Sr. Vice Commander
 Mike Walter, SAL Commander
 Brian Sapp, Director, American Legion Riders
 Lowry Finely-Jackson, Department Adjutant

Finance Committee Report Claudia Goodin, Chairman
 Member Linda Maddox
 Member Lindy Picray

Women Veterans Melanie Walls
 Auxiliary Emergency Fund Dorothy Goodin

12:00 pm LUNCH

12:00 pm/1:15 pm Past Presidents Parley Luncheon

1:30 pm RECONVENE

CALL TO ORDER Louise Welch, Department President

Awards : (cont)
 Scrapbook Virginia "Ginny" Monti
 Children & Youth Linda Jelinek
 Legionette Editor Samantha Reeves
 Community Service Wanda Burnett
 Education Lindy Picray
 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Shanna Jelinek
 Member Evelyn Cox
 Member Darline Enloe
 Member Sharon Slagle

NVCAF Presentation

VA MEDICAL CENTERS (HOSPITALS) REPRESENTATIVES
 Jefferson Barracks Evelyn Cox
 John Cochran Evelyn Cox
 Harry S. Truman Christie Schepers
 Kansas City Helen Hatz
 John J. Pershing Betty Gilmore
 Dwight D Eisenhower Cindy Newton
 Fayetteville Ellen Arnce

VETERAN HOME REPRESENTATIVES:
 Cape Girardeau Barbara Yallaly
 Mexico Victoria Ornelas
 Mt. Vernon Janyce Musgrove
 Warrensburg Belva Farnsworth
 St. James Carolyn Sue Isgriggs
 St. Louis Rosemarie W. Hauck
 Cameron Wilma Jobson

CREDENTIALS REPORT

NOMINATION OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS FOR 2023-2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS Nancy Reeves, Department Secretary

RECESS UNTIL 9:00 AM SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2023

8:00 am/10:00 am REGISTRATION

CALL TO ORDER Louise Welch, Department President

9:00am Membership Parade & Reports

REPORTS:
 Membership Chairman Sheridan Mires
 Membership Co-Chairman Wanda Kinder
 Northeast Division Chairman Marybeth Roehr
 Northwest Division Chairman Wilma Jobson
 Southeast Division Chairman Lucille Armbruster
 Southwest Division Chairman Jaynce Musgrove

Past Presidents Parley/
 Nurses Scholarship/Women of the Year Linda Shivers

Credentials Committee

Election of 2023-2024 Department Officers

Election Rules Nancy Reeves, Department Secretary

Election of Delegates and Alternates to National Convention

REPORTS: (cont)
 Leadership Lori Millam
 Poppy Director Betty Altnether
 Poppy Chairman Tammy Cummins
 Poppy Poster Sandra Stragliati
 Public Relations Samantha Reeves

Constitution & Bylaws Co-Chairman Marsha Mooney
 Member Connie Pack
 Member Michelle Burnett-Emmerich
 Member Cathie Goth
 Member Kris Marsden

Girls State Macae Mickens
 Member Shanna Jelinek
 Member Tina Anderson
 Member Patty Pink
 Member Linda Shaap
 Member Whitney Nolan
 Member Kelsey Whitt

2023 Girls State Governor

Girls State Trust Fund Chairman Linda Shivers

VA&R Audit Report Linda Schaap
 Member Darline Enloe
 Member Barbara Sheets

Junior Activities Barbara Tyrone

Courtesy Resolutions Chairman Jackie Sutor

ANNOUNCEMENTS Nancy Reeves, Department Secretary

12:00 PM LUNCH
 12:00pm/1:15 PM Membership Luncheon
 1:30PM JOINT Session

RECESS UNTIL 9:00 AM SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2023

SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2023

9:00 am CALL TO ORDER Louise Welch, Department President
 Memorial Service Lindy Picray, Department Chaplain

Installation of 2023-2024 Junior Officers

RAFFLES

ANNOUNCEMENTS Nancy Reeves, Department Secretary

10 Minute Recess for Installation of 2022-2023 Officers

Installation

Closing Prayer Lindy Picray, Department Chaplain
 Adjourment Louise Welch, Department President

Processional of District Presidents and Department Officers

Retirement of Department Colors

POST EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE



DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY CELEBRATION BANQUET

Friday, July 14, 2023
 University Plaza Hotel & Convention Center
 333 S John Q Hammons Parkway
 Springfield, MO 65806

6:30 p.m. Dignitaries Reception
 7:00 p.m. Dinner
 7:30 p.m. Program/Entertainment

Join us in our American Legion Family Celebration Banquet marking the 2022-2023 Department Commander Rose Noonan and Department President Louise Welch year of service to The Department of Missouri American Legion Family.



Please RSVP by June 23, 2023 and remit your banquet reservation(s) of \$45.00 per person (Make Check payable to The American Legion Department of Missouri)

Send to:
 The American Legion Department of Missouri
 P. O. Box 179
 Jefferson City, Mo 65102
 If you have any questions please call: 573-893-2353

Person(s) attending:

Total Included: _____

when you receive an alert. We must follow through.
 There are many bills on the Missouri Legislative front. The Missouri Association of Veterans Association (MAVO) continues to work on a dedicated funding stream that is sufficient to run our homes, cemeteries, and our Veterans Service Officer program. It is time for action. Contact your respective legislator and ask that they pass the necessary legislation for our veterans. It is up to YOU!!

4th OF JULY
 HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

ENDORSEMENT

Department 1st Vice President, Shanna Jelinek

At a regular quarterly meeting of District 15 held December 11, 2022 in Webb City, MO, Shanna Jelinek was unanimously endorsed for the office of Department 1st Vice President for the year 2023-2024.

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 46 year member, raised in the American Legion Family as a junior since birth, at the Hubert H. Kleiboecker Unit # 419 in Freistatt, Missouri. She is 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 is currently serving as the Education and Girls State Chairman.

On the Department level, Shanna is currently serving as Department 2nd Vice President, VA & R Chairman, and a member of the Girls State Committee for 11 years. She has served as chairman of Americanism Essay, Education, Poppy Poster, Poppy, Rules and Resolutions, and Community Service, and has been a Department Color Bearer, Chaplain, and Historian. She has also served on the ALA Girls State Staff for 13 years.

Shanna has been a 4th grade teacher at Trinity Lutheran School in Freistatt, Missouri for 18 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 1st Vice President for the year 2023-2024.

Linda Jelinek
Linda Jelinek, President

Cecilia Miller
Cecilia Miller, Secretary

ENDORSEMENT

DEPARTMENT 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

WANDA KINDER

At a regular meeting of District 13, American Legion Auxiliary Department of Missouri, held on December 11, 2022 in Perryville, MO, Wanda Kinder was unanimously endorsed for the office of Department 2nd Vice President for the year 2023-2024.

Wanda is eligible for membership in the American Legion Auxiliary through her father, Donald Kinder, who served in the United States Army Air Corps.

Wanda has been a continuous and active member of the American Legion Auxiliary for 23 years. On the Unit level, she has been active as Chairman of the Girls State Committee for seven years. She served as Unit Sgt-at-Arms and has served on multiple program committees. She is currently serving as Unit President. She has completed the requirements as a VA volunteer accumulating over 500 volunteer hours.

On the District level, she is currently serving as District 1st Vice President with District Membership and District Legislative Chairmanships.

On the Department level, she is currently serving as Department Historian and Department Membership Co-Chairman. She has served as Department Chaplain and Southeast Division Membership Chairman.

Wanda has been a delegate or alternate to National and Department Conventions and regularly attends Fall conferences.

Wanda is an asset to her Unit, District 13, the Department of Missouri, and the American Legion Family. It is with pride that the members of District 13 endorse Wanda Kinder as a candidate for the office of 2nd Vice President of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Missouri for the year 2023-2024.

Roselee Buatte
Roselee Buatte
13th District President

Rita Stites
Rita Stites
13th District Secretary

AROUND THE STATE



Veteran Receives 100 Year Recognition

Linda Maddox, President of the Callao Argonne Memorial Legion Auxiliary Unit 360, traveled to honor an Auxiliary member, 100 year old Army Veteran Lauretta Yutz, on Saturday, April 1, 2023. Mrs. Yutz lives at the Mexico Veterans Home in Mexico, Mo who had a party on her birthday March 31st. Then her daughters held a party on Saturday with numerous guests. Lauretta was pleased with the shirt that one of the Unit members made for her that said "Made in 1923 - 100 Years of Perfection". She continues to sew and knit for her pleasure and occasionally works in the canteen area during meals!



LEGION AUXILIARY MEMBERS HONORED

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 305, Cole Camp, was formed on March 5, 1948 with thirty-five (35) members. The last remaining original charter member, Margaret Eckhoff, just recently passed. Today, the unit has ninety-one (91) members and continues to carry out the mission of "Service, not Self" in support of the aims and purposes of American Legion Post 305.

At the recent Legion birthday potluck supper, twenty-seven (27) Auxiliary members were awarded certificates and lapel pins in recognition of their many years of continuous dedicated service to veterans and our community. The women so honored are:

70 Years - Arlene Schlesselman; 65 years - Wilma Balke; 55 years - Glenora Reusch; 50 years - Sharon Brauer, Kathy Schumacher; 45 years - Mary Frances Bugh, Shirley Cash, Elsie Harms, Angela Robb Henderson, Shirley Robb, Jennifer Shackles, Shirley Stanford; 40 years - Amy Robb Cox, Cheryl Elsea, Carolyn Kressler-Adkins, Rosemary Walthall; 35 years - Doris Crider; 30 years - Lorraine Abraham, Kathy Bruner, Alice Miesner, Sarah Crider Remington, Reta Shellhart, Elizabeth Crider Veit; 25 years - Beth Bruner, Suzy Bruner, Judy Noland, Janice Parish.

Not all of these members were able to attend, but those that were there shared stories and memories of the many years of friendship and service in the Legion Family. These amazing women continue to support and contribute to the purposes of our local American Legion and Auxiliary Post/Unit 305. While they may no longer attend every meeting, they are always ready to answer the call to service for Legion functions.

In recognition of the American Legion's 104th birthday, the Auxiliary presented the Legion with a check to help pay for the recently upgraded electrical capabilities in the meeting hall.

NATIONAL SECURITY REPORT

The focus of the National Security Program this year has been to raise awareness of Prisoners of War and those Missing In Action (POW/MIA). We strove to increase awareness of POW/MIAs, the book America's White Table is a great resource to share with our junior members.

We had several units step up in regards to National Security. One unit held a monthly blood drive. One member even spent four hours

donating for an organ tissue drive. Another Unit took part in a county wide training for emergency preparedness. Additionally, units spent over 121 hours cutting and sorting over \$23,000 worth of coupons to support military families. They also sent out care packages to military service members overseas.

Special recognition goes to Unit 360 who had a member who graduated Basic and AIT training with the Army National Guard.

I look forward to seeing what we continue to do with National Security.

Victoria Ornelas.
NEC



The Callao American Legion Auxiliary Argonne Memorial Unit #360 recently sponsored the annual Poppy Poster contest in February at area schools. There were 48 entries from the Macon Co. R-4 & Callao C-8 Schools. The poster has 12 different requirements to be a successful entry and there are 7 classes from grades 2 thru 12 and a class for students with special needs. All first three winners in each class were given a certificate and a monetary gift.

Pictured are the Macon Co R-4 2023 winners shown L-R: 1st place in Class I, Savannah Jones; 2nd place Makenna Bell; 3rd Place Simon Yallaly; Class II 1st place Leah Valentine and 2nd place Jasmine Seng. The next picture is 3rd place winner in Class III, Grady Carmen; 2nd place Delaney Kugler and 1st place Kayla Jones; in Class IV 1st place winner Maci Easley and 2nd place Anastasia Yallaly; Not pictured is 1st place Beth Bruce in Class VI; 2nd place Trevor Koger in Class VII and 1st place Makaylee Malloy pictured with Auxiliary President Linda Maddox. All 1st place winners went on to the District for judging. All of Macon Co.R-4 posters were chosen to go to Department and were given \$5.00 each from the District.

2023 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
HOUSING REQUEST
July 13-16, 2023
"July 12 check for those who wish to play in the PPC Golf tournament"

HOUSING/HOSPITALITY/CAUCUS ROOM & VENDOR TABLE REQUEST

University Plaza Hotel
333 John Q. Hammons Parkway
Springfield, MO 65806
Phone: 417-864-7333 Group: American Legion
Online Reservations can be made by using the link on the Department website.

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 12, 2023****
(The group room rates are not guaranteed after the cutoff date)

Cost per night is \$102.00 Standard King Bed & Standard Two Queen Beds (plus Sales and Lodging tax)
King Suites - \$141.00 per night (Plus Sales And Lodging tax)

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

HOSPITALITY ROOM

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 12, 2023***

YOU ARE INVITED!
TO THE 81ST SESSION OF
American Legion Auxiliary
Missouri Girls State
JUNE 24-JULY 1
LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY
ST. CHARLES, MO

PLAN YOUR VISIT TODAY!
CALL PATTY AT 660.341.4233
OR E-MAIL PATTY.PINK@MISSOURIGIRLSSTATE.ORG

This year Missouri was honored to host the National Creative Arts Festival in St. Louis from April 10-17.
Below are photos from the event.



American Legion Auxiliary Unit 253 dropped off Valentines and goodie bags for Veterans at Festus Manor Nursing Home for Valentine's Day. Shown is Chaplin Susan Harrison and one of the residents "Sarge". Several of the Units members assisted; Rita Stites made the bags, Susan Harrison donated the material along with Jane Gibson, Marcia Green, and Tracy Zavala donated items for the bags.

The Auxiliary also answered the call from the VA Jefferson Barracks - CDCE to make homemade Valentine's Cards for National Salute to Veteran Patients Week. I've attached pictures of the ladies (Susan Harrison, Shirley Schmidt, Jane Gibson, Diane McCart, Carol Crumpton, and Candi Jasionowski) making the cards. Also, attached are the cards that were hung on the walls of Jefferson Barracks VA Hospital.



Deceased Members

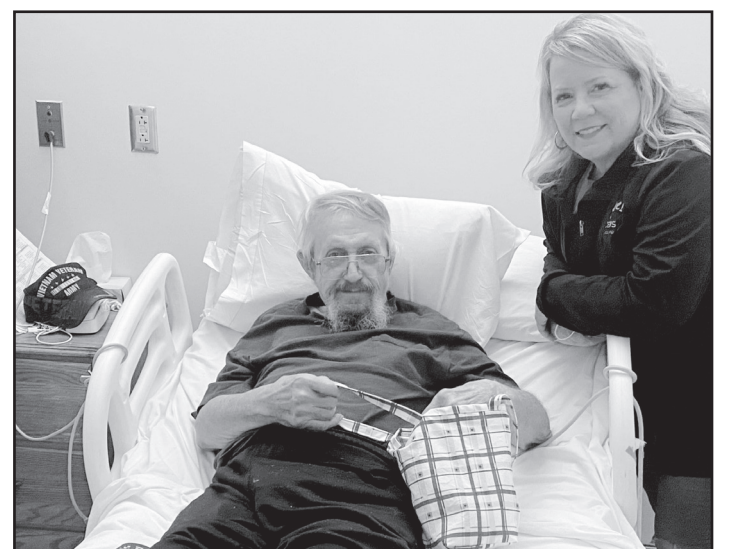
APRIL - MAY

District	Unit	Name	Location
1	20	Ruby Dunbar	Kansas City, MO
1	360	Catherine H. Dawson	Bevier, MO
1	360	Marcy Thomas	Tucson, AZ
1	578	Clara O'Brien	Quincy, IL
2	25	Harold Crowe	Chillicothe, MO
2	25	Lois J. Duckworth	Chula, MO
2	25	Maxine Seuell	Evansville, IN
2	57	Oletha T. Monroe	Brookfield, MO
4	121	Pat Davis	Omaha, NE
4	284	Carol M. Ball	Fairfax, MO
4	287	Cheryl A. Bilby	Paris, TX
4	315	Beverly Elmore	Jacksonville, FL
4	315	Alexa N. Bragg	Blue Springs, MO
4	315	Loma L. Barton	Elmo, MO
4	464	Debra F. Bliley	Conception Junction, MO
5	21	Anne L. Williams	Blue Springs, MO
5	21	Addie E. Forbes	Lees Summit, MO
5	21	Dorothy H. Whitney	Independence, MO
5	21	E. Jean Caldwell	Kansas City, MO
5	189	Maria G. Kolenda	Lees Summit, MO
6	14	Margaret Royal	Clinton, MO
6	14	Betty L. Ross	Clinton, MO
6	131	Shirley Jones	Warrensburg, MO
6	131	Patricia M. Stryker-Lord	Independence, MO
6	131	Deanna F. Boosinger	Knob Noster, MO
6	230	Faye H. Palmer	Nevada, MO
7	78	Sheila Lunsford	Marshall, MO
7	78	Glenetta Burks	Slater, MO
7	211	Elsie O. Henderson	Saint Louis, MO
7	217	Julia D. Hatch	Warsaw, MO
7	286	Helen Bozarth	Blue Springs, MO
7	491	Clarice H. Dove	Green Ridge, MO
8	202	Alva Cunningham	Missoula, MT
8	231	Nadine Smith	Jefferson City, MO
8	424	Ganelle Cunningham	Hartsburg, MO
8	424	Virginia Beck	Jefferson City, MO
8	424	Shirley Reeder	Republic, MO
8	624	Catherine P. Bell	Gravois Mills, MO
8	624	Maurine C. Palma	Sunrise Beach, MO
9	323	Zeta Ryan	Centralia, MO
9	323	Linda Neunaber	Wentzville, MO
9	347	Claudia R. Dildine	Saint Clair, MO
9	366	Marsha M. Dorrell	New Haven, MO
10	177	Cynthia A. Kurtz	Eureka, MO
10	208	Evelyn P. Holle	Saint Louis, MO
10	208	Virginia M. Stemme	Ballwin, MO
10	2513	Mae Emily	Wentzville, MO
10	338	Violet Castulik	Ballwin, MO
10	444	Ethel L. Childress	Florissant, MO
13	133	Alice L. Bachmann	Perryville, MO
13	133	Irene C. Prost	Perryville, MO
13	253	Carolyn L. Blanks	Festus, MO
14	63	Shirley A. Young	Scott City, MO
14	153	Shirley Campbell	Bloomfield, MO
14	153	Sharon L. Gholson	Poplar Bluff, MO
14	158	Rosemary Bacino	Jackson, MO
14	595	Mary P. Hunter	New Madrid, MO
15	91	Patty McCracken	Monett, MO
15	137	Kimberley A. Chaudet	Mount Vernon, MO
15	289	Reba Rouse	Pittsburg, KS
16	45	Hettie Wright	Charlotte, NC
	1000	Sharon Ferris	Marysville, WA
	1000	Judith R. Pottinger	Mission, TX

Retraction Notice

In the last issue of the Legionette Ora Lee Taylor, District 2, Unit 274 was listed in the deceased list.

We are glad to announce she is alive and well.



Essay Winners at Macon Co. R-IV

Linda Maddox, Callao American Legion Auxiliary President of Unit 360, presented the winners of the Auxiliary's spring 2023 Americanism Essay Contest. Contestants were from 7th & 8th and 11 and 12th grade classes of Macon Co. R-IV who entered with their winning essay on "What does patriotism mean to me".

Pictured left to right are: 2nd place Class V Beth Bruce, 1st place Garrett Carman; 2nd place in Class III, Anastasa Yallaly; 1st place Maci Easley with Linda Maddox. Each of the winning contestants was awarded a small monetary gift and certificate from the members of Unit 360. Maci and Grady both won at the District level, was awarded an additional monetary gift and certificate. Their essays were sent on to Department level for judging.

(Photo and article submitted by Linda Maddox)