

The Missouri Legionette



Official Publication for the American Legion Auxiliary of Missouri

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THE MISSOURI LEGIONETTE

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018

NUMBER 6

President's Message



Department President
Sharon Slagle
Unit 315, District 4

What a great weekend at Fall Conference spending time with our members from all over the "Show Me State."

I have enjoyed installing officers in Districts 4, 5, 6 and 7. This is a great group of members working hard for the American Legion Auxiliary. They are dedicated and work continually for our veterans.

Several of us traveled to Sikeston for The Cotton Carnival. It was very organized and the huge attendance was fantastic. It was my honor to crown Miss Cotton and Miss Sikeston.

We had a large attendance at Fall Conference and the ladies are certainly "Letting Our Light Shine" throughout our great "Show Me" state.

Saturday night a Chinese Auction was held to benefit "Kids Of Our Heroes Adventure Camp." There was a lively group in attendance having fun bidding. We collected \$2,200, which is a good start for my project.

The first Divisional Forum was hosted by District 1 and held at the Mark Twain Dinette in Hannibal. There were 25 members in attendance and five ladies presented the instructions. There were some new members attending, as well as long-time members. The surveys taken at the end of the meeting were very favorable.

Thanksgiving will soon be upon us. I wish all of you a good day with your families and friends. Have safe travels wherever you are going.

God bless everyone and your families. May God bless America.

MEMBERSHIP



"LET OUR LIGHT SHINE"

Marsha Mooney,
Membership Co-chairman
Sheridan Mires,
Membership Co-chairman

Greetings from the Department of Missouri Membership Team! If you did not attend Fall Conference you missed an opportunity to see the Division and District leaders use their creative talents to show us how to "LET OUR LIGHT SHINE" around Missouri. The teams were energetic and proud of the accomplishments of their respective Divisions and Districts.

The first membership challenge was for those Units reaching 65 percent of their goal by September 11, 2018. The four Units accomplishing this were: Unit 318 - Parkville, District 4; Unit 340 - Sugar Creek, District 5; Unit 520 - LaMonte, District 7; and Unit 419 - Freistatt, District 15. These Units were entered into a drawing with Unit 419 - Freistatt being the winner of the \$25. There are several more challenges that will give your Unit the opportunity to win some money.

There is a wealth of resources and suggestions on the website: alaforveterans.org in the membership section. National has two awards for those members who recruit members - one is the Recruit/Rejoin 5 and the other is the Silver Brigade Award. You can find more information on the website about these awards, along with the forms that need to be sent to Department Office to be verified and submitted to National.

The following are some of the strategies your Unit can use to increase membership:

- "Communicate" with the members by contacting them in person or by telephone.
- Use the one page new member brochure to help educate new members.
- Add Unit contact information to the applications you hand out.
- Send non-renewals a friendly reminder and include an envelope with the membership chairman's name and address on it.

REMEMBER: 1 member + 1 mentor = 2 active members

Keep searching for those renewals and look under every basket for new members all around Missouri. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Marsha or Sheridan.

Kids Of Our Heroes Adventure Camp

Article #3 2018-2019
By Ellen Arnce for Sharon Slagle

Holidays are usually happy times. Thanksgiving evokes visions of turkey, dressing, a sundry of edible delights and, of course, pumpkin and pecan pies.

Just the word, Christmas, immediately brings to mind celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus, and numerous family traditions involving the tree, decorations, food, gifts, etc.

New Year's Day heralds a new beginning, a fresh start.

When you are a child, these holidays are vacations from school when time almost stands still so you can savor the essence of each one with family. If you are a child of a fallen or wounded warrior/first responder, the dynamic is not the same.

A parent is permanently missing in the picture, whether KIA or came home and later committed suicide. Perhaps the parent is present but not the same as before and the child must deal with the effects of PTSD,

TBI, (traumatic brain injury), and other wounds the parent suffers from. This is never easy, especially during the holidays.

That's why Kids Of Our Heroes Adventure Camp is so important. It's free to kids of fallen or wounded warriors/first responders. Therapeutic counseling and daily scriptures mix with adventures and kids learn to cope and heal. When you give to the camp, you are investing in the future of precious kids, a future of good memories, especially during holidays.

Contact information:
By mail: Kids Of Our Heroes Adventure Camp, 9441 Farm Road 1195, Aurora, MO 65605.
By phone: (417)-574-6250
By email: TheCamp@KidsOfOurHeroes.org,
On the World Wide Web: www.KidsOfOurHeroes.org,
On Facebook: www.facebook.com/KOOHAC.

HISTORY REPORT

Vera Gerner-Taylor, Department Historian

History is a subject we all studied in school. Some of us enjoyed it and others did not. Do you realize that if the founding fathers and others of this great United States of America did not write down information, we would not have all the knowledge of the early days of this great nation. This is why it is so important to keep a history book of your unit each year. It doesn't need to be large, but it should list officers, committee chairmen and activities that your unit sponsored throughout the year.

I would like each unit and district

to submit a mid-year report and also a year-end report. The district presidents received a copy of the mid-year report. Please share with all the units in your district as soon as possible. The unit mid-year report needs to be sent to the District Historian before December 1st.

There will be a Unit and District history book competition at convention in July. Each district president was given a set of rules and they are printed in the Legionette. If you are submitting your book for competition you must abide by the rules. District

Presidents, bring only one Unit History Book with your District History Book to convention for judging. You can have a Unit History Book competition at one of your District meetings to choose the best one.

Cavalcade of Memories is now part of the Historian's duties. What has your unit done to preserve the memories of earlier members? Some suggestions are to have a plaque in your post home that has the names of all unit presidents since your unit was organized and the year they served. Another suggestion is to display a picture of each past unit president with their name and year they served. If a unit has a member who has served as Department President it is suggested that you have a display case with her picture, memorabilia and other mementos from her year. If you have any suggestions please let me know so I can pass it on to other units/districts.

For more history information go to the National ALA website www.ALAforveterans.org. This is very easy to navigate and full of much American Legion Auxiliary information.

You may contact me at veragerner@charter.net or calling (636) 239-4980. May each of you have a good year collecting information and writing your history.

SPECIAL NOTE!!!

National President Kathy Dugan will make her official Missouri visit May 9-12, 2019, in St. Louis. Specific details will be announced later. Save the date and join the activities to give her a "Show Me Missouri" welcome.

ATTENTION PLEASE!

The American Legion Auxiliary is currently seeking bids to record the Department Convention July 11-14, 2019. Please send all written bids to the Department office attention of Nancy Reeves, Department Secretary, 600 Ellis Blvd., Jefferson City, MO 65101.



MOVED?

New address _____

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



LUCKY

GAME NIGHT

MISSOURI GIRLS STATE

TRUST BOARD

SPRING CONFERENCE
FUND RAISER

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2019

\$10 ADMISSION AND GAME CARD
\$5 FOR SECOND CARD
15 TOTAL GAMES

50-50 DRAWING AVAILABLE

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

CHALLENGE YOUR LUCK BY ATTENDING THIS ACTIVITY

Secretary's Corner

Nancy Reeves,
Department Secretary

Hello from the Department office! Debbie and I are doing well and busy entering membership dues to the roster. It is coming fast and strong. Keep sending it as soon as it is received. Please remember to check that all needed documentation is attached to your transmittal.

Department holiday hours are as follows: Closed November 22 and 23 for Thanksgiving. Closed for Christmas and New Year's holidays December 25 to January 1. The phone messages and mail will be checked daily.

Fall Conference was a big success. It was great seeing everyone. Debbie enjoyed meeting members at the registration desk. President Sharon's Chinese Auction was so much fun. The monetary income for her project, Kids of Our Heroes Adventure Camp, was a generous sum.

Unit Guides will be mailed to unit presidents that were not taken at conference.

Debbie and I wish each of you a Happy Holiday Season.



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Fax: (573) 635-3467.

Email: dptmoala@embarqmail.com.

Chaplain's Corner



Louise Welch,
Department
Chaplain

Prayer: Keep us, O God, grateful as a nation for the blessings that are ours. As we enter into the season of giving, preserve in our hearts the appreciation of Your gifts. May we ever be mindful of Your goodness and kindness. We ask, through our efforts and sacrifices, that we show love to one another. Where there is selfishness, help us to share. We ask that you continue to shower Your many blessings upon us. This we ask in Your name.

Amen.

District Prayer Book Competition

1. Cover (25 points), creativity and originality
2. Title Page (25) points. Must include:

a. District Number; b. Department Name; c. Year; d. District Chaplain's name.

3. General appearance and presentation of prayers (50) points.

An award will be given to the Unit and District Chaplain submitting the best overall report. Report must include the Annual Chaplain Report form and a typewritten summary in narrative form. All entries will be judged. Only the winning District entry will be forwarded to the National Chaplain.

County Government

Joan Vanfossan, Chair

I have the task of promoting the County Government program in a time when few people have a favorable opinion of government. A recent Pew Research Center survey reported only 18 percent of Americans trust government. I have heard people say they were so discouraged by the news they were going to turn off TV and ignore the political process. I understand the sentiment but how does that help?

We are an organization that celebrates the men and women who serve to keep our country free. Isn't it our responsibility to be vigilant in watching the people who are making the policy that those heroes are protecting? Isn't it our responsibility to ensure future generations learn about government, patriotism and Americanism so they can continue the vigilance?

The 2018 Girls State Governor Camille Schoors in her speech at our convention last year shared a quote by Ronald Reagan, who said, "Freedom is never more than one generation from extinction."

Shali Larabee from Unit 315 was honored by National ALA as being an outstanding Junior leader. In an article in the August 2018 National Auxiliary magazine she was asked,

"Why is it important to engage our youngest members?" She responded, "With any good behavior or good influence, you have to start early in a person's life. The earlier you start, the more the youth are likely to grasp it and internalize it. It takes everybody — community members, school officials and parents — molding, teaching, guiding and modeling."

I believe that a County Government Day in your community is a good place to begin the task of encouraging our youth to learn about and gain respect for government.

Many units sponsor students to Girls State. The citizens study government on the state level and County Government Day is about government on the local level. Aren't the goals the same? Each program works to educate, to encourage patriotism, voter responsibility, to foster Americanism, and help build future leaders. Both programs establish the foundation of good citizenship.

County Government Day is a program that begins that process at a low cost and for a large number of youth in your community. Please consider organizing a County Government Day in your community.

You may contact me if you need help.

Joan Vanfossan
County Government Chair
sparrow@grm.net
816-914-1448



CHAPLAIN REPORT

Louise Welch, Department Chaplain

It is the belief of our organization that God should be at the helm and guide us in our work, in our community, with our children and our veterans. We want to preserve our freedom to worship God as we feel is right. Do not take that right from others. We thank the veterans who have kept this a strong and free nation. May we always be one nation under God. The chaplain should encourage the Unit and District to celebrate diversity among the members and their faith, perform the Four Chaplain Service, POW/MIA recognition program and drape the Charter of deceased members. She should stay in close contact with the president and other officers of the unit and district, and should attend these meetings.

Duties of the Chaplain and Suggestions for Activities

The Chaplain should do more than open and close prayers for meetings. They should have an opening and closing prayer ready all the time. These may come from the Unit Handbook or written by you. Chaplains are the spiritual leaders of their unit and district. They have been chosen to conduct all religious services. It is expected that they will so dignify their office that all fellow members will follow their example. The Chaplain should be involved in many activities such as:

- Report and send get well cards to sick members.
- Send sympathy cards to families and possibly visit the funeral home when a member passes away.
- The Chaplain should be available for a Graveside or Memorial Service (taps, music) if the family requests either one.
- Visit members and veterans in hospitals and nursing homes.
- Keep in contact with all Gold Star Mothers and remember them during holidays.
- Volunteer in community projects.
- Encourage members to send prayers and devotional thoughts and poems to be used to make a prayer book.

Mid-year unit reports to district by December 7. District report is due to me by December 14. Year-end unit reports are due to district by April 15. District reports are due to me by April 30, 2019.

Districts please send your reports to Louise S. Welch, 405 Versailles Dr., Florissant, MO 63031-2147 or email louisewelch70@yahoo.com. I am looking forward to hearing about your accomplishments and activities. Please use this form for Mid-Year and Year-End reports.

Chaplain Report Form

"American Legion Auxiliary Chaplains express by word and action, our founding principle of service to God and Country and encourage all departments to celebrate diversity among people and faiths. Auxiliary Chaplains provide spiritual and emotional guidance when needed or requested, always giving dignity and respect to the occasion."

District _____

Do you open meetings with a prayer? _____

Are the prayers from the ALA Prayer Book or your own creation? _____

How do you provide and promote emotional and spiritual support? _____

Number of messages left on funeral home websites _____

Did you perform, or in conjunction with the American Legion, the Four Chaplains ceremony? _____

Did you perform any memorial services for deceased members?
_____ Number of services _____

Did you distribute any educational materials that promote a spirit of unity and love?

Number of Charters draped _____

Did you perform POW/MIA ceremony _____ How many _____

Did you visit members and veterans in hospitals, nursing homes and send cards _____

Other _____

Comments _____

Americanism Report

Catherine Auffert, Chairman

Americanism is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship. The focus is on three things that we can do.

1. Be knowledgeable on flag history, etiquette and proper disposal methods; promote the observation of patriotic holidays so your community will look to the American Legion Auxiliary for information. Use social media to get information about the flag to those you share information with. Work with members of the schools and The American Legion to hold events such as flag folding and flag disposal ceremonies.

2. Increase participation in the Americanism Essay Contest. Christie will tell you more about the essay.

3. Participate in the promotion of The American Legion Americanism programs. This may include working with the baseball program, oratorical contest, and junior shooting sports.

You can provide programs to the local schools that do not take up much time but can get lots of information to the students. Suggestions for programs that you can incorporate into Patriot Day or Veterans Day would include: reading of the America's White Table, displaying and talking about the meaning of the POW/MIA table, history of Veterans Day and Memorial Day and the difference in the two, have a

flag folding ceremony, have a flag disposal ceremony, story of Taps, Four Chaplains program, and have the different service flags and talk about each flag and then play the song with that branch of service. You can present a program about your local American Legion Post and Unit, telling the history of the local post and history of The American Legion family. You can have school staff and students bring pictures in and have a slide show presentation of veterans they know.

I would like pictures of Americanism throughout the year. Pictures of an American flag at the top of a crane working on a bridge, veterans' programs, flag disposals, etc. The pictures can be emailed or mailed. Mid-year and end-of-year reports are

needed. Deadlines are in the District packets with my address and email.



Unit/District Historian Contest and Scoring 2018-2019

Vera Gerner-Taylor
Department Historian

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

Score _____

- Title page
 - Unit name and number/District number
 - Year of History
 - Name of Historian
- Foreword or dedication
- A Prayer
- Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
- First verse of the "Star Spangled Banner"
- Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary

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

Unit/District Information (10 Points)

Score _____

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

This section is double-spaced.

Content (70 points)

Score _____

- 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 the year reports and closing events for this year.
- The History shall be written in third person.
- Use clear, concise language with correct spelling.
- Do not include computer graphics, pen and ink drawings, illustrations, extra material, newspaper clippings or other embellishments.
- You may include pictures placed in your History section only. This is optional. You are not required to use them or penalized for not using them. They should be used only to help tell the story of your Unit/District
- Make sure that the History tells the story of your Unit/District. It is not about one person. It is about what your Unit/District has done this year.
- The signature of the Historian should be the last page of your narrative History.

Appearance (10 points)

Score _____

- Please use a blue binder or a blue soft cover binder preferably with an Auxiliary seal decal on the front. The regulation binder with imprinted seal sold by emblem sales is also acceptable.
- Spacing
 - The introduction section is single-spaced. The Unit/District information and the other content is double-spaced.
 - Please use a business font (Arial, Times New Roman, Calibri, etc.) in 12 point font.
- Page Setup
 - The introduction section is centered on the page.
 - The remaining material should have consistent margins throughout.
 - Page numbers are only on the narrative of your History.
 - Index is optional and is to be placed in the back of the book.

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT

Shanna Jelinek, Chair

Our new year has already begun. Think about what you can do to make the lives of veterans and military families better. I bet all Units are promoting Community Service without even realizing it. There are so many things we all do in our communities every day, so let's promote it and report it!

All community projects point toward improving the lives of our veterans and their families, and the most important Auxiliary Community Service projects involve making donations to and supporting shelters for homeless veterans. Members can provide assistance with blood drives, first aid and CPR training, child safety programs, support for women in shelters, and disaster and emergency preparedness programs.

You should be more visible in your community. Get involved in community service projects to bring awareness of our mission to support our veterans, service members, their families and the community. Always wear your ALA shirt or pin while volunteering so everyone knows who we are, what we do and why we matter.

What Can We Do?

- Volunteer at your local library, food pantries, homeless shelters, senior citizen centers, assisted living centers and nursing homes.
 - Help clean up your local park, plant shrubs and flowers.
 - Donate a book to your library in memory of a deceased.
 - Volunteer with your local Meals on Wheels.
 - Donate to your local police department and fire department to purchase needed equipment.
 - Work with your Post to offer space and participation for local causes and walks for special events.
 - Represent your Auxiliary Unit at special events in your community.
- Encourage the junior members of the auxiliary to be involved in community activities as well.

American Legion Auxiliary suggested days of service. Make sure your Units know these dates:

- Make a Difference Day – October 27, 2018
- Veterans Day – November 11, 2018
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day – January 21, 2019
- National Volunteer Week – April 15-19, 2019

Additional resources you can use:

- ALA Service Not Self Volunteer Toolbox
- How to partner with Organizations for Community Services
- Move to Mobilize Community Support for Those Who Serve
- How to Serve on National Day of Service

Dates to Remember:

- Mid-Year reports are due to me no later than **December 15, 2018.**
- Year-End reports are due to me no later than **April 15, 2019.**
- Awards for Most Outstanding Unit Community Service Report and the Best District Community Service Report are due to me no later than **May 15, 2019.**

As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions:

1. Did members volunteer for or organize service projects for any of the ALA suggested days of service? If so, which days were most successful for offering service projects? Did you have any challenges?

2. What types of community service activities and/or projects were done in your unit/district?

Encourage your Units to report on their activities throughout the year and apply for the Most Outstanding Unit award. Write a short narrative and include any pictures or newspaper articles.

PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY

Rosemarie W. Hauck, Chairman

What is a Past Presidents Parley? It is a group of women who have been a Unit, District, Department or National President of the American Legion Auxiliary. They have accepted the responsibility to make a difference in mentoring other members to become good leaders and share information that will help them serve the organization, as well as the veterans, active military and their families. Many of the parleys meet at least once a year for fellowship and service throughout the organization and their community.

The Department has several ar-

eas that we concentrate on. First: Unit Member of the Year. We ask Units to nominate a Unit Member of the Year who has not served the Unit above Unit President. The Unit Member chosen will be honored at the Department Convention and the National Convention if she attends. Rules and deadline dates are included in the packet that has been placed in each District Information Bag. Please, please share this information with the Units in your District.

The Second area is recognizing the military service of active duty women in all branches. Guidelines for nominating a woman serving in the military may also be found in the District packet. The woman chosen at the Department level will be forwarded to National and will be honored at the National Convention if chosen on the National level.

A third area is the Nurses Scholarship. This scholarship will assist a deserving student pursuing an education in the nursing field. Our Department will choose one young person who will receive a scholarship of \$500. Information as to how to apply is also included in the packet previously mentioned. All of this information will also be in the Legionette. Please share this information with your Units and encourage them to participate. I hope we have winners in all three categories this year.

An annual report is not required; however, I have created a Report Form to be sent to me for accuracy when I report to National. Additionally, National is requesting an annual summary and a mid-year progress report as tools to gauge the direction and effectiveness of this Department activity. Narratives and pictures for each of the three awards should be postmarked or emailed no later than 5 p.m. CDT to: Rosemarie W. Hauck, 3654 Candlewyck Green Court, Florissant, MO 63034 or hauckrw@sbcglobal.net December 15, 2018, and April 1, 2019, respectively. Report Form must be postmarked or emailed by 5 pm CDT on May 1, 2019. PLEASE REMEMBER TO ADHERE TO THE CORRECT DATES LISTED ABOVE WHEN SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS/FORMS AND PICTURES FOR NOMINEES OF THE THREE AWARDS.

During the 2018-2019 PPP year we will honor Past Department Presidents. To begin, our salute goes out to Past Department Presidents Mrs. Jack (Mary) Pisciotta and Mrs. Alfred (Rose) Franz. As an active member of the ALA, Mary Pisciotta has served as President of Terey J. Ford Unit 21 in Independence, President of the 5th District and Department President of Mo., having served in 1966-1967. Mary's membership year pin was a "Heart."

Mary, known as the best cook of spaghetti and meatballs in Missouri, could always be found at the Post home cooking or outside with her love, Jack, planting and pruning flowers. Mary served many years as the Department Parliamentarian and mentor. Mary has two sons.

As an active member of the ALA, Rose Franz has served as President of Maplewood-Richmond Heights Memorial Unit 103 in Maplewood, President of the 10th District and Department President of Mo., having served in 1976-1977. Rose's membership year pin was a rose. On the National level, Rose served as Central Division Vice President. Rose is a historian of historians, even today in her late 90s, she can guide you on the correct pathway of ALA history and parliamentary rules and regulations. Rose is now a member of Creve Coeur Memorial Unit 397. She has one son who lives in the St. Louis area. My personal thanks and love to Rose for her mentorship of me.

MADAME PRESIDENT, may I ask the Sgt-at-Arms to please escort PDP Virginia Schnurbusch to the podium?

As an active member of the ALA, Virginia Schnurbusch has served as President of Moonier Reddick Unit 133 in Perryville, President of the 13th District and is the longest standing active Past Department President of Mo., having served in 1983-1984. Her membership pin was an "Apple." She was the Central Division National Vice President in 1996-1997. She has served as city and county counselor, director of the program and a committee member for several years. A die-hard Cardinal fan, Virginia also loves to bake pies and crochet. She has four children, eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Her family consists of six siblings, two are twin sisters. She taught school for 44 years with her career beginning in a one-room school teaching all eight grades. Thirty-seven of these years were teaching Language Arts to seventh and eighth graders at St. Vincent school. These days she is busy teaching her great-granddaughter how to bake pies. She is still busy with her Red Hat group. Since her retirement 20 years ago you can find Virginia volunteering on Tuesdays at the coffee shop in the local nursing facility serving coffee and baking cookies. In the afternoon she works in the ice cream shop Virginia loves the U.S. flag and has often written articles on true Americanism. Through her dedication to the ALA, each of us benefit from her talents as editor of The Missouri Legionette.

It is my honor to present to some and introduce to others today's Past Department President honoree, Mrs. Virginia (Jerome) Schnurbusch.

Unit Member of the Year Award

The Unit Member of the Year award recognizes women serving at the unit level who exemplify the values and ideals of the Auxiliary and whose accomplishments significantly impact the program work in their units.

Criteria & Selection Process

Nominees must be an adult American Legion Auxiliary unit member not in an elected or appointed leadership role higher than unit president.

A narrative of 1,000 words or less describing the nominee's accomplishments and activities must be submitted by a unit to department Past Presidents Parley chairman Rosemarie W. Hauck.

Each department selects one Unit Member of the Year from its submitted candidates.

The selection of the winner is at the discretion of the department Past Presidents Parley chairman.

Recognition of the winners occurs at the American Legion Auxiliary's national convention.

NOTE: If the winner attends the National Convention, she is responsible for her own transportation and lodging. She will attend the National Past Presidents Luncheon at the expense of the Unit.



Past Presidents Parley Committee Award Entry Form

UNIT MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

A Unit Member of the Year from each department will be recognized annually at the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention.

Requirements:

1. Open to senior members who are not in an elected or appointed leadership role higher than unit president.
2. Each department may submit only one entry. Units must submit a narrative of 1,000 words or less describing the nominee's accomplishments and activities together with the nominee's name and address.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Nominating Unit: | |
| Dept PPP Chairman Information | |
| Name: | |
| Address: | |
| Email: | |
| Telephone Number: | |
| Nominee Information | |
| Name: | |
| Address: | |
| Email: | |
| Phone: | |
| Nominee's Unit Name and Number: | |

Form must be completed and submitted to PDP Rosemarie W. Hauck by April 1, 2019.

AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST

Christie Schepers, Chair

Essay title: "How can we address and prevent veteran homelessness in our communities?"

Units should encourage participation in the Americanism Essay Contest by increasing awareness through stronger networking in schools, youth groups such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters, FFA/FHA, JR-ROTC, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and home school associations

Instructions and cover page can

be found at: <https://alafl.org/wp-content/uploads/Americanism-Program-Action-or-by-going-through-the-ALA-website>.

District Presidents must have all winning essays to Department Chairman by March 15, 2019. You will need to set your District deadline to suit this due date in order to submit your district winners.

Contact information for the Department Chair:

Christie Schepers
1723 Green berry Rd
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Christieschepers514@gmail.com
573-821-7807

Americanism Essay Contest 2019 Cover Sheet

ALA sponsors the Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3-12, including students with special needs. Grade levels are divided into six classes. One award in each of the six classes will be presented in each division. Winners will receive \$50 and a \$50 donation in the students name will be made to the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship fund. National winners will be posted at www.ALAforVeterans.org after convention.

Essay Title: "How can we address and prevent veteran homelessness in our communities?"

| Essay Classes: | Class | Grade Level | Word Requirement |
|----------------|-------|-----------------------------|---|
| | I | 3 and 4 | 150-250 |
| | II | 5 and 6 | 250-300 |
| | III | 7 and 8 | 350-400 |
| | IV | 9 and 10 | 450-500 |
| | V | 11 and 12 | 450-500 |
| | VI | Students with special needs | Word count should correspond with student's grade level |

Essay Checklist:

- Class competing in _____
- Sponsoring ALA unit _____
- Typed or neatly written essay conforming to the word requirement for class _____
- Completed essay coversheet as first page of essay _____
- Word count of essay _____
- Due date to ALA unit _____ district _____

To Be Completed by the Student/Parent:

Student Name _____

Address (Street, City, State, Zip) _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone: _____

School Name: _____

School City/State: _____

Teacher Name and Signature _____

Auxiliary Use Only (Must be completed for entry to be considered.):

Sponsoring Unit Name/Number: _____

Signature of Unit Americanism Chairman: _____

Unit winner due to Department on: _____ Department: March 15, 2019

Signature of Department Chairman: _____

Department winner due to National Americanism Central Division Chairman by April 15, 2019

Salute to Servicewomen Award

Established in 2003 by the Past Presidents Parley Committee, this award has evolved from honoring women veterans to honoring women who are actively serving our country.

Recipients are guests at the Auxiliary's national convention where the awards are presented. Award winners who are not already Auxiliary members may be presented a one-year honorary membership in the Auxiliary department of her choice.

Award Criteria

Must be currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces (includes National Guard/Reserve.)

Must submit a narrative of 750 words or less on the topic specified in the application.

Membership in the Auxiliary is desired, but not required.



Past Presidents Parley Committee

SALUTE TO SERVICEWOMEN AWARD NOMINATION FORM

| | |
|---|--|
| Servicewoman's Name: | |
| Servicewoman's Email: | |
| Servicewoman's Phone Number: | |
| Servicewoman's Branch of Service: | |
| Servicewoman's Rank: | |
| Servicewoman's Date of Enlistment: | |
| Servicewoman's Awards and Decorations, if any: | |
| Name of Person Making this Nomination, if not the nominee: | |
| Email of Person Making this Nomination, if not the nominee: | |
| Phone Number of Person Making this Nomination, if not the nominee: | |
| Is the servicewoman able to attend National Convention? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Is the servicewoman comfortable with public speaking? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Written Narrative: 1) please attach separate document to this form. 2) or type narrative directly into the box to the right. | |
| YouTube Video: copy and paste your video link in the box to the right. | |

Return completed form to Past Presidents Parley Chairman Rosemarie W. Hauck

EDUCATION

Lori Yount, Chair

The ALA Program Action Plan for Education contains many helpful ideas to promote the Auxiliary's role in supporting education for children and adults, with an emphasis on children of veterans and service members.

A summary is provided but for more detailed suggestions, refer to the national website: www.alaforveterans.org/members/programs-action-plan / located in the members only section of the website — log on is required. The Education section begins on page 47.

If you haven't reviewed the ideas recently, please take a quick look. You may find something that your district or unit can implement simply and with minimal cost. A start would be school supplies or collecting Box Tops for Education!

1. Schedule Veterans in Community Schools Programs at local schools.

- Find veterans willing to share their experiences with school children.
- Collaborate with your local post.
- Provide transportation if needed.
- Resources include a sample agenda and potential. Talking points are available at the link above.

2. Promote ALA Scholarships and award local scholarships at department and unit level.

- Consider making a donation to ALA scholarship funds.
- Volunteer to be on a scholarship selection committee.
- Units can create their own scholarship fund — suggested scholarship criteria and information to request an application are available at the above link.

3. Support Schools, Education Week and Teacher Appreciation Week.

- School Supply Drives — Give 10 to Education program is an Auxiliary program that promotes the collection of school supplies for local schools in increments of 10.
- Save Box Tops for Education for a local school.
- Promote Teacher Appreciation Week (first full week in May).
- Promote American Education Week (week prior to Thanksgiving).

4. Assist and support veterans pursuing higher education and vocational education.

- Contact campus student veterans group at college or university to ask what kind of help they need.
- Promote the ALA Non-Traditional Student Scholarships for students returning to the classroom after some period of time.

5. Assist and support military children with educational opportunities.

- Encourage junior members to contact school counselor and volunteer to be a mentor to new military children.
- Provide school supplies/backpacks welcoming military children to school.
- Inform schools of free tutoring website for military children www.tutor.com/military
- Provide information on the ALA Children of Warriors National Presidents Scholarship.

For additional ideas and support for ALA Education activities check the Facebook group, ALA Education Program.

Mid-year and Year-end Reports are requested.

As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions:

- How was Give 10 participation recognized in the department?
- Describe how veterans in Community School programs were presented.
- If units actively support veterans associations on campus, describe their activities.

Key dates for Mid-year reports:

- December 1, 2018: Unit report due to Districts
- December 15, 2018: District reports due to Department
- January 5, 2019: Department report due to division and National Education Chair

Key dates for Year-end reports:

- April 15, 2019: Unit report due to Districts
- April 30, 2019: District reports due to Department
- May 15, 2019: Department reports due to Division and National Education Chair

Please send your **timely** Mid-year and Year-end reports to: Lori Yount, 1011 Julianna Drive, Ballwin, MO 63011 or electronically to: lyount3@gmail.com or call 314-952-5974.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- The American Legion Auxiliary awards several scholarships.
- Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship
 - Spirit of Youth Scholarship
 - Non-Traditional Student Scholarship
- Applications for these scholarships can be found at this link: www.alaforveterans.org/scholarship/

Key dates for all the above scholarship applications:

- March 1, 2019: Completed application due to local Unit President
- March 15, 2019: Unit entry due to Department Secretary for State Competition
- April 1, 2019: Department entry forwarded to Central Division Education Chairman for National competition.
- April 15, 2019: Central Division Education Chairman certifies the name of the winner and sends complete application packet to National Education Chairman.

Nursing Scholarship

Scholarship (\$500) established to assist deserving students who are pursuing an education in the nursing field. Applicant must be a resident of Missouri and shall have graduated from an accredited high school. Applicant must be a member of a veteran's family. Application must be submitted through an Auxiliary Unit to the Past President Parley Chairman by April 1, 2019.

Award Criteria

Application and four letters of recommendation from each of the following:

- Principal or Counselor
- Clergy or a High School Teacher from their school
- Citizen of their community
- Applicant letter stating "What a Nursing Career Means to Me."

Strategic Planning Committee

Laura Mosby, Patty Garrett and Anita Smith

We have provided the District Presidents with 3 sheets detailing:

- "Developing Leaders through the ALA Academy"
- "How to serve the ALA mission at Home" and
- "Ideas to support the ALA Mission"

The ALA National website and the ALA National Magazine are great resources on ideas or ways to serve the ALA mission for Units. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact either myself, Patty or Anita. Our contact information is in the Unit Guide.

Leadership

Vickie Wilson, Chair

What is leadership??? Leadership is based on inspiration, not domination; on cooperation, not intimidation.

As your Leadership chairman, I have focused on the basics of the American Legion Auxiliary. Often as a unit member we tend to forget that many members do not understand what we are about and what we do, much less know about our programs.

I have outlined 13 different facts about leadership. These are only suggestions and ideas. Share your knowledge of the ALA with new members joining and also to long time members. A prosperous unit is open to new ideas and is willing to allow these ideas into the unit. Leadership is not a position or title...it is action and example. All the information that I have gathered is put into a binder. Included in this binder is the Program Action Plan for this year. A few important ideas included are the Preamble and its meaning, the Auxiliary emblem and its meaning, and how to conduct a meeting. Yes, these are basics. Also included in the binder is the test for the Leadership workshop. You are encouraged to take the Leadership course. There are some blank pages for you to gather more information and keep for future reference. Let's teach and show what we know and be the leader who sets an example for all fellow members to follow.

As the year progresses I will share with the districts any information received from National Chairman.

Year-end reports are due to me by April 15, 2019. I urge all districts to send me a report. Please send your best unit report. I will mail a leadership report form to all districts by January 15, 2019. This allows plenty of time to complete the form. All districts and units need to submit a narrative with this form. Awards will be presented at convention for best district report and best unit report for leadership. Please remember that reporting is very important.

LEADERSHIP FACTS

- Get to know the members of your unit. Ask them about their skills and interests.
- Match the members with some of the projects that your Auxiliary unit participates in. Not all leaders have titles.
- Explain at your meetings through your chairmen on what our programs are about and what the unit does for each of these programs.
- Make Unit Guides available to all new members.
- Provide the ALA pin to new members.
- Explain to members how to conduct a meeting.
- To maintain new members, make your meetings fun and interesting. Involve new members. It can be something they can do behind the scenes if they don't want to take charge of an activity. Getting members involved helps to maintain these members, especially if they know the meaning and purpose of what they are doing and why they are doing it.
- Read and explain your constitution and bylaws at least once a year. Explaining the different parts of your constitution and bylaws makes for better understanding.
- Involve your new members along with members who have been around for awhile. You will probably be surprised how little a 5-year, 10-year or 20-year member does not know about the Auxiliary.
- Take charge and explain every aspect of the American Legion Auxiliary.
- Members will only know what they are shown or taught. Let members old and new have hands on with any or all projects.
- Use positive and experienced members to train and guide members.
- Always remember, your way is not always the best way. New ideas and inspiration can come from old or new members. You just need to listen to what these members are saying. Being a good listener is what makes you a good leader.

POPPY POSTER WINNERS 2017-2018

Kris Marsden, Chair

Congratulations to all of the participants in the Poppy Poster contest last year. I am so excited to announce the seven posters, one in each category at the Department level has three winners in the Na-

tional Central Division.

Congratulations to: Landon Flynn, District 15, Unit 65, Class IV; Baleigh Eaton, District 15, Unit 65, Class V; and Hailey Keitner, District 15, Unit 65, Class VI. The patriotism that is displayed in these posters is amazing. Patriotism in our schools and community is just one more step that shows it is still alive.

As chairman I hope the coming year is as gratifying as the last two. As intimidating as it seems at first, it really isn't. Take a blank poster, a few guidelines, one page of rules, a deadline of April 1 from units to districts May 1, and from district to me. Add a willing group "aka" juniors, school, library, etc. and diligence on my part to pull it all together. All of this because we are Missouri, and we will "SHOW ME" how it is done.



Poppy Report

Dr. Cynthia, Gray, Chair

My duties as Poppy Chair include emphasizing information from National so units will inform the public correctly.

This is a reminder of a major change in use of funds authorized in 2013-2014; funds may now be used for active military and their families under certain conditions:

"In accordance with The American Legion Poppy Program and Poppy Fund Rules...Poppy Funds may only be used for:

- The rehabilitation of veterans honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces after April 6, 1917.
- The welfare of the families of veterans of the above-named period.
- The rehabilitation of hospitalized military service personnel returning home and awaiting discharge who require treatment in service hospitals.
- The welfare of veterans, active military personnel, and the families of veterans and active military personnel of the above-named period where financial and medical need is evident."

The 2013-2014 rule changes also encouraged using non-traditional poppy items for successful fundraising. We DISTRIBUTE traditional crepe paper poppies. We SELL non-traditional poppy items.

The Poppy Program Guide was revised 7/20/18, with a new section on non-traditional poppy items and questions and answers about use of funds. A book is available from Emblem Sales (\$1.95) or downloadable (FREE) from alaforveterans.org. This is a "must-have" for all units! Useful quotes from the Guide:

- "Updated rules offer new ways to increase donations. We now have greater flexibility to use the symbolic red poppy in many ways, shapes and forms to raise money to support veterans, military, and their families. We're no longer limited to using crepe paper poppies."
- "Put ALA POPPIES in the public eye all year. The places you go on a daily or weekly basis are great prospective poppy promotion sites. Public interest in helping veterans is high, and National Headquarters receives many calls from businesses wanting to "buy" poppies. Your bank, grocery store, post office, and nail salon are great spots to offer poppy items to show your support for veterans and military."

Since mid-year reports are due soon, I suggest that units compile a poppy report of anything not submitted from last year before we forget the information, especially poppies distributed on Memorial Day. Please send it to me. (See WANT AD in this newspaper.)

St. Charles Unit 312, District 9 had a good example of a comprehensive report. 4 stated how many poppies were purchased, how much money was collected, the number of volunteers donating their time, the dates, times and places where

they were distributed. They also explained how the fund is used. The Poppy chairman made a felt poppy for each volunteer to wear. They also gave a Poppy to the fifth-grade class for their studies on World War I. They participated in the Poppy Poster Contest which were sent to the Department level. Please contact me with questions or comments. Thanks.

Missouri Girls State

Mae Mickens, Director

The 78th session of American Legion Auxiliary Missouri Girls State will be held on the campus of the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg Sunday, June 23, 2019, through Saturday June 29, 2019. As a reminder, ALA MGS committee will continue not distributing or mailing Unit Packets this year. A copy of the packet will be emailed to all District Presidents and District Girls State Chairs on November 1. All units can also access this packet on our website www.missouri-girlsstate.org. We are following the same online application process that we have utilized the previous three sessions thanks to some amazing assistance from staff members of the American Legion Boys State program. In case you aren't familiar, a female junior who wishes to attend ALA Missouri Girls State will need to enter her information by completing our online application process. Then she will print her completed application, sign it, and return it to the ALA unit or school. The deadline will once again be March 1, 2019, and the fee will remain \$300 per delegate.

The ALA MGS committee has worked over the years to continue streamlining efforts associated with planning the program and all of the informational efforts each year prior to the session. We will continue with each of our schools of instruction offered to the citizens that provides them the opportunity to receive dual credit eligibility through the University of Central Missouri. At registration we will continue to have photo identification for citizens that connects to our electronic voting system. Each year brings unforeseen adjustments with planning and carrying out our program. We always strive to provide the utmost excellence to our citizens, staff and the American Legion Auxiliary.

The crucial part for the ALA units is to allow the committee to continue to plan and conduct the informational briefings in the spring. We have worked hard with many senior staff members to provide valuable information to our delegates. We want to be certain all girls get the same information prior to arriving at ALA Missouri Girls State. To continue this unified endeavor, we ask you to provide us with locations, dates and times that will work with the delegates' schedules. District Presidents and ALA Girls State Chairman please note that no briefings may be arranged without approval of the ALA MGS committee. We appreciate your help to eliminate the confusion of misinformation or various sources of information to the large group of citizens. The earliest briefings will again be held mid-April through the first week in June.

Six ALA committee members attended the National Girls State Leadership Conference in September. In August a wrap-up meeting was held with the committee. Planning has begun for 2019 and we are very excited!

One of the Girls Nation Senators will report about her unique experience at Girls Nation.



Event Articles For Department President Sharon's Scrapbook

Connie Pack, Chair

Please send me any information from your District or Unit you might want in the scrapbook! Perhaps a special event, visit of a speaker, a photo or information about a regular meeting; your District and Unit meetings are very important. They would be a great addition to President Sharon's scrapbook. You can mail me the photos or email them.

Please include any information and date about the event. Thank you!

Contact information is:
Connie Pack
4015 Cambridge Circle
Jefferson City, MO 65109
Phone: 573-690-2141
packwm@gmail.com

Children and Youth

Linda Jelinek, Department Chairman

The Children & Youth program emphasizes protecting, caring for and supporting children and youth, particularly those of veterans and military families. ALA members fulfill our brand promise of being community leaders and responsible American citizens while caring for military families. In doing so, we are building a future membership based among our military families.

Work together to find ways to support these children and their families. Develop relationships between Legion Family members and military children, and families and children of the veterans. Contact local schools to access their need for supplies and extra clothes for the homeless children. Offer to supply items as needed. Help raise awareness for the needs of homeless children in your community by sharing unit activities on your Unit website, social media pages and newsletters.

Suicide and depression have become real problems among military children. Military children whose parents are deployed are using mental health services at a rate three and a half times greater than their civilian counterparts. "Adopt" children of the military families. There is available a publication from National Emblem Sales called "Bridging the Gap." It is a booklet on preventing and stopping bullying. The cost is 59 cents each for the purchase of 100 or more and the order number is #755.305. It would be a good source to share in your schools. Bullying is happening all too often in our schools these days.

April is Children and Youth Month. As Americans, we need to remember amid the problems we face daily with the environment, crime, unemployment and financial uncertainty, the one constant which will make or break this nation is our young people. During this time the American Legion Family emphasizes its commitment to our nation's children. Child safety is an ever increasing problem with the internet and cellphone use. Child pornography, drugs and drug abuse, alcohol abuse prevention, child, sexual abuse and neglect, and teenage suicide prevention are hot topics. Under Family Preservation, National Family Week activities help keep the families involved with each other. Day Care Safety, Foster Care and Missing Children are all programs that can be included in your Unit's work.

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

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

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

Poppy Director

Betty Altnether, Chair

I am looking forward to another exciting year. Orders are arriving slower than last year. You are assured that we have plenty of poppies on hand to fill your orders. Please send your orders soon so we can all work together supporting our veterans. Order forms can be obtained from Department, online or I can send you a copy. Again, I ask that you please print your name, address, and city where to send the poppies. Please send your orders early so that there is ample time to fill orders. Thank you for the wonderful work and support you do for the veterans.

National Security

Carolyn Sanford, Chair

The National Security program has many elements. Not one of them is more important than any other. National Security is the safe keeping of the nation. The highest order of business is the protection of the nation and its people from attack and other external dangers by maintaining armed forces and guarding state secrets.

How can we ensure national security in the department, unit or by individuals? Every level is important and will help the program grow in its importance and severity. Measures taken to ensure national include:

- Our military, strengthening and supporting the service personnel and their families. Help them emotionally and socially for active duty, reserves and the service members who are transitioning back into society.

- Assist military spouses in obtaining employment or serve as a mentor. Promote job fairs at a place where there is a need. Write an editorial about how military spouses can make good employees.

- Support the American Legion programs such as Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) course. Make plans to prepare or help make Emergency Preparedness Kits. Sponsor blood drives in your communities.

- Clipping coupons that can be used on military bases. Search the web for exact addresses for more information, www.Supportourtroops.org and www.couponsfortroops.org.

- Tragedy Assistance Program (TAPS) is in fulfillment of our mission to "honor the sacrifice of those who serve." The American Legion Auxiliary offers concern for and support to families of deceased service members. It means do what you can when you can for the family. Unit members stress the elements your members can handle. Select one or two and do it to the fullest you are capable.

We are in this together, remembering "Service not Self" as we complete each task. More information is available in the Program Action Plan. "At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person."

(Albert Schweitzer)

Carolyn Sanford, Chair
carolyns217@gmail.com
660-723-0411

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Cathie Goth, Chair

Among the VA & R committee members is 2nd Vice President Victoria Ornelas, who will be overseeing the service to veterans component of VA & R. Victoria also serves at the MV Home as representative at Mexico. Evelyn Cox is serving as the committee's Creative Arts Festival liaison in addition to serving as VAMC facility representative at Jefferson Barracks and John Cochran. Wilma Jobson, committee member, is the MV Representative at Cameron. Patty Kellet, committee member, serves in any and all capacities as needed.

As a committee we have adopted the slogan of *I CARE*, defining traits of a volunteer.

I-Integrity
C-Commitment
A-Advocacy
R-Respect
E-Excellence

The Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation program promotes our mission to enhance the lives of U.S. veterans,

Resolution Writing Template

What is a Resolution

Resolutions are a formal way of stating intended action by a group of people. A resolution is an original motion, which because of its importance, length, or complexity is submitted in writing. It is then brought forward on the floor of a local unit general membership meeting, state convention, or national convention for wider adoption.

Writing a Resolution

Resolutions are your opportunity to address problems, situations, or concerns which affect children and youth and which require local action for solutions. Resolutions are an important part of advocacy efforts as well as program development.

- Identify your issue – keep it simple
- Ensure the issue has not been addressed at the local, state or national level
- Research your issue
- Whereas should support the resolved statements
- Make sure the research clearly supports the statements and statistics used to support the resolve.
- Relates to Unit, District or Department's areas of concern and is in harmony with the Objects and basic policies, but does not cite these Objects or policies in the whereas clauses
- Background references are factual and verifiable, published no more than six years ago.

Beginning your Resolution

SUBJECT:
SUBMITTED BY:
DATE:
AUTHOR:

WHEREAS (The whereas is the first half of the resolution. It explains WHY the action in the resolved clauses should be taken. It states past action, reasons for the action and your reasons for concern.

The first word, of the whereas clause sets the "tone" for the statement, the stronger the conviction about an issue, the stronger the first word.

Each clause in the whereas should be followed by a comma (,) and the word "and." The last clause in this section of the resolution should be followed by a colon (:)

Keep to 1 1/2 pages maximum

Footnotes: Keep it simple.)

, therefore be it

RESOLVED, (The resolved clauses of a resolution tell the reader what ACTION which should be taken to solve the problem set up in the whereas. The resolved clauses should be the strongest part of your resolution. The first word of the resolved clause should be a verb, and should show what will follow in the clause. Each operative clause should end with a semi-colon (;). The last resolved clause should be followed by a period (.)

GUIDELINE FOR WRITING UNIT STANDING RULES

Standing Rules are rules and regulations, which are related to the details of the administration of a society for the guidance of an assembly, which have been adopted, the same as ordinary resolutions, by a majority vote without previous notice.

The following is an outline or guide for units (and districts) when writing or updating their Standing Rules. Not every item will apply to every unit, and some things that concern your unit may not be listed, but we hope this guideline will be helpful.

The (UNIT NAME AND NUMBER) of the _____ District, American Legion Auxiliary, hereby adopts the Unit Constitution & Bylaws as prescribed by the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of _____.

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 10th Edition, in all questions not governed by articles of the National, Department and Unit Constitution & Bylaws, shall govern this unit.

1. State time (day and hour) of meeting, place of meeting and information on notification of meeting. Are you meeting all 12 months?
2. Dues – Senior, Junior, Gold Star Mothers, Life Members.
3. Process for selecting Life Members.
4. Election –
 - a. When will election be held?
 - b. Secretary and/or Treasurer – elected or appointed?
 - c. A nominating committee – yes or no? Elected per Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 10th Edition.
5. Election of delegates for department convention, fall conference, district meetings. When and how selected?
6. Installation of officers. When, where, who is in charge.
7. Equipment – Rules for loaning, maintenance, etc.
8. Finances –
 - a. Rent
 - b. Utilities
 - c. Working funds for officers, chairmen, Poppy purchases, Girls State, VA&R, etc.
 - d. Annual gifts for district president's visit, retiring officers, etc.
 - e. Flowers and/or gifts for illness, death, etc.
 - f. Expenses for delegates to department convention, fall conference, district meetings, etc. (Registration fee, mileage, per diem, etc.)
 - g. How bills are paid and who signs the checks.
 - h. Contest prizes – how much for poppy, essay contests, etc.
 - i. Department and district mandatory funds.
 - j. Arrangements for special dinners – funerals, etc.
 - k. Annual donations to special programs or charities
9. The fiscal year of this unit/district will be _____.
10. Audit – when and by whom.
11. This paragraph should appear at the end of your Standing Rules: "These Standing Rules may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any regularly scheduled meeting, or if notice has been given, by a majority vote." Standing Rules are usually adopted from time to time, as they are needed, in the form of resolutions.
12. The date of the unit meeting at which these Standing Rules were approved MUST be shown. ALSO – The signature of the unit Constitution & Bylaws chairman and unit president or unit secretary MUST appear on the bottom of the list.

Date Approved: _____

Unit President or Unit Secretary

Unit Constitution & Bylaws Chairman

For assistance this year with writing resolutions/ material for your unit or District:

Patty Garrett
Rules and Resolutions Chair
ALA Department of Missouri, 2018-2019
3909 W. Sexton St.
Battlefield, MO 65619

garrmt@hotmail.com 417-343-8712

erans, military and their families. A copy of the VA & R Program Action Plan has been provided for each District President. Please share this information with your units. Remember, as a unit member working this program, to report money raised and spent, and hours worked on the impact numbers report in addition to submitting your narrative stories to this committee.

A schedule of Christmas Gift Shops has been attached to the Fall Conference Agenda and on the front page of the September/October Legionette. Please contact the MV Home or VAMC facility for times if needed. If you have never volunteered at a Christmas Gift Shop,

please consider doing this. The return you receive from a day spent with veterans is immeasurable. As committee members we have committed to attending these Gift Shops.

Unit mid-year reports are due to District Presidents/District Chairman December 1st. District Presidents/District Chairmen reports are due to this committee by December 15.

Please submit mid-year reports to: **ALA department of Missouri, Attn: VA & R Committee, 600 Ellis Blvd, Jefferson City, MO 65101**

There is one word that describes the important volunteers that is **AWESOME!**



POPPY POSTER CONTEST

Kris Marsden, Chair

Each unit and district will judge and submit the winners for each classification at their expense and decide the monetary amount and media attention. All submitted artwork will be judged and presented a citation for winners per classification. These will move on to National. A \$25 class winner will be awarded from Department. You may view last year's winners at www.alaforveterans.org/Programs/Poppy-Poster-Winners/

The department will establish the procedure for judging. Units, please have posters to Districts by April 1, 2019. Districts, please have posters to me by May 1, 2019. A citation will be given for the most outstanding poster in each classification.

ALA representatives will do their best to return all posters; however, it is not guaranteed. We recommend participants take a picture or scan the poster for their record.

Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Contact information: Kris Marsden, 4109 Faredale Ln, St. Charles, MO 63304, (636)447-2394

Poppy Poster Contest Guidelines

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

- Class I: Grades 2 and 3
- Class II: Grades 4 and 5
- Class III: Grades 6 and 7
- Class IV: Grades 8 and 9
- Class V: Grades 10 and 11
- Class VI: Grade 12
- Class VII: Students with special needs
 - i. Those in special education classes
 - ii. A student recommended for special education classes but who has not been admitted due to a waiting list or various other factors.

iii. A child identified as having a disability, but not in a special education class due to lack of facilities. Identification contingent upon discretion of school officials.

Poppy Poster Requirements

1. Each poster shall have a fitting slogan not to exceed 10 words. Articles - "a", "and", "an" are not to be counted as words. The words "buddy" and "buy" cannot be used.

2. The words "American Legion Auxiliary" must be used in the design of the poster and will not be counted in the 10-word count.

3. Each poster must include a picture of the red Flanders Field poppy.

4. Department will determine the closing date for the unit contest. The poster shall be on 11 x 14 poster board. Drawing paper will not be accepted.

5. The United States flag may be used as long as there is no infractions of the flag code.

6. Posters will be judged using the following criteria: 50 percent – poster appeal (layout, message, originality); 40 percent – artistic ability (design and color); 10 percent – neatness

7. Media used shall be watercolors, crayons, powder or oil paint, handmade paper cutouts, ink or textures, acrylics, pencils and markers.

8. Written in ink on the back of the poster (not attached) shall be the class in which the entry is submitted, the name, address, age and grade of the contestant and the name of the department (Department of Missouri.)

9. Submissions become property of the American Legion Auxiliary. Through submission of artwork, contestants and their legal guardians grant non-exclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted and agree to have their names and artwork published for commercial use without additional compensation or permission.

10. The poster shall be the work of only one person.

11. The label "In Memoriam" from the veteran-made poppy may not be used.

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

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Suzanne Rasmussen, Chairman

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund is a way of providing temporary financial assistance to eligible members when times of financial crisis or weather-related emergencies and natural disasters have taken a toll on homes and livelihoods. Members must have paid their membership dues for the immediate past two consecutive years. Their current dues must be paid at the time of the emergency. Those members are eligible to apply for assistance.

The maximum grant amount is \$2,400, disbursed from the Auxiliary Emergency Fund Grant Committee.

Types of temporary assistance available include assistance during a time of financial crisis when no other source of aid is readily available to pay for shelter, food and utilities; for food and shelter due to weather-related emergencies and natural disasters; and for educational training for members who have a lack of skills necessary for employment or to upgrade competitive workforce skills.

You may want to have printed applications and AEF brochures available for unit meetings and at the post. A donation container can be placed at the post home. You can order a free downloadable can label from www.ALAforveterans.org. If you would like to make a personal donation to AEF, a \$50 donation or larger will earn you a pin requested by Department from National Headquarters.

There is a Citation Plaque Recognition for one unit and one department contributing the largest donations to AEF by June 1, 2019.

There are several fun ways to raise money. One suggestion is a Water Bottle Coin Collection asking each member to fill a 20-ounce bottle with coins by a designated date. A 20-ounce bottle filled with dimes adds to almost \$100.

Mid-year reports reflect the program work of each unit in the Department. Submit your narrative report to me by December 5, 2018. End of the year reports reflect all the program work and this narrative is due to me by April 15, 2019.

Applications for assistance can be found at www.ALAforVeterans.org. More detailed information about the program can also be found at this website. Expedient applications can be submitted online.

Please support this marvelous fund whenever you can. It is certainly needed by many of our fellow members and their families.

GOLD STAR MOTHERS

Ponya King, Chair

Gold Star Mothers is a group of special mothers who lost sons or daughters in the military. A small banner with a blue star was displayed for each family member serving in the military. When that family member was lost while serving in the military, the star changed to gold. The gold star hung in the window honoring the deceased veteran.

Gold Star Mothers began during World War I and World War II, then after the Korean Conflict. On June 4, 1928, 25 mothers met in Washington, D.C., to establish the National Organization American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

Gold Star Mothers Day is the last Sunday in September. Since 2009 Gold Star Mothers and Family Day show support for everyone impacted by the loss.

The first Gold Star Memorial in Missouri was dedicated April 19, 2017, at the College of Ozarks in Patriots Park. It reminds us that FREEDOM IS NOT FREE.

The best Gold Star Mothers report will receive an award.

Constitution & Bylaws

Lori Millam & Roberta Pointer,
Co-chairs

Michele Emmerich, Cathie Goth
& Connie Pack, Members

The American Legion Auxiliary is an organization of women dedicated to service "For God and Country." As members, we are governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of our Units, Departments and National Organization. These contain the basic rules and laws which assist our business in an orderly manner and one cannot be in conflict with the other.

Anyone unfamiliar with the ALA could quickly learn of the organization's goals, its composition and its operation by examining the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules.

- The **Constitution** contains a description of the organization: its name, nature, purpose and structure.

- The **Bylaws** comprise the operational procedures of the American Legion Auxiliary.

- The **Standing Rules** list specific rules governing its operation, for conducting responsibilities of committees and chairmen.

The Constitution and Bylaws program informs and educates members of the American Legion Auxiliary on the importance and power of properly written, reviewed and updated documents, policies and procedures at all levels. Preparing and adhering to updated Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules will ensure a more successful organizational process and provide the structures to follow at all levels of our organization. Constitution and Bylaws can be a dry subject if you permit it to be, but by expending a little effort, it can be made very interesting.

Units are advised to review their Constitution and Bylaws, as well as those of their District, the Department and National organization to ensure conformity and increase familiarity.

All members are urged to memorize the Preamble to the Constitution that expresses in beautiful language the basic reasons for our existence as the largest patriotic organization of women in the world. At each Unit meeting, every District

meeting, Fall Conference and Department Convention the Preamble of the American Legion Auxiliary Constitution is recited in unison. What is important about the Preamble is that we understand what and why we are saying or reading it.

A year-end report is due to us by May 1, 2019. We would like to have all districts send us your Best Unit narrative and a narrative from the District Chairman. Awards will be presented. More information was given to each District President. The cover page provides the contact information and specific details about awards.

Remember that if your Unit or District has any questions about your Constitution and Bylaws, please contact us and we would be happy to help. If you would like us to review your Constitution and Bylaws, please mail them to Roberta and myself. Please note also that any updated documents should be sent to the Department office.

VA & R Program

Victoria Ornelas, Co-Chair

Thank you to all who are always so busy during the year helping the veterans, active duty military and their families. In addition to the Christmas Gift Shops some of our units visit veterans in local nursing homes and rehabilitation centers donating small gifts and personal items. Many times these visits include other members of the Legion family. The Creative Arts Festival and local events are supported by the units and many donate to the Quilt of Valor. Homeless veterans are also helped. Local food pantries can always use donations.

We have 14 facilities. Seven Missouri Veterans Homes along with seven Veterans Medical Centers. This includes the VA Medical Center in Fayetteville, Ark., and VA Medical Center in Leavenworth, Kansas.

It will soon be time for the Christmas Gift Shops. The veterans pay nothing for the gifts they choose for family members back home. Members donate many of the gifts.

You continue effortlessly and tirelessly answer the call of service to veterans by assisting when

and where you are needed. Unit members not only provide monetary support but also physical support and the much needed personal contact.

Thank you again for all the donations and volunteering. Remember to keep track of all you do because reporting your numbers to the District and Department is VERY IMPORTANT.

Creative Arts Program

Evelyn Cox, VA & R Committee

I have been working for the last five years with this program at Jefferson Barracks. We have provided a luncheon for the veterans, friends and family when the veteran participants receive awards. They produce a Talent Show in February and votes are cast to determine who will participate at the next level.

This is at the facilities where the veterans have special needs and are able to participate. There is also a program at Fayetteville Medical Center but I have no specific information. This program is also at the Harry S. Truman Memorial Hospital.

Some of the needs at Jefferson Barracks are: volunteers to help get organized for the different events; someone to operate a video camera to send tapes for the next level of competition; art supplies; mat boards of different sizes, paints, brushes, cutting blades for their mat cutter and easels; and a variety of craft materials. Craft kits are also nice.

Needs to mail items of winners to the next level of competition are rolls of masking tape, bubble wrap for packing items and boxes.

Approximately \$550 is spent for medals for the numerous winning veterans. A spotlight is rented for the live show for \$112.

These are some of the needs to help make the program work for the veterans. Please check with your facilities to find out if they need anything. Let me know and perhaps we can help. If you have any questions please contact me: Evelyn E. Cox, (314) 805-0014, eve4acure@icloud.com

There are no words big enough, there is not a hug strong enough and there is not a smile wide enough to express my gratitude. All I can do is say THANK YOU to all of you for your hard work, dedication and donations to our veterans.

Legislative Report

Margie Koch, Chairman

National President Kathy Dugan has chosen to focus this year on homeless veterans with an additional focus on women who have served in the armed forces and are currently serving.

We look forward to an exciting year working with the Legislative program. Our role is to promote and support the American Legion legislative agenda. When we write, email, or visit lawmakers as ALA members, we must adhere to that agenda and not other issues. Regardless of our own passions, we are obligated to know what that agenda entails.

Familiarize yourselves with the American Legion legislative priorities. Each district has received a packet of information that I received from the Central Division National Chairman. She invites all to join her Facebook page and subscribe to the American Legion Legislative E-newsletter. The Facebook page can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALALegislative>. E-newsletter can be found at www.legion.org/legislative. Please pass this information to your members.

Mid-year reports are due to me by December 15. Year-end reports are due to me by April 20, 2019. These are narrative reports that should reflect each unit's program participation, such as how did you educate your members about the legislative issues; what legislative activities did members attend or host; how did members develop relationships with elected officials?

This information can be found in the Legislative Plan of Action and supplement to the Program Action Plan 2018-2019. Please share with me what you are doing to promote the Legislative plan in your districts.

Women Veterans

Barbara Ebersole, Chair

National President Kathy Dugan's focus is the veteran homelessness, particularly women veterans. "What can the American Legion Auxiliary's education program do to concentrate in those efforts?"

What is homelessness? It is not having a home or not having a permanent home or address. Some are going from someone else's home to another. I call it couch hopping or living in a tent city or out in the open areas.

In a 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) estimated over 40,000 veterans were homeless on a single night in January of that year. Of those, about 9 percent were women. From 2016 to 2017 the number of homeless female veterans increased by 7 percent, compared with 1 percent for their male counterparts. According to VA's National Center for PTSD data from VA's military sexual trauma screening program show that about 1 in 4 women and 1 in 100 men respond "yes" that they experienced sexual trauma or assault while in the military. Currently in Missouri there are over 44,894 countable women veterans. It is estimated that 30-40 percent have not applied for veterans benefits. It is not known how many are homeless.

Homeless women veterans do not fit the stereotype of your normal homeless person living on the streets. Female homeless veterans often have children and tend to temporarily stay with family or friends. They are afraid of admitting they are homeless for fear of losing their children.

Just as homeless male veterans often don't seek help because they were instilled with a sense of self-reliance and pride while in the military. Female homeless veterans are also often caregivers for their children and have a very hard time asking for help.

Today's female veterans have experienced not only the horrors of war but also trauma of being sexually assaulted and raped. While female veterans are self-reliant they are also scared to death of reporting the assaults because of death threats made to them and their family. Often to forget these horrors they turn to alcohol and drugs.

We as Auxiliary units working with the Legion Family and our districts can reach some of these homeless female and male veterans. Hopefully we can help them become self-reliant again. Contact other community services for help in identifying these veterans. Make goody gift bags with items they can use also with cards of encouragement and helpful information. Together we can make a difference.

Legionette

Virginia Schnurbusch, Editor

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

Communication is learning and gathering information to improve our skills so that we can strive to

greater heights in our journey of service to the veterans and their families, and also the community.

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

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

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

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

Oliver Wendell Holmes said, "The great thing in this world is not so much where we stand as in what direction we are moving." Keep moving forward and embrace your passion for the Auxiliary and all it represents. Let's let our light shine and inform the public who we are and what we do. Thank you!

Fundraising Committee

Sandy Findeiss, Chair
Evelyn Cox and
Shirley Willis, Members

The Quarter Auction was so successful, we decided to have the second annual auction at Department Convention. The American Legion, the SAL, and the Legion Riders all helped by supporting our activity. A special thank you to the Juniors for helping.

Again each unit and district is asked to donate a basket. Feel free to encourage other members of the American Legion Family to participate and support the project again.

We will be adding a few more paddles to accommodate a larger crowd. The vendors were pleased with the response and were grateful they were able to participate. Let's all work together and Let Our Light Shine for Department.



The Happiest of Holiday Seasons

May your days be better than the best you had
Your wrinkles from laughs not frowns;
Your nights bring dreams that made you glad
And your joys be mountains not mounds.

A gift be valued by measure nor pound
Nor counting the coin it cost;

A tune from a fiddler's a mighty sweet gift
But tain't long left the bow it is lost;

The ear lost the music, but the heart held the sound
And corralled all the goodness it meant,

T'was a gift from the heart without measure nor pound
And it doesn't cost the giver a cent.

Love is a giver of gifts, with friendship his lucky mate
It's the slices of heart that you get with a gift

That gives any gift its weight!

(Charles Russell, Cowboy Artist)

District 1

Linda Maddox, President

Our first district meeting was held in August at Post 55 with seven units represented. Our member Victoria Ornelas, Department 2nd Vice President was present.

A Memorial Service was held by Chaplain Rhonda Dodd and assisted by Department 2nd Vice Victoria for seven deceased members and Department 2nd Vice Judy Donati of St. Louis.

From the 11 units in the district one is 85 percent, one 80 percent, five are over 51.83 percent, two 38.33 percent and the remainder are 20 percent or lower. Northeast Division is in second place!

As District President I have held a special meeting to reorganize a unit, installed new officers at three units and have visited four units. We are in the process of updating our Constitution and Bylaws. The first Department Divisional Forum for Districts 1, 10 and 11/12 was attended by 22 unit members and five facilitators.

Units and District sent Scrapbooks and Press Books to convention. Several received awards. Unit 360 had a poppy poster winner that was recognized at the Department level. A \$25 Visa card was donated to President Sharon's fundraiser, the Chinese Auction, held at Fall Conference.

Units reported riding in community parades, distributing Popsicles and candy, helped sponsor a "movie in the park," distributed and/or had a poppy booth; recruitment booth at community fairs; held picnics and dinners for veterans, Boys State and Girls State delegates and their families; helped with American Legion fish fries, soup suppers and dinners; gave homemade cards to Honor Flight veterans; mailed holiday and birthday cards; gave 4th of July gifts to veterans in nursing homes and visited veterans. Junior members have sent over \$5,800 worth of manufacturing coupons to overseas military bases and have colored blocks for 13 lap robes. Units are donating money to special projects, canned goods for Emergency Pantries, in the process of collecting new items for the Mexico Veterans Christmas Gift Shop. Donations are made to Segs 4 Vets and Wreaths Across America.

Thanks to all units for the hard work and support of our veterans and active military personnel. God Bless our veterans!!!

District 2

Rosie Rhodes, President

Officers have been installed in four units and have been in contact with several others concerning questions they had on various topics. Membership has been discussed with the units encouraging them to send dues quickly to Department and not hold them.

Units are having fundraisers for their American Legion. Others are having dinners for families when a member passes. One unit prepared enough desserts to fill three long tables. This was for the recent ceremony of the burial of a World War II veteran who was on the USS Oklahoma when it sank. His remains were finally identified and burial was on his birthday, October 10.

District 3

Karen Bumgarner, President

Units did their best to send me information for my report. Unit 56 set up a booth at the Car & Bike Show. They sold raffle tickets for a meat bundle and had homemade cookies.

Unit 61 installed officers, participated in the Car & Bike Show by having a bake sale. One member attended President Sharon's Homecoming in Burlington Junction. Members attended district meeting and hosted fundraisers at their post.

Unit 236 sent care packages to troops serving in foreign countries. Ten members volunteer every Friday for Legion fundraisers. Proceeds are directed to operations of veterans and families, monthly donations to the food pantry, sent a veteran on the "Honor Flight" and president represents the unit at a Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Auxiliary members assisted the American Legion with the annual Car Show event by conducting a raffle with the proceeds to benefit the daughter of a veteran sending her to Girls State.

A member of Unit 237 volunteers at bingo for the post and unit. They also hosted a District meeting.

I am still encouraging the units to share their activities with me.

District 4

Sheridin Mires, President

District Four members have been busy this fall and we are very proud to have Sharon Slagle serving as our Department President for 2018-2019. We are also proud to have Abby Bragg represent our District as Honorary Department Junior Auxiliary President. President Sharon installed our 2018-2019 District Officers at our September meeting. Abby along with the other Junior members in attendance reviewed the parts of a poppy, made some poppy pictures, blue star banners and put together Red Cross Comfort kits. Other activities to teach the Juniors about our programs are planned for our other District meetings.

The District Membership Team has been using its searchlights to find new members and searching for current members to encourage them to renew their membership. We are pleased to have over 50 percent of our membership turned in and ready to challenge District 13. Northwest Division is in first place and District 4 is also in first place.

Units are making plans for Veterans Day assemblies and presentations at local schools; preparing for the Christmas Gift Shops and striving to meet the needs of the veterans in our communities. Several units have been volunteering and working to help the homeless. Units are working in their communities preparing for the holidays and reaching out to those in need. One of our District Projects is the 129th Field Artillery Christmas Party. Units make donations to purchase gift cards that are used to purchase food for their Christmas dinner and other activities.

Members of Fourth District are proudly wearing their branding as we work the Auxiliary programs. We are proud of what we do because we are making a difference in the lives of our many veterans.

District 5

Bonnie Sweeney, President

There are nine units in Fifth District. All are very busy preparing for Veterans Day events, Stand Down, Poppy Days, and programs to assist the veterans during the Christmas holiday season.

Fifth District units take turns hosting the monthly meetings. Each meeting is designated for a particular ALA program. Unit 21 hosted the annual joint meeting in October.

We have some new District officers. They are members who have not held an office before. All of our officers are appreciated very much. They work hard reaching out and supporting veterans.

VA & R Chairman Helen Hatz will be working with many members making the Kansas City VAMC Christmas Gift Shop successful. She is also the facility representative and will make sure it is a smooth event.

District 6

Shirlee Schroder, President

Communication has been the emphasis this year between unit members, department, community and media.

Membership: Five units provided membership or food booths at local festivals. One unit distributes the At-A-Glance brochures, Flanders Field poem, and a poppy to people attending the festivals. Another unit places a tri-fold board of post members participating in events to attract people to come to their booth. One unit hosted a paint and sip fundraiser. This event was open to the public.

Good Will: Several units send "Thinking of You" cards to those who cannot attend meetings. A year-end report is also sent to these members. As a meeting reminder one unit emails the monthly meeting agenda. A reply is requested regarding mistakes, something forgotten or to add topics that are interesting to them. Between meetings email updates are sent with concerns, problems, or a member's health status to members along with appropriate information so they can respond. One unit has begun emailing the minutes of the regular meeting to their members. Units plan fun events such as fish fries, barbecues and holiday parties so members socialize aside from Legion/Auxiliary meetings and events. Unit members also provide food and desserts for Legion events and district meetings.

Leadership: Three unit presidents and three district officers have completed, ALA Academy courses. Cathie Goth brought her laptop computer to our district meeting and demonstrated how

to log on and navigate to the ALA Academy courses. A second laptop was available for members to use. Efforts have been made to emphasize the importance of at least one member of a unit who will attend District meetings, conferences and convention and report back at the meeting. Five of our units were represented at Department convention in July. Small units have members who stepped up to fill more than one unit officer position.

Strengthen Units: Most units post ALA activities on Facebook. More units are sending articles to the local newspaper. Invited members go along when donated items are delivered to veterans. They made it more fun by stopping for lunch, a flea market or an antique store along the way. Another unit helps the American Legion with its fundraisers, cooking for breakfast events, for absent Legion members or providing food and desserts for Legion events.

Branding: More units are sending articles about AAA events to the local newspaper. The Chamber of Commerce held a Chamber picnic at one post. Recently one unit distributed official membership pins to unit members attending the meeting. They cost \$5.95 each in the Emblem Sales catalog. It is a small gesture but they were all proud to receive it and they do wear them.

We did a great job but in order to improve our units, we need to make a greater effort to participate in the ALA programs.

I thank the 6th District members for all their hard work, dedication and support to the Auxiliary.

District 7

Carolyn Sanford, President

The members of the district have been busy this past year. I spoke with representatives of many units asking them to share a special or unique activity or accomplishment. Many have kept their same officers or the same four or five members have shifted positions. Unfortunately so often this happens because not many members are active and attend meetings.

Whether a large or small unit they participate in many ALA programs.

Some highlights of our year:

- One unit is searching its records for information to include in the Centennial Scrapbook.
- Many units give scholarships to the children of a veteran and/or to a girl who attends MGS.
- Several units invite the delegates to a dinner and ask the ladies to share their experience with the members.
- In May one unit provided lunch for 500-600 veterans on the Ride to the Wall giving them the opportunity to thank these veterans for what they do.
- Every few months one unit sends three large boxes to soldiers overseas.
- Units support the Warrensburg VA home with monetary donations, visits with the veterans, bingo and some members are regular volunteers.
- One unit donated 1,200 pillows to Children's Mercy Hospital for the PICU. These animal-shaped pillows are used to hold such items as IVs in place.
- Nearly every unit distributes poppies and then donates the funds to various veterans projects.

I found that our units do many similar things but always with the veterans or children benefiting from their efforts.

District 8

Connie Pack, President

District 8 has 15 units and the membership goal is 1,110. We are off to a good start with 40.09 percent. Unit 52 has shown the light with 125 percent. Unit 424 is also shining brightly with 76.39 percent. Many units are on Facebook or have a newsletter mailed monthly or bimonthly. Emails are sent and phone calls are made to keep in touch with all members.

Jefferson City Unit 5 is the largest unit. They keep busy with activities. Plans are in the making for another blood drive, and they visit the local veterans in area nursing homes with a Christmas surprise in late December. Boonville Unit 52 is very involved in the Missouri Honor Flight. They also donate to various causes and assist at area food pantry. Ashland Unit 152 sponsors many dinners for the members but also caters lunches for other organizations. I am looking forward to their annual Chili Day and Ham/Bean Day in January. Columbia Unit 202 has a list of plans for the year. One project was to help with the Women Veterans Program at Truman VA Hospital with a baby shower for veteran parents-to-be.

Lake Ozark is meeting once a month. They met their goal last year and will try to repeat again this year. Sandra Allen, president of Unit 231 in Jefferson City, attended the last District meeting. The unit assisted the community with shopping for the homeless here. Pilot Grove Unit 266 will host a Christmas dinner. As District 8 President I am invited and looking forward to this treat.

Unit 317 in Freeburg will be busy on Veterans Day with a pizza lunch for the local veterans plus cake and ice cream for dessert. The unit is helping the post members with remodeling the post home. Stover Unit 343 has membership up to 43 percent already. Hartsburg Unit 424 recently had its annual Apple Butter cookout. They devote 2 weekends to cook and most of it is pre-sold. They will have a craft show and bake sale along with the remainder of apple butter. We are working with Unit 506 in Chamois getting them eager to participate in the ALA programs this year.

Westphalia Unit 544 is busy and focusing on reaching its membership goal. Unit 545 in St. Elizabeth helps the community in many ways of donations and time. Sunrise Beach Unit 624 will sponsor its annual fashion show. This is a fundraiser for the unit and involves many members and the community. They recently received an all-time high of \$3,900 in poppy distribution. Many veterans will benefit from this activity.

These are just a few comments about the units. They are busy in their communities helping others. I am very proud of all District 8 members and have enjoyed visiting many of the units.

District 9

Margie Koch, President

The Ninth District members are letting their light shine. District officers were installed at the September quarterly meeting by Past Department President Lori Millam. Lori presented each officer with a small battery-powered candle to remind them to keep their lights shining on the ALA programs.

Units are delivering the Americanism Essay Rules to area schools. Units have posted and retired the colors at County Fairs. Quarters are collected at the unit meetings for the AEF fund. One unit reported sponsoring a homeless ROTC student. Others are collecting box tops, pull tabs, clipping coupons and participating in Backpack and Donate 10 to Education programs. Blood drives are sponsored and Girls State information is being sent to area schools. Several units are working with their junior members on various programs. Many units are getting ready for Veterans Day activities. Some are helping local schools with Veterans Day breakfasts and others are hosting free meals for veterans at their post homes. Units are also sewing items for veterans home, donating to Legacy Scholarship funds, participating in the USO, helping homeless veterans and Welcome Home Organizations.

Units drape their charter when they have lost a member and perform the ALA service at funerals. Several have ordered their poppies and information is being sent to schools concerning the Poppy Poster contest. Most units have a Facebook page to keep members informed of unit activities. Others send monthly newsletters, twitters and/or emails on a regular basis. Articles are being published in area newspapers as well. The District Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules have been revised and approved. Copies have been delivered to all units.

These are all good activities for a great start to shine our lights. They will become brighter as we continue to volunteer for the veterans.

District 10

Muriel Christman, President

District 10 is in a marathon for membership not a sprint. We are doing very well and have high hopes of continuing.

We had a very sad start with our President Coretta Schroer passing away in August. Since I was Vice President, I was asked to step up and was elected 10th District President. I feel it is an honor to serve.

I have visited several units. I enjoy talking with unit presidents and other officers on the phone. More unit visits are planned. I was happy to attend Department President and Department Commander Homecomings.

It is amazing the work going on here in St. Louis County. Many units have participated in festivals and homecomings. They volunteer in food booths. Some are gathering party items for Birthday in a Bag,

having baby showers, taking donated items to the USO at Lambert Airport, working at fish fries, weekly bingos, serving breakfast at the monthly breakfasts at post homes, distributing poppies, and welcoming home the Honor Flights.

This is my project, the St. Louis Honor flight. Many children are making cards for the veterans on the flights to be given to them at mail call while on the flight.

Unit 400 donates money for canteen books for bingos, money is donated for cookies that are baked by auxiliary members on 3 floors at Jefferson Barracks hospital. Other donations include socks and T-shirts. One hundred scarves and 60 hats were knitted and some were given to Hillsboro Foster Care and Mary Grove. Unit 162 does food pantry shopping for Air National Guard based at Jefferson Barracks. They also take snacks, etc. to the spinal cord unit area at the hospital. Members also host neighborhood Christmas parties for the needy, assist post members at the facility and transport patients to doctor appointments and hospital visits. They donate to the St. Louis Veterans Home and Lemay Nursing Home.

Several 10th District members attended the forum held in Hannibal. It was nice to talk with President Sharon and the facilitators. It was worth the early morning drive. We can never stop learning no matter what age.

The district has a unique distinction in having all levels of chaplains starting with Past National Chaplain Rosemarie W. Hauck, Department Chaplain Louise S. Welch, District Chaplain Mary Bryant and Unit Chaplain Muriel Christman.

National POM-MIA Recognition Day Ceremony was held in September at Jefferson Barracks. It was a privilege to attend and hear the stories of a daughter and granddaughter of a POW. I met and talked with Col. Grace Link, keynote speaker and the Executive Director of the Missouri Veterans Commission.

The unit members are trying to shine their lights for our veterans, military and their families every day of the year.

District 13

RoseLee Buatte, President

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

I installed officers at Units 150, 253 and 554. I plan to visit the other units during the year. My President's project is Missouri's National Veterans Memorial in Perryville.

At the September District meeting awards and certificates from Department Convention were distributed. As a start of the new Auxiliary year, all Unit Presidents and program chairmen were introduced. The Audit and Budget reports were given by the committee. There was instruction on mandatory fees, per capita tax, membership goals, and Auxiliary programs for new officers and members.

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

At the March meeting chairmen will report on their programs with an emphasis on deadlines.

Election of officers is held at the June meeting. Plans are made for attendance at the Department Convention in July.

Units serve the veterans by volunteering at Veterans Homes, contributing to Christmas Gift Shops, making lap robes, and making monetary donations to various veterans programs. All units are involved in community service. We sponsor delegates to Missouri Girls State and host a MGS briefing, as well as participate in other youth oriented programs.

Festus Unit 253 non-military female Auxiliary Honor Guard was presented at the National Convention last August. They continue to volunteer their time and talent whenever asked.

Thanks to all units for the hard work and support to our veterans, active military personnel, and communities. We are working together to "Let Our Light Shine" all the time in District 13.



AROUND THE STATE



Legion Auxiliary Meets at District Forum

Twenty-two ALA members in Northeast Division attended their Divisional Forum in October hosted by Hannibal Unit 55. These ladies represented Districts 1, 10, and 11/12.

The members attending were enlightened on VA & R, Membership, Leadership and directions on completing the annual report forms/impact numbers. Everyone received a packet of information and their names were entered in a drawing for door prizes.

Forum participants were Department President Sharon Slagle, District 1 President Linda Maddox, Cathie Goth and Second Vice President Victoria Ornelas, VA & R Chairs, Sheridan Mires, Membership, Department Secretary Nancy Reeves and Office Assistant Debra Shellman.

In September Unit 5 spent a fun evening scrapbooking to make cards for the military personnel overseas. The cards were decorated for Birthday, Christmas and Thinking of You. The personnel then can send the cards to family or friends with a personal note.



District 15

Ellen Arnce, President

As District President:

In July I accompanied Department President Sharon Slagle to the Kids Of Our Heroes Adventure Camp during its second camp this year.

I installed Freistatt officers in August. Visits to the remainder of the units are scheduled.

District meeting in September in Neosho was preceded by a Patriot Ceremony. It was jointly presented by the American Legion and Auxiliary on District and Post/Unit levels. Also participating was the Pineville Honor Guard, the Neosho JROTC and Boy Scouts. Several first responders attended.

October 13 I participated in the Eisenhower Pilgrimage at his Museum and Library in Abilene, Kan. It was just as nice as the Truman Pilgrimage. Seating was provided for everyone.

Children & Youth/Education

School personnel will be honored by Lockwood unit during National Education Week. Two veterans and two auxiliary members will be talking about their experiences to fifth-graders.

Mt. Vernon unit donated \$250 to the Children's Emergency Fund and \$50 to foster children for Christmas.

Monett is helping sixth-grade students make a quilt for veteran alumnus and will participate in a veterans program at school.

Lockwood unit donated \$50 to Kids Of Our Heroes Adventure Camp.

Webb City and Neosho donated baskets for the Chinese Auction.

Neosho donated \$25 to Camp Barnabas.

Service/donations to Mt. Veterans Home:

Lockwood unit donated \$200 to Christmas Gift Shop.

Lamar donated clothes, donated \$50 to Christmas Gift Shop and gave \$10 to the Dollar Bill Fund.

Everton donated \$110

Neosho will donate and work at the Christmas Gift Shop and adopt veterans at Christmas time.

Freistatt prepared dinner for several veterans and visited the home in November to play bingo. In December they will volunteer at the Christmas Gift Shop.

Other service and fundraisers for the Legion Posts and veterans:

Lockwood helped with the Legion breakfasts in September. In October it made a quilt to raffle with proceeds going to veterans. Four Buddy Baskets were made. They will celebrate Veterans Day at the local nursing home.

In November Webb City will give throws to veterans in the nursing home. A Veterans Day breakfast and Thanksgiving meal will be served to the community.

Everton is gearing up for its huge annual pie supper fund-raiser for its post in November.

Neosho post and unit will donate and participate in Fayetteville VAMC Christmas Gift Shop.

Monett is collecting paperback books and socks for soldiers. On Patriot Day it raised funds by serving food at Arby's. Each customer was given a green light bulb.

Pineville has a monthly community dinner fundraiser for the post.

Membership:

Neosho and Monett sent newsletters to encourage renewals.

Webb City visited members who are shut-ins and will give them poinsettias in December.

Mt. Vernon held a BBQ in July

for recruitment.

Summary:

Units are fundraising, volunteering in libraries, museums, bloodmobiles, hospitals and for hospice. We are planning Americanism Essay and Poppy Poster contests. Mt. Vernon will be working the voting polls. With service in mind, our hearts belong to our veterans/military, children & youth and community. God bless us all.

Cameron VA Home

Wilma Dobson, Representative

I attended and helped with the Family Fun Day in September. Hot and cold cider was served to the veterans and their families; a box of used magazines was delivered to the residents; items for the canteen station were delivered and books of stamps. Unit 57 donated \$100 for its bingo.

In October I attended the volunteer training course and now I am a certified volunteer who has had her flu shot, been fingerprinted and picture taken for ID badge to be worn when volunteering. My various duties include canteen, laundry room, kitchen helper and mail room.

Twelve lap robes, 20 walker bags and 20 adult clothing protectors were made and donated by Unit 57 members for the veterans. Five members from Unit 57 held a Spa Day in October. They did facials, pedicures and manicures for the female veterans. After these procedures they were served homemade cookies and received a gift of perfume and hand lotion. Everyone enjoyed the activity.

Due Date for JANUARY-FEBRUARY LEGIONETTE

Material for the January-February issue of The Missouri Legionette is DUE BY JANUARY 20, 2019. The Editor will welcome your articles earlier if possible.

Please type and double space the articles and meet the deadline. We want our programs to move forward and improve as the year progresses. The sky's the limit with our accomplishments for the coming year for the American Legion Auxiliary. *Let Your Light Shine!*

Thank you for the many articles I received at conference.

THANK YOU!
Virginia Schnurbusch, Editor

Deceased Members

SEPTEMBER 2018 - NOVEMBER 2018

| District | Unit | Name | Location |
|----------|------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 2 | 25 | Delores M. Devaul | Chillicothe, MO |
| 2 | 57 | Mildred Cordray | Bucklin, MO |
| 2 | 228 | Ruby Gardner | Oak Grove, MO |
| 2 | 228 | Frances Helms | Milan, MO |
| 2 | 228 | Morene Lumsden | Milan, MO |
| 2 | 274 | D J Ballard | Saint Joseph, MO |
| 2 | 551 | Lucille Lane | Norborne, MO |
| 2 | 551 | Joan M. Davis | Norborne, MO |
| 3 | 216 | Norma J. Robertson | Cameron, MO |
| 3 | 508 | Vernelle Colhour | Maysville, MO |
| 3 | 508 | Doris Schleicher | Saint Joseph, MO |
| 4 | 32 | Alpha Bloomfield | Elmo, MO |
| 4 | 49 | Lois Bennington | Rock Port, MO |
| 4 | 49 | Jessie Knierim | Rock Port, MO |
| 4 | 49 | Jackie B. Bradley | Rockport, MA |
| 4 | 49 | Dorothy J. Knierim | Rock Port, MO |
| 4 | 199 | June Wensel | Mountain Home, AR |
| 4 | 199 | Mary A. Flesher | Saint Joseph, MO |
| 5 | 21 | Rosemary Pilsl | Raytown, MO |
| 5 | 21 | Helen O'Roark | Blanchard, OK |
| 5 | 622 | Martha Redmond | Independence, MO |
| 6 | 131 | Janice L. Birdsall | Chanute, KS |
| 6 | 131 | Lorraine E. Witherspoon | Warrensburg, MO |
| 6 | 230 | Dolores Loretta Branecki | Stockton, MO |
| 7 | 642 | Sandra G. Beck | Sedalia, MO |
| 8 | 52 | Bennie Leonberger | Boonville, MO |
| 8 | 152 | Marjean Sievert | Jefferson City, MO |
| 8 | 202 | Merline Tennyson | Columbia, MO |
| 8 | 317 | Rita Welschmeyer | Freeburg, MO |
| 9 | 218 | Jane Schriever | Washington, MO |
| 9 | 218 | Jeanette A. Jasper | Washington, MO |
| 9 | 297 | Mildred Sullivan | Union, MO |
| 9 | 312 | Carol O. Lucas | Saint Charles, MO |
| 9 | 388 | Virginia L. Hausdorf | O'Fallon, MO |
| 9 | 388 | Evelyn A. Orf | Saint Peters, MO |
| 10 | 103 | Kathie Ried | Lakeland, FL |
| 10 | 103 | Annabelle Aubuchon | Saint Louis, MO |
| 10 | 161 | Gloria Brunner | O'Fallon, MO |
| 10 | 397 | Coretta Schroer | Saint Louis, MO |
| 11 | 186 | Julianne I. Pinter | Saint Louis, MO |
| 13 | 133 | Anna M. Trapp | Matthews, MO |
| 14 | 109 | Roberta Darter | Campbell, MO |
| 14 | 153 | Nettie Hill | Poplar Bluff, MO |
| 14 | 153 | Melba J. McCoy | Poplar Bluff, MO |
| 14 | 158 | Naomi Hartle | Jackson, MO |
| 14 | 158 | Marybelle Mueller | Cape Girardeau, MO |
| 14 | 158 | Elizabeth Smith | Jackson, MO |
| 14 | 362 | Jackie Daniels | Hornersville, MO |
| 14 | 389 | Helen Welter | Kelso, MO |
| 15 | 91 | Pamela J. Ramsey | Monett, MO |
| | 1000 | Marie Auernheimer | Cassville, MO |
| | 1000 | Carla Peeler | Valley Park, MO |

Calendar of Activities

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| February 15-17 | Spring Conference; Capitol Plaza Hotel; Jefferson City, MO. |
| July 11-14 | Department Convention; Marriott St. Louis Airport; St. Louis |
| August 23-29 | National Convention; Indianapolis, IN. |
| October 18-20 | Fall Conference; Jefferson City, MO. |

District Meetings

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|-------------|--|
| District 3 | January 13, 2019; Bethany Post #216 |
| District 4 | March 2, 2019; Parnell Post #528; registration 9:30 a.m.; meeting 10:30 a.m. |
| District 5 | December 19; Hostess Unit #21 January 16, 2019; Hostess Unit #622 |
| District 6 | January 13; Warrensburg Post #131; 12:30 meal; Oratorical Contest; meeting follows |
| District 7 | January 13, 2019; Concordia Post #258 |
| District 9 | March 3, 2019; Elsberry Post # 226; meeting 9:30; joint meeting following lunch |
| District 10 | December 13; Post #400; 7:30 p.m. |
| District 13 | December 9; Perryville Post #133; 2:00 p.m. |
| District 14 | February 10, 2019; Cape Girardeau Post #63; 2:00 p.m. |
| District 15 | March 10, 2019; Mt. Vernon Post #137; 2:00 p.m. |