

# DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA AUXILIARY NEWS

June 2020  
Volume 10, Issue 11



## A Word from the President

By Valerie Brown-Debro, Department President



Greetings ALA Angels, Spring has sprung and the flowers are blooming, it's almost summer time, after every rain drop, I can still see the rainbow in the sky; Life continues to move forward! Our mission, vision, purpose and values are predicated on the founding purposes. We are committed to the four founding principles, **Justice, Freedom, Democracy and Loyalty**. Service to God and Country, its veterans and their families. Georgia members and units are staying strong, dedicated and grounded in our roots, keeping our hearts guarded and our emotions sustained. Together, there is no stopping us!

Remember the saying, we've always done things this way? Well, COVID-19 has changed the way we do things and a lot has changed. We are more flexible in adapting to new things and patient with our understanding. However, we are still going strong and YES, we are up for the challenge! The well-being of our veterans, supporting our members adhering to our governing documents and following our local state laws. We are more than conquerors!

As we continue to press forward unfortunately without a convention this year, I'm going to miss seeing your beautiful faces and hugs. Thank God for technology, we can still communicate! It was a pleasure serving with the American Legion National and Department Commander, Detachment, Riders. I would like to acknowledge and thank every ALA National and Department Officer, elected and appointed, Page-Scarlette Campbell, Dept. Sgt-at-arms & Captain, Secretary-Patty Hawkins, Membership Clerk- Krista Massengale, Deana Rowe; Honorary Junior President Willa Payton, Districts Presidents & Officers, PDP's, Committee chairs and every Members and on a job well done!

Thank you for helping to make this year, 2019-2020 a mark in my life that can't be erased. Thank you to all of you for serving together in supporting our programs and making donations to the Commanders Project," Our Veterans'. We're going to continue with the raffling throughout the year. Congratulations to The 5<sup>th</sup> District, who raised the highest funds in the District category for the Adjutant "Dress like a Woman" Challenge location TBA.

To all of our members, thank you for working the program action plan, sharing the fundamental principles of who we are and what we do that matters. I'd like to congratulate all of you

## Inside This Issue

From President Valerie Brown-Debro	1
Secretary	2
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President /Leadership	2
2nd Vice President	3
Historian	3
2019 2020 Unit District & Dept Information	4
Miscellaneous Items	5,6
Chaplain	7
Conference/Banquet Forms	8,9
Calendar of Events	10

on a successful year in serving. We will share all of the award winners in the July Newsletter. Together, we made it through 100 years, and we are going down in the History of the ALA 2019-2020 a year to remember.

Together, we made it through 100 years, and we are going down in the History of the ALA 2019-2020 a year to remember.

The theme that I choose for the year, 9/11 Angels Serving Every Veteran, had a meaning of its own. God knew at this very point and time, what we were going to experience and how we were going to make it through, by Faith and Trust in Him. I truly believe in Angels and can see that special glow in each one of you.

Thank you for your support and your countless volunteer hours, for your prayers, inspirations and encouragement and most of all for serving our veterans, families and communities. As President Nicole Clapp said on a conference call the other day, as we end this term and begin another, we are still focusing on the well-being of our veterans and celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> Year for (2) years until 2021 Convention in Arizona. What other organization can say that?

My prayer, as we spent time in self quarantine, it has brought self- awareness of who we are and why we serve. We have loss quite a few to COVID-19, and natural life challenges. I'm thankful that as we breathe, we are truly blessed to be above ground and not beneath, God gave us an opportunity to do it all over again. Wake up with purpose and be intentional! Most of all, seeking God first in all that you do and living our lives with no regrets! As we remember, it's that veteran, who made us eligible to be members of the world's largest patriotic service organization. Thank for serving together we me, continue to keep the faith. Stay safe & God Bless the U.S.A.

*Valerie Brown-Debro* ALA Department of GA President

## Secretary

By Patty Hawkins, Department Secretary

### The Coronavirus Pandemic 2020

This is a devastating time for all of us. But, it is bringing us all together to realize we are all the same, we all want what is best for our family, our friends and Our Country. I have seen such an outpouring of love by complete strangers, reaching out to those in need. Helping get their groceries, taking them meals, sharing extra Toilet Paper, paper towels, diapers/wipes, masks and picking up medicines for our elderly. Just being neighborly like in the past years. It warms the heart to see this, joining together, praying for all of us that we stay well. It is a time where we can reach out to an old friend or Unit member just to let them know you are thinking about them. We will overcome this, it may take longer than we want but we will make it. So, take care and use precaution for God is on our side. Be sure to stay in and only go out if necessary. It is every individual's responsibility to help stop it virus. Safety First as always.

#### **\*\*Please make sure all your Department Obligations have been paid.\*\***

Notices were sent out to all Units that have not paid some or all obligations 2 weeks ago. I have received some back but not all. These are Mandatory Obligations and must be paid yearly.

We are also waiting on forms that are due and have not been received. Don't Delay. You can find the forms on [www.aladepq.com](http://www.aladepq.com), our website under Member Resources. We have lots of important informations on the website, so use it. If there is something that you would like to see on the website, send us an email and we will see if we can make it happen.

I only received 3 District Impact Reports, so disappointed that our numbers will not reflect the work that has been done.

I would love to hear all the good things our members have done helping out during this pandemic. Who's making mask, helping an elderly friend? Let us know what you have been doing.

**Take Care and I am praying for all of us. See you Soon 😊 Let's continue to make the American Legion Auxiliary strong!**

## 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/ Leadership

By Susan Hall, Dept. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

### Happy June! Happy Father's Day!

Summer is here in Georgia, I hope everyone is well. I would like to thank the 2 Districts and 15 Units that sent me their end of the year report. As we continue to slowly open-up and begin moving around again, I hope everyone is being vigilant in staying safe. It has been a long hard spring for us all, but we have endured and will continue to lead by finding other ways to continue our mission. Continue to educate yourself on the American Legion Auxiliary by going to the website and browsing through, work on completing the online classes and remember to send me an email of the completed certificates for a special gift from me.

I hope all the Units and Districts sent in their impact numbers, dues rate form, and officers form to Patty.

I am hoping that over the next 6 months we will begin to open our posts and units so that we may be able to get together. I would like to continue the Leadership Workshops in the Districts that had to cancel and were not able to be done last year.

Miss you all hope to be able to get together soon.

For God and Country  
Susan Hall  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Membership

By Pat Morgan, Department 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

Hello Georgia Angels! I hope you all have been checking on fellow members.

During these difficult times when we are still social distancing, a great way to renew their dues is paying over the phone to National at [317-569-4570](tel:317-569-4570) or online at [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org). Their membership number is required. This is a great option for those unable to get into their post homes. Use social media, phone calls or email to contact these members. Remind them that by renewing their membership they will be members of the Greatest Patriotic Organization that supports our Veterans, their families, our communities and our Country.

Also, please remember that June 14<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for the Recruit/Rejoin 5 Awards.

Units must pay their Department Obligation for 2019-2020, submit their 2020-2021 "Unit Data" form, and the 2020-2021 "Unit Officers" form (even if your officers did not change) to be certified in order to receive Unit Membership cards for the 2020-2021 year. These forms must be received in Department by June 5<sup>th</sup>. These forms can be found on the new Department website at [www.ALADepartga.com](http://www.ALADepartga.com). Click Member Resources - Forms.

Thank you to the Units who submitted year end membership reports. The Department website has links for the updated reporting guidelines. Please review this important information.

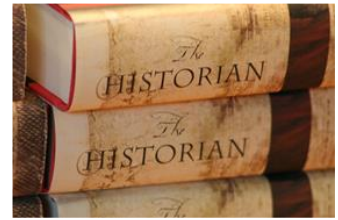
Thank you for all your continued efforts and if I can assist you in any way, please feel free to contact me by email at [pimorga@aol.com](mailto:pimorga@aol.com) or 2229 Johnson Short Rd., Quitman, GA 31643 or at (229) 561-4070. Pat Morgan

**“Angels Working As  
OneFor Veterans”**



## HISTORIAN CORNER

By Cheryl Jackson Sinkler,



**Hello ALL!**

**I hope everyone is doing well and keeping a 6 ft distance from others. Please put your safety first. If you are able, stay home and only travel to necessary places. We are in a serious crisis right now.**

**I'm sure many of you are feeling restless and maybe a little tired of not being able to move about doing your daily routines. Use this time to reflect, enjoy family and getting much needed things in order, or even make necessary changes of what is important to you and weed out what is not.**

**Well, I'm sure by now you have heard the current Dept. Of GA Officers are staying in place for another year. This has never happened before in the American Legion Auxiliary history! We are experiencing a historical moment. Also, many Districts and Units are following suit. Keep in mind some changes are necessary for the organization. Please continue to support those in office and help be a part of the solution never be the cause of a demise. You don't want to be known as the negative person. If you were at our Leadership trainings remember the skit, we presented of the new member who "Walked away from the organization"!**

**Please submit history reports by May 2<sup>nd</sup> and submit to my email or address type below! If you have any questions please contact me and I will gladly assist. NO HISTORY BOOKS WILL BE JUDGED THIS YEAR. PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT.**

**Again, everyone please stay safe and secure. God bless and I miss seeing you ALL,**

Cheryl Jackson-Sinkler  
Historian – Dept. Of Georgia  
770-875-5987  
[Cheryl.jackson08@yahoo.com](mailto:Cheryl.jackson08@yahoo.com)  
204 Possum Creek Lane  
Dallas, GA 30132

ALA DEPARTMENT OF GA  
2019–2020 REPORTS

UNITS \* DISTRICTS \* DEPARTMENT

ALA Members in GA **will continue** with the Program Action Reporting for 2019–2020. If you sent in a report from your Unit or District to one of the Department Chairpersons, **please see** the information below on How we are proceeding with the reporting for 2019–2020 in Georgia.

We are requesting for all GA members to **submit your report To the Department Chairperson** with completed **FORMS** that are **due by May 1, 2020** The report forms are located on our Department website. [www.ALADept.com](http://www.ALADept.com)

**YEARBOOKS** Books were due by **February 15<sup>th</sup> Leadership Chairperson Susan Hall** already judged the books and will announce winner of YearBooks. If you sent a yearbook in for judging, contact her on how to receive your book in return.

**PRAYER BOOKS: NO JUDGING** Still send **REPORT FORMS** to Department Chaplain **Gloria Fox Smith**.

**HISTORY BOOKS NO JUDGING** Still send **REPORT FORMS** to Department Historian. **Cheryl Jackson Sinkler**

**SCRAPBOOKS NO JUDGING** Still send **REPORT FORMS** – **Kathy Browder–Woods**.

**PLEASE “DO NOT” Send any reports NATIONAL** – Per updates due to **COVID–19 National** will receive reports in a **2 year** reporting period 2019–2020 & 2020–2021 **Mid–Year** reports due January 5<sup>th</sup> , **Year–end** due May 15, 2021 [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org)

**YEAR END IMPACT REPORT FORMS 2019–2020: due April 30, 2019** Everyone

Please submit a **Year End report** for **Member, Unit, District** Department Every **hour**, every **dollar** , Our service for Veterans. Active –Duty– Retired/ Military, families and Community. every mile driven. Scholarships, Girls State, Children & Youth, Community Service, members invest in our mission of helping veterans adds up, they are also reported to the American Legion which includes them in its annual report to congress.

**BOOK OF REPORTS:** Department Officer and Chairman still submit your annual report **due June 15, 2020** send your copy to [Valerie.Debro@yahoo.com](mailto:Valerie.Debro@yahoo.com) and Secretary Patty Hawkins [secamlegaux@bellsouth.net](mailto:secamlegaux@bellsouth.net) Please follow Book of Reports Rules on our Department Website. [www.ALADeptGA.com](http://www.ALADeptGA.com)

## MEMBERSHIP FORMS

**2021 Forms:** We understand the current situation that many Units are currently experiencing with figuring out who their New Officers will be for the 2020-2021 year. While we can give **lenience on some forms**, we cannot do so on others. **The 2021 dues rate change form needs to be received ASAP if your dues is going to be different than it was for 2020 membership. Please make sure and send this form no later than 5/15/2020. Once that date is reached NO CHANGES can be made and your dues amount will stay the same. The 2021 Unit Data Form must also be received No Later than June 5, 2020.** Again the system will lock and No Changes will be made period! National has informed us that those dates cannot be changed and No exceptions can be made. We can give some on the New Unit Officers Form, as we are the ones who input the information. We will have some additional time to do this. If you have any questions on these forms or any membership questions the best point of contact right now would be email. Please send to [amlegaux@bellsouth.net](mailto:amlegaux@bellsouth.net) . All forms are currently available on our new website [www.aladeptga.com](http://www.aladeptga.com) , under Member Resources and then Forms.

Thanks, Krista

### **\*\*ATTENTION Changes\*\*** **American Legion Auxiliary** **Honor Our Female Veterans**

National will be discontinuing the HONOR FEMALE VETERANS program starting with the 2021 Membership year, the national organization will no longer waive the \$12.00 national portion of dues to female veterans that are new members. Now that our organization has opened our eligibility to allow male spouses, many of which are veterans themselves, we feel that it is best to retire this program as to not exclude any veteran. In addition, the renewal rate of female veterans who joined through this program has diminished beyond our normal rate of renewals as well as fewer female veterans are joined through this program each year.

### **ALA MIS PROGRAM ACCESS for Units/District Membership** ***Monies are DUE into Dept when Access is Requested.***

The fee is \$10 per year per person (2 per Unit). This is the fee National charges. Forms are on the website or call the Department for copies. Due to the enforced rules all forms must be completed and signed by 5 current Unit Officer. At no time is an authorized person using ALA MIS is to share their password with anyone. If a person needs to be changed please send in a new form right away. Please let us know ASAP.

If Unit wants to continue having access to the ALA MIS the department must receive new forms and \$10 for each person per calendar year.

**New:** District Presidents can now have access to all the Units in their districts. This will be a read only and cannot make any changes. The fee is \$10 and will be good until December.

# Legislative Spot : “Who's That Lady?”



On June 22, 1944, President Roosevelt signed the bill into law before a group of Congressmen and Legislators who had fought hard to get a GI Bill of Rights. It was not an easy fight but today, the bill has passed itself beyond all measure.

At the end of the World War I, Edith Nourse Rogers' husband, John Jacob (Army), joined the American Legion and she joined the Auxiliary. Her experience with veteran's issues led President Warren Harding to appoint her as the inspector of new veterans' hospitals from 1922 to 1923 for \$1.00 a year.

This experience served her well when her husband died on March 28, 1925 in the middle of his 7th term in Congress. Spurred by pressure from the Republican Party and the American Legion, she was urged to run for her late husband's seat. She became representative to the 69th US Congress from the 5th District of Massachusetts.

In her 35 years in Congress, she was a powerful voice for veterans and sponsored seminal legislation such as the 1942 bill that created the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC), the 1943 bill that created the Women's Army Corps (WAC), and the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 or G.I. Bill.

Edith Nourse Rogers

American politician



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edith\\_Nourse\\_Rogers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edith_Nourse_Rogers)

By Vernel Warren  
Dept. Legislative Chairman 2019-2020



Edith Nourse Rogers

# Chaplain

**Gloria Smith Fox**

Heart thoughts from the Chaplain...June 2020

WoW, is it June already??? Doesn't it seem as if we all fell asleep and woke up to a new world? Well, I hate to admit it, but though I've been working as an essential we all were not asleep! But we have been waking every morning to a new world.

We have all had to make readjustments to our lifestyle in some manner because situations are definitely are definitely not the norm! But during this time we all have had time to sit and reflect on the world's events that have been the same all over. Hopefully no one had cabin fever so bad they feel like busting loose and throw caution to the wind. We..at least I know personally have seen light in a different manner. I want to do more for others than for myself. I want my family to stay connected as they are now. I'd love to keep seeing compassion for others in my neighbors, all looking out for each other. And strangers are lovely breaks with chats of funny humor of our situation at the time.

We may not be gathering together in person to do our jobs, live our lives, enjoy the hugs and kisses from everyone (the thing I miss most). But we have found a new way to connect and we are making the most of it. Some people I am hearing are using the phone to personally talk with each other more than ever! We still need to press on and help those in need. We just do it in a different manner now. And we still get the satisfaction of a job well done.

Philippians 3:13-17 says "Brethren, I count not myself to have the apprehended but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching for unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing. Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an example."

May we all continue towards the mark, and be a shining example for others. God's blessings and mercy be upon you all...til we meet again!

Gloria Smith Fox  
Dept. of GA AUX Chaplain

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## **Good Afternoon American Legion Family:**

Attached is the registration form and the hotel reservation form for the Georgia Department Fall Conference 2020. Yes, the Conference is being planned and coordination is ongoing. Please note the deadline date for this event (Friday, August 14, 2020). While the Department Leadership is well aware of the current Corona Virus pandemic and various executive orders, you can be assured that the Department of Georgia is operating with an abundance of caution and will make every effort to comply with state and local mandates.

Therefore, this registration/reservation form is quite important. Returning this form by the deadline date will enable the Department to use your responses to access interest and to get a projected number of attendees. These two pieces of information will further facilitate planning, course coordination, conference presentations, and other important decisions .

Given the global, national, state, and local responses to COVID-19, the Department of Georgia fully and truly recognizes that attendance is an independent, individual, and personal decision. We respect your decision.

District Commanders and Adjutants: Thank you for ensuring that this attachment is forwarded to your downtrace legion posts for further dissemination to their own members to render their own decision(s). Your cooperation is appreciated and your participation is welcomed and encouraged.



**DEPARTMENT FALL CONFERENCE**

OCTOBER 16-18, 2020

**HOTEL RESERVATION**

Sonesta Gwinnett Place Atlanta (A **Non-Smoking** Hotel)  
1775 Pleasant Hill Road, **Duluth**, GA 30096  
770-923-1775

**Guest Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Information**

Check enclosed: (payable to: **Sonesta Gwinnett Place Atlanta Hotel** for one-night deposit of \$117.00) **OR**

Guarantee by credit card:  Visa  MasterCard  Amex  Other

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ MO/YR

(Credit card will not be billed until you have checked in; however, if you must cancel your reservation, **you** must personally contact the hotel within 72 hours of check-in or you will be charged).

**Hotel Information:**

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of People in Room: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check One:  King (one bed) \$117.00  Double: (two beds) \$117.00

***\*Price does not include taxes, fees, etc.***

Do you require a handicap accessible room? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Name(s) of other(s) sharing room: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form in full and return to: The American Legion, Department of Georgia  
3035 Mt. Zion Road, Stockbridge, GA 30281

**DEADLINE: Friday, August 14, 2020**



**Banquet and Registration Form**  
**DEPARTMENT FALL CONFERENCE**

OCTOBER 16-18, 2020: DULUTH, GA

**SONESTA GWINNETT PLACE ATLANTA**

Register **EARLY** to avoid the long lines and to **SAVE** money:

Pre-registration before August 14, 2020 <> \$10.00

Registration on or after August 14, 2020 <> \$20.00

The **Children and Youth Banquet** is Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

The cost of the Banquet is \$42.00.

For Registration and or Banquet, make checks or money orders payable to:

**AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA**

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**Member Information (please print):**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Post: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Registering before AUG 14: \_\_\_\_\_ at \$10.00 per person: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Registering on/after AUG 14: \_\_\_\_\_ at \$20.00 per person: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending C & Y Banquet: \_\_\_\_\_ at \$42.00 per person: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reserved Tables are available for parties of 8 people: Names are required.**

**PRINT THE NAMES OF ALL GUESTS YOU ARE PAYING FOR:**

- 
- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ |
- 

**NOTE: Department Executive Committee (D.E. C.) Meeting will be Friday, October 16, 2020 at 6:00 PM and Sunday, October 18, 2020 after the Memorial Service.**

Please complete and return this form via mail or fax to:

The American Legion, Department of Georgia  
3035 Mt. Zion Road, Stockbridge, GA 30281  
FAX: 678.289.8885

**DEADLINE: Friday, August 14, 2020**



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President's Theme:

“9-11 Angels Serving Every Veteran”

Membership Theme:

“Angels Working As One For Veterans”

National President's Theme:

“A Century worth Celebrating”

## Calendar of Upcoming Events 2020

June 14, 2020

Flag Day

June 21, 2020

Father's Day

July 4, 2020

Independence Day

July 26, 2020

Parents' Day

## **DEPARTMENT FALL CONFERENCE**

OCTOBER 16-18, 2020

## **HOTEL RESERVATION**

Sonesta Gwinnett Place Atlanta (A **Non-Smoking** Hotel)

1775 Pleasant Hill Road, **Duluth**, GA 30096



American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Georgia  
3035 Mt Zion Rd  
Stockbridge, GA 30281

