



Department of Georgia Auxiliary News November 2022 Vol. 12, Issue 4



A Word from the President Pat Morgan, President – Department of Georgia

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It is hard to believe that November is already here. The busy Holiday season is upon us. Post and Units are planning their Veterans Day events and it is also the American Legion Auxiliary Birthday.

November is "Member Retention Month" Contact those members who have not renewed yet. See if there is something going on. The personal touch is always a good thing.

November 14-18 is "American Education Week". I understand there are some schools we cannot visit, let's get creative and as Units show appreciation to the Educators with a plate of muffins, cookies, fruit, etc.

Be sure to report all the great things you are doing for our Veterans, members, and the community. The Chairpersons of the committees are excited to receive your reports so they can report to National the awesome work Georgia does.

By now I am sure everyone is aware the National President Vickie Koutz had to cancel her trip to Georgia. I want to thank District 11, 10 and 4 members for being so gracious when I called them at the last minute to cancel. I have rescheduled her visit for April 1-5. District 1 Commander Casey Nash and Auxiliary President Sabrina Putney agreed to host this event. A BIG THANK YOU to all of District 1. I will be sending out an itinerary after the first of the year.

"HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL"

If I can assist you in any way, please feel free to contact me at pimorga@aol.com or 2229 Johnson Short Rd., Quitman, GA 31643 or at (229) 561-4070.

Pat Morgan President

GROWING OUR FUTURE

**Secretary**

Patty Hawkins

**GIFT SHOPS ARE COMING BACK!!!**

It is getting time for the VA Hospitals to start having their Christmas Gift Shops. Please send your donations to the Department ASAP to allow Representatives to begin their shopping spree!

It has been a challenging couple of years and this year, we want to give our Veterans a great Christmas. Let's show up and show out to make this a Great time for those that served us.

Make checks to ALA Dept of GA earmarked for which location.

- ★ Atlanta VA, Judy Lively: December 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>;
- ★ Augusta-Uptown/Downtown, Miriam Stein: November 25<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>;
- ★ Dublin, Bettye Brown Johnson: December 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>; **DATE CHANGE**
- ★ GWVH Milledgeville, Carrol Griffin: December 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Governance: At our Fall Conference, our Chair of Constitution & Bylaws noted we will update the Constitution & Bylaws based on changes by National. We will get these posted to the website as soon as possible.

We are updating the Report forms with the correct names and addresses and will post them by the end of the November.

We still have some Unit Activity Books available. They are \$5.00 each. If you want one, there is a \$1.00 fee for mailing.

We will not distribute a December newsletter. So, I want to wish EVERYONE Happy Holidays. Enjoy your time with your family and friends.

Stay safe 😊

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

Cheryl Jackson Sinkler



Greetings everyone,

It's always a pleasure to see everyone at Department of Georgia's Fall Conference. I look forward to seeing more of you at Spring Conference in March.

Veteran Day is upon you! Celebrate each and every Veteran you encounter, even more than you normally would. Show them how much they are appreciated.

I want to remind everyone of the leadership training will be held at Unit 3 in Macon on February 18, 2023. The address is: American Legion Post 3, Joseph N. Neel Jr, 5530 Thomaston Road, Macon, GA 31220. If you need directions, please call 478-474-7799. Please arrive between 9:15am – 9:45am for registration. Training will start promptly at 10:00am and end at 4:00pm. A continental breakfast and lunch will be served at a cost of \$7.00.

As we go into the holiday seasons, please keep in mind of those who are alone. Please consider doing well checks. This is a time where many are less fortunate and are in desperate need of companionship. Suicide and depression are high around the holidays. If you could call, sit with, take a lunch or dinner, or take a Veteran out to dinner or better yet, invite for dinner, whichever way you decide to go I'm sure that Veteran will be thankful. Love on your families as well, you never know who may need that extra hug, call, or visit.

We must be aware of how we treat each other within the organization. We are all VOLUNTEERING, and ALL our time is precious. When you take on a responsibility, you should always put your best foot forward. At the Fall Conference, many members were surprised to hear how many Units have the same issues in common. Communication is the key. We sit with our groups of friends; I rarely see anyone introduce themselves to someone they don't know. We MUST do better.

I enjoy all of you and try my best to make my rounds just to touch base with each of you. I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas!

**Cheryl Jackson-Sinkler**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Leadership, Department of Georgia  
770-875-5987 ★ [cheryl.jackson0808@outlook.com](mailto:cheryl.jackson0808@outlook.com)

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

Cheryl Waybright

The Race is heating up! November is MEMBERSHIP MONTH! It was amazing to see so many members at the fall conference. Engines are revved so let's keep your unit's membership foot heavy on the gas pedal! Ask every member to engage and help with recruiting. Look around your unit and make sure you are living and delivering on the four key outreach activities – VA&R, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth. Units that provide “spaces” for service in support of our mission are thriving and organically attract and retain members. What did your unit do today?

The top five of the membership challenges 9/29 – 10/27 were announced at the fall conference. There were two categories of awards, % growth and most members added for both District and Units. Congratulations to these amazing membership teams!

### Greatest % Change 9/29 - 10/27

- 1<sup>st</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> District and Unit 56, Jefferson (10<sup>th</sup>)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> District and Unit 52, Rome (7<sup>th</sup>)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> District and Unit 515, Douglas (12<sup>th</sup>)
- 4<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> District and Unit 544, Cairo (2<sup>nd</sup>)
- 5<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> District and Unit 332, Social Circle (10<sup>th</sup>)

### Most Members Added 9/29 - 10/27

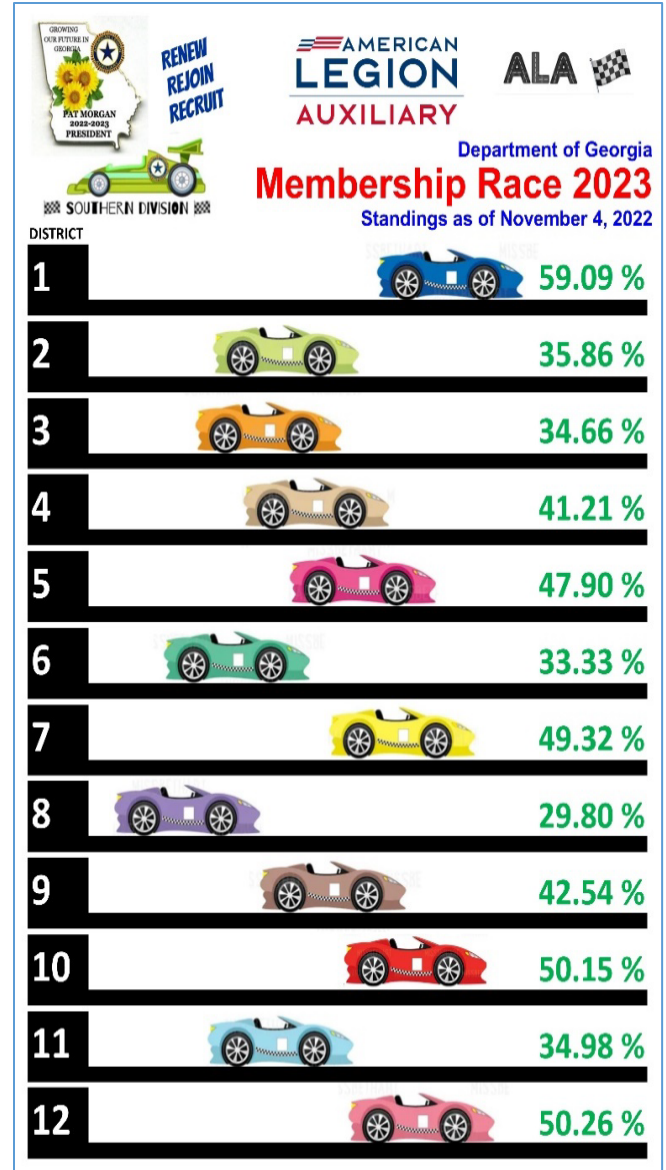
- 1<sup>st</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> District and Unit 515, Douglas (12<sup>th</sup>)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> District and Unit 201, Alpharetta (9<sup>th</sup>)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> District and Unit 6, Milledgeville (6<sup>th</sup>)
- 4<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> District and Unit 47, Calhoun (7<sup>th</sup>)
- 5<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> District and Unit 178, Augusta (11<sup>th</sup>)

In other amazing news, this year, to date, we have FIVE National 100% GOAL UNITS compared to three last year at this time. (See the membership report that was distributed 11/4). November 11<sup>th</sup> is the date for “paid membership in ALAMIS” that counts – don't procrastinate, the system data is the final judge.

Communication is critical to grow our service, support our mission and retain and recruit members. All Department and Unit Presidents – please be sure your unit leaders and members are receiving all membership communications from the Department.

The Department of Georgia is at 46% of its membership goal – a bit behind where we were last year at this time. Let's push to get our memberships in so we can hit the 75% goal by December 7<sup>th</sup>, Pearl Harbor Day. When we enroll members at the unit level, we are pushing the Georgia car forward which is helping to fuel the mighty Southern Division! **Let's Do this!**

Shout out to District 1 – leading the way!



**Spotlight on Jefferson Unit 56.** Chartered in 2022, Unit 56 not only met its membership goal for 2023 on 10/27, it also exceeded goal by ~ 25%! AND that is not all. At the fall conference, Unit 56 leadership volunteered to mentor a new unit that is forming... talk about teamwork making the dream work! Join this group – terrific tips!!!!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/alamembership>

Please THANK and SUPPORT the Unit and District Membership chairs – these team members have an ongoing, year-round Auxiliary “job.” Thank them. Help them. Encourage them. Please seek advice when you hit a roadblock, call me! It's going to be an exciting year!

Cheryl Waybright

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President & Membership, Department of Georgia  
404-625-6708 ★ [CLWaybright@gmail.com](mailto:CLWaybright@gmail.com)

**Historian**

Gail Ramey

**HISTORY**

**“You can't take your memories with you when you leave earth, so gather, collect and archive them to SHARE with others!”**

*-Tsi Sim Mar, October 18, 2022*

*- American Legion Auxiliary Historians Facebook Group*

Even though we do not have to submit mid-year reports next month, do not let that stop you from keeping up your impact reporting for your unit and from compiling your history book and reflecting on what it is you will report on at the end of April. May 1 will be here before you know it. **What did you do in October to capture the wonderful things your unit is doing?**

Please download the 2022-2023 Department of Georgia History Book Rules and the file for the Annual Historian Report: <https://www.aladepg.com/forms-1>.

Stay up to date with the National Historian, ALA 2022-2023 National Historian Laura "Susie" Clyde from the Department of South Dakota: Piedmont Valley Unit 311 in the National American Legion Historians Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALAHistorians>

**Gail Ramey**

Historian, Department of Georgia

770-262-2524 ★ [gailramey@msn.com](mailto:gailramey@msn.com)**Chaplain**

Pamela Stroud

Hello ALA,

To all our unit and district chaplains, we are in this together! Don't forget you have some awesome resources to help you. The ALA Chaplains' Prayer Book and Manual of Ceremonies (both available for free – just log in to the ALA) are amazing resources. <https://member.legion-aux.org/member/resources/chaplain-resources>

When you need motivation, check into (and join) the ALA National Chaplain Facebook Group. As with all the ALA National groups, you will have to answer some questions to be granted access.

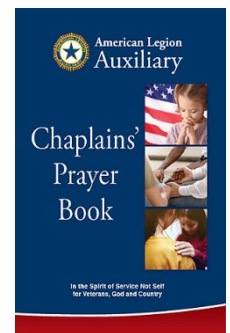
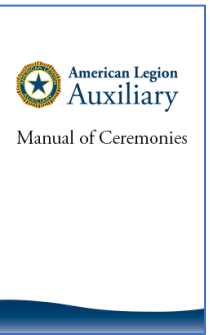
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALACHaplains>

I am here to help.

Stay Prayerful and Blessed,

**Pam Stroud**

Chaplain, Department of Georgia

706-326-4861 ★ [pstroud9@icloud.com](mailto:pstroud9@icloud.com)**What are YOU Doing 1/28/23?**

**Would you like to learn more about working the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary?**

**Would you like to network with national leaders and other members in your district who share your passion and enthusiasm for helping our veterans?**

During this 1-day conference, **MISSION TRAINING 101**, you'll be inspired while learning more about working the ALA's core programs in an interactive and fun environment. Many of the American Legion Auxiliary Mission Outreach programs will be covered during this conference.

**Is Mission Training Right for you?**

- **Yes!** - if you are interested in meeting members and national leaders outside of your local area who share your passion for helping veterans!
- **Yes!** - if you want to share great ideas with other members across the country or renew your enthusiasm for our mission!

- **Yes!** - if you find yourself growing more involved and you don't know where to turn for information you need, or you have been doing the same activities for years and you want a fresh approach!

The training closest to the Department of Georgia is in **Nashville, Tennessee** on Saturday, January 28, 2023, at the **Radisson Hotel Nashville Airport** (1112 Airport Center Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37214). There is a \$65 registration fee. Use this link to register.

<https://cvent.me/vonmG9>

National Junior Meetings will occur concurrently with the Mission Development Trainings. See this link for more information <https://member.legion-aux.org/Meetings/National-Junior-Meetings/>

You don't have to be a Department, District or Unit officer to attend – every ALA member is welcome. What's holding you back?

**We'll see you in Music City!**





## The Brand: It Matters

So, What is What?

The Emblem of the American Legion Auxiliary (above) should be reserved for official, legal, and historical uses. Documents and communications such as history books, manuals, guides, reports, resolutions, minutes, financial documents and building signage are examples.

*“The American Legion Auxiliary brand mark (pictured right) was created to address the need to modernize the ALA brand to appeal to the next generation. The new brand mark takes into consideration a host of applications that the original emblem could never have anticipated. Those include digital and social media, special event and sports marketing, lifestyle apparel and more.”*

Going forward, the brand mark is to be used in all marketing communications applications. “When choosing a brand mark option, default to what is most visually pleasing in that application. or example, the word mark (right) should almost always be used in embroidery.”

For more in-depth explanations of approved usage guidelines, go here <https://www.legion.org/brand/aux>. You can download the full branding guidelines at: [http://woodwing.legion.org:8080/?w=W\\_1mmzVyLN](http://woodwing.legion.org:8080/?w=W_1mmzVyLN)



AMERICAN  
**LEGION**  
AUXILIARY

## POLAR PLUNGE CHALLENGE 2023

Auxiliary Department President Pat Morgan and Auxiliary NEC Susan Hall have made a Fundraising Challenge.



**Pat and Susan will take the “Plunge” at Tybee Island January 14, 2023 during the SAL Retreat.**

If \$1,000 is raised for Pat, and, \$1,000 raised for Susan, all funds raised will be split between the Department President Morgan’s Special Project (Fort Gordon Fisher House) and Department Commander Simmons’ Special Project.

**Please send donations to The ALA Department of Georgia designated “Polar Plunge Challenge”.**

Units, Districts, and Individuals can donate to this challenge and are encouraged to do so – every dollar goes to supporting veterans.

And there will be some great photos of cold wet volunteers taking the plunge!

**Donate Now!**

## The Reason we Report, Tips & Tricks

“Every hour and dollar ALA members invest in our mission of helping veterans adds up.” Service not only “gives each member a sense of pride in belonging to the organization, but it allows the ALA to **demonstrate our mission service and effectiveness to our donors and to the world.**” This service and money spent by individuals is reported on IMPACT REPORTS to each unit. The units then report to the districts and departments. Departments combine the numbers and report to National Headquarters which then compiles and reports to The American Legion which includes the data in its annual report to Congress.

Members should report EVERY MONTH preferably using the ALA impact report form – it’s simple to use and has recently been streamlined. Since we no longer “do” mid-year reports, waiting until the end of the year makes the process a burden and cumbersome – and people forget things, remarkable things, they did so many efforts go unreported.

Let’s make our reporting for 2022-2023 a priority.

Members and units that report typically have stronger relationships within units and with that, solid service within the four pillars of our mission – VA&R, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth.

A common question is *“Can I count hours spent preparing meals for Legion meetings and administrative support for TAL commanders as hours spent in Service to Veterans?”* **The Answer is “Yes!** Those hours count but should be reported under “Section 4: My Service Representing the ALA in My Community.”

Some of our members aptly describe those activities as family chores.” Remember too, individuals serving in volunteer roles at all levels should record hours and money spent on their individual impact reports in this same area – yes, “family chores” matter.

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT	
NUMBER OF AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENTS	52
PERCENTAGE OF DEPARTMENTS REPORTING	94%
NUMBER OF UNITS	7,760
PERCENTAGE OF UNITS REPORTING	42%
AVERAGE PERCENTAGE OF MEMBERS REPORTING	9%



## Upcoming Events & Dates to Note

NOVEMBER IS MEMBERSHIP RETENTION MONTH

November 10 - Marine Corps Birthday

**November 11 – Veterans Day** and: Armistice Day (France), Remembrance Day (Britain) Remembrance Day (Canada)

November 11 – 17 Conduct Buddy Checks

November 14 – American Education Week

November 20 – National Family Week

November 24 – Thanksgiving Day

12/1 Civil Air Patrol Established (1941)

12/7 Pearl Harbor Day (1941) *and ALA 75% Membership Target*

12/15 Bill of Rights Day

12/20 Space Force Birthday

12/31 Official End of WWII (1946)/Kosovo Campaign Ended (2013)

**1/14/2023 – POALR PLUNGE CHALLENGE, Tybee Island**

1/16/23 Desert Storm (Persian Gulf) Began (1991)

1/27/23 Vietnam War Cease Fire (1973)

1/31/23 Panama Campaign Ended (1990)

FEBRUARY is AMERICANISM MONTH

2/5/23 – Four Chaplain’s Sunday

**March 24 – 26, 2023 – SPRING CONFERENCE**

APRIL is CHILDREN & YOUTH MONTH

**April 1 – 5, 2023 - ALA National President Visit to Savannah GA area.**

**National President’s Theme:**  
Honoring our Veterans Everyday

**Department Themes:**

**President:**  
Growing our Future in Georgia

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Leadership):**  
The Future being Built on Our Family

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Membership):**

**Membership Theme:**  
Growing our Future through Membership Engagement



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



American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Georgia  
Georgia Girls State

Bulletin # 1

November 2022

**Georgia Girls State will be held in** Valdosta, Georgia at Valdosta State University

June 11-16, 2023

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Interest in government, leadership, citizenship, honesty, scholarship, character, and completion of their junior year in high school.

**ORIENTATION:** Orientation should be a part of your Girls State plan so that the girls and their parents understand in advance what to expect upon arrival. Please call on a staff member or former citizen in your area to help with your orientation if help is needed.

**PUBLICITY:** Unit chairmen, be sure to contact local media for coverage as soon as your delegates have been selected. Many newspapers are willing to publish pictures and short articles about the program. Invite delegates to a unit meeting after the session to report to the unit.

**\*\*FEE:** Checks must be made out to Girls State and mailed to the Department Headquarters. **Send the fee of \$350.00** per girl to the American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters, 3035 Mt. Zion Road, Stockbridge, GA 30281 **before April 20, 2023** to assure space for your girls. Call the director for late payments of fees. Please do not hold the fees to make sure the girl plans to attend. Please **DO NOT** hold your unit check to make sure your girls are attending. This really hurts our program. Any money that is sent in helps Georgia Girls State even if your girls doesn't attend. If your girl backs out at the last minute, there are other worthy girls that the money can cover. It can also be a donation to the program to help cover other costs. We have expenses to pay before the session begins, so please do not hold the fees. Parents nor family members should not pay the fee for their daughter.

**DISTRICTS:** Each district is to elect a counselor and pay \$350.00 counselor fee. Please notify the director upon the election and have the counselor send the director a resume. Even if your district doesn't elect a counselor, the fee is still to be paid. I need counselors: Please contact me if interested!!

**APPLICATIONS:** The 2023 online application will be available on the website on February 25, 2023

**WEBSITE:** [www.georgiagirlsstate.org](http://www.georgiagirlsstate.org) Find information and all documents needed for girls' packets.

**EMAIL:** Georgia Girls State email: [georgiagirlsstate@gmail.com](mailto:georgiagirlsstate@gmail.com) for the director, Deedy Harrell

**PHONE number:** Deedy 770-337-7997 Call or text Or the Assistant Director, Gabriele Barnett: Cell 706-951-3906 (call or text) or email: [barnettgabriele@hotmail.com](mailto:barnettgabriele@hotmail.com) Application manager: Cynthia Orms: (478) 232-4831

**APRIL 20, 2023 Checks for \$350.00 per girl due to the Department Headquarters.**

**May 10, 2023** Complete online applications

**June 11, 2023 Arrival at Girls State between 1:00 and 3:00 PM**

**June 16, 2023 Graduation at 8:45 AM and departure by 1:00 PM**

Delays cause your girls to have difficulty in getting prepared for the program. If you find out that a girl is not coming after completing an application, please let us know. We make phone calls to all no shows and it will help us if we can limit the number of calls necessary. Let us know even up the last day. **Please join the Girls State Booster Club!!** Call Pat Morgan (229) 561-4070 for details.

Deedy Harrell, Director