

# DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA AUXILIARY NEWS



## A Word from the President

By Valerie Brown-Debro, Department President

### FEBRUARY NEWS



We have a lot to celebrate this month, Americanism, President's Birthday's, Valentine's Day. Love is in the air... When was the last time you felt all mushy inside? Make a commitment to renew your dedication to serving our veterans, active military, veterans and families. I promise you, it will bring back that feeling of love when you first joined the ALA. We had a wonderful time at our Mission training 101 in Orlando, gaining knowledge of who we are and what we do that matters. We engaged in member participation sharing ideas by creating menus ideas for our programs. I'm looking forward to seeing what Mission Training 201 will bring. If you haven't registered, it's not too late. It will be held March 28<sup>th</sup> in Tennessee. For more information visit National Website @ [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org)

**Are you ready for our Spring conference in Duluth?** If you enjoyed our Fall conference with the Skits and 100-year celebration, you're in for a treat with the plans that we have for our ALA Legion College on Saturday. **Please wear your RED Shirts for Legion College!** If you have any magazines, please bring them with you. We're going to create a 2020 ALA Vision Board. All hands-on deck! Don't forget the raffle, bring items to donate for the table and plenty of money to purchase tickets for the raffle items going towards the Commanders project. We still have Wine and Spirit Baskets, quilts, and tablets to raise funds.

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**Oh, how time flies!** The Commander's Homecoming Banquet will be held Saturday evening at 6:00 PM. please make plans to attend. Tickets are available for purchase for **\$42.00**, contact The American Legion Department Headquarters for your tickets.

Sunday at the Memorial Service, we will have the Poppy Anchor Dedication, looking forward to seeing the fabulous job 4<sup>th</sup> District has done with the Poppy Anchor. I'm looking forward in seeing you soon Angels, from my heart to yours, Happy Love sharing month!

For God and Country,

Valerie Brown-Debro  
ALA Department President  
2019-2020



# Secretary

By Patty Hawkins, Department Secretary

## Hoping everyone is enjoying 2020 so far this year!

**“In the New Year, may your right hand always be stretched out in friendship, never in want.”**

Renewal notices went out the last week of January. We had 744 members who received one. Some members had already paid and get crossed in the mail. On some of the notices the membership dues were incorrect. National will be doing a reprint and sending them out in the next week or two. If you have any doubt what you membership dues are contact you membership person to get the correct amount. It will save us all some time. Membership is very important to us, we value each and every ONE of you.

If you didn't get you form and funds in for the ALA MIS it is NOT too late.

**For any Unit that's wants ALA MIS access you have until January 15<sup>th</sup> to get you money into the office. It is only \$10 per person, up to TWO members with Access. The form is on the website under Membership. Districts can also have access but ONLY for the District President. The fee is the same \$10.**

Spring Conference/Spring College is coming up next month, so make plans to attend. We love to see our regular members but would love to see and meet new members. Please come join us.

You can find the Hotel/Homecoming forms in this newsletter. The earlier you get them in you can save some money.

Members Tell Me All The Time They Need Training, well Here Is Your Chance. We Have Department Leadership Beginning with Registration At 9am And Commence At 2:30pm. Please make every effort to attend at least one of these meetings.

### LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP FOR 2020

February 1 <sup>st</sup>	District 3	Unit 35 Columbus
February 8 <sup>th</sup>	District 2	Unit 30 Albany
February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	District 6	Unit 172 Warner Robins
February 29,	District 5	Unit 264 Mableton

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

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

Thank you all for a wonderful Leadership year it has been a pleasure to serve as your Leadership Chairman. We have had 8 Leadership workshops so far this year. I would like to thank those units that have sponsored a leadership workshop. They are Units 90,127,233,178,21,294,112 and 160. We have 3 remaining workshops to be held in February. February 1<sup>st</sup> will be held at Unit 35 in Columbus, February 22<sup>nd</sup> will be held at unit 172 Warner Robbins, and February 29<sup>th</sup> will be held at Unit 264 Mableton. I want to thank my Leadership team for all their hard work and dedication this year to make the leadership workshops a success, Pat Morgan 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Cheryl Sinkler Historian, and Anita Owens Past Department President. With our Spring Conference and College just around the corner I hope you can come out and join us in Duluth for a fun, productive and learning weekend.

A reminder that yearbooks, both District and Unit, are due to me no later than February 15<sup>th</sup>. Please follow the guidelines set out in the Program Unit and District Yearbook rules. You may either mail them to me at 15 Good Hope Hollow, Naylor GA. 31641 or email at [suem\\_66@yahoo.com](mailto:suem_66@yahoo.com)

Anyone interested in a Leadership position as either a chairman or on a committee please contact me either by phone or email. Remember that there is a leader in all of us just waiting to be discovered and



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

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

Congratulations to Units 312, 519, 23, 106, 264.332,135, 82, and 536 for reaching their 100% Department Goal. I am so proud of the hard work and dedication of these units. Unfortunately we still have 3 units on zero.

I encourage unit to organize a group of your members to contact those ladies who have yet to renew their membership. The personal touch is always welcome. Ask why they no longer attend meetings. Try changing up your meetings to make them more interesting. The 2<sup>nd</sup> renewal notices went out from National on January 15.

### ***Remember Membership is Everyone's Responsibility!!***

Our next membership Award goal is for the **Recruit/Rejoin 5** on Presidents Day – February 17, 2020. Recruit 5 new Junior or Senior members or Rejoin 5 members who have not paid membership since 2017 and you will receive a special gift from the National Membership Chairperson. All forms must be received, verified and entered into ALAMIS by the Department prior to February 17<sup>th</sup>.

The Spring Conference is just around the corner. I look forward to seeing you there!

If I can assist you in any way, please free to contact me by email at [pimorga@aol.com](mailto:pimorga@aol.com) or at 2229 Johnson Short Rd., Quitman, GA 31643.

Pat Morgan  
(229) 561-4070

**“Angels Working As One  
For Veterans”**



## HISTORIAN CORNER

By Cheryl Jackson Sinkler,



Hello ALL,

The Mission Delivery Training was held in Orlando, FL on January 11, 2019. Mission Delivery Training helps members better understand our mission of serving veterans, the military, and their families. The goal is to reduce obstacles that would prevent members from getting started.

All Auxiliary members who were in attendance received an abundance of information regarding The American Legion Auxiliary. On the of day of the training we were given assigned seating in which we sat with other Auxiliary members from various Units. This technique was used to lead us away from our comfort zones and enable members to meet and mix with some unfamiliar faces.

The presenters touched on many of our programs and discussed new approaches of how we can increase membership and participation, as well as clearly defining many of the programs we have. Some of those programs included VA&R, Membership, Americanism, Poppy program etc. There are several questions regarding policy and procedure within the organization. The Mission Training is where many of your questions can be answered. Please attend these trainings as you will gain a better knowledge of how to go about performing your positions responsibilities.

Trivia:

1. Who has been presented with the Public Spirit Award?
  - A. Madeline K. Albright
  - B. Karen Pence
  - C. Hillary Rodham Clinton
2. Where was the first ALA National Convention held?
  - A. Indianapolis, IN
  - B. Minneapolis, MN
  - C. Paris, France
  - D. Kansas City, MO
3. When is The American Legion Birthday?
  - A. November 11, 1919
  - B. March 15, 1919
  - C. January 1, 1919
4. What day will the American Legion Auxiliary celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday?
  - A. November 10, 2019
  - B. November 10, 1919
  - C. November 10, 2020

Answer: 1. (All) 2. (D) 3. (B) 4. (A)

# Department Chaplain

By: Gloria Smith Fox

## THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAPLAIN - JANUARY 2020

It's been awhile since I've written anything here or elsewhere. The holidays are so busy, and full of family and friends gathering to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas. There was also a lot of sadness this past year. The loss of family and friends was clearly heavy on minds and hearts. I knew that in my heart they all were going home for Christmas. For me my strength came from knowing that not only were we celebrating the birth of Jesus, we were celebrating His life as well. Because Jesus loved us so much, He made a way for us all to be together again someday. What a tremendous blessing and comfort to me and others that also realized our loved ones would be waiting for us when our time here on earth is done.

And then the New Year rolls in...by the way did you make your 2020 resolutions? I actually made some this year and have a sense of renewed energy to accomplish my new goals. As a member of the American Legion, we should all make some resolutions to increase our knowledge of what this wonderful organization does and how we can spread the word. Do you know there are actually people out there who are interested in finding out about us?? Yeah, not everyone knows. Let's get out there and find these folks and bring them in so that we can grow stronger to be the best military organization to support our active, retired military, their families and our community. Be there for our veterans who need our support when they are hurting and need more than just a thank you and a hug. That sometimes is all it takes to make their day!

Have a great January! Let's get a renewed spirit to bring those together who need us and support them in every way we can! Be sure to take care of your health. You cannot accomplish the mission anywhere if you are not taking care of yourself. And know that you cannot do it all by yourself. Set priorities in your personal and Legion responsibilities. Learn to adjust when emergencies or other duties become more urgent. You and your units will be a lot happier and much more productive. And it is ok to say no...lol. (I have learned how to do this...finally!)

Let me leave with this verse - Philippians 1:9-10. "And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;"

## 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.

## American Legion Auxiliary Honor Our Female Veterans

For Female Veterans who join as new members for the 2020 Membership Year, the national portion of dues (\$12) will be waived for their first year of membership.

The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Georgia voted at our Fall Conference in 2015, for Female Veterans who join as new members for the 2020 Membership Year, the Department's portion will also be waived for their first year of membership.

Some of the Units are waiving their membership portion as well.

Ladies this is one way we can Honor Our Female Veterans and build our membership. Lets' make them feel welcome!



**DEPARTMENT **SPRING CONFERENCE** - DULUTH**

**March 20-22, 2020**

***HOTEL RESERVATION***

***Sonesta Gwinnett Place Atlanta***

*1775 Pleasant Hill Road, Duluth, GA 30096*

**770-923-1775**

**Guest Information:**

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

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

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

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

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

**Payment Information**

***(Checks must be made out to the Hotel)***

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

Guarantee by credit card:  Visa  MasterCard  Am  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:** The Sonesta Gwinnett Place Atlanta Hotel is a NON-SMOKING HOTEL!

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

Please Check One:  King (one bed) \$117  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, February 7, 2020**

***Banquet and Registration Form  
DEPARTMENT SPRING CONFERENCE***

March 20-22, 2020: DULUTH, GA

*SONESTA GWINNETT PLACE ATLANTA*

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

Pre-registration before February 7, 2020 <> \$10.00

Registration on or after February 8, 2020 <> \$20.00

The **Commander's Homecoming Banquet** is Saturday evening 6:00 PM.

The cost of the Banquet is \$42.00 per person

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 February 7 \_\_\_\_\_ at \$10.00 per person: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Registering after February 7 \_\_\_\_\_ at \$20.00 per person: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending Commander's Banquet: \_\_\_\_\_ at \$42.00 per person: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reserved Tables are available for parties of 10 people: Names are required.**

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

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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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

The Department Executive Committee (D.E.C.) will meet on Friday evening, 6:00 PM, March 19, 2020. If you are a member of the DEC, you can check-in on the afternoon of March 19, 2020.

**DEADLINE: Friday, February 7, 2020**



# 2020 R/R 5 - Recruit & Rejoin 5

For members who recruit or rejoin five (5) or more junior or senior Auxiliary members into the 2020 membership year. Rejoined members must not have paid dues since 2017. **One entry per recruiter per deadline.**

Certified forms must be received at National Headquarters **no later than:**

Check one: \_\_\_\_\_ Feb. 17th, 2020      \_\_\_\_\_ June 14th, 2020

## CERTIFICATION FORM

*Please type or print legibly*

Recruiter's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter's Dept: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Name of New and/or Rejoined members

### Member ID

1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____

**Certified by Department Secretary:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Dept. Secretary  
printed name: \_\_\_\_\_ Dept: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dept Secretary Signature (required): \_\_\_\_\_

**\*I certify that all 5 members are new in 2020 - or last paid in 2017 or prior and rejoined into the 2020 year. I've provided or verified member ID's & that the form is filled out legibly & completely. DO NOT SEND INCOMPLETE FORMS or more than 1 form per recruiter.**

### Departments

Please either scan & email to:  
[membership@ALAforVeterans.org](mailto:membership@ALAforVeterans.org)  
(Subject line: R/R 5)

Or

Fax: 317-569-4502 (Attn: Membership)

Due to the unpredictability of mail, use the above methods of transmittal instead.

**\*Must be received at NHQ by midnight  
2/17/19 or 6/14/20**

**Form must be received at National Headquarters by Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> and/or June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to be eligible!  
Please have this form to your Dept HO office no less than one week prior to the deadlines!**

Each recruiter will receive a special gift selected by the 2020 National Membership Chairman

One award per award period per recruiter. Do not send multiple forms

## R/R 5 Award Details & Clarifications:

Please fill out ALL of the lines on the form completely & ACCURATELY (spelling & legibility of names is vital).

- **Due to the volume of forms we get right before the deadlines, incomplete forms (WITH LESS THAN 5 NAMES) and those with misspelled/illegible names that cannot be verified in ALAMIS may not be processed and time constraints will likely prevent department or national staff from informing about the need for or requesting corrected information.**
- **REJOINS must not have paid since 2017 to count.** A “rejoin” is someone who joins again after they’ve let their membership lapse more than 2 years. To rejoin, a unit should again verify the former member’s eligibility status (OR have her pay all of her back dues in lieu of doing so). Rejoins should not be entered as new members (even if changing units) - they keep their former member ID #.  
  
-Someone *renewing* their overdue 2018 or 2019 dues does NOT qualify as a “rejoin” ...but we do hope everyone checks in on these members and encourages them to renew their past due membership!
- **NOTE THAT THE DEPARTMENT SECRETARIES MUST VERIFY & SIGN ALL OF THE FORMS. Allow ample time to get them to the Dept Secretary before each deadline. NEITHER NATIONAL NOR DEPT’S WILL ACCEPT FORMS AFTER THE DEADLINE.**
- Dept Secretaries: Please do NOT mail forms after you’ve already scanned or faxed them. We just need them once!
- It is extremely helpful to the staff at National HQ if these forms are transmitted *as frequently as possible (i.e. as a member gets their 5<sup>th</sup> recruit/rejoin or as soon as the department receives the form)*. National literally get hundreds at once near the deadlines.
- Please note...once a member (recruiter) has sent in their first “Recruit/Rejoin 5” form (*or been awarded the 2020 10 x 10 Award which automatically qualified them for the first R/R 5 award period – they do NOT have to submit this form in addition to the 10x10 form*), but goes on to recruit/rejoin others, they can start keeping track of & submit those additional people on one additional R/R 5 Award form for the June 14<sup>th</sup> deadline. Only one of each gift per award period per person.
- Multiple forms (from several members) can all be mailed in one envelope saving postage costs. Or, better yet, most departments happily accept scanned/emailed forms...or faxes if they have fax.
- *The “Recruit/Rejoin 5” gifts may be mailed periodically as received or shortly after the end of each award period.*
- Some sort of award will be offered each year...the annually updated forms are housed in the “Member’s Only” area of the ALA website on the “Membership Committee” page or you can request them from your department. Each year is a clean slate so members can earn them every year
- The “Recruit or Rejoin 1” and “Recruit 10” awards from previous years are discontinued/invalid.

*Note that TAL /SAL members can earn this award for recruiting/rejoining ALA members, too. Share this with your Legion family*



# 9-11 ANGEL CARE BAGS FOR HOMELESS FEMALE VETERANS 2019-2020 WISH LIST

## PERSONAL ITEMS

- Tampons (plastic applicator, mixed strength) or sanitary napkins
- Facial wash Daily mini pads Body wash or soap or oil Wet wipes, face wipes, makeup remover wipes Body mist or perfume Lip gloss, lipstick or Chap stick or Neutrogena SPF 20 lip balm
- Deodorant (stick only) Toothbrush, Toothpaste, dental floss, Mouthwash, Body lotion,
- Good razors, shaving gel (non-aerosol) Baby powder, Nail file, clippers, Foot cream or powder
- Q-Tips, cotton balls - Eye drops - Hand sanitizer- Insect repellent - Band-Aids, Icy Hot pads or gel Neutral makeup, Eye shadow, YES, Brand Products! particularly facial cleansing & moisturizer wipes

## HAIR PRODUCTS

- Hair ties, Bobby pins, Clips, Comb, brush, Head bands, Bonnets, Shampoo & Conditioner, Mousse or styling gel, Moisturizing Hair oil grease.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- A token reminder of Seasonal holiday \* Pens \* Note Paper \* Tote Bags \* Purses
- Cards - Letters or notes Thanking them for their service
- Cross word puzzles – Deck of Cards
- Pocket mirror
- Comfy black or brown soft socks/ footsies
- Teddy Bear

*All items will be donated to our local Domiciliary & Shelter for Female Veterans.*

### **STATISTICS: Homeless women veterans in Georgia slowly, steadily rise in numbers.**

Georgia Homelessness Statistics. As of January 2018, had an estimated **9,499** experiencing homelessness on any given day. Female veterans are the fastest growing segment of the homeless veteran population. While the exact number of homeless female veterans is unknown, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (**HUD**) requires an annual count of homeless people in communities across the country known as the Point-in-Time Count. On a single night in January 2014, volunteers identified **4,722** female veterans representing 10 percent of the total homeless veteran population. The number of homeless female veterans has more than tripled since 2006 when 1,380 women were counted. Despite the fact that women veterans have not been treated equal, so say that they are more likely to be underemployed than their civilian counterparts, more likely to commit suicide, and more likely to end up homeless. **Don't underestimate the POWER & STRENGTH OF WOMAN.** We are the link that connects the bond. We can do all things through Christ Who strengthens us.



**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

February 12, 2020  
 February 14, 2020  
 February 17, 2020  
 February 26, 2020

Lincoln's Birthday  
 Valentine's Day  
 Presidents' Day  
 Ash Wednesday

March 20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Spring Conference  
 Sonesta Gwinnett  
**DEC Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> 6:00PM**

June 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Department Convention  
 Sonesta Gwinnett  
**DEC Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> 6:00PM**

**Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday American Legion Auxiliary!!!!**  
**"A Century worth Celebrating"**  
**NOVEMBER 10, 1919 - 2019**  
**Still going strong 😊**



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

