

# DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA AUXILIARY NEWS

March 2020  
Volume 10, Issue 8



## A Word from the President

By Valerie Brown-Debro, Department President

### 9-11 ANGELS SERVING EVERY VETERAN



Greetings Angels, we have been busy serving our veterans, traveling though the State of Georgia. Just to give you a few highlights of my travels since our last posting. I did have the opportunity to attend one of the Four Chaplain Ceremonies in Pike County. It was a wonderful tribute to the Four Chaplains. Also, I visited a few Units, Leadership Workshops and Luncheons. I had the pleasure to sit in on a few oratorical contests to listen to these young men and ladies speak it's totally amazing. The youth were fabulous speakers and very knowledgeable of the U.S. Constitution. I gave each speaker one of my Presidents Pin. It made me proud to be in attendance of such grace and honor.

I had the opportunity to visit Lake City, FL Veterans Hospital along with TAL Family, we met with the Director, Thomas Wisnieski, Chief of Staff Dr. John and other staff to go over the health and well-being of our veterans. We shared our concerns of the facility, the progress of training the staff and overall care for our veterans. After our meeting, we toured the 130 Bed facility in which 30 Units were under renovation. We received a wish list of the items they could use; Patty sent the wish list as well as the list of the other VA facilities that we serve to our members. Together with the donations we receive through fundraisers, the miles we drive and time we spend on the roads, it's our volunteer hours and dedicated service, we are contributing to make a difference in the lives our veterans.

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March is a busy month!

Women's Veterans Month, D.C Conference, Legions Birthday, Spring Conference in Duluth, Tennessee Hospital tour and ALA National Mission Training #201 in TN. It's a lot and we can't do everything or go everywhere but together, one of us is bringing awareness in the Auxiliary. Keeping our presence visible, we're getting it done! hope to see some of you while we cover the events. Please let me know if you have any special plans for Legion's Birthday celebration, or any events that you are hosting, I would love to attend some of your events.

Thank you for serving together with me.  
For God and Country.

Valerie Brown-Debro

**Time Changes March 8<sup>th</sup>, so don't  
forget to set your clocks  
forward.**

# Secretary

By Patty Hawkins, Department Secretary

**We have great News!!**  
**Our new website is ready 😊**

[www.aladeptga.com](http://www.aladeptga.com)

**Please go an explore!!**

**Thanks to Judy Lively for doing this for us.  
She has done a wonderful job!**

**Thanks to Deana Rowe for doing our very  
first one and for keeping it going so long.**

**Corrected Renewal NOTICES went out  
the last week.**

Renewal notices went out the last week of January. We had 744 members who received one. Some members had already paid and got 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.

Our country's 22 million veterans need the American Legion Auxiliary. Only because of YOU can we continue our mission outreach, make a difference in our communities, and have an impact advocating for our military, veterans, and their families.

**Thank you for continuing your ALA membership!**

.....  
Hope everyone has made their room reservation for the Spring Conference/College. If not go to our NEW website to get the forms.

We are asking the Chairpersons' to email their reports into the Secretary and President, so we can have them on file. The sooner the better.

We have a great program planned. Shaking thing up a bit. Now you know you wouldn't want to miss something exciting.

We will be having a Silent Auction, so don't forget to bring some great items.

Remember DEC 6pm March 19<sup>th</sup>. See you there!!!

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

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

Spring is in the Air, don't forget to set your clocks forward on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

It has been a great Leadership year, we reached out to not only our long-time members but also many new members and leaders. I had three goals in mind when I began this journey this year. The first goal was for the Leadership Workshops to be fun for the members to attend. The second was for the attendees to learn something new, and third for them to make a new friend. I believe that my leadership team accomplished all three of these goals at every workshop across the state. Thank You All!!!!

As we begin to look forward let us remember our mission and our purpose in the American legion Auxiliary. Service Not Self, we are here to service our Veterans, the Military and their families, and participate and contribute to the aims and purposes of the American Legion.

Thank you to the 5 Units and 1 District that sent in their yearbooks. I will have the winners at the Spring Conference, and you may pick up your books from me there. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Duluth at the Spring Conference on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Reminder if you would like to be a Program Chairman or on a committee for the 2020-2021 year please reach out to me, Thank you.

Happy St. Patrick's Day to everyone.  
"The Quality of a Leader is reflected in the Standards they set for themselves"  
Ray Kroc

Susan Hall  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Suem\_66@yahoo.com

## ATTENTION: VA&R REPS MEETING

When: Spring Conference Thursday March 19, 2020  
Time: 4:00pm

There will be a meeting for all VA Reps at Spring conference on Thursday, March 19th at 4PM in the Independence Room. Please try to attend maybe somebody from finance committee can come to answer any questions about our finance reports. We are trying really hard to improve our reports.

Thank you very much.  
Miriam Stein VA&R CHAIRMAN

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

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

Units have been working really hard on membership. WE are now at 77.31% with 5,520 paid members toward our goal of 7140. We now have 13 units at 100% or better and several units are only a couple of members away from making goal. We now have no units on Zero!!

National is working on a campaign to reach out to expired and former members to keep our momentum going. Emails went out February 24<sup>th</sup> to former members, who have email, to invite them to once again be a part of the American Legion Auxiliary community. This campaign is to keep the membership momentum going!

The Unit Officer Form, Dues rate change and the form naming who will be handling your unit membership will be coming out soon. Remember, only the Membership Chairman or the Unit President will be able to receive your 2020-21 membership cards.

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,

Our last Leadership training is this Saturday, at Unit 264 in Mableton. I hope to see many of you who were unable to attend prior trainings. You will receive answers to the questions you have been asking. New members should attend the training. However, if you have attended any of these trainings held at your Unit, this Leadership training should be included in your history reports. Remember the 5 W's (who, what, why, when and where) and sometimes "how", when writing your reports.

During the Leadership training we discussed the importance of keeping a factual account of events at each Unit. We also discussed it doesn't only include events held at your Unit. Your report should include all your Unit has took part in as well.

Recording your Units history is important to current and new members of your Unit. Not to mention a potential member who may want to know more about the organization and what your Unit has contributed to the organization and its growth. This an opportunity to have your book on display, which could attract potential new members.

Another reason why it is good to have a history book which was mentioned in the Leadership training. You may want to revisit an event, fundraiser and view how well or not well the event was received and possibly implement the event, fundraiser once again if it went well.

Pictures are a part of your history, YES, but writing it down describes the picture.

We are weeks away from our Spring conference! I hope to see many of you there.

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

# Department Chaplain

By: Gloria Smith Fox

## Notes from the Chaplain

Seems like just yesterday it was the holiday season. For some it went by fast, but for some it was like it would not end. Now all of a sudden, it's March! Beginning of spring from a winter we barely had. Oh yeah, the temps got down but we really didn't have a winter season.

So, when we think about this span of time, we also need to remember there were a lot of family and friends who had some really rough days that turned into months. Numbness and just barely getting thru the days are a little easier. Our minds still wander about the loved ones we've lost. The harsh reality is that life here goes on and for those who were not directly affected or influenced we have a tendency to forget our family and friends who were directly in the darkness of a lost loved one.

We cannot stay in the darkness, for that is not where God would have us to be in our life journey. Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8 (KJV) says "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace."

The real message here is that we all need to be diligent to reach out again to all those who have lost a loved one. Be willing to listen to how they are doing, feeling, if they need something if nothing but an ear to listen, a hand to hold, a hug and most definitely a continuing prayer. May we all remember to be sensitive to those who plates are full, that compassion is not just for a day, and that we all will face days when we need someone to remember us...just when we need it.

May God bless you all each and every day! Spring is coming, not only in the weather...but in our hearts as well.

Gloria Smith Fox  
Department of Georgia Auxiliary Chaplain  
Email: [amlegauxglo@gmail.com](mailto:amlegauxglo@gmail.com)  
Cell: 478-293-4043

## 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!

**American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Georgia  
Georgia Girls State March 2020**

**WHERE:** Statesboro, Georgia at Georgia Southern University

**WHEN: June 7– 12, 2020**

**Fee is \$300.00 per girl**

**District Counselor Fee of \$300.00 and counselor selection is due ASAP**

**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 in your area to help with your orientation if help is needed. Former Girls Citizens can also be helpful when getting students prepared for the session.

**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.

As many of you already know, Georgia Girls State 2020 will use an Online Application. The 2020 online application is on the website. A few changes have been made. <http://www.georgiagirlsstate.org>

In the Online Application, there is a ‘Need Help?’ drop down menu. If you have General Girls State questions, you may click on ‘General Questions’ and complete the form. I will receive this information and respond accordingly. If you have technical questions or are experiencing any issues with the application itself, click on ‘Technical Questions,’ complete the form, and our Technical Support Team will contact you directly.

You may contact Cynthia Orms directly ([cmorms65@gmail.com](mailto:cmorms65@gmail.com)) or her cell 478-232-4831) to assist you with the applications again this year.

Please note that the Application is divided into multiple sections which are completed by the different parties involved (i.e., Auxiliary, Student, School and Parent/Guardian). Each section requires a different set of credentials to complete it. Please notify your high schools of these changes.

**FEE:** Checks must be made out to Girls State and mailed to the Department Headquarters. **Send the fee of \$300.00 per girl to the American Legion Auxiliary Department Headquarters, 3035 Mt. Zion Road, Stockbridge, GA 30281 before April 20, 2020** to assure space for your girls.

If you find out that a girl is not coming after having sent in her application, please let us know. We make phone calls to all no shows on Sunday, June 7, 2020, and it will help us if we can limit the number of calls necessary. Let us know even up the last day.

After I received the application, I will send the forms packets to the girls. If you plan to print the forms packet for your girls, please **MAKE** sure the documents are for the current year. The system will email forms to all girls, but you can provide copies of the current forms to the girls.

**WEBSITE:** [www.georgiagirlsstate.org](http://www.georgiagirlsstate.org) On the website you will be able to get applications and all documents necessary for girls’ packets. Please do not give the girls old or past years’ documents.

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

**PHONE number:** 770-337-7997 (Cell) Call or text.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

**APRIL 20, 2020 Checks for \$300.00 per girl due to the Department Headquarters**

**June 7, 2020 Arrival at Girls State between 1:00 and 3:00 PM**

**June 12, 2020 Graduation at 8:45 AM and departure by 1:00 PM**

If your unit or district has funds, but no girls, please let me know because I have many girls, parents and schools contacting me for sponsorship.

Please join the Girls State Booster Club!! This gives the girls extras that are not a part of the fee.

We accept donations for extra staff members and necessary supplies for the program. **THANKS!**

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks for your support of American Legion Auxiliary Georgia Girls State.

Deedy Harrell, Director

# UNIT REVITALIZATION

## HOW TO CULTIVATE ACTIVE MEMBERS

Encourage members to attend meetings and/or participate in volunteer events.

Think about your membership roster. Many members may not attend meetings or only attend occasionally. You may not hear from them but they pay their dues. These members are part of your Unit and you must never forget, without them, there would be no American Legion Auxiliary.

It is worth the effort to encourage and motivate members to attend meetings and events. Putting information about upcoming meetings and events in a newsletter or contacting the members via phone or email will result in more attendees. If you make no effort at all, there is almost a 100% probability that no one will come.

Each Unit can develop a balanced program to include meetings, newsletter, personal contact and, more importantly, meaningful opportunities to participate in our mission outreach projects.

Coming up next – specific information on meetings, newsletters and personal contact. Stay tuned!

For God and Country, Sarah Zingarelli, chairman

## Juniors Corner

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Can you believe the year is almost over? This month we will be having our Spring Conference, with the Juniors meeting on Saturday, March 21, 2020, 9 am - 4 pm.

Our Honorary Junior President Willa Payton's special project is Suicide Prevention Awareness, her theme is "Be a Guardian Angel to Our Veterans". She is collecting purses and personal hygiene items for homeless female veterans. If you have anything collected please bring it with you to the conference.

If your Juniors are participating in the Junior Patch program, please be sure to send the paperwork for each patch to me. I cannot get their patches without the individual patch paperwork.

I hope to see your Juniors at the Spring Conference.

For God and Country,  
Peggi Payton  
Juniors Activities Chair

# Resolutions

Joann Meadows, Chairperson

Resolution must be in the hand of the Resolution Chairperson NO later than June 4, 2020 (NOT just postmarked June 4, 2020). Mail three copies to: Joann Meadows, 105 Woodridge Drive, NW, Woodridge Estates, Calhoun GA. 30701-9424 and one copy to: American Legion Auxiliary, Dept of GA., 3035 Mount Zion Rd., Stockbridge, GA 30281 to arrive NO later than June 4, 2020. If you need another one it is on the website [www.alagaddeptga.com](http://www.alagaddeptga.com) under Member Resources.

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FORMS to be updated and added to our NEW WEBSITE:  
[www.aladdeptga.com](http://www.aladdeptga.com)

All of our yearly forms will be loaded onto our NEW WEBSITE [www.aladdeptga.com](http://www.aladdeptga.com) this week. List of forms that will be updates: Delegates/Alternates, District Officers form, Unit Officers yearly form, Unit Data Form 2021 and 2021 Dues Rate Change.

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

Don't forget to bring items to help provide for our Female Veterans which are will be donated to our local Domiciliary & Shelter for our Homeless Female Veterans who have served our Country.

Thank you in advance for sharing and caring for All our Veterans.

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HOTEL RESERVATION FORMS ON NEW WEBSITE: [www.aladdeptga.com](http://www.aladdeptga.com)

Spring 2020 Conference Hotel forms  
2020 Department Convention forms  
National Convention in Louisville Marriott Downtown forms

LOOK FOR THE DEADLINES ON THE FORMS



**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

March 8, 2020	Day Light Saving Time
March 17, 2020	St. Patrick's Day
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

