

DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA AUXILIARY NEWS

October 2019
Volume 10, Issue 4



A Word from the President

By Valerie Brown-Debro, Department President

OCTOBER REFLECTIONS

Happy Fall Everyone! It's a beautiful day when we can come together for the good of the organization. Have you been keeping up with your reports on the programs? We're expecting 100% reporting in all areas of who we are and what we do that matters. Working our programs and sharing ideas with our members.

Many things are going on this month. We have plenty of changes in our Constitution and Bylaws. You don't want to miss this information! Please make plans to come out to our Fall Conference. **Everyone that attends** will receive **(1)** one of our National President, Nicole Clapp's Pin. Celebrating a Century of Service.

Please bring your fabulous new items to donate to our raffle table which will take place on Saturday. All proceeds received goes towards our Commanders Project, Veterans Hospitals. My special project is Homeless Female Veterans. Your District President has the sheet with the items that we are collecting for that project.

Ladies, bring plenty of money to bid on the items that will be raffled. You can make monetary donations if you choose. I have tickets for Quilts, Throw Pillows, 7 Inch Tablets, Wine & Cheese Baskets. Let's have fun while raising funds for our veterans. Also, I have asked for every Post Commander to contribute to our spirit basket. Please ask your Post Commander for His/her donation for our

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fundraiser basket and bring it with you to the conference or contact me personally for the drop off arrangements.

Who's in for the challenge? I have a special surprise for you that will be announced at our Saturday meeting. Buzz ... Buzz... Buzz... **Let's talk about "Relationship Building"** - Below are a few tips that I found are helpful when team building. I pray that these tips help you to develop a more positive and healthy relationships in all areas of your life: **Remember, It's not all about you!**

- (1) Accept and celebrate differences...
- (2) Listen effectively...
- (3) Give people your time...
- (4) Develop your communication skills...
- (5) Manage mobile technology...
- (6) Learn to give and take feedback...
- (7) Learn to trust more...
- (8) Develop empathy...
- (9) Be genuine and sincere...
- (10) Respect yourself and others...

People may not always remember what you said, they will always remember what impact you made in their lives.

Valerie Brown-Debro

Secretary

By Patty Hawkins, Department Secretary

Many new exciting things coming down from National Headquarters. Be on the lookout for them.

National Convention was very eventful, with some interesting changes in membership and Constitution/ By-Laws.

New Membership Application Included in this newsletter. They are on the National Website. I am not sure when I can start ordering them.

Fall Conference is Oct 18th DEC meeting 6pm and October 19 & 20th at the Sonesta Hotel in Duluth. Please come and join us for some fun.

Challenge: The Unit that has the most 10 x 10 Award winners will be recognize in the newsletter with their picture.

The Annual Program Reports are being updated and will be loaded the 1st week of October. Please be patient as they may not all get there the same day. All the Rules and Regulations for Awarding Department Trophies have been updated and is on the website.

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.

LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS

OCTOBER 5, 2019	DISTRICT 11 - UNIT 178 AUGUSTA	9AM
OCTOBER 12, 2019	DISTRICT 12 - UNIT 336 LAKELAND	9AM
NOVEMBER 23, 2019	DISTRICT 5 - UNIT 294 POWDER SPRINGS	9AM
JANUARY 18, 2020	DISTRICT 5 - UNIT 160 SMYRNA	9AM
JANUARY 25, 2020	DISTRICT 8 - UNIT 69 ALMA	9AM
FEBRUARY 1, 2020	DISTRICT 3 - UNIT 35 COLUMBUS (TENTATIVE)	
FEBRUARY 8, 2020	DISTRICT 2 - UNIT 30 ALBANY	9AM
FEBRUARY 22, 2020	DISTRICT 6 - UNIT 172 WARNER ROBINS	9AM

NEWS from VA& R Chairman Miriam Stein

Ladies, hello and I know you are working for our veterans. Georgia Angels please get them fundraisers going earning that money for the veterans. You need to send the money as soon as possible to Dept. for the Gift shops. The reps need to start shopping early to make our money go further. We have to hit those bargains. It takes a lot of gifts for our hospitals. Remember our mission is for our veterans. Thank you for what you do for veterans! Miriam Stein

1st Vice President / Leadership

By Susan Hall, Dept. 1st Vice President

Fall is in the air, the weather will hopefully be cooling down, but the leadership workshops are in full swing. The Leadership team has been working hard so far this year, traveling to units in Georgia to bring you a great deal of information in a fun and productive way. Thank you to Units 90 Statesboro, 127 Buford and unit 233 Loganville for hosting the Leadership workshops in September. I encourage units and districts to have your officers attend these workshops. There are a lot of changes happening with the American Legion Auxiliary that effect all members, that is being covered at the workshops. The following workshops will be conducted in October; October 5th, Unit 178 Augusta, October 12th Unit 21 Tifton. Registration for all workshops will begin at 9:00am and the workshops will begin promptly at 9:30am and concluding at 2:30pm.

The National organization will be conducting 2 mission trainings this year. The first to be held in Orlando on January 11th starting at 8am and ending around 4pm. The Junior conference will also be held at the same time. The second will be held in Nashville, Tenn. On March 28th from 8am to 4pm, I encourage any officer or members that has not attended a National Training in the past to attend one of these training sessions. You can register for the mission training sessions at www.alaforveterans.org.

If there is anything that I can do to help please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing you at the Fall Conference on October 18th – 20th.

“The Art of communication is the language of Leadership”
James Humes

Susan Hall
Department Vice President
Leadership Chairman
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2nd Vice President/Membership

By Pat Morgan, Department 2nd Vice President

Our Georgia Angels are working diligently on membership but we still have several units still on zero. National has sent out the first renewal notices. Make sure you don't hold membership. Send in renewals as you receive them.

The first awards date is November 10, 2019. Units who increase their membership by 1 member over last year's membership (as of July 27, 2019) by the Auxiliary Birthday are eligible to receive \$100 from National. One way is to encourage the spouses of our female veteran members to join the Auxiliary.

Reach out to previous members who have not renewed in several years. Invite them to a round table to find out why they did not renew. This will give you an opportunity for them to rejoin and for your unit to correct any issues and in turn not lose any existing members.

Ask your members "Why have you stayed in the Auxiliary?" Use this information to assist you in rejoining previous members.

I look forward to seeing you at the Fall Conference. If I can assist you in any way, you may contact me by email at 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, Department Historian



I believe our flag is more than just cloth and ink. It is a universally recognized symbol that stands for liberty, and freedom. It is the history of our nation, and it's marked by the blood of those who died defending it.

Reminder your Mid-Year Reports are Due, December 15th. Please use this time to start writing your Units history, thus far.

We as Historians, for the American Legion Auxiliary, by now, have collected pertinent information to begin your history books!! Remember to keep all records of your Units activities as it happens.

I look forward to viewing all our Units History books submitted this year. Let's have a record-breaking year of History Book submittals. I would like to see Mid-Year and End-of-the-Year reports submitted in abundance from Units as well. No history is to SMALL.

DID YOU KNOW?!!

Founded in **1919**, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) helps to advance the mission of The American Legion. With nearly three-quarters of a million members, it is the world's largest women's patriotic service organization and one of the nation's most prominent supporters of veterans, military, and their families.

Mission Statement

In the spirit of Service, Not Self, the mission of the **American Legion Auxiliary** is to support The **American Legion** and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad.

Cheryl Jackson-Sinkler
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Department Chaplain

By: Gloria Smith Fox

NO REPORT

VA& R Request

Miriam Stein wants to remind everyone we will be collecting white socks and comfort items at Fall Conference for the VA Hospitals and GA War Nursing homes.

POPPY ANCHOR HELP NEEDED

Dear ALA Department of GA Districts,

First of all my greatest thanks to Barbers McGee, Past President of District 5, for going out of her way to get me all the stuff 4th District will need to get the Poppy Anchor for 2020 started. My district was so happy to know we already had much of what was needed to start construction.

For those who don't know, District 4 is quite small with 8 units. While we are gearing up and ordering poppies, we're learning that some of my units can not afford to get the necessary amount of poppies needed to complete the Anchor. My own unit has found that we will wipe out our account, and needing to dip into other monies, in order to help complete this project.

If at all possible, District 4 would greatly appreciate any help with sending in unused poppies. Please email me at keirku@gmail.com with any questions and for the address.

Sincerest thanks,
Emily Anderson
President
American Legion Auxiliary, District 4

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!

COVENTION

Male spouses may now join the American Legion Auxiliary

The American Legion has voted to extend membership in the American Legion Auxiliary to male spouses of U.S. veterans and servicemembers. During The American Legion National Convention in Indianapolis in August, delegates of The American Legion voted to replace the word "wife" with "spouse" in their constitution and bylaws, opening up membership in the American Legion Auxiliary. Follow [this link](#) to read more about this change and the opportunities it brings to ALA membership.

Second Lady Karen Pence receives ALA Public Spirit Award

Second Lady of the United States Karen Pence addressed the National Convention body Aug. 28 as she received the American Legion Auxiliary Public Spirit Award. Mrs. Pence talked about the spouses and families who serve alongside our servicemembers. [Click here](#) to read more.

Iowa member elected 2019-2020 national president

Nicole Clapp from the Department of Iowa was elected national president for our centennial year. Read more about her focus for the 2019-2020 administrative year in the November issue of *Auxiliary* magazine. [Learn more](#) about Clapp and the national officers who will be serving alongside her.

Resolutions passed

The National Convention body passed several amendments to national committee structure changes, which will streamline those committees and make them more efficient. This included eliminating the number of committee members for a handful of programs. Contact your 2019-2020 National Executive Committeemember for further information about the structure changes.

- **Two new updates will affect ALA eligibility:**

- The LEGION Act was signed by POTUS in July of 2019 which no longer requires The Legion, and thus the ALA, to verify which time period a veteran served....we just have to verify now that they served for at least one day of active duty (and boot camp from the 1960's on counts as active duty).
- Male spouses of Legion members (or Legion-eligible deceased veterans) will be eligible to join as of Sept. 1, 2019....but no other categories of males (not sons, grandsons, fathers, or brothers). The male spouses are subject to the same rules of eligibility as female spouses – if the veteran spouse of the male spouse is living, he/she must be a current TAL member in good standing; if the veteran spouse of the male spouse is deceased, he/she has to provide documentation of his/her veteran spouse's service showing they served at least one day of active duty. This makes male spouses of female TAL members/veterans now eligible. Federal law legalized same sex marriage so as long as a male TAL member is legally married to his male partner, that partner/spouse is eligible to join the ALA.
***Common law marriage is only recognized in a few states, but for those that do recognize it legally, so does the ALA.*

- **New applications will be forthcoming in Sept that reflect both of these changes. Please keep an eye out for these...they should be posted/distributed by your dept but will always be on the national website. ***New applications will be on our website here in the box in the upper right: <https://www.alaforveterans.org/Joining/>***
- You can use up old applications if you want....just write in a box for “Male spouses/widowers” in the “Applicants relationship to Veteran” area.....and a box for “Other conflicts/service periods” in the “Veteran Served” section for those who served during a time not currently listed.





American Legion Auxiliary MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name _____ (First) _____ (M.I.) _____ (Last)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

_____ / _____ / _____ Birth - 17 18 and over

Date of Birth (Required) _____ Unit # _____ Location _____

Have you been a member previously? Yes No (If yes, fill in below.)

Previous Unit City/State _____ ALA ID # (if known) _____

_____ / _____ / _____

Signature of Applicant (or legal guardian if under 18) _____ Date _____

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Eligible Through—Name of Veteran (Female Veterans: List Your Own Name) _____

If Living: _____

American Legion Member ID # _____ Post # _____ City _____ State _____

Deceased—If veteran is deceased, contact ALA unit about the necessary military records.
For Veteran's DD214 Discharge Papers: www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records

Veteran Served:

WWI (4/6/1917-11/11/1918)

Anytime After 12/7/1941 (check all that apply):

Global War on Terror Panama Vietnam WWII

Gulf War Lebanon/Grenada Korea Other Conflicts

Applicant's Relationship to the Veteran:

Male Spouse Female Spouse Mother Grandmother Sister Self

Daughter Granddaughter

To Be Completed By The American Legion Post Adjutant/Officer

I certify that the above named individual served at least one day of active duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or is still serving honorably.

Post Adjutant/Officer Membership Verification _____ / _____ / _____ Date _____

HELP US GET YOU CONNECTED!

I am interested in learning more about:

- Volunteering for Veterans, Military, and Their Families
- Youth Activities, Including ALA Girls State, Junior Member Programs, and Scholarships
- Member Discounts and Services
- Other

Please contact the following individual about volunteering or joining the American Legion Auxiliary:

Name _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Recruiter's Name _____ Unit/Post # _____ City _____

Submit this application to the ALA unit you wish to join. If unit is unknown, contact National Headquarters at (317) 569-4500 for assistance. Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. *Membership pending approval of application.*



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 2019

October 14, 2019	Columbus Day
October 16, 2019	Boss's Day
October 19, 2019	Sweetest Day
October 31, 2019	Halloween Day
November 3, 2019	Daylight Saving Time (Turn back clocks)
November 10, 2019	Happy birthday , ALA! 100th
November 11, 2019	Veterans' Day

October 18 - 20th

**Department Conference
DEC October 18 @ 6pm**

Happy 100th 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

