

DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA AUXILIARY NEWS

October 2020
Volume 10, Issue 15



A Word from the President

By Valerie Brown-Debro, Department President



Greetings ALA Angels! Fall is here, and summer is behind us, bundle up and let's continue to press forward for a fresh start working our programs. In sadness, we loss one of our Past Department President's, 2009-2010 Betty D. Williams of Unit 512 and Unit 296 Auxiliary sister, Joan Jones. I've had reports that many of our members or family members are ill, some dealing with recovery from surgery and some afflicted with mental depression or incurable diseases. Please keep all our families in your prayers.

If you or someone you know have prayer request or been afflicted with illness and want us to include them on our prayer list, please keep us informed. If requested, names can be withheld from being announced. There is nothing like the Power of Prayer! Prayerfully, we will have a Chaplain by our next newsletter. As a reminder: **FALL CONFERENCE has been CANCELED!**

CONGRATULATIONS to our 65' Samsung TV ALA Department Fundraiser, the winner was drawn at our Department headquarters on 9/11 and shared live on Facebook. The winner was **JUDY LIVELY** of Unit 201 Alpharetta member! (*applause*) Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets! Together, we raised a total of \$2450 for our Department general funds.

Judy has graciously donated the TV back to department so that we could raise more funds for headquarters. You will have another chance at winning the TV, just in time for the holidays and football games.

The Top (5) Winners that sold the highest amount tickets will receive the Presidents Challenge Coin. **Judy Lively** sold (73), **June Moore** sold (48) **Anitia Owens** sold (48), **Susie Mash** sold (33) and **District 3** sold (30). Thank you, ladies on a job well done! (*applause*)

The American Legion National Commander put a challenge 100 Miles for hope by veteran's day. There is a \$30 registration fee that includes a T-Shirt. All proceeds go to support the veterans and Children Foundation!

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Information available at:

<https://www.legion.org/100miles>

#100milesforhope

ALA National President has started visiting states during COVID-19. Follow her journey on Facebook. If your Unit has re-opened or you are still having zoom meetings, please share what you're doing to work our programs. I'm always on social media looking for how we can promote our awareness in the public and practicing safe measures while doing so.

Tell People: Who we are and What we do and Why we as the ALA matter. **Let's add:** What really matters to you as a member or volunteer? Who really matters to you as a member or volunteer?

If you haven't done so, please visit our ALA National website, ALA has launched the Academy full of new courses and information. I've had the honor to be on webinars with ALA National Headquarters topics "VAVS Orientation" and virtual "Mission Delivery Basic Training". There is an awesome Basic Training PowerPoint and ALA Mission Menu to assist units in working the programs, make sure to check it out!

If there is anything that I could do to assist or enhance your knowledge about our organization, please don't hesitate contacting me.

Valerie.Debro@yahoo.com

P.S. I want to thank those members that send me a personal text or encouraging scripture, just to let me know that you care and together, we do make a difference in the lives of others.

God Bless,
Valerie Brown-Debro
9/11 Serving Every Veteran

Secretary

By Pattv Hawkins, Department Secretary

I am missing seeing all those pretty faces. Hope everyone is staying safe and we can gather together soon. Hugs to all.

Please note that Obligations are Mandatory Obligations. That means every unit no matter the size must pay each year. If you have not paid your 2019-2020 Obligations, they need to be paid immediately. The 2020-2021 Obligation forms are on the website. They can be paid now. If you have any questions just call us.

****Please make sure all your Department Obligations are paid each year. *****

You can find the forms on www.aladeptga.com, our website under Member Resources. We have lots of important information 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.

Some units are opening back up, communicating, working on our programs and membership. It is very important to reach out to our members during these trying times. Some are very lonely and may not have family. So ladies PLEASE do a Buddy Check. What you send out is what you get back.

Membership renewals went out September 15th for the 2021 year. Please remit your membership dues asap. We have 3 Units that have reached 100%. Remember Membership is everyone's responsibility. Do your share, you might meet a new friend. Look at the Awards National is offering in reference to Membership (included in this newsletter).

FY!!!!

Any member can go to the National website and create an account to log in to the Members Only area: www.alaforveterans.org to find all kinds of information. You can update your name, address, phone number and email address. You can find many answers to your questions with very minimal effort. Try taking some of the ALA courses and many different resources to help your unit or just for knowledge about our American Legion Auxiliary.

Christmas Assessment letters will be sent out next week.

Pray for ALL OUR Members, their family and above all Peace in all of our lives and this world. Stay safe until we meet again.

BE KIND!!!!!!

1st Vice President/ Leadership

By Susan Hall, Dept. 1st Vice President

Happy Fall!

The weather is cooling down now and I hope everyone is doing well. It has been almost a year since our last conference that we were able to gather. I miss everyone in our American Legion Family and hope that we will be able to get together again soon. My thoughts and prayers go out to all our members and their families that have lost a loved one in the last year.

The National Organization has had 3 ALA Mission trainings on Webinar so far this year with more to come in the future. I hope some of you were able to participate in one. The first ALA Academy Live Mission Training covered Mission Delivery. The Presenters were Lisa Williamson, Beth McGinn and coordinated by Amanda Washburn. Some of the highlights of the Mission Training were: Mission drives Membership! – what is your why? Why are you a member of the American Legion Auxiliary? What are the needs in your Community? The needs in every community differ by location and demographics. You need to research your community; you need to be involved in your community. There are several ways to research the need in your community as well as the Veteran, Military demographics of your community. You can find this information at the National Center for Veteran Analysis and Statistics website at www.va.gov/vetdata/VeteranPopulation.asp or through your state's Director of Veterans Affairs. Some of the challenges that you may face going forward in our organization are: the shift from membership number focus to volunteer engagement focus. Year-to-Year long range plan agreement. We need to recruit other organizations within our community to work together for our Veterans, Military, and their families. Overcoming Roadblocks and Respecting long traditions (we need to change with the times).

There will be 3 more Mission Delivery sessions in October. These sessions will cover Veterans Service. I hope some of you were able to register for this important Mission Delivery Training. You can go to our National website www.alaforveterans.org to access all of the American Legion Auxiliary training.

If I can be of any assistance please don't hesitate to contact me either by email or phone.

Susan Hall
1st Vice President
Cell – 508-944-0791
Email – suem_66@yahoo.com

2nd Vice President/Membership

By Pat Morgan, Department 2nd VP

Happy Fall ALA Georgia Angels!

I hope everyone is staying safe.

Fall is in the air and the holiday season is just around the corner. The membership year for the 2019-2020 year will soon be coming to a close on December 31st. Some units are not open as yet but the membership chairman and her committee can be calling, texting, emailing those members who have yet to renew their membership and remind them. Discuss with the member their reason for not renewing. Is it financial, the unit not being open, etc. The personal touch can go a long way.

As we work on completing our 2019-20 year, we need to also be working on the 2020-2021 year. Our Department is at 28.75% goal. The awards deadline for reaching 100% goal is November 10th. Several units are so very close to reaching their membership goal. Congratulations to Units #332 Social Circle, #519 Thomasville and #305 Fairmont for reaching 100% goal. These units will be placed in a random drawing for which 100 units will be selected to receive \$100 to be used to advance the ALA Mission.

Membership is everyone's responsibility.

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 or 2229 Johnson Short Rd., Quitman, GA 31643 or at (229) 561-4070
Pat Morgan

“Angels Working As One For Veterans”



HISTORIAN CORNER

By Cheryl Jackson Sinkler,



NO REPORT

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VA & R

AUXILIARY MEMBERS IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR TO BE WORKING FOR OUR GIFT SHOPS. THIS YEAR THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT BUT WE STILL HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF OUR VETERANS. THE AUGUSTA VA'S VETERANS WILL BE GETTING GIFTS FOR THEMSELVES INSTEAD FOR THEIR FAMILY. SO IF YOU ARE WITH UPTOWN OR DOWNTOWN AUGUSTA VA THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT. PLEASE TRY AND GET YOUR CHECKS INTO DEPT. ASAP SO THE REP CAN SHOP. IF YOU NEED TO KNOW WHAT SHE WILL COLLECTING PLEASE CALL YOUR REP. FOR THE HOSPITAL YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR. I AM COLLECTING COMFORT ITEMS, SNACKS, CAPS, SOCKS, SHIRTS ALL SIZES AND WARM UP PANTS ALL SIZES. THEN BAGS WILL BE MADE UP FOR THE VETERANS. THE STAFF WILL DELIVERY THEM TO THE VETERAN'S ROOM. PLEASE CALL YOUR REP. FOR INFORMATION.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY,
MIRIAM STEIN VA&R CHAIRMAN



Department Chaplain

By: VACANT

Where There is Love

*Where there is love, the heart is light,
Where there is love, the day is bright,
Where there is love, there is a song
To help when things are going wrong,
Where there is love, there is a smile,
To make all things seem more worthwhile,
Where there is love, there's quiet peace,
A tranquil place, where turmoils cease-
Love changes darkness into light
And makes the heart take wingless flight-
Oh, blest are they who walk in love,
They also walk with God above.*

Albany, Unit 512

Copied from book of prayers from 1983-1984

DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN POSITION OPEN

The Department of Georgia is looking for a Chaplain for the year 2020-2021. If you are interested or know of someone who would like to fill this position please contact Patty Hawkins @ secamlegaux@bellsouth.net or Dept. President Valerie Brown Debro @ Valerie.debro@yahoo.com.

Duties of Chaplain: The Department Chaplain shall offer prayer at all Department meetings and perform such

****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. The Department will follow suit and will not waiver the \$11.00.

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

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.

Show Your Love

VOLUNTEER CONTEST



**NOMINATE AN EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEER.
GRAND PRIZE IS \$1,000 FOR THE WINNER
AND A MATCHING \$1,000 DONATION TO THE
CHARITY OF THEIR CHOICE!**

Nomination Categories:

- 1) General Volunteering**
- 2) Volunteering with COVID-19 Relief Efforts**

Submit a photo (*no larger than 5 MB*) and an essay (*500 words or less*) describing the following:

- the level of impact of the volunteer's service on their community
- the length and degree of service
- how much the volunteer service was considered above and beyond the call of duty
- how much the nominee's service was inspiring, courageous, or innovative

To read the rules and enter visit
www.createthegood.org/showyourlove

Submissions accepted June 8, 2020 - August 2, 2020



2021 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Member Award: 10 X 10

- **Award:** Gift selected by the National Membership Chairman
- **Presented to:** Members that recruit 10 (ten) NEW SENIOR members for the 2021 membership year by November 10, 2020.
- **Deadline:** Members must be entered and paid in ALAMIS system by 11/10/20.
 - **FORMS** must be received at National HQ by November 15, 2020.
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Form can be printed from the ALA National Membership Committee page of the national website (www.ALAforVeterans.org). You must be logged into the “Members only” area to access the page.
 - One entry per recruiter

Member Award: R/R5 – Recruit/Rejoin 5

- **Award:** Special gift from the National Membership chairman (gift will be different for each deadline)
- **Presented to:** Members who recruit or rejoin five or more Auxiliary junior or senior members into the 2021 membership year.
Note: Rejoins must not have paid dues after the 2018 membership year
- **First Deadline:** December 14, 2020
- **Second Deadline:** Flag Day, June 14, 2021
Note: 10x10 Award winners will automatically receive the December R/R5 award. No additional action or form required.
To be eligible for the second deadline, members will need to recruit/rejoin 5 additional members by June 14th (cannot be the same members used to receive the 10x10 or December R/R5 awards).
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Form can be printed from the ALA National Membership Committee page of the national website (www.ALAforVeterans.org). You must be logged into the “members only” area to access the page
 - One entry per recruiter.

For award forms or more information email your dept or membership@alaforveterans.org

Unit Award: 100% Unit Award

- **Award:** 100 awards of \$100 to be used to advance the ALA mission
- **Presented to:** Units that reach 100% of their 2021 membership goal by November 10, 2020 will be placed into a random drawing from which 100 units will be selected to receive \$100.
- **Deadline:** November 10, 2020
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - This award will be based on units that reach 100% of their reported goals by November 10, 2020 as verified by ALAMIS

Note: Departments must submit Unit goals to National Headquarters by September 1, 2020 for units to be eligible for the 100% Unit award.

Unit Award: Caring & Sharing Award

- **Award:** \$25.00 gift card to Emblem Sales
- **Presented to:** Units obtain at least one rejoined member (has not paid dues since 2018) and submits completed form
- **Deadline:** April 30, 2021
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - See Caring & Sharing Award form for specific rules and regulations. Form is available at www.ALAforVeterans.org or by emailing membership@ALAforVeterans.org

Department Award: Pearl Harbor Day Award

- **Award:** \$250 to be used to advance the ALA mission
- **Presented to:** Departments reaching 75% of their 2021 Department membership goal
- **Deadline:** December 7, 2020
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS system by December 7, 2020

Department Award: Armed Forces Day Award

- **Award:** \$250 to be used to advance the ALA mission
- **Presented to:** Departments reaching 95% of their 2021 Department membership goal
- **Deadline:** May 18, 2021
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS system by May 18, 2021

Department Award: The Celebration Award

- **Award:** \$500 to be used to advance the ALA mission
- **Presented to:** Any Department that has reached the Department Goal
- **Deadline:** 30 days prior to the 2021 National Convention – July 31, 2021
- **Materials and guidelines:**
 - Award will be based on membership entered in the ALAMIS system by Aug. 1, 2021
 - Winners to be announced at National Convention 2021.



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

NATIONAL
HEADQUARTERS:
3450 Founders Road
Indianapolis, IN 46268
P: (317) 569-4500
F: (317) 569-4502

ALA WASHINGTON, D.C. OFFICE:

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Washington, D.C. 20006
P: (202) 861-1351
F: (317) 569-4502

EMAIL:

alahq@ALAforVeterans.org

ONLINE:

www.ALAforVeterans.org
www.ALAFoundation.org

OUR MISSION:

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

For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

*In the Spirit
of Service Not Self*

Welcome to the American Legion Auxiliary!

Thank you for becoming part of the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA)! Here is an overview of who we are and what we do, but there is so much more about why we matter. We encourage you to take our free online orientation, "ALA 101," the first course in our ALA Academy. These online courses provide our members with information to help us better serve our mission. Log in today at www.ALAforVeterans.org/ALA-Academy.

We have so much useful information available for members on the national ALA website. Accessing free information for members only is as easy as creating a username and password. Simply click on "Log In" at the top-right corner of our homepage at www.ALAforVeterans.org, and thousands of helpful resources are at your fingertips.



OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE AMERICAN LEGION

The ALA was founded in 1919 to support The American Legion, the largest organization of U.S. wartime veterans. Our mutual purpose is to make life better for our veterans, military, and their families. We work steadfastly, side by side, promoting patriotism and national security while supporting youth and advocating for those who have served our country.

ALA UNITS

The American Legion Auxiliary unit is where grassroots work of the Auxiliary takes place. There are more than 8,000 ALA units nationwide. At the local level,



The American Legion is called a post, and the Auxiliary is called a unit. All ALA units are attached to a Legion post, taking its name, location, and number (e.g., John P. Hand American Legion Auxiliary Unit 250), but units are not obligated to meet at the Legion post. If the post is no longer active, a unit may continue to function as what's called a widow unit. Sons of The American Legion groups within Legion posts at the community level are referred to as squadrons.

A note about ALA membership dues
An American Legion Auxiliary member's dues are made up of three portions, representing the three levels of our organization — national, department (state), and unit. The dues amount listed on your renewal notice is a total of these three portions. Membership dues are paid annually and can be paid directly to your unit or by calling ALA National Headquarters at (317) 569-4570, or by logging in to your profile on the national website at www.ALAforVeterans.org and paying your dues online.

The Auxiliary membership year is January 1 to December 31. Members pay dues prior to the start of the upcoming membership year, and many units start collecting dues six months in advance.



UNIT OFFICERS

Each ALA unit has a set of officers. Your unit can tell you more about the members who hold these offices, along with their specific responsibilities. *The American Legion Auxiliary Unit Guidebook*, available at www.ALAforVeterans.org, also provides information about how a unit functions.



ALA NATIONAL PROGRAMS/ COMMITTEES

The following is a list of all national-level programs/committees in the ALA. Departments and units may have all of these programs, some, or additional committees included in their activities. Please visit www.ALAforVeterans.org for more information on ALA programs.

- H** Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation
- H** Legislative
- H** Poppy
- H** Children & Youth
- H** Community Service
- H** Junior Activities
- H** Education
- H** Americanism
- H** ALA Girls Nation
- H** National Security
- H** Membership
- H** Auxiliary Emergency Fund
- H** Leadership
- H** Public Relations
- H** Constitution & Bylaws
- H** Finance
- H** Audit Committee



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is The American Legion Family?

The American Legion Family is comprised of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, and Sons of The American Legion. The Legion Family also includes American Legion Riders, a program of American Legion Family members for motorcycle enthusiasts. While members of The American Legion Family are individually unique, collectively we are a multimillion-member powerhouse of caring advocates dedicated to service.



What are the advantages of American Legion Auxiliary membership?

The ALA is a remarkable organization with nearly 100 years of service to veterans and the nation's communities. In addition to the personal gratification



and rewards gained in voluntary service, there are many tangible benefits for members of the ALA. Members receive a complimentary subscription to the Auxiliary's national quarterly magazine and have exclusive access to a wide variety of discount services and supplemental insurance products. Members can also receive discounts on vehicles, prescriptions, rental cars, restaurants, department stores, and popular entertainment venue tickets. The Auxiliary Emergency Fund is a national grant assistance program that provides temporary emergency help to eligible members of the American Legion Auxiliary who have suffered a significant financial setback as the result of an act of nature or other personal crisis.

What if I need to update my name and/or address? Can I do this online?

Members whose dues are current can create an account to log in to the Members Only area on the national website to update their name, mailing address, phone number, and email address at any time. If log-in assistance is needed, email ALAMIShelp@ALAforVeterans.org.

I paid my ALA dues. Why haven't I received my membership card?

Units are to provide members their card upon payment of dues. Members who have paid their dues but have not received their membership cards need to contact their unit or department headquarters. The National Organization ships pre-printed membership cards for the upcoming membership year to each department prior to their annual department convention dates (usually between May and July) so that departments can distribute the cards to their units at that time.

How do I find my member ID number?

New senior members receive a 'Thank you for joining' postcard after they join. Their member ID number is located on the address label of this postcard. A member's ID number is also listed on the address label of their quarterly *Auxiliary* magazine. Members can email membership@ALAforVeterans.org to request their ID number. Members will need their ID number in order to create their online profile on the national website.



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

October 12, 2020	Columbus Day
November 1, 2020	Daylight Saving Time Ends
November 3, 2020	Election Day
November 11, 2020	Veterans Day
November 26, 2020	Thanksgiving Day

"You can't depend on your eyes when your imagination is out of focus." – Mark Twain



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

