

Department of Georgia Auxiliary News
June 2023: Volume 12, Issue 9



*Pat Morgan, President 2022-2023
Department of Georgia*



GROWING OUR FUTURE

My year of serving as your Department President is coming to a close. It was a wild ride. I have learned so much. You – the members have shown me why this organization is the “largest civilian patriotic service organization.”

The Department of Georgia grew by three units this year and two potential new charters are in the works. Let’s make these new members feel welcome and share the knowledge and history of the American Legion Auxiliary to assure these units are successful.

The National President, Vickie Koutz, was welcomed to Georgia. The American Legion Family showed her our Georgia Southern Hospitality.

The U. S. Coast Guard at Ft. Pulaski assisted us with the Annual Poppy Anchor Launching. This was the first time in several years we were able to collaborate with the Coast Guard and we had a wonderful day.

Though my term may be coming to an end, I plan to continue to work with my Unit and District and of course the Department serving our Veterans and our Youth.

I hope to see many members at the Department Convention.

Please bring your raffle tickets to the Convention for both fundraisers. We will draw for the 50/50 (red tickets) which benefits the Department General Fund on Friday before lunch break. We will draw for the Hand Carved Flag (white tickets) which benefits the Fisher House at Fort Gordon on Saturday before closing for the day.

If I can be of assistance to 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.

With Heartfelt Thanks

Pat
Pat Morgan
American Legion Auxiliary
President, Department of Georgia

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**“Tell me and I forget.”
“Teach me and I remember.”
“Involve me and I learn.”**
Ben Franklin

Secretary & Treasurer

Patty Hawkins



Welcome to June!

The green flag is still waving in our Membership Race – please keep sending your membership paperwork in – it is never too late to renew, reinstate or recruit!

We are still in our **ALA world of administration and FORM SEASON!** Please get your Unit's paperwork turned in. **NOT doing it does cause problems.**

So, Let's DO IT! Each form is listed below, is underlined, and contains a hyper link to the form – **click it and submit it. Red = Hot Links!**

Your unit should have submitted the Department **Obligation and Contribution Form** – it was due April 1, 2023 and the **Dues Rate Change 2024 Form** was due *May 1, 2023*.

The Obligation and Contribution Form and the Dues Rate Change Form (*and payments*) are **Mandatory** for EVERY UNIT to submit **EVERY YEAR.**

Registration for the June Department Convention. The convention is June 23-25, 2023, at the Sonesta

Gwinnett Place hotel. Submit the **Registration and Banquet/Hotel FORM** and payment per the form.

UNIT FORMS:

Unit Data Form Due June 2nd

Unit Officers Yearly Form 2024 Due June 3rd

Dept. Convention Delegates & Alternates 2023 Due June 8th

DISTRICT FORM:

DISTRICT OFFICERS FORM 2024 – this form is due immediately AFTER your District elections but no later than **June 2nd**.

And don't forget – each unit that collected donations when distributing poppies needs to submit the mandatory 25% of the net proceeds to department. May distribution proceeds are due to the Department by June 15th. Please use the **Poppy Financial Report** when submitting and reporting.

Patty Hawkins

Secretary & Treasurer Department of Georgia
678-289-8446 ★ secamlegaux@bellsouth.net

PS If any of the above links do not work – all the forms are on the Department website <https://www.aladepgtga.com/forms-1>

Historian

Gail Ramey



As we come to the end of the administrative year, I want to thank everyone who sent in History Books and History & Cavalcade of Memory reports.

It has been a pleasure serving as your Historian and I look forward to what my future brings in the Department. I have enjoyed reading the reports and history books and seeing what some of the Units have been busy doing.

Please keep up the good work. I would like to encourage all of you to keep a record of your Unit's history and please prepare reports at the end of the 2023-2024 administrative year.

Recording your Unit's history is very important for the members coming behind you to know what worked and what did not work.

Best of luck to all the Units going in the new ALA year.

Gail Ramey

Historian, Department of Georgia
770-262-2524 ★ gailramey@msn.com

Chaplain

Pamela Stroud

As we close out this administrative year, I would like to thank every Unit that submitted a request for prayers, or simply advised me that a loved one was ill or deceased. Whatever your special need may have been, Thank you.

I received a lot of reports and a total of 10 prayer books that were outstanding. The judging was not easy for the panel, but they decided on the best two prayer books – results will be announced at the Convention.

In Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Please continue to pray and grow together in your Units as a Team, Because in Mark 11:24, "Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye received them and ye shall have them". That is how each unit grows.

Thanks Again for all your submissions. Be Blessed,

Pam Stroud

Chaplain, Department of Georgia
706-326-4861 ★ pstroud9@icloud.com

1st Vice President/Leadership

Cheryl Jackson Sinkler



Hello All,

This administration is coming to a close and there were good and challenging times. However, when there are resolutions, the outcome is very rewarding to us all as WHOLE!

I want to thank each one of you for your friendship, support, and kindness throughout the year. Although there were bumps in the road, we made it and now we all will have a clear understanding how important following your Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules as you continue to conduct your Unit meetings going forward. Enforce Protocol during your meetings. Remember there is not one I in US. Keep in mind the reason we are designed as an Organization. It is to serve our Veterans, their families, and our communities.

You all have innovative ideas. We must listen to each other, and you won't always agree but we need to learn to accomplish goals as one. Once you attain a new member, give the new member a copy of your governing document (Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules). Ensure they are read to their entirety and welcome questions. Include the new member and **do not turn a blind eye or a muted ear to their questions or concerns.** Many of the new members read their governing documents and feel they are not being followed. Do away with the statement, "In the past". You can't grow by doing the same procedures. Whether old or young we can all have great ideas to move our Unit forward, which is one of your goals.

Bless you all as we continue to regrow this wonderful organization. Presidents engage with the Post Commanders to bridge the gap between us. Let them know you are present and willing to assist in any way. *Be kind in your approach*, it can move mountains.
GROW! GROW! GROW!

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your 1st Vice President for the 2022 – 23 year. It was a honor and pleasure working with you all.

Cheryl Jackson-Sinkler

1st Vice President – Leadership Chair, Department of Georgia
770-875-5987 ★ cheryl.jackson0808@outlook.com
204 Possum Creek Lane | Dallas, GA 30132

2023 Department Convention - At-a-Glance

The call to convention has been emailed to DEC members. If you have not received information from your unit or district president, please reach out to them for the detailed information.

Thursday, June 22, 2023 – 6:00 pm

Department Executive Committee (DEC) Meeting.
All are welcome, only those with voting rights may participate in the conduct of DEC business.

Friday, June 23, 2023 – 9:00 am

Convention Day 1 – *All unit leaders and members are encouraged to attend. Nominations for Officers, Presentation of Reports and Awards.*

Saturday, June 24, 2023 – 9:00 am

Convention Day 2 – *All unit leaders and members are encouraged to attend. General Business, Elections, Presentation of Reports and Awards. Banquet/Dance 6:30 pm*

Sunday, June 25, 2023 – 8:30 am

Convention Day 3 *All unit leaders and members are encouraged to attend. Memorial Service, closing of the Convention and Post Convention DEC & GS Meetings.*

Announcements

Candidates for Department Office 2023-2024

Elections will be held for the 2023-2024 Department officers. The announcement cards were posted in the April and May newsletters. Your current slate of candidates include:

- Cheryl Jackson Sinkler, President
- Cheryl Waybright, First Vice President
- Gail Ramey, Second Vice President
- Pamela J. Eckler, Historian
- GA National Executive Committee (NEC) Person, Susan Hall
- Alternate GA NEC Person, Patricia Morgan

Resolutions

Joann Meadows, Chairperson

The time to submit resolutions has passed. No resolutions were received for presentation at the 2023 Convention.

2nd Vice President/Membership

Cheryl Waybright

Growing our Future through Membership Engagement!

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Department of Georgia 2nd Vice President and Membership Chair for 2022-2023. It has been a wild race **BUT IT IS NOT OVER YET!** The Green Flag is still waving us **around the track!** Please continue to submit your renewals, rejoins and new memberships – 2023 is a year that matters!



The weekly engagement derived from the weekly membership missives was encouraging and tells the tale of all the **EFFORT our members are putting into MEMBERSHIP!** We have talked, emailed, texted, and met in person to strategize and help one another lift all units to succeed and encourage members to renew.

We tried some new things this year with the method of delivery of communications and have established some new awards to promote quality in membership.

We are preparing to roll out the FULL ACCESS level of ALAMIS which will bring even greater opportunity to streamline the membership process – less time with paper, stamps, checks, and waiting and more time to get to know our members and get them engaged in our mission. More information on this should be shared with every on at the Convention.

New Units! We presented the Charter on May 8 to new Unit 217, Chickamauga (D7) and are working on the

schedule to present the charter for new Unit 71, Wilcox County (D6). President Morgan has two more new units in the forming phase. Wow! What an amazing time for membership.

May Membership Highlights



- Six districts are over 90% with the two largest dueling for third to reach 100%
- 3 units reached goal status!
- 1 new charters signed & 1 presented
- 44 New Memberships processed!
- Unit 127 leads the way with 40 over goal!

ENGAGE, and bring the thunder! You ask WHY? Our Mission Matters – amping up our membership can build unit foundational strength! When we have a strong membership body we can serve the mission better – to honor the sacrifice of those who serve and served and deliver on The American Legion’s Four Pillars – Americanism, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security and Children & Youth. **Pick one of these programs and give it your all!**

Membership is not OVER...It is never over! You can rest for a minute on July 29th. **Thank you for staying engaged and bringing the thunder!** Thank you also for allowing me to serve as your Department of Georgia Membership Chair and 2nd Vice President for the 2022-23 administrative year.

Ut Prosim!

Cheryl Waybright

2nd Vice President & Membership

404-625-6708 ★ CLWaybright@gmail.com

FLAG DAY... DID YOU KNOW?

Sharing information with young people and youth groups in June about the Flag of the United States is an incredible Americanism project your unit can easily perform. Flag Day commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States which occurred on June 14, 1777 by a resolution adopted by the Second Continental Congress. It also marks the birthday of the U.S. Army which congress authorized as “the American Continental Army” on June 14, 1775.

“On June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress took a break from writing the Articles of Confederation and passed a resolution stating that “the flag of the United States be 13 stripes, alternate red and white,” and that “the union be 13 stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.”

“Bernard Cigrand, a small-town Wisconsin teacher, originated the idea for an annual flag day, to be celebrated across the country every June 14, in 1885. That year, he led his school in the first formal observance of the holiday.”

“Over 100 years later, in 1916, President Woodrow Wilson marked the anniversary of that decree by officially establishing June 14 as Flag Day.”

Congress followed the proclamation in 1949 by enacting a statute that officially recognized Flag Day.

Material above quoted from – and you can read more about Flag Day and the Flag of the United States [here](#).

Poppy Anchor Launch Ceremony

The annual Poppy Anchor Launch Ceremony was conducted on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29 and hosted by the United States Coast Guard Station Tybee, GA and coordinated by Legion member of the Thunderbolt Post 184, Jack Grumet, who is also a member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The event was hosted by BMCM Lawrence "Larry" Dean, CGC IBIS, OIC and his team of outstanding mates. The Coast Guard Helicopter accompanied the expedition.

Following the ceremony, Thunderbolt Post 184 treated all participants to a lovely lunch and place to network and socialize.

The Poppy Anchor was constructed by District 2 – President Janice Williams with donations of poppies sent by many units, posts, and individuals in the Department. District 1 President Sabrina Brown-Putney assisted in the hosting of the event and joined the Coast Guard in the retrieval boat.



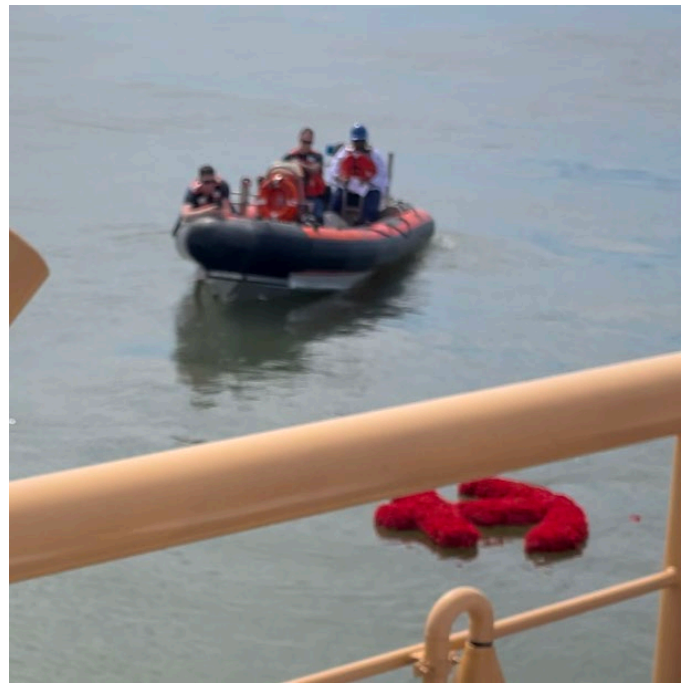
Pictured are (L-R) SAL Department Commander George Gray and ALA GA officer's 2nd VP Cheryl Waybright, 1st VP Cheryl Jackson-Sinkler, President Pat Morgan, & Historian Gail Ramey.



President Pat Morgan presenting a certificate of gratitude to BMCM Lawrence "Larry" Dean, CGC IBIS, OIC who facilitated the event.



Poppy Anchor Launch Ceremony





**DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA
UNIT 217, CHICKAMAUGA, GA
CHARTER PRESENTATION
MAY 8, 2023**

Unveiling the Charter



Left, from left to right: Unit 217 President Jennie Chandler, Department of Georgia President Pat Morgan, Department of Georgia 2nd Vice President - Membership, Cheryl Waybright.

Right, from left to right: District 7 President Cindy Schwartz, Pat Morgan, Jennie Chandler, Cheryl Waybright.

District 7 President Cindy Schwartz Installing the Chartering Officers



Below: New lifelong friends and Chartering Unit Presidents, Jennie Chandler, Unit 217 Chickamauga and Melinda Gaskins, Unit 56 Jefferson – AKA Georgia’s New Charter Coach!





National President’s Theme:
Honoring our Veterans Everyday

Department Themes:

President:

Growing our Future in Georgia

1st Vice President (Leadership):

The Future being Built on Our Family

2nd Vice President (Membership):

Growing our Future through Membership Engagement

Upcoming Events & Due Dates to Note

6/2 Due Date for the Unit Data Form (2023 – 2024)

6/2 Due Date for the District Officers Form 2024

6/3 Due Date for the Unit Officers Yearly Form 2024

6/3-9..... ALA Junior Camp, Villa Rica GA

6/6..... D-Day

6/8 Due Date for ALA GA Convention Delegate & Alternates 2023 Form

6/11-16 .. Girls State, Valdosta GA

6/12..... Women Veterans Day

6/14Flag Day

6/14..... U.S. Army Birthday

6/16 *May POPPY DISTRIBUTION proceeds are due to the Department.

6/19..... Juneteenth

6/22-25 .. Department Conference, Duluth GA

6/23..... Coast Guard Birthday

6/25..... Recognition of the beginning of the Korean War in 1950

6.27 PTSD Awareness Day (JUNE is PTSD Awareness Month)

7/4 Independence Day

7/22-29 .. Girls Nation, Washington, DC

7/25..... [National Hire a Veteran Day](#)

7/27..... Korean War Veterans Armistice Day (1953)

8/25-31 .. 104th National Convention, Charlotte NC



American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Georgia

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