

DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA AUXILIARY NEWS

May 2020
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A Word from the President

By Valerie Brown-Debro, Department President

MAY REFLECTIONS

ALA Angels have been busy doing this pandemic, COVID-19 as we have been self-quarantined, still serving our veterans, families and communities. Our members have been busy taking care of our veterans, making mask, delivering items to our veterans' facilities and taking the time to check on individual members through phone calls, text messages, social media and sending personal cards. This is a true mission of "service not self."

We had so many questions and changes within the last few weeks, our lives will never go back to normal as I can see. Adjusting to the new normal has its perks of working at home and staying structured while doing so. Making a daily agenda, eating healthy and exercising keeps us strong mentally as well as physically.

Thank you for your inquiry about reports & elections. I wanted to wait until after we held our conference calls before answering questions. ALA Department of GA held a DEC meeting on April 18th and voted to Adopt Resolution 3, that received from The National American Legion & National Auxiliary. The Department of GA American Legion held a DEC meeting and voted on April 11th to follow suit with National recommendation.

It was Resolved that ALL Officers and committee chairs remain in place for another until 2021 Convention. It was also recommended for District and Units to follow suit, since our Department and National convention have been canceled, it makes it challenging for us to have elections.

I know this is a difficult decision for all of us, and many preparations have been made for the incoming officers Nationwide mentally as well as financially. This is certainly an unprecedented occurrence but not wholly unexpected given the circumstances of the pandemic. The health and safety of our membership is our top

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As our National President Nicole Clapp and Vice President Kathy Daudistel shared, Lets, make the most of this opportunity to set our course for the next century of service.

Flexibility - On 4/21 we had a conference call with all Department Chairpersons regarding reporting in GA for the 2019-2020 term and advised Chairpersons DO NOT Send REPORTS to National, they are carrying a (2) year reporting period 2019-2021. Your District President received documents to share with all the Presidents to share within her district. Information is still being posted on our website and Facebook page to keep the communication flowing.

Visit our Department website: <http://www.ALADeptGa.com>
National ALA Website <https://www.alaforveterans.org>
Facebook: American Legion Auxiliary Dept. of Georgia

Please be safe and practice safety measures.

Thank you for your service For God and Country

Valerie Brown-Debro
ALA Department of GA
President

Secretary

By Patty Hawkins, Department Secretary

The Coronavirus Pandemic 2020

This is a devastating time for all of us. But, it is bringing us all together to realize we are all the same, we all want what is best for our family, our friends and Our Country. I have seen such an outpouring of love by complete strangers, reaching out to those in need. Helping get their groceries, taking them meals, sharing extra Toilet Paper, paper towels, diapers/wipes, masks and picking up medicines for our elderly. Just being neighborly like in the past years. It warms the heart to see this, joining together, praying for all of us that we stay well. It is a time where we can reach out to an old friend or Unit member just to let them know you are thinking about them. We will overcome this, it may take longer than we want but we will make it. So, take care and use precaution for God is on our side. Be sure to stay in and only go out if necessary. It is every individual's responsibility to help stop it virus. Safety First as always.

You can find the forms on www.aladepgta.com You can also find all our Committee Report Forms/ Impact forms here, which are due May 1st. List of forms that have been updated: District Officers form, Unit Officers yearly form, Unit Data Form 2021, 2021 Dues Rate Change and Committee Report Forms. Also our [Rules & Regulations for Awards/Trophies](#) are up to date.

****Please make sure all your Department Obligations have been paid.*****

Let's all take this time to reflect on who we are and why we do the things that we do for our veterans.

We are still trying to carry out our day to day business. We are here to help in anyway we can. Things will be a little slower due to not having access of the office and equipment, but be patient we will surface. We will try to keep the membership updated as long as we have some coming in, So keep working on membership. Some Units are less than 5 away from being 100%.

I would love to hear all the good things our members have done helping out during this pandemic. Who's making mask, helping an elderly friend? Let us know what you have been doing.

Take Care and I am praying for all of us. See you Soon 😊 Let's continue to make the American Legion Auxiliary strong!

1st Vice President/ Leadership

By Susan Hall, Dept. 1st Vice President

Happy May, hope everyone is well and staying safe during these difficult times. As an organization we have entered uncharted waters,, something we never predicted We need to pull together so that we can get through this and get back to doing what we are meant to do, serving our veterans, military their families and the American Legion Auxiliary.

I want to thank the units that sent me their year-end reports. I received 7 reports. The yearbooks were judged in February and the winners are as follows:

District – 1st Place – District 5 – Scarlett Campbell
2nd Place – District 7 – Dot Fraizer
Unit - 1st Place – Unit 233 – Barbara Wade
2nd Place – Unit 264 – Brandi Cline
3rd Place – Unit 29 – Bernadette Laroque

If any Units or Districts need their yearbooks returned before we are able to meet again please email me with the name and address to return them too, otherwise I will hold onto them till we meet.

Although we cannot meet there are ways in which you can learn about the American Legion Auxiliary. Sign up at alaforveterans.org and complete the 5 ALA Academy course. When completed print the certificates out and email a copy of the certificates and you will receive a special gift from me.

Also do not forget about the Leadership Basic Course. This course takes you through the history of the American Legion Auxiliary. Once you complete this send me the cover sheet along with the answer sheet. I received 6 completed courses this year. Once the test has been corrected and the member receives a passing grade you will receive a wallet size certificate.

While we are under a shelter in place order, we can still learn much about our organization and the many programs. You will be amazed at how much information is on the National Website once you start browsing. So please go to alaforveterans.org, sign up and browse all that it has to offer all our members.

Thank you to all our members for everything that you do.

“Don't find fault, find a remedy.”
Henry Ford

Susan Hall

Suem_66@yahoo.com 508-944-0791

2nd Vice President/Membership

By Pat Morgan, Department 2nd VP

Greeting Georgia Angels. I hope everyone is healthy and safe as we deal with these difficult and trying times.

As of our last membership report we have 18 goal units! Congratulations to all. Several units are less the 5 members away from reaching goal. Continue your hard work. Contact members who have not renewed. Encourage them to pay National on line. They can sign on at www.alaforveterans.org. Their membership number is required. If you need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Units must pay their Department Obligation for 2019-2020, submit their 2020-2021 "Unit Data" form, and the 2020-2021 "Unit Officers" form (even if your officers did not change) to be certified in order to receive Unit Membership cards for the 2020-2021 year. These forms must be received in Department by June 15th. Also, the 2020-2021 Dues Rate form must be sent in to Department ASAP, even if your rate did not change. These forms can be found on the new Department website at www.ALADepartga.com. Click Member Resources – Forms.

Thank you to the Units who submitted year end membership reports. I will continue to accept these reports thru May. The Department website has links for the updated reporting guidelines. Please review this important information.

Thank you for all your continued efforts and if I can assist you in any way, please 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,



Hello ALL!

I hope everyone is doing well and keeping a 6 ft distance from others. Please put your safety first. If you are able, stay home and only travel to necessary places. We are in a serious crisis right now.

I'm sure many of you are feeling restless and maybe a little tired of not being able to move about doing your daily routines. Use this time to reflect, enjoy family and getting much needed things in order, or even make necessary changes of what is important to you and weed out what is not.

Well, I'm sure by now you have heard the current Dept. Of GA Officers are staying in place for another year. This has never happened before in the American Legion Auxiliary history! We are experiencing a historical moment. Also, many Districts and Units are following suit. Keep in mind some changes are necessary for the organization. Please continue to support those in office and help be a part of the solution never be the cause of a demise. You don't want to be known as the negative person. If you were at our Leadership trainings remember the skit, we presented of the new member who "Walked away from the organization"!

Please submit history reports by May 2nd and submit to my email or address type below! If you have any questions please contact me and I will gladly assist. NO HISTORY BOOKS WILL BE JUDGED THIS YEAR. PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT.

Again, everyone please stay safe and secure. God bless and I miss seeing you ALL,

Cheryl Jackson-Sinkler
Historian – Dept. Of Georgia
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204 Possum Creek Lane
Dallas, GA 30132

ALA DEPARTMENT OF GA
2019–2020 REPORTS

UNITS * DISTRICTS * DEPARTMENT

ALA Members in GA **will continue** with the Program Action Reporting for 2019–2020. If you sent in a report from your Unit or District to one of the Department Chairpersons, **please see** the information below on How we are proceeding with the reporting for 2019–2020 in Georgia.

We are requesting for all GA members to **submit your report To the Department Chairperson** with completed **FORMS** that are **due by May 1, 2020** The report forms are located on our Department website. www.ALADept.com

YEARBOOKS Books were due by **February 15th Leadership Chairperson Susan Hall** already judged the books and will announce winner of YearBooks. If you sent a yearbook in for judging, contact her on how to receive your book in return.

PRAYER BOOKS: NO JUDGING Still send **REPORT FORMS** to Department Chaplain **Gloria Fox Smith**.

HISTORY BOOKS NO JUDGING Still send **REPORT FORMS** to Department Historian. **Cheryl Jackson Sinkler**

SCRAPBOOKS NO JUDGING Still send **REPORT FORMS** – **Kathy Browder–Woods**.

PLEASE “DO NOT” Send any reports NATIONAL – Per updates due to **COVID–19 National** will receive reports in a **2 year** reporting period 2019–2020 & 2020–2021 **Mid–Year** reports due January 5th , **Year–end** due May 15, 2021 www.alaforveterans.org

YEAR END IMPACT REPORT FORMS 2019–2020: due April 30, 2019 Everyone

Please submit a **Year End report** for **Member, Unit, District** Department Every **hour**, every **dollar** , Our service for Veterans. Active –Duty– Retired/ Military, families and Community. every mile driven. Scholarships, Girls State, Children & Youth, Community Service, members invest in our mission of helping veterans adds up, they are also reported to the American Legion which includes them in its annual report to congress.

BOOK OF REPORTS: Department Officer and Chairman still submit your annual report **due June 15, 2020** send your copy to Valerie.Debro@yahoo.com and Secretary Patty Hawkins secamlegaux@bellsouth.net Please follow Book of Reports Rules on our Department Website. www.ALADeptGA.com

MEMBERSHIP FORMS

2021 Forms: We understand the current situation that many Units are currently experiencing with figuring out who their New Officers will be for the 2020-2021 year. While we can give **lenience on some forms**, we cannot do so on others. **The 2021 dues rate change form needs to be received ASAP if your dues is going to be different than it was for 2020 membership. Please make sure and send this form no later than 5/15/2020. Once that date is reached NO CHANGES can be made and your dues amount will stay the same. The 2021 Unit Data Form must also be received No Later than June 5, 2020.** Again the system will lock and No Changes will be made period! National has informed us that those dates cannot be changed and No exceptions can be made. We can give some on the New Unit Officers Form, as we are the ones who input the information. We will have some additional time to do this. If you have any questions on these forms or any membership questions the best point of contact right now would be email. Please send to amlegaux@bellsouth.net . All forms are currently available on our new website www.aladeptga.com , under Member Resources and then Forms.

Thanks, Krista

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!

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.



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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

May 5, 2020

Cinco de Mayo

May 10, 2020

Mother's Day

May 16, 2020

Armed Forces Day

May 25, 2020

Memorial Day



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

