



Secretary's Note

*For God and Country,
Department of Alabama
Carol Tyson, Secretary*

June 19, 2019

Department Convention:

Thank you!! Thank you to each and every member that attended the Department Convention. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and was so excited to meet each of you in person that I have spent time with via phone and email. You truly made my week-end.

Elections were held and the Department Line Officers are as follows:

President: Trish Montgomery, Unit 11

1st Vice: Kathy Phillips, Unit 88

2nd Vice: Iris Keen, Unit 73

Secretary: Carol Tyson, Unit 141

NEC: Judy Daughtry, Unit 152

Parliamentarian: Dee Atchison, Unit 171

Historian: Janet Carver, Unit 99

Chaplain: "Lori" Docter, Unit 99

A couple special "thank you's" go out to Unit 122 for decorating the Convention Floor and 100 gift bags. Unit 133, 50 gift bags and Unit 337, 50 gift bags. I am also thankful to Unit 337 for running the Registration booth. Iris Keen, Sharon Shaver and Casi Kilano – thank you for helping me get things finalized in the office to take to Convention. Melinda King, thank you for helping load and unload Convention items and helping out with Registration on Thursday evening, along with Sara Edwards. I appreciate Sharon Shaver, Sara Edwards, Stacey Moore, Vicki Ford and Linda Snow for helping me get the ballots together. Many

hands truly do make like work and I am so thankful for members who embody Service, Not Self.

Resolutions:

At Convention, we had two Resolutions that were sent out in the Call to Convention – BOTH Resolutions passed. Membership dues owed to Department will now be \$25/Srs and \$6/Jrs. Unit 1983, Headquarters dues are now \$30/Srs and \$8/Jrs. The new dues amounts are effective July 1, 2019. We also had three Resolutions come from the Floor. These three Resolutions had to do with pulling Charters. The following Charters have been pulled: Unit 131, Unit 170 and Unit 267.

Dues - Renewals and New Members:

Renewals for 2020 may be sent to Department beginning July 1st. National won't have 2020 renewals set in the system until then, so I can't pay your dues in the ALA MIS until then. Any new members sent in now through August 31st will be entered as new members for the 2019 year and will owe again for 2020 dues no later than December 31, 2019. Those members sent in September 1 and beyond will be entered as new members with a join date for dues being owed for the 2020 only.

Membership Cards & Book of Reports:

Units that did not get their 2020 Membership Cards picked up at Convention, please contact me so that we can make arrangements to get them to you.

Something Happening at Your Unit or in Your District:

We want to know about it. If you have something going on, share it. Send me an email at ALAux.Sec@legional.org, and I will get the information out. This is a great way to share ideas with one another, as well as gain support for your events. Information needs to be to me by no later than the 3rd of each month.

Forms Available:

Updated transmittal forms, New and Renewed have been uploaded to our Department website for your immediate use. These forms have the updated amounts, as well as places for you to deduct your credit memos that many units have been receiving from me.

Please make sure when you send in your transmittal forms that you include only the amount of money on the check for what is on the transmittal. Do not combine years or transmittals on one check. Do not combine Bonding and Rehab fees on the same check as your membership dues. This makes for an accounting nightmare. Please keep things separate.

Membership Applications:

Please make sure that your membership applications are complete. Remember that the POST must verify the Veterans service. The only time an Auxiliary member may verify the eligibility of a Veteran is if it is a female veteran signing herself up as an Auxiliary member.

All information must be complete on the application, including phone numbers with AREA codes. Getting phone number allows you to keep in contact with the new member and get them involved. Always make sure your UNIT number is on the application, so I know which unit the applicant belongs to. The application does not always stay with the transmittal. If you have any questions as to how an application should be completed, please see the example membership application on our Department website under Dept Links.

New Unit Guide Books:

New Unit Guide Books are available for download at the National website or purchase from Emblem Sales.

Poppies:

Department now has pre-made poppies for sale. They are \$20/100 plus \$8s/h per 100 for a total of \$28/100. These will be sent on a first come/first serve basis. Payment must be received before any will be mailed out.

Holding Membership - DON'T DO IT:

Dues are not considered paid until received at National. Unpaid dues results in defaulting on benefits, including AEF. Make sure those dues get sent in.

Holding Membership Dues

Unit officers submit dues in a timely manner and should not hold collected membership dues for an extended amount of time. The dues are not considered "paid" until they have been received by National Headquarters.

Article X, Units, Section 2 of the Standing Rules of the American Legion Auxiliary states, "Units have the authority to establish annual unit dues. Annual dues collected by the unit shall include department and national dues. Units shall remit department and national dues according to the policies adopted by the National Executive Committee." Article XII, Dues and Assessments, Section 1 of the Standing Rules states, "...Each department shall remit the national per capita dues promptly to the national treasurer via National Headquarters at least monthly."

War Memorial:

Don't forget to purchase a brick in honor/memory of your beloved servicemember. This is a great way to honor their service and help restore the Alabama War Memorial in the process. Applications for the bricks can be found on our Department website under Dept. Links.

Tax Information - 990's

The instructions and a wealth of information for 990 filing has been uploaded to our Department Website and can be accessed at any time. Please check it out and make sure your unit is in compliance.

Department Website:

Our Department Website – www.alabamaamericanlegionauxiliary.com – is constantly updating and changing. Make sure you check it out regularly for new information, so that you stay up-to-date with the latest happenings in the Department.

Office Hours:

Effective January 7, 2019: The hours are Monday and Wednesday 8a – 12p and Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8a- 4p. Please don't hesitate to email anytime at ALAux.Sec@legional.org.