



American Legion Auxiliary Newsletter (334) 262-1176

Department President, Sharon Atkins 2018-2019



January 2019

Theme for the year:

Let Your Voice Be Heard for Our Veterans!

Happy New Year!

I would like to take this time to tell you all that I appreciate all the things that you have done for our communities, our children and youth, our veterans and our active duty military over this past year. I have seen your posts and pictures on Facebook and I know that you have all been busy trying to make sure that everyone had a good Christmas. I am looking forward to seeing all the exciting things that you as American Legion Auxiliary Units will be involved in this new year.

As you all know our Mid-Winter Conference is coming up January 25-26, 2019 at The Grand Hotel in Point Clear, AL. We have some different things planned, I think it will be a fun and interesting time. I am looking forward to seeing everyone!

Our Membership is looking good! We are retaining members and also getting new members. That must mean we are something right here in the Department of Alabama. We will be having a new member "Meet and Greet" reception on Friday afternoon at Mid-Winter. All new members will be receiving an invitation to attend. Please encourage them to attend. We will also be honoring our members who have been a member for 50 years. Please try to get as many as possible to attend. If your 50-year members are unable to attend I would like to suggest that you plan something special for them for when you give them their recognition from the Department of Alabama American Legion Auxiliary. They have been vital members to Units and Department and they deserve to be recognized and be shown how much we appreciate them.

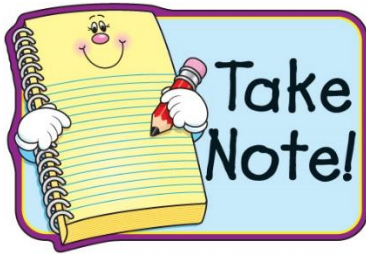
Our Southern Division National Vice President, Gloria Fochtman-Haygood will be our guest at our Mid-Winter Conference. She will be addressing us on Saturday, January 26. We will be having a luncheon in her Honor for all the District Presidents. Each District President will be responsible for her own meal. All District Presidents should try to attend. Ms. Gloria will be addressing us at the luncheon.

District Presidents, I need to receive a copy of your District Report before the 15th. You should have received a report from all your Unit Presidents and you comprise a report from their reports to send to me. There is also an end of the year report that will be due to me before our Department Convention in June. If you have not held a Leadership Training Day for your District, we will be setting dates at Mid-Winter, so be trying to find a date and a place for it to be held. We are also going to be planning a Membership Drive in our 3 Divisions. We will need a hosting Unit in each Division. We will also need volunteers from each Unit inside that Division to work that day. Our goal, which is part of our 5-year Strategic Plan, is to find and get back members who have been members in past years.

Our National President Kathy Dungan will be visiting our Department in February. We will be getting more information out soon. We are still waiting on receiving her travel arrangements, before we can set times. This is an honor for our Department to make our National President's calendar. I hope as many of you as can will be able to come out and help welcome her to our Department of Alabama.

Our Department is full of hard-working members! We have accomplished so much this year and I am so proud of each and every one of you! We are going to have a great year in 2019. I will be travelling again now that the Holidays are over, so please get your Unit or District on my calendar.

Sharon Atkins, President
Department of Alabama
American Legion Auxiliary



New Office Hours:

Effective January 7, 2019

Monday and Wednesday
8a – Noon

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
8a- 4p



Rehab and Bonding Fees are due. If you are unsure as to how much your Unit owes, contact Carol at Department and she will give you that information.

Cookbooks are for Sale:

Looking for a great Christmas idea? Don't forget about the Auxiliary Cookbooks – only \$25, plus shipping and handling.

Just a Reminder:

Department has Poppies for Sale. Poppies are \$20/100 plus \$8 for shipping and handling per 100 for a total of \$28/100. Just send a letter requesting where to send them along with the proper amount and they will be sent out to you promptly.



SPECIAL REQUEST!!

Greetings from ALA Unit 1879, Colorado State University!

Colorado ALA Unit 1879 envisioned creating an ALA cookbook that would accomplish multiple goals:

1. To honor the contributions of ALA members who have for one hundred years given freely of their time and talents in carrying out our mission. Often meetings, outreach, and social events include the quality food for which our members are well known!
2. To help bridge the civilian-military gap by including narratives of our veterans and active military. Interviews will be sought from individuals throughout multiple eras of service.
3. To bring together members of the American Legion Auxiliary from throughout the nation. We have much in common, despite our geographical distances.
4. Anticipated profits will be used throughout the country to support mental health services to veterans. More information will follow.

This special request is coming to your departments because we haven't yet received any vintage ALA cookbooks from your Department, and it's our goal to include every state in the Union in this coffee-table quality cookbook that will celebrate the contributions of ladies of the ALA since our inception in 1919.

The cookbook will be divided into eras as defined by significant military interventions, and as such, we're looking for books from 1919 to present. Ladies of 1879 will identify recipes for inclusion, then we're seeking help from you to be our test kitchens and submit feedback. Original recipe authors will be acknowledged, as will departments and names of those who served as testers. It's our aim to have the book available for distribution at August 2019 Annual Convention in Indianapolis. More information will follow regarding ordering the book.

Professionals will work with us to assess your feedback, then finalize and photograph selected foods. Yum! Resources are listed below to give you more complete information.

PLEASE SHARE THIS MESSAGE WITH YOUR ENTIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS. THERE ARE LIKELY WOMEN WHO DO NOT USE SOCIAL MEDIA BUT HAVE WONDERFUL COOKBOOKS THEY'D BE WILLING TO ALLOW US TO BORROW, SO PLEASE HELP GET THE WORD OUT AT UNIT/DISTRICT/DEPARTMENT MEETINGS, AS WELL AS WITH PERSONAL NETWORKING. Thank you!!!

Please refer to this website for complete information: www.alaservecookbook.com

We also have a Facebook page: ALA Centennial Cookbook

Don't hesitate to contact me and allow me to answer any questions! Contact information is below. Thanks for helping us be successful in this labor of love!

Karen M. Boehler
President, ALA Unit 1879 at Colorado State University
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970-215-6497

*****Ladies,***

The entire cookbook needs to be sent and they will either return it to you if you loan it or they will donate it to the National Museum if you donate yours to the project. Check out the website above for more information.**



Mid-Winter will be held at the Grand Hotel in Point Clear. Please contact the hotel at (251) 928-9201 to make reservations as soon as possible. The dates are January 24-27, 2019. We hope to see EVERYONE at the Conference.

There will be a banquet on Saturday night hosted by the LEGION. If you are wanting to attend this banquet, please write a check out to THE AMERICAN LEGION for \$20/person for your ticket. Make sure to return the bottom portion of this with your check made out to ***THE AMERICAN LEGION***, that states who is purchasing the banquet tickets and how many tickets you wish to purchase. You may send the check in the same envelope with your registration for Mid-Winter, however ***DO NOT*** include banquet money on the same check as your registration for Mid-Winter. ***Registration is to be made out to Dept of Alabama ALA. Banquet tickets are to be made out to The American Legion. LAST DAY TO ORDER IS JANUARY 15TH***

Banquet Tickets for Mid-Winter:
January 26, 2019

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of tickets: _____ x \$20/ea = \$ _____

Check #: _____

Make check out to: THE AMERICAN LEGION

Finance Chairman Report:

Don't forget to bring your Silent Auction items to Mid-Winter.

All information on how to file your 990's are now uploaded to our Department website and can be found at www.alabamaamericanlegionauxiliary.com under the Dept Links tab. Please visit the website and review the information.

Finance Chairman,
Cheryl Wheeler



EDUCATION

It's time for Scholarships to be filled out and sent in. All scholarships are located on our Department website. Please refer anyone eligible (school-age or wanting to return to school) to our page and they can determine which one(s) they are eligible for and apply. Make sure to follow all rules and adhere to all deadlines. If selected, they will only receive one, but can apply for all they are eligible for.

**CONSTITUTION &
BY-LAWS**



When is the last time your C&B was updated? Do you know? Check with Department or the C&B Chairman to find out. Don't put it off; it's important.

**YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS**

MEMBERSHIP

Have you renewed your membership? You matter! Your membership matters! If you are the Membership Chairman for your Unit, make sure you are contacting your members and let them know they matter. Make sure you send it in, don't hold membership. Note: If your membership hasn't been turned in yet, you are not a member in good-standing. Make sure it's turned in and you are letting your voice be heard for our Veterans.

American Legion Auxiliary
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Montgomery, AL. 36101

Phone
(334) 262-1176

E-mail
ALAux.Sec@legional.org

Key Dates:

January 7, 2019

Office Hours Change

January 24-27, 2019

Mid-Winter Conference

Grand Hotel

One Grand Blvd, Point Clear, AL. 36564

Phone: (251) 928-9201

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Voice Be Heard for Our
Veterans!

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

P O BOX 606
MONTGOMERY, AL 36101

