

# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

## DEPARTMENT OF ALABAMA

October 11, 2018

Hello Everyone!

Fall is in the air and it is time to start thinking about your District's Fall Conference; teaching Halloween safety, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving dinners and Christmas Parties. We have so many ways during this time of year to serve not only our Veteran's but also our communities. I would love to come and visit during some of your events. Please contact me to schedule an official Presidents visit to your Unit or District.

If you were unable to make it to our Fall Leadership Conference, we missed you. I think everyone had a good time and I hope learned something new. We did not have as much time this year as normal, so every minute was packed full. The POW/MIA ceremony was very nice. We need to honor and remember their sacrifice. Thank you for staying and being a part of this!

If you, nor your District President were at the Fall Leadership, you need to call the Department Secretary and ask about getting your Program Action Plan and Roster book mailed out. You will have to pay for the shipping.

As a way of starting our centennial plan, I would like to do something special for our members who have been members for 50 years. PLEASE, send me the names of your unit members who have been a member for 50 years.

District Presidents, please remember to call your Unit President's. Find out what they have going on and go visit with them. Leadership Training, please contact Gloria and set one up for your District. We need to have one in every district this year if possible. We have several new Units that need training. Help us get them going forward in the right direction. Remember, new members are less likely to renew their membership after 3 years. Let's show them our Culture of Goodwill and motivate and encourage them to grow and be active for our Veterans!

We have our National President coming in February, the 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>. We still have to hear back from her travel agent before we can make all the arrangements for her visit. I will keep everyone posted as more information comes along.

We have several members who needs our thoughts and prayers...

Beverly Train – Unit 52 Hartselle

Virginia Dawson and family – Unit 135 and Post 135

Unit members from Haleyville Unit 33

I am sorry if I have left anyone off. Next month we will have a Chaplain's monthly report.

Our Mid- Winter Conference is coming up in January 24 – 27, 2019. It will be held at the Grand Hotel in Point Clear, AL. It is never too early to secure your room! You can always cancel it if you see you cannot attend.

MEMBERSHIP: Please work membership! Vickie has a prize for every Unit that meets their first milestone. Please remember our Goodwill Culture plan and make new members feel welcome and most of all needed! If your Post has a revitalization set up please let Vickie and I know so that we can get one of our team members there to help. Membership chairmen, please do not hold membership. Send it in to the Department Secretary as soon as you get it, even if it is only just one!

AEF: We have had several Hurricanes so far this fall. WE have Unit members, neighbors, communities that are hurting. Please donate and also make your members aware that they can apply if they are in need. If you can donate relief supplies, please do. We can make a difference in someone's life, in our communities and across our Nation.

POPPY: Cissi, our Poppy Chairman, is planning a Poppy Poster contest for the Mid-Winter conference. She wants you to bring the winning poster from your Unit's Poppy Poster contest down with you to Mid-Winter and the winner from this contest will be sent on to National for the National Poppy Poster Contest. Veterans Day is a good time to hold a Poppy Poster Contest. Let's have a room full of Poppy Posters! You can find the Poppy Poster Rules in her Program Action Plan or you can contact her for more details.

VA&R: Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Veteran's Day Parade in Birmingham on Veteran's Day. We have Christmas coming up; plan to be part of a Christmas Caravan or call one of our VAVS's to see what your Unit can do to help!

COMMUNITY SERVICE: This is year-round! Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hurricane relief efforts, raking leaves, Halloween Safety, this program is wide open. Let your voice be heard!

Ladies, I could go on and on...Our work is never done! Remember to wear your Auxiliary shirts when you are out in the community working our programs.

One last note, November 6 is our Election Day. Please go out and VOTE! Wear your, I VOTED sticker with pride! Our Veterans fought and died for you to have this right. Your vote does count, and it does make a difference!

As always, let your voice be heard for our Veterans.

Your Sister in Service,

Sharon Atkins,  
Department President