

Serving Those Behind The Badge

March 2021

THE OFFICE IS OPEN, PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT BEFORE YOU COME TO DEPARTMENT OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE...THIS IS DUE TO CORVID-19.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S OFFICAL VISIT... President Patricia will be rescheduling her missed visits for this year. Check with her about rescheduling. If you want her to revisit go ahead and ask.

POPPY ORDERS...Have you received you 2021 Poppy order? Please let us know because we are still shipping POPPY ORDERS.

PSP SHIRTS...we have them here in the office for sale. RED and BLUE tee shirts and polos wicking material...Get yours TODAY.

GIRLS STATE...It's happening...watch for details from the DIRECTOR...Did you get your information?

DIRECTORY ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS...

Unit 14...President Dana Brock...928-530-0294

Unit 46...President Mary Pike...928-848-7140... email 19288487140@mailmymobile.net

Unit 52... membership Rose Stewart 520-249-9535, email azrms@cox.net

EXTRA... EXTRA ... "RED TICKET" ...if you have received a red ticket since last Fall Conference please contact Department again so that we can mail out your prize asap.

MEMBERSHIP... "MEMBERSHIP PATROL Part 2". Membership is everyone's job. Legion Act has opened the window of eligibility from 12-7-1941 thru now. Be a life saver and get a renewal and a rejoin. ARIZONA is at 64.27%...need to work on that...WE CAN DO IT!! Check out the standings we have several Units that do not have the minimum of 10 members to maintain their charter. National has already asked if these Units are CANCELLING THIER CHARTERS. Question is are they?

RENEW MEMBERSHIP BY PHONE... Call National Headquarters at **(317) 569-4570** with your member ID and debit or credit card ready. If you would like to pay multiple members' dues at the same time, please call them, as this is the easiest way to accomplish this task.

Applications MUST BE LEGIBLE AND COMPLETE

- The original application is sent to DEPARTMENT not copies of them.
- Be eligible & USE BLUE INK, SEND ORIGINAL APPLICATION and COMPLETE INFO.
- Unit number
- Name of Veteran related to and only 1
- NEW "ANYTIME AFTER" Veteran Served...MUST IDENTIFY CONFLICT...CHECK ALL THAT APPLY
- DIRECT DESCENDANT... No longer on NEW application
- Only 1 relationship and do not add any
- Now you have spouse in place of wife, you have to identify female or male spouse
- Must be signed by a Post Officer unless it is woman veterans joining on herself
- Half sheet transmittal both white and yellow copies
- Do not pay for paid online and PUFL members on your transmittals...They are already paid for.
- NO NEW women veterans special offer for 2021.
- USE THE FORMS PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT FOR MEMBERSHIP PROCESSING.
- DO NOT RECREATE THE FORMS.

Please say a little prayer or wish that all are safe.



Barbara Matteson
Dept Secretary/Treasurer
secretary@aladeptaz.org

Pat Stanaski
Dept Membership Processor
membership@aladeptaz.org

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

March 2021

“Serving Those Behind the Badge”

ALA National President Nicole Clapp's focus for 2019-2021 is the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families.

Here are a few ways to help using the ALA Foundation:

Bone and muscle injuries make up half of all combat wounds sustained in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. * Over the years, assistive technology has proven to be beneficial to veterans adapting to a prosthetic limb or dealing with traumatic brain injury.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs reports that in the past two decades, the number of veterans using prosthetics, sensory aids, and other equipment has increased more than 70 percent, allowing more of these men and women to be more independent.

The American Legion Auxiliary Foundation can help veterans in your area transition back into civilian life. If your Auxiliary unit, district/county, or department knows of a specific, emergent need for your local veterans or active military, the ALA Foundation Veteran Projects Fund may be able to lend a helping hand.

Please join us in providing veterans with the support they so desperately need and deserve to regain confidence and mobility. Visit www.ALAFoundation.org/Grants to learn more about what you can do.

*According to the National Institute of Health

Until Next month Stay safe.

Patricia Lugo, President
plugo1@cox.net
602-475-0208

The American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona
Americanism

March 2021

Keep doing your good works, deeds and acts. Remember it is through small things that great things are accomplished.

Thank you to those units who provided midyear information. This was really appreciated. I learned a lot from this information. You really are doing good things.

Americanism Essay time is upon us. The form is on the back of this. Deadline to me is **March 1, 2021**. Look that are **7** classes so they could be **7** winners going to National.

Did you...make the Deadlines??

March 1, 2021 Americanism Essay Contest

May 1, 2021 Year-end Reports are due

Barbara Shields - Americanism Chairman
Barbara Shields - shields_barb@yahoo.com

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

March 2021

Who is Eligible?

Members of the American Legion Auxiliary whose dues are current and who have maintained membership for three consecutive years (the current year and immediate past two years) are eligible to apply in the wake of a financial crisis. Temporary assistance may be considered when:

- A financial crisis hits, leaving a member without resources for shelter or utilities, and no other source of aid is readily available.
- A natural disaster or weather emergency leaves a member without shelter or food.
- In extreme circumstances, educational training is needed by a member lacking the necessary skills for employment.

In the case of a natural disaster, an expedited application is available. The completed application can be submitted directly to ALA National Headquarters.

AWARDS

Individual contributors donating \$50 or more can receive a citation and lapel pin.

Unit awards for Department listed below...

Patricia M. Lee –Gloria Elliott Memorial Plaque
Paula Burgess "President's Plaque"
Paula Burgess "Per Capita Award"

Jessica Matteson – Chairman
602-573-8681
jessica.ann.matteson@gmail.com

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

March 2021

Yes, we are still celebrating the American Legion Auxiliary 100 Year Birthday! Plans are being made for our Annual Convention (hopefully) and again for the National Convention in August. The National Organization remains positive and plan to visit our wonderful state in August!

Your American Legion Family did Centennial activities in 2019 – 2020. Please try very hard to continue and let the Department know that you are still actively working on plans. Invite your Department President! It can be a small activity, such as an Afternoon Tea, a Bake Sale, Luncheon for your members who have been active the longest, Poppy corsages to celebrate their years, the list goes on..... It doesn't have to be a huge celebration although that would be wonderful also.

I would like to remind the Units and District's about sending me the name of your member with the most active years of membership. If you have a question about this, please feel free to contact me, e-mail or text would be the best way. I have received a few names, but I ask that you do not hesitate to honor your member at Convention. Your Unit should be in the mix when we read off the names of these members. Please continue to CELEBRATE!!



Serving Those Behind The Badge FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH April 2021

Greetings Fellow Auxiliary Members,

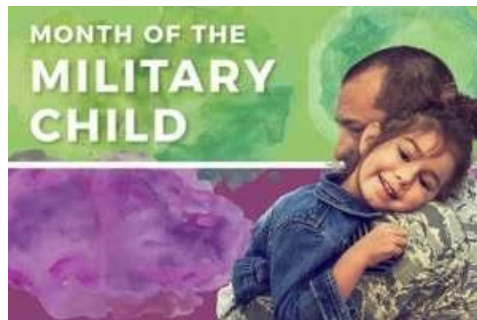
APRIL 15, 2021 – WEAR PURPLE

As a part of the entire month of April's celebration of the Month of the Military Child, there is also a day put aside to add an extra emphasis - Purple Up! For Military Kids is a day for communities to wear purple to show support and thank military children for their strength and sacrifices. April 3rd is the date the ALA is recognizing for Purple Up! this year, but that surely doesn't mean that any day during the month or throughout the year isn't a wonderful time to recognize our children. Wearing purple is a visible way to show support, but how many other ways can we recognize the Military Children?

1. Ask other organizations or community businesses to wear purple.
2. Asking teachers to have some kind of a military theme in the classroom in recognition of the military children.
3. Schools can help by also wearing purple possibly advertising in their school paper or assembly or sports.
4. Hospital and clinic employees, including doctors and nurses, can be contacted to support Purple Up!
5. Military institutions and other government entities might have the latitude to celebrate, but you need to make them aware of Purple Up! Make sure to include FRGs.
6. Of course, don't forget the entire Legion family!
7. And finally, don't forget to promote before, during and after on websites and social media. Share your activities and photos using the hashtag #PurpleUp #MOMC

These are just some of the ideas; there are many more that each of us can do for our military children.

Mark your Calendar



Purple Up for Military Children: April 15, 2021 – Wear Purple

For God and Country,

Lynda Griffin – Chairman

- ☐ Rebecca Gulley – Committee Member
- ☐ Shirley Cannon-Johnson – Committee Member

Community Service

March 2021

Hello ALA Members,

IMPORTANT, IMPORTANT, IMPORTANT! Year-end reports are Due May 1st!!!!

“Remember that the happiest people are not the those getting more, but those giving more.” ~H. Jackson Brown Jr.

March is Mental Health Awareness Month. How are your members fairing this month? I encourage you to reach out to those members that are not yet able to get out of the house due to health issues. Just knowing that someone is thinking about them and cares for them is a blessing.

Community Service month and Earth Day is April. This is a great time to start planning what you and your unit can do. Remember to keep in mind CDC regulations and precautions to keep everyone safe.

April 22nd is Earth Day. Organize a group outing on the 22nd to clean up your local park. This is a great way to get out in the neighborhoods and beautify your local community. Don't forget to take pictures and share them with me! You can also post your pics to Ring your bell on Facebook.

Another idea is to organize a spay or neuter program in your area. This is a humane way to keep the growing population of feral cats under control.

Sara C. Decker
Community Service Chairman
SaraCdecker91@gmail.com
480-580-3269



Education March 2021



The 2nd semester is under way! Each month I am focusing on one of the areas mentioned in the August newsletter. This month: **Assist and support military children with educational opportunities.**

There are several ways that Members and Units can assist military children with educational opportunities:

- Identify and reach out to military children in your local classrooms.
- Encourage Junior members to contact their school guidance counselor and volunteer to be a mentor to new military children at their school.
- Offer individual tutoring/assistance to a military child who is struggling.
- Provide your local school with a copy of the *Educator's Guide to the Military Child During Deployment*:
www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/os/homefront/homefront.pdf
- Inform schools of a free tutoring website for military children:
www.tutor.com/military
- Assist schools in working with military children. Resources are available at www.militarychild.org
- Organize a classroom recognition event for military children to share the accomplishments of their relative who is serving.

I look forward to hearing how your Units promote the Auxiliary education programs throughout the school year.

In the Spirit of Service, not for self,
For Veterans, God, and Country,

Julie Vietri

Education Chairman
Department of Arizona
jvietri@msn.com
480-947-1304

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
FINANCE REPORT
MARCH 2021

Reliability: If you are holding the position of Treasurer, your Unit/District selected you to handle their finances because they trust you to be honest and reliable. Be sure to file your taxes with the IRS and update information with the Secretary of State and Arizona Corporation Commission in a timely manner. This is not an option. This is a requirement every year. It only takes a few minutes and then you are in compliance and have met your goals for the year.

If you are a Department Chairman and have a bank account to maintain for your program, please keep your receipts and record all deposits and withdrawals in your check register. Keep this information in your Black Bag so it does not get lost. It needs to be up to date for the Finance Committee Audit Team at the close of the year. (Written and submitted by Helen Griffin on behalf of Helen Stout)

For those that have a Dept Constitution & By-laws you can see the makeup of this Committee - ALL are Past Dept Pres and knowledgeable. The only one without a vote is Dept. Secretary but she does have a voice in meetings.

All information should be passed on to your membership. I have been a proud volunteer member for 51 years. I understand well what this means to pass on the information to the next person.

I was employed by a Legion Post for 54 years as a secretary and found out what an Auxiliary means. Along the way I have attended many Leadership Seminars to learn from my predecessors, of the many programs for our veterans and our communities. I have never intentionally put out incorrect information and do not intend to do it now. To ALL the hard-working Auxiliary members in Arizona, young and older alike, THANK YOU and may you continue your good work for our Veterans and our communities!

Helen Stout - Department Finance Chairman

Committee Members -

Patricia Lugo - Cindy Queen,
Helen Griffin - Penny Maklary
Barbara Matteson

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
JUNIOR PROGRAM
March 2021**

“Serving Those Behind the Badge”

Planning for the Future

Junior Activities Awards Deadlines and Submission Requirements: Taking the time to share a favorite story about the positive impact you or someone you know has had on our mission is worth doing! It helps us tell the world who we are, what we do, and why we matter. Just three simple steps to add your part to our national success story:

- 1) Please follow instructions as you fill out the National Report and Awards Cover Sheet found in the awards section of the Annual Supplement to the Programs Action Plan.
- 2) Provide details/examples about the activity as outlined in the 2017-2022 Programs Action Plan.
- 3) Make sure to include your data from 2019-2021 in your report.

National Report and Awards Cover Sheet, deadlines, and Junior Activities committee contact information may be found on the Junior Activities committee page on the national website, www.ALAforVeterans.org.

- A. Member Award: Junior Member of the Year • Deadline: June 1, 2021 • Nominees must have been a Junior at the start of the 2019-2020 administrative year.
- B. • Unit chairman must send to National Headquarters to the Junior Activities Program Coordinator/Committee Liaison via email B. Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Junior Activities Program (per division) • Deadline: June 1, 2021 • Send to national division chairman postmarked or emailed by 5 p.m. EST on the deadline listed above.
- C. C. Department Award: Best Department Junior Activities Program (per division) • Deadline: June 1, 2021 • Send to national division chairman postmarked or emailed by 5 p.m. EST on the deadline listed above.
- D. D. National Award: Best Media Coverage of Activity or Project • Deadline: June 1, 2021 • Send to national chairman postmarked or emailed by 5 p.m. EST on the deadline listed above.

Lexis Escudero, Chairman
Escuderolexis@yahoo.com
623-298-9086

Legislative

March 2021

Greetings,

I hope this finds all of you in good health and spirits. We are going on a year with COVID restrictions. Last year, I was in Washington DC for the American Legion Conference. Glad I got home in time. As the delegation from Arizona was arriving to Phoenix, the Governor suspended all incoming and outgoing international travel. We weren't traveling internationally of course, but it was a weird site to see. As some of you know, the Conference this year was cancelled due to COVID.

Not a whole lot has been happening. President Biden was sworn into office on January 20th. Since then, he has signed 52 Executive Orders, many of which are reversing Executive Orders put into place by President Trump. A second impeachment trial of Former President Trump was started in early February by the U.S. House of Representatives. Former President Trump was acquitted.

As many of you know the Governor and President, are still giving daily briefings on the COVID-19 pandemic. The Governor has started to allow some elective surgeries. There are two vaccines approved by the FDA, by Pfizer and Moderna. Johnson and Johnson are also jumping aboard and working on getting a one dose vaccine approved by the FDA, as opposed to the two dose ones available now.

Protests and demonstrations in Washington DC as well as State Capitols including ours have died down somewhat. Fortunately, the activities at our State Capitol as of the writing of this bulletin have not turned violent. The fences at our State Capitol have been removed, but strict security restrictions are still in place due to threats on elected officials and COVID restrictions. The good news is that arrests have been made, and more on the way. The State Legislature has convened, and is currently working on passing bills from last session.

In closing, please stay healthy and positive. Remember, we are all in this together. Please remember, to be kind and patient with one another. I miss you all and care deeply about you and hope to see you soon. If there is anything you need to talk about, call or email me. I am but a few clicks away.

For God and Country,

Stephanie M. McMullen

Chairman

15239 W. Taylor St.

Goodyear, AZ 85338

(623)910-4716, stephanieemr@yahoo.com

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

MEMBERSHIP MARCH 2021

TO ALL YOU WONDERFUL AUXILIARY PERSONS I HOPE YOU HAD A GREAT VALENTINES DAY AND ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT FIRST DAY OF SPRING IN MARCH ON THE 20TH.

AH SPRING, THE TIME FOR THE BIRTH OF NEW THINGS TO BE GROWING. I KNOW THIS BECAUSE THE MEMBERSHIP PATROL HAS BEEN OUT THERE PLANTING SEEDS FOR THE GROWTH OF OUR MEMBERSHIP. LAST MONTH I WROTE ABOUT WHY MEMBERSHIP IS SO IMPORTANT. IT IS TO GIVE US STRENGTH, UNITY AND POWER. WE ARE CONSTANTLY SPREADING THE SEEDS AND WITH SPRING WE MAKE SURE WE WATER THOSE SEEDS. WITH THE HOPE OF A BETTER FUTURE THAN WE HAD IN 2020 BECAUSE OF THE PANDEMIC, THE MEMBERSHIP PATROL WILL BE OUT THERE SPREADING THE WORD, EXTENDING OUR HANDS, GIVING OUT WARM RAYS OF SUNSHINE WITH OUR SMILES AND BUILDING A STRONGER GROUND FOUNDATION FOR OUR ORGANIZATION.

WE HAVE FOUR UNITS THAT HAVE ZERO MEMBERSHIP BUT I KNOW THIS WILL BE CHANGING SOON. TO THE REST OF THE PLANTING MEMBERS, I GIVE YOU A STONG HEARTFELT THANK YOU. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK. MY HOPE IS THAT WHEN CONVENTION IN AUGUST IS HELD IN PHOENIX WE WILL HAVE THE BIGGEST, THE BEST AND THE STRONGEST CROP ON THE CONVENTION FLOOR.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN JUNE AS WE DANCE TO STAYING LIVE, STAYING LAIVE, STAYING ALIIIIIIIIIIIE.

GODBLESS YOU AND GOD BLESS AMERICA

JENNIE MOLINA

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

VICE-PRESIDENT ALA DEPT OF AZ

truelepa@gmail.com

P.O. BOX 448 Douglas, AZ, 85608

(520) 220-8460

ARIZONA MISSION TRAINING / LEADERSHIP

HEROES RESPOND FIRST



SERVING THOSE BEHIND THE BADGE

When you receive this message, there will be three (3) new instructional courses on the National Website at www.alaforveterans.org featuring concepts of working with the Junior Program. Okay, so you don't have a Junior Program – learning is learning. Other new courses are now available so take some time to tell your members to go on-line for training. HELP!!! Still looking for completed survey form (also on-line) from members. National would like everyone to retake the survey as it is important information to them about the courses being offered.

For those who have suffered losses due to any circumstances this organization is always ready to assist if asked. Training courses can fill a void but only for a short time. Perhaps we need a course on how to weather the losses. I did find a new organization that may be of help of some of our members; Modern Widows created in Florida has a new chapter in Phoenix providing support from widows to widows. Check it out and advise any members that may need this to do the same.

These certified instructors located in different areas of the state are available and can serve as mentors or answer questions:

DEBRA	MUNCHBACH	BARBARA	WHITE	CARMEN	GOSWICK
GINGER	COX	AMY	HANKINS	SALLY	FINE
PAULA	BURGESS	STACY	MAYBERRY	KATHY	STICKLIN
DORIS	THEISS	ROSE	FICKLIN	PENNY	MAKLARY
SHIRLEY	CANNON-JOHNSON	CINDY	QUEEN	KAREN	SMITH
JANE	SHOEMAKER	BECKY	RUIZ	JENNIE	MOLINA
BARBARA	MATTESON	REBECCA	FARRIS	KATHY	SZAKONYI
JAN	CUSHING	MAXINE	REITH	NATALIE	KASIC
SANDY	CONKLIN	SHANNON	MEAD	MARGIE	GREENE
YOLANDA	BONILLA	JOANNE	SCHREIBER	HELEN	STOUT

As you complete the National Courses, please document the course on the Training Tracking Form. This form should be on the Department website under member resources at www.aladeptaz.org.

For God and Country in Service to Veterans

Kat Sticklin, Department Chair
Arizona Mission Training
928-428-7431 / 928-322-1550 cell
gsticklin@cablone.net
1519 S. 2nd Avenue
Safford, AZ 85546

Music
March 2021

Greetings Members,

I hope everyone had a pleasant Valentine's Day. With social distancing and the flu, we are still mostly home bound trying to keep Covid-19 and the flu at bay. I'm pleased to hear so many Units are continuing with their music programs despite the challenges from Covid-19.

I've had the opportunity to speak with some units and would like to visit and hear what the Units have in mind for music opportunities. If you would like assistance with ideas or music, I'm here to assist you. Some units are including a patriotic song during their meetings. Other Units' juniors have sung "The National Anthem" at their functions. It's wonderful to include these young voices, they are our future.

It might be early, but I've been looking at possible choices for Convention Memorial Service. I have a few selections in mind, but if you have a suggestion I would welcome your suggestions. I would like to add new music choices to the mix.

You call it music, I think of it as my therapy.

With a song in your heart
For God and Country,

Alma Mattingly

Chairman

15239 W. Taylor Street
Goodyear, AZ 85338

amblonde01@gmail.com

602-999-4054

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
NATIONAL SECURITY

MARCH 2021



The American Legion Auxiliary and Operation Homefront share a mutual goal to support our military and veterans. We are pleased that Operation Homefront is part of the American Legion Auxiliary Call to Service Corps. In the spirit of mutual helpfulness, we have developed a statement of collaboration between the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) and Operation Homefront (OH) and an action guide that provides opportunities for our members, volunteer and advocates to further support servicemembers, veterans and their families. Bringing together the dedication and commitment of the American Legion Auxiliary's nearly 800,000 members with direct services and emergency assistance programs organized through Operation Homefront will lead to tangible and morale benefits to those who serve our nation in the military.

We have prepared this action guide to assist American Legion Auxiliary units, departments and members and Operation Homefront chapters and supporters in easily connecting their interests, skills and resources to each other. You can find this under Members Only/Program Action Plan.

This guide includes sections that identify whom Auxiliary members or Operation Homefront chapters should contact and when; detailed information on Operation Homefront programs that align with the American Legion Auxiliary Plan of Action; tools to assist with the preparation of ALA unit and department impact reports, as well as Operation Homefront's quarterly case count reports; and lastly, a descriptive example of Auxiliary support for Operation Homefront programs.

The American Legion Auxiliary and Operation Homefront are equally proud of their contributions toward the practical and emotional well-being of servicemembers, veterans and their families. We look forward to learning about and celebrating the additional commitments, wonderful experiences and shared successes resulting from enhanced collaboration between the American Legion Auxiliary and Operation Homefront and our state and local affiliates.

Until next month with more news!!

Cindy Queen

National Security Chairman

2019-2021

cynqueen53@cox.net

602-316-7647 (cell)

New Units/Unit Development & Revitalization

MARCH 2021

Relationship Between Unit and Post

The relationship between the two organizations is one of cooperation rather than regulation. The American Legion Posts and American Legion auxiliary Units are related but independent organizations each with separate EIN's, financial records, Bylaws, etc.

The National Judge Advocate of The American Legion has issued the following ruling:

“It is crystal clear that The American Legion Post has no authority to control the Unit related to it.” The Post may not revoke nor threaten revocation of its Unit's charter.

The Unit should regard its connection with the post as a distinct honor. It should strive unceasingly to carry out the National Constitution's “to participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion.”

Jan Cushing
New units/UD&R Chairman
gcushing@cox.net
623-544-0797

American Legion Auxiliary Past Presidents Parley

March 2021

This year has been a roller coaster ride for the entire world being held captive by a virus. Our entire health care system has undergone many challenges and now more than ever we need our Health Care Heroes. In light of this there are many student who can certainly use a lift with their education and PPP offers health care scholarships. Please share this information with your Unit.

PPP Nurses Scholarship - \$600

Scholarships are awarded annually to not less than a second year student who is enrolled in an accredited institution in Arizona awaiting a degree as a Registered Nurse. The immediate family members of a veteran will be given first preference. Applicant must be a citizen of the USA and a resident of AZ for at least one year. Rules and regulations concerning this scholarship will accompany application forms.

PPP Scholarship Assistance In Health Occupations - \$500

Applications for assistance to students pursuing a career in Health Care Occupations. Applicants must be enrolled/enrolling in an accredited tax-supported institution in Arizona which offers a certificate or degree in Health Care Occupations (Nursing Assistant, Dental Assistant, LPN, Lab Tech, Physical Therapist, etc.). Applicants must be a citizen of the U.S. and a resident of AZ for at least one year.

For further information and applications, go to the Department website, www.aladeptaz.org under the Member Resources tab, item 6, Scholarship. Deadline for applying is May 15, 2021. Questions, please feel free to contact me.

THIS MONTH PPP HONORS ALL PAST PRESIDENTS WHO CONTINUE TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS BY SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY! ANY AND ALL COMMENTS ARE WELCOME!
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**Yolanda Bonilla
Past Presidents Parley Chairman
602-989-3321
yodobo@msn.com**

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT**

March 2021

The One Hundred Club of Arizona

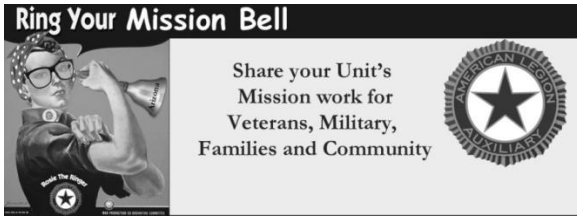
**"Standing Behind the Men and Women who
Stand Behind the Badge."**

The mission of the One Hundred Club is to provide financial assistance to families of First Responders who are seriously injured or killed in the line of duty and provide resources to enhance their safety and welfare. We have proudly served the public safety community since 1968.

They provide immediate financial assistance to families of public safety officers and firefighters who are seriously injured or killed in the line of duty, and to provide resources to enhance their safety and welfare.

On behalf of President Lugo, we would like to thank all the Units for your support of this great project.

Josephine Herrera, Chairman
jherrera268@aol.com
623-340-5936



PURPLE UP! Arizona

“Purple Up! Day” is a day for communities to wear purple to show support and thank military children for their strength and sacrifices. Purple indicates that all branches of the military are supported. Air Force blue, Space Force blue, Army green, Navy blue, Marine red, and Coast Guard blue all are thought to combine together as a single color, purple.

April is the Month of the Military Child and April 15, 2021 is Purple Up! Day.

Let’s flood social media with creative, fun purple photos to support these awesome children!

- Start collecting fun purple props now! Make signs & posters.
- Set times and locations for members to meet and take photos and VIDEOS (remembering pandemic precautions—purple masks?).
- Ask your city officials to join in-- purple lights or clothes, a proclamation recognizing the day.
- Ask businesses to join in!
- Set up a Military Child table and be sure purple is prominent! Be sure to have a poster explaining its meaning.
- Engage local military facilities
- Encourage local school teachers, counselors, sports teams. Use your ALA Girls State school contacts to request participation.
- Ideas are endless!

We could all use a little fun and levity these days.... And so could all the military kids.

**Post all your activities on Facebook Ring Your Bell
Use hashtag #PurpleUp**

We can’t wait to see you creative support for Arizona Military kids.

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

March 2021

Year end reporting is right around the corner. Have you been keeping track of the hours, miles and monies spent for veterans? Make sure your Unit members are reporting the same.

I saw on Ring Your Bell some Units delivered Valentine cards/gifts to the Phoenix VA Home. St. Patrick's Day is March 17. What can your Unit do for veterans for St. Patrick's Day? If your Unit sends card/gifts to veterans, please post on Ring Your Bell!

Those 65 and older can now receive the COVID-19 vaccine. is well under way. **Have you checked with veterans to see if they need a ride or most importantly, do they need assistance making an appointment?** The registration process can be a little challenging for some people. The good news is their second appointment is made at the time of the first shot. Remind them to bring the appointment confirmation email they received.

Thank you for looking out for our veterans during this time!

Construction on both VA Homes is coming along. Are you following the progress on Facebook?

Facebook Pages: Arizona State Veteran Home – Flagstaff
Arizona State Veteran Home – Yuma (To be completed Summer 2021!)

Reminder: I'm still waiting PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE send me your accomplishments/what you are doing throughout the year. I would love to read what your Unit/Post Family is doing for our veterans.

Until next month

Barbara White
Department 2nd Vice President
VA&R Chairman
602-908-2980
Barbarawhite99@gmail.com



Creative Arts

March 2021

Did you read your February edition of your *Auxiliary* magazine? As usual for February, there is an article highlighting the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival. Speaking about his experience, I think Marine Corps veteran Julian Morales said it best. "We are all very likeminded in a way; we've all fought in different wars, but the result is the same ---we have stories to tell, whether it's through photography, writing, dance or theater, and when we get together, great things happen." Take a few minutes to read the article to see the impact this program has for these veterans.

I will be attending ALA Academy Live webinar on Creative Arts in a few days, as I write this. Hopefully I will have great information to share with you next month.

Your Department Creative Arts Team 2019-2021:

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VA&R REPORT
TUCSON VA MEDICAL CENTER
1-31-21

All events are suspended until further notice. Thank you volunteers for your help!

Moderna vaccine has arrived and all staff who desired vaccination have been vaccinated. All at risk Veterans and those 75+ have been offered the two dose vaccine. Currently working on Veterans 65+. Current numbers are encouraging according to Director.

Southwest Bind Rehabilitation Center is now closed until COVID-19 numbers improve. They have requested that service organizations provide delivery of in house meals. There will be no volunteers at these meals. There is NO visitation at SAVAHCS. Monetary donations are being accepted at this time. American Legion Auxiliary Gift Shop will have to be done differently this year. The hospital is asking for lists from nursing staff of items needed by Veteran patients. They have requested that all service organizations work together to fill these needs with no duplication. American Legion Auxiliary Christmas Gift Shop donated \$4,000.00 worth of gift cards in support this effort.

The grand total of monetary donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021 is \$800.

The grand total of material and activity donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for February 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021 is \$38,744.33. This amount includes the Christmas Gift Shop donation for 2019. Thank you Unit 7, Unit 24, Unit 66, Unit 68 and Unit 132 for your generous donations to support our programs.

Four registered hospital volunteers donated time which was credited to the American Legion Auxiliary. The grand total of registered volunteer hours May 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021 is 518.5. **S AVAHCS is in the process of bringing back volunteers. Volunteers will be phased in as needed and the process will be closely monitored by the Director. Volunteers will be contacted by the Voluntary Service office as their services are needed. One more Auxiliary volunteer has been called back. This effort is currently being reevaluated due to current numbers and availability of vaccine.**

This chairman has volunteered 108 hours and logged 1,560 miles this year in service to the Tucson VA Medical Center as of January 31, 2021. This chairman has now logged over 4,000 hours in service to SAVAHCS. This chairman was elected to be the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the VAVS Executive Committee at the meeting on October 8, 2020. The audit of the books was completed. This chairman is working with the Homeless Program to ensure that our Homeless Veterans and those in Transitional Housing have the food and beverages that they need during this time of enormous stress on all community resources. This chairman is working with the Recreation departments to purchase needed supplies for the National Veterans Creative Arts Program and other recreational activities. Annual Joint Review was completed November 10, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Szakonyi, VAVS Representative