

BOOK OF REPORTS

DISTRICT 11 2023 – 2024

At the end of the 2024-year, District 11 finished strong. Out of a total of ten Units, the majority reported regularly to the District President, Secretary and Historian. Unit 1 only reported their activities to the District President during the January meeting. Out of ten Units, the District President was invited and visited all the Units including the “Baby Unit” #145, except for Unit 1.

The District Officers educated Units, by sharing with members information in the Department Monthly Bulletins, website and other outlets regarding the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary. This included promoting mission training sessions, and Legion College. Information was also shared on social media, via Ring Your Bell and the District 11 pages on Facebook, as well as the BandApp.

At the beginning of the fiscal year, District 11 had a beginning balance of \$1,277.92. This was after disbursements and donations. The balance was current as of June 30, 2023. As of August 30, 2023, District 11 held a beginning balance of \$2,038.92. After receipts and disbursements, it held a balance of \$1,297.92. As of October 31st, 2023, the District held a beginning balance of \$1,297.92. After receipts and disbursements, it held a balance of \$1,474.92. This was due to raffles at the meeting and donations from Units to go the President’s Special Project. As of December 31st, 2023, the District held a beginning balance of \$1,461.67. After receipts, the balance was \$1,601.67. After receipts, disbursements, and mandates paid to the District; the District held a balance of \$4,329.97, as of February 29th, 2024. After disbursements and receipts, including mandates to the District; the District held a balance of \$2,625.97, as of May 1st, 2024. It was voted on by the District Executive Committee to reduce the balance after necessary expenses for Convention and normal operating expenses to no more than \$1,000 to leave in the bank. The remaining after expenses, would be donated to the President’s Special Project.

The District Vice President, who serves as the Membership Chairman began the year by giving membership goal numbers to the Unit Presidents in attendance. The Chairman also presented patriotic handbags to each Unit to use as a membership raffle for early dues paid. A packet from Department was also given on how to process membership, along with membership cards to each Unit. At the Fall Organizational Meeting at Post 26 in Mesa, District 12 challenged District 11 to have the highest percentage membership by December 7, 2023. The Chairman urged Units to send in membership transmittals on a regular basis, at least weekly. During the January meeting it was announced that District 11 lost the membership challenge with District 12. The District President was to present a \$25.00 check to the President’s Special Project, to District 12 at their January meeting a week later. Despite losing the challenge with District 12, District 11 really worked hard at membership this year. Several Units exceeded their 100% goals.

The District Chaplain actively worked her program along with the help of Unit Chaplains. The District Chaplain set up a BandApp channel specifically for District 11 Chaplains and invited the Department Chaplain as well. She encouraged all Unit Chaplains and members to share prayers and support each other throughout the year. The Chaplain sent roughly 25 cards to members within the District and Department. Prayer Book brainstorming sessions were jointly held by Unit 29 Chaplain Van Scyoc, District Chaplain

Amery, and Department Chaplain Griffin. District Chaplain Amery also helped host a team building retreat at her home for the District Executive Committee, including Unit Presidents and Vice Presidents. It was an afternoon of fun, food, and fellowship. At the May meeting, the District held its annual memorial ceremony, recognizing those lost this past year from District 11 Units. This unfortunately included Past Unit 62 President Tammy Early and Unit 29 Chaplain and Past District Chaplain DeborahAnn Van Scyoc.

The District Historian and District Secretary collaborated on the District's History Book for the year.

The District Vice President remained as the chairman for the Girls State program from the previous year. She presented a school bus piggy bank to be used for collecting funds for the President's Special Project to the District President. This bus traveled all around the District with the President, including Fall Conference and eventually Convention. Chairman Aronoff, worked with the Units to ensure that completed forms for Girls State were turned in by the deadline. In April, District 11 held a Girls State Orientation at Post 29. There were over 50 girls and parents in attendance.

To date Units in the District promoted and supported women veterans by donating funds to charitable organizations, encouraged women veterans to join the Auxiliary with paid memberships for the first year, recognized them at meetings and special events, and held luncheons in their honor. Several Units regularly host breakfasts, and luncheons for female veterans.

Several Units participated in government and civic education by starting a Facebook page for the Unit, distributing pocket flags and flag books to students at a local elementary school. Counselors were educated about Girls State by the Director of Arizona Girls State and Unit Chairmen. Several members attended JROTC awards banquets.

Units support Luke AFB and their communities, by donating food and clothing to those in need. Several Units in District 11 hosted a baby shower for a local charity for female veteran moms in need. One Unit regularly hosts meals at their Post home for the needy and homeless in the area. Another Unit and Post Family has hosted a total of seven Borderlands Produce On Wheels Without Waste distribution events. To date, over 219,000 pounds of produce has been rescued and redistributed to needy families in the community.

Several Posts and Units have members that are local and State officials. Many have been keynote speakers at special events.

Each Unit in the District made National Poppy Day an event. Many held Memorial Day events coinciding with National Poppy Day.

To date District 11 Units have raised and donated over \$300,000 in funds, goods, and services back into the community and Legion and Auxiliary programs. The Department of Arizona District 11 Auxiliary members continue to advocate for veterans, active-duty military, and their family's rights.

For God and Country,

Stephanie M. McMullen, District 11 President 2023-2024

