

BEES SUPPORTING VETERANS

February 2019

NATIONAL PRESIDENT KATHY DUNGAN...her visit is March 27-30, 2019. Reservation form for dinner and her agenda is in this packet. All members are welcomed to attend functions.

JUNIORS & MISSION TRAINING... Who did you see there...old and new friends? Please work on your patches for the Patch Program which is also available to SAL members.

CREASTIVE ARTS FESTIVAL...this is this month at all 3 VAMC's.

DIRECTORY ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS...

Unit 4...Secretary now Patty Nolan 203 S Palo Verde Lane, Globe, AZ 85501 928-812-3027

Unit 5...

Unit 28...mailing address 480 S Calvary Way, Cottonwood, AZ 86326

Unit 109...Membership Julie Hoverlandt juliebufford1985@gmail.com

GIRLS STATE...see Fusion Glass flyer to raise money for Girls State. This is provided by the The American Legion Family Department of Arizona. School packet go out 1-15-2019. Check with your school that they got them. Remember that the delegate information to the Director is due March 1 starting this year.

LOGO STICKERS & WOODEN NICKLES...yes, we still have both for sale here in the Department office.

EXTRA EXTRA...there will something in someone's packet this month. If you find it contact Department.... reward to be given at Department Convention.

POPPY...Thank you to all of the Units who have picked up poppy kits to make...thank you again.

MEMBERSHIP... "THIS IS HOW WE DO IT". Membership is everyone's job. **NEW FLASH!** The American Legion is at 80% of the 2018-2019 membership goal. WE the Auxiliary is at 52.34% of our goal. AND that is a long way from our 95% goal by May. We need to BE BUZZING around on doing membership. Let's show them "how we do it". Are there ALR's in your Unit make sure they have paid the 2019 Unit dues. They must be a current member (dues paid) before they can pay their ALR dues.

Did WE see you last month on our travels?

OK...this is here every month because these problems are still coming in...Please double check the information on the applications...have someone else check...we are spending too much time getting missing information and corrections. Applications must be sent in for all new members...don't understand why units just quit sending in applications for new members.

- Be eligible & **USE BLUE INK AND SEND ORIGINAL APPLICATION**
- Unit number
- Name of Veteran related to and only 1
- Only 1 time of service
- Only 1 relationship and do not add any
- Must be signed by a Post Officer unless it is woman veterans joining on herself
- Half sheet transmittal both white and yellow copies
- Only list names that paid online, do not send any money for them.
- Make sure you mark all of the **NEW** women veterans.
- Do not mark NEW women veterans when they are renewing.

Please let your members know that if they pay online they need to let you know. Members can now also pay by phone using a credit/debit card. Call National at 1-317-569-4500 and tell them you want to pay your dues by phone. National will start sending out cards for the 2018-19 year until then they have to let you know. They can only pay the current years dues. If they owe 2018 or before they will pay 2019 first to be current...this will be a rejoin member.

- **Question...**What are we supposed to do with a member data form that has a name and “bad address” written on it”? If you don’t know how are we supposed to?
- **Silver Brigade, Recruit & Rejoin forms...**Please send these in now. Do not wait until April.

Department Convention...Sheraton at Wild Horse Pass not the Casino. Same location as last year. Housing window is open. For Hospitality Room you must go thru the Legion Department office. You must register with the TAL, ALA or SAL to attend this function. Registration form in this packet. The cost of onsite registration will be going up.

Everyone... you are all “winners” to me.

“BEES”

Barbara Matteson
Dept Secretary/Treasurer
secretary@aladeptaz.org

Pat Stanaski
Dept Membership Processing
membership@aladeptaz.org





BELIEVE EQUALITY EXISTS SUPPORTING EVERY VETERAN

President's Bulletin

February 2019

We are now in our second month in 2019, so we need to have our Bees working hard to fill those bee hives...**membership**. As of this writing we are under 50% and have a long way to go to catch up. Units, we need you to reach out to your members and encourage them to pay their dues.

From December 15th to January 14th I attended the following:

- ❖ Mission Training held at Post 27 on December 16th. Thanks to Unit 90 for driving the distance to learn more about our organization.
- ❖ Thanks go out to Unit 1 for inviting me to their Christmas party/meeting. Food was yummy and again thank you for including me in your gift exchange.
- ❖ On January 5, the Strategic Planning Committee met to go over the next few months of activities, we are on track with National.
- ❖ Additionally, on January 5th, we all celebrated Open House. Thanks to all the Legion Family for contributing such great food and really enjoyed the camaraderie with everyone.
- ❖ On January 8th, my husband Ken and I attended the Memorial Service for Past Department Commander, Bobby Reyes in Flagstaff.
- ❖ From January 11th through the 13th, I traveled to Yuma, and although not an official visit, I was able to talk to many members of Unit 19.

Creative Arts Festivals are planned this month for Prescott on the 13th, 14th, and 15th; Phoenix is on the 14th; and Tucson is on the 19th.

Please check the attached calendar for my schedule. If you would still like to extend an invitation for me to visit, there are dates available.

Next month, National President, Kathy Dungan, will be visiting our wonderful state. We have organized some fun events and most dinners will be honoring female Veterans. Watch for her schedule in next month's bulletin, as we are still in the planning stages.

Who's going to Convention this Year? Once again, we will be at the Sheraton Grand located at Wild Horse Pass.

Finally: A huge thank you to all the Units that have contributed to my special project!!!! We are on our way to help our visually impaired Veterans receive the rehabilitation they so justly deserve.

Reminder: Be sure to take the Pledge and thank a Veteran for their service!!!

Cindy Queen, Department President
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602-316-7647 (cell) 480-358-6923 (home)

FEBRUARY BULLETIN
AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND ('AEF')
2018-2019

Hello to all my Busy Bees!

Now that the excitement of the holidays are over----it's time to start working those fund raisers to create a BUZZ that will be heard all the way to National.

The buzzing sound from the mid year reports could use a little amplification. I was delighted with the reports I received and hope to get many more in May. I really appreciated those units that sent a report even though they had nothing to report. They were just as important as those units who did report their work. Several of the units they were hoping to get on the "BEE " line in the near future.

As I said in my January bulletin, here are some additional places to get help:

HeatShare hotline 1-800-842-7279 for immediate help. Find out if you qualify and get HeatShare program details.

Utility Assistance|The Salvation Army
<https://salvationarmynorth.org/programs-that-help/basic-needs/utility-assistance/>

I will add more to the list in the March bulletin.

For the units that do not have a local AEF hive, PLEASE try to create one. This could help one of your own "Bees". Now or even down the road.

Keep those Busy Bee minds humming on fund raising ideas. Lets make some "HONEY" for both the local and national hives.

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY.

For God and Country
Shirley Kavis Chairman
SKavis46@aol.com
602-679-0766.

The American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona
Americanism
February 2019

February

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.

A big thank you to all of you for the things you do for our veterans and our country. Thank you for taking the time to help and teach our younger generations. How will they know what and how do things, unless we teach them?

Woot woot, 10 inches of snow and it's BEAUTIFUL. Remember to continue to take of your neighbors, veterans, friends and families.

Please remember the Upcoming Deadline

Dates to Remember
May 1st – Year-end Reports are due

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shields_barb@yahoo.com



CHAPLAIN

Happy February

I want to thank the 22 units and 2 districts that sent in mid-year reports. I sent all the information from those reports to National Chaplain Deborah, for her reporting. I do hope that we get more participation from units and districts for of year reporting. One quarter of our total units reporting isn't good at all. I think the Units of this Department can report 100%. In fact, I want to see how many people actually read this bulletin. If I can get 100% reporting from ALL units in the Department of Arizona, and 100% of the Districts to report at year end. I will wear a dress all day on the Friday of convention. So that means **District Presidents need to rally your Units Presidents who in turn need to rally the unit chaplains.** If I only get 99% reporting then too bad ladies, there will not be a reward for that.

I also need more prayers for President's Cindy's prayer book. Please send them sooner rather than later.

For God and Country

Rose

Children and Youth Program

February 2019

Greetings fellow Auxiliary members,

Valentine's Day is upon us. Valentine's Day bullying is a little different than the bullying that occurs on the other days of the year. On this particular day it is almost impossible for kids to escape from some form or other of bullying. For kids who do not have a significant other or groups of friends to exchange valentines with, the day can be downright excruciating.

Schools do not make Valentine's Day easier for kids; in fact, some schools support fundraisers that allow kids to buy flowers or sweets for their classmates. The valentines are then presented to the kids during class, which makes it obvious to see who didn't receive a valentine. This leaves kids who didn't receive candy or flowers prime targets for bullying.

Parents and teachers can help prevent bullying on Valentine's Day. Maybe your Unit could work with your Juniors to make valentines for all the kids or have a little get together to sign valentines to pass out to the community schools. Perhaps the Unit could bake cookies to package up and attach a little valentine to then provide to kids in school. A small gesture like this may be just what a kid experiencing bullying needs to help them through the day.

Remember to visit www.stopbullying.gov for more ideas on what you and your Unit can do to eliminate this issue in our community.

For God and Country,

Stacey Mayberry – Chairman

Email: Mayberry.Stacey@gmail.com

Phone: 702-403-4903

Address: 9139 W Harmony Lane

Peoria, AZ 85382

Lynda Griffin – Committee Member

Rebecca Gulley – Committee Member



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Hello all you busy service bees. First, Linda Ruhl, from my community service committee and I wish to thank you for all your hard work and the reports that were sent to me. It was great seeing so many at mid-year.

Some suggestions for this month community service:

Classrooms appreciate help and patriotic presentations,

Contact local grammar schools and give a presentation.

For Valentine's Day visit your State Veterans Hospital with cards and goodies.

Also for Valentine's Day you could read to kids at a library, visit nursing homes and hospice centers. Let bring a little cheer.

Celebrate 70 years of Community Service at your post and share ideas to be of service to your community.

Start a sock drive and deliver to a local homeless shelter.

Have a post-holiday food drive, a lot of the food banks are short of food after the holidays.

**BEE SAFE, BEE SELFLESS, BEE A CONTRIBUTOR TO YOUR AUXILIARY AND
COMMUNITY AND THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR GOD AND COUNTRY**

Colleen Heck

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CREATIVE ARTS

MARCH 2019

Each year the Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities across the country play host to the local veterans creative arts festivals providing many veterans a chance to find healing through expressing their talents in art, creative writing, dance, drama, and music. For some honing their skill has made a great impact. Year after year the Festival provides a welcoming atmosphere for many veterans and the American Legion Auxiliary plays an important part in making this important program available to veterans.

As your reading this bulletin Arizona's local creative arts has been judged and the winners will be planning their trip to the next competition.

The quality of this art work is truly astounding. The veterans have so much talent and everyone who entered this art competition are winners.

Remember, you can help veterans express their hidden talents through the arts. I hope many of you were able to view the talent of our veterans at your local VA facility.

Thank you to all the units who gave your support by volunteering to assist with this important event or sent monetary donations so the art show

Could be showcased to the public. The rehabilitation that comes from this event is important to rebuild confidence in our veterans.

Again, thank you so much for your support.

SALLY FINE

CREATIVE ARTS CHAIR.

CREATIVE ARTS
2018-2019

THE 2018-2019 CREATIVE LOCAL VETERANS CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVALS WILL BE TAKING PLACE IN FEBREARY IN ALL THREE VA FACILITIES IN ARIZONA

We need to find ways to encourage Veterans to participate at the local level held in February 2019. All Veterans who want to participate must be enrolled at a VA Medical Center to participate. Applications will be available soon at your local VA Center through Recreational Therapy or Occupational Therapy Department.

REMEMBER, THE CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVALS ARE SPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY.

This program needs our financial support and our physical participation. The Veterans are counting on us. To make a contribution, please send it to the ALA Department of Arizona, 4701 19th Ave. Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ, 85015. Please be sure to specify which VA Facility you would like your contributions to go to. If there is no specification, then contributions will go to the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival. The quality of this Art work is truly astounding. The Veterans have so much talent and everyone who entered this Art competition are winners.

Thank you to all the units who gave your support by volunteering to assist with this important event or sent monetary donations so the Art show could be showcased to the public. The rehabilitation that comes from this event is important to rebuild confidence in our Veterans.

Again, thank you so much for your support.

SALLY FINE
CREATIVE ARTS CHAIR.



Education February, 2019



As we all know, college is very expensive, and all of our high school students should be taking advantage of any and all scholarships available to them. Units and departments are responsible for promoting American Legion Auxiliary scholarships and making sure the schools have them in ample time for students to apply. The American Legion Auxiliary offers three scholarship opportunities to students:

1. **Children of Warriors National Presidents Scholarship:** Scholarship is awarded to children of veterans who served in the armed forces during eligibility dates for The American Legion. Three \$5,000 scholarships will be awarded in each division. Fifteen outstanding students will be awarded a total of \$75,000 to further their education. The applicant must complete 50 hours of community service during their high school years to be eligible for one of these scholarships. Applicants must present the completed application to the local American Legion Auxiliary Unit President on or before March 1, 2019 to be forwarded to the **Department Secretary by March 15, 2019.**
2. **The Non-Traditional Student Scholarship:** One scholarship in the amount of \$2,000 will be awarded in each American Legion Auxiliary division. Applicant must be a member of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion and shall have paid dues for the two preceding years and for the calendar year in which the application is made. Applicant must present the completed application to the American Legion Auxiliary unit president on or before March 1, 2019 to be forwarded to the **Department Secretary by March 15, 2019.**
3. **Spirit of Youth Scholarship:** One Junior member in each division will receive a scholarship valued at \$5,000. The applicant must have held membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the immediate past three years, hold a current membership card and continue her membership in the American Legion Auxiliary during the four-year scholarship period. Applicant must present the completed application to the American Legion Auxiliary unit president on or before March 1, 2019 to be forwarded to the **Department Secretary by March 15, 2019.**

Please promote these American Legion Auxiliary scholarships to enable our children of veterans to apply and receive funds the American Legion Auxiliary has so graciously provided. Applications were contained in the Education packet distributed at Fall Conference or online at www.ALAforVeterans.org/Scholarships.

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)

FEBRUARY 2019

FINANCE

As the words to the old song go - "Love makes the world go 'round" - however along with that are funds. Money is but a means of exchange – for what? It can be for the many hours that YOU as dedicated Auxiliary members do to further the 4 great purposes of our organization- Americanism, Children & Youth, National Security and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation. That takes in a LOT of your time and effort BUT if you are the dedicated Auxiliary member you can sit back and say to yourself, "Well done thou good and faithful servant".

The Finance Committee has tried to provide all of you with the information needed to complete your yearly finance report forms which include reporting to the Internal Revenue Service, to the AZ Corporation Commission, to the AZ. Secretary of State and the final report to this Chairman by **May 1,2019**. Should you not report to the IRS for 3 consecutive years, it will now cost you filing a 27 page form along with a check for \$850. to get you back in compliance with IRS regulations of being a non-profit veterans organization. Use your good heads – make a copy of all you send in to these various groups, put them in a notebook for the next years officer and for reference for the next years officers.

Yes, we know you all have heard & read this same information many times, but you would be surprised at the emails I receive on these same matters. Do it right the first time, keep a copy and you will be surprised how easy it will be from then on.

The May 1st report to me includes not only ALL UNITS but ALL DISTRICTS SO KEEP UP WITH YOUR REPORTING. A year ago 2 Districts had made the mistake of not reporting to the IRS for 3 years and felt the sting of paying to be reinstated.

The Finance Committee hopes you and your families have a wonderful New Year and we as a committee are here to help you in any way we can.

Your Finance Committee TEAM -- Helen Stout, Chairman, Cindy Queen, Dept. President, Yolanda Bonilla, NEC, Penny Maklary, Helen Griffin and Barbara Matteson, Dept.-Secretary-Treasurer (no vote)

Rememer the "BEE"-attitudes Bee wise, Bee strong, Bee glad, Bee merciful, Bee content, Bee courteous, Bee faithful, Bee kind, Bee thankful.

Department of Arizona
Historian
February 2019

THANK YOU to all the Units who provided minutes and/or a mid-year summary. I was able to provide the National Historian with a report of the activities of the Units that reported.

Continue to Post on Ring Your Bell what your Unit has done and on your Unit's Facebook page.

Keep adding to those 'stories' you have started. It is the beginning of this years' history. BEElieve you can write a complete history of your Unit this year.

A couple reminders when writing your history.

- You are a Unit not a Post. Many minutes and summaries I received are referring to the Unit as a Post.
- We are the American Legion Auxiliary, not the American Legion Women's Auxiliary nor the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary.

Presidents: Please pass on this information to the Unit Secretary and Historian.

Believe Equality Exists Supporting Every Veteran

Barbara White
Department Historian
1616 W Nopal Dr
Chandler AZ 85224
602-908-2980
barbarawhite99@gmail.com

Legislative

February 2019

Greetings Ladies,

Inauguration for the elected officials in the State of Arizona have come and gone. Governor Ducey presented his State of the State Address on January 14th at the opening of the 2019 Legislative Session.

State Senate President is Karen Fann (R) Dist. 1, David Bradley (D) Minority Leader Dist. 10, Eddie Farnsworth (R) President Pro Tempore Dist. 12, David Livingston (R) Dist. 22, Jamescita Peshlakai (D) Minority Co-Whip Dist. 7, Sylvia Allen (R) Dist. 6, Kate Brophy McGee (R) Dist. 28, Sally Ann Gonzalez (D) Dist. 3, Juan Mendez (D) Dist. 26, Frank Pratt (R) Dist. 8, Lela Alston (D) Dist. 24, Heather Carter (R) Dist. 15, David Gowan (R) Dist. 14, J.D. Mesnard (R) Dist. 17, Martin Quezada (D) Dist. 29, Sonny Borelli (R) Majority Whip Dist. 5, Lupe Contreras (D) Assistant Minority Leader Dist. 19, Rick Gray (R) Majority Leader Dist. 21, Tony Navarrete (D) Dist. 30, Rebecca Rios (D) Dist. 27, Sean Bowie (D) Dist. 18, Andrea Dalessandro (D) Dist. 2, Sine Kerr (R) Dist. 13, Lisa Ontondo (D) Minority Co-Whip Dist. 4, Victoria Steele (D) Dist. 9, Paul Boyer (R) Dist. 20, David Farnsworth (R) Dist. 16, Vince Leach (R) Dist. 11, Tyler Pace (R) Dist. 25, and Michelle Ugenti-Rita (R) Dist. 23 are your elected State Senators.

Speaker of the House is Rusty Bowers (R) Dist. 25, Frank Carroll (R) Dist. 22, Randy Friese (D) Dist. 9, Jennifer Longdon (D) Dist. 24, Amish Shah (D) Dist. 24, John Allen (R) Dist. 15, Cesar Chavez (D) Dist. 29, Rosanna Gabaldon (D) Dist. 2, Robert Meza (D) Dist. 30, T.J. Shope (R) Speaker Pro Tempore Dist. 8, Richard Andrade (D) Dist. 29, Regina Cobb (R) Dist. 5, Travis Grantham (R) Dist. 12, Becky Nutt (R) Majority Whip Dist. 14, Lorenzo Sierra (D) Dist. 19, Nancy Barto (R) Dist. 15, David Cook (R) Dist. 8, Gail Griffin (R) Dist. 14, Joanne Osborne (R) Dist. 13, David Stringer (R) Dist. 1, Leo Biasiucci (R) Dist. 5, Domingo DeGrazia (D) Dist. 10, Pamela Powers Hannley (D) Dist. 9, Jennifer Pawlik (D) Dist. 17, Arlando Teller (D) Dist. 7, Walt Blackman (R) Dist. 6, Tim Dunn (R) Dist. 13, Alma Hernandez (D) Dist. 3, Kevin Payne (R) Dist. 21, Raquel Teran (D) Dist. 30, Isela Blanc (D) Dist. 26, Kirsten Engel (D) Dist. 10, Daniel Hernandez (D) Dist. 2, Gerae Peten (D) Dist. 4, Bob Thorpe (R) Dist. 6, Reginald Bolding (D) Minority Co-Whip Dist. 27, Mitzi Epstein (D) Dist. 18, Jennifer Jermaine (D) Dist. 18, Warren Petersen (R) Majority Leader Dist. 12, Ben Toma (R) Dist. 22, Shawwna Bolick (R) Dist. 20, Diego Espinoza (D) Dist. 19, John Kavanagh (R) Dist. 23, Tony Rivero (R) Dist. 21, Kelly Townsend (R) Dist. 16, Kelli Butler (D) Dist. 28, Charlene Fernandez (D) Minority Leader Dist. 4, Anthony Kern (R) Dist. 20, Bret Roberts (R) Dist. 11, Myron Tsosie (D) Dist. 7, Noel Campbell (R) Dist. 1, John Fillmore (R) Dist. 16, Jay Lawrence (R) Dist. 23, Diego Rodriguez (D) Dist. 27, Michelle Udall (R) Dist. 25, Andres Cano (D) Dist. 3, Mark Finchem (R) Dist. 11, Aaron Lieberman (D) Dist. 28, Athena Salman (D) Minority Co-Whip 26, Jeff Weninger (R) Dist. 17 are your elected State Representatives.

As of this bulletin being drafted, we are in the fourth week of a Federal Government Shutdown. Congress has been unable to reach a decision with President Trump regarding the Border Wall Issue.

For God and Country,

Stephanie M. McMullen. Chairman

15239 W. Taylor St.

Goodyear, AZ 85338

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American Legion Auxiliary Department of Arizona

Membership February 2019

Below are the membership totals by Districts. The first column is the number of members in the District, the second column is the number of members that have paid, the third column is the District percentage rate to date.

Last year as of 1/10/2018, 9,967 members had paid their dues. This year as of 1/09/2019, 9,379 members have paid their dues, a difference of 588 members. Our next target date is 95% by May 7, 2019. This goal is attainable, so let's do it!

Totals for District 1	516	244	47.29%
Totals for District 2 -	3239	1717	53.01%
Totals for District 3	1059	417	39.38%
Totals for District 4	546	182	33.33%
Totals for District 5	576	175	30.38%
Totals for District 6	953	277	29.07%
Totals for District 7	1771	615	34.73%
Totals for District 8	1699	710	41.79%
Totals for District 11	2595	982	37.84%
Totals for District 12	6261	3122	49.86%
TOTAL	19384	8500	43.85%

PERSONAL CONTACT Do not let the dues notice sent by National Headquarters be the only contact with Unit members. If you are going to revitalize your Unit and get more renewals, you have to get back to personally contacting members. Make phone calls and personal visits. Contacting members by phone is good, but nothing takes the place of a personal visit. Call or send a note to let members or non-renewals know that Unit members will be in the area making visits and may stop by. Members or former members should not be surprised by strangers knocking on their doors. Always carry some American Legion Auxiliary identification, membership applications, information about Auxiliary programs and Member Benefits.

Questions? Contact the Membership Team we are here to help you.

**Patricia Lugo – Chairman (602)475-0208
Barbara Matteson and Pat Stanski 602-241-1080**

ARIZONA MISSION TRAINING

Believe Equality Exists Supporting Every Veteran



This is certainly the year to make leaps and bounds in Mission Training. We are embracing the concepts put forth from National. The following changes have been put in place to assist with reporting completion of the ALA Senior Basics Course. These changes shall be placed on the Department Website under Arizona Mission Training so all may have access. Of course, the “answer sheet” will not be placed there, sorry.



CHANGES THIS YEAR:

1. Introducing the **Auxiliary Senior Basics Course Process and Procedures**. Please review this prior to taking the course to be sure you understand the new process put in place
2. Here comes the **Auxiliary Basics Course Forms and Answer Sheet for Participants**. Please print this prior to taking the course. This will assist you in answering the questions as you review the course, or in answering the questions you believe you know prior to taking the course and filling in the blanks.
3. Must have the **Auxiliary Basics Course** itself so you can complete it (written form). You will need to go on-line at National to take the course to see the photos and other associated information. Still this printed format is 52 pages long (located on the Department Website). This way you can pause and go back to it when you have the time. Also, if you printed your answer sheet, the printed format allows for checking to be sure your answers are correct before forwarding your answer sheets to the Department Chair. *You may mail or e-mail to the address of the Chairperson located at the bottom of this page.*
4. **Chairperson Forms for National Reporting** of members answers to National from the Department Chairperson. No, we didn't include the answer sheet. We need to keep this available to the Chair and the co-chairs and Department Secretary.
5. Cards (certificate completion-wallet sized) will be sent to the individuals who have *successfully* completed this course. Yes, we will be reviewing the answer sheets and grading them.

Thank you to the Units who sent in reports for the mid-year reporting. Your information was much appreciated.

I recently forwarded an e-mail to the Department District Presidents to share at their next District Meeting. Thank you in advance for doing this small request.

Please remember the cost of the entire 8-hour course is now \$10. A mini-session (4 hours) is \$5. You must have a list of the 10 members signed up to attend and your money for the attendees to Department 10 days prior to the actual training. Any additional attendees may pay at the time of the training. The Leadership Pin is now \$15 (pay when ordering upon course completion).

For God and Country in Service to Veterans

Kat Sticklin, Department Chair
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American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona

**“BELIEVE EQUALITY EXISTS
SUPPORTING EVERY VETERAN”
MUSIC REPORT
FEBRUARY 2019**

Happy February Ladies:

February is Americanism month and it brings a great opportunity to celebrate being American by wearing red, white and blue. More importantly, it gives each of us the opportunity to sing about our National colors. February is the perfect month for adding some patriotic marches to your Unit and District meetings. John Philip Sousa wrote over 135 marches. His most famous march, “The Stars and Stripes Forever,” became the official march of the United States of America in 1987 through an Act of U.S. Congress. If a music selection is not part of your meetings, make a plea to your Unit or District President to add a song to the meeting agenda. Everyone loves to sing and singing a patriotic song about this great country is a wonderful way to show our Americanism. Remember that February 18 is President’s Day!

Thanks to those unit music chairmen for turning in mid-year reports. Units are coming up with some creative ways to incorporate songs into their meetings. It’s so great to see how others add music to their meetings and gatherings with veterans.

Information regarding the Music Awards can be found on the website: www.aladeptaz.org under Ruling Documents. Click on ALA Department Awards Book and go to page 48. This will list the rules and the scoring for the awards.

Department Music Awards will be handed out at Convention in June as follows:

MUSIC PLAQUES

Frances Aros Memorial Music Plaque awarded to Unit with membership of 151 and over

Millicent Kasun Music Plaque awarded to Unit with membership of 150 and under

**Monica Rae Stein, Department Music Chairman
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American Legion Auxiliary Department of Arizona

MUSIC REPORT 2018 - 2019 Mid-year report

This Chairman received 21 reports from Units in the state of Arizona. Many units reported singing the songs of the various armed services, "Grand Old Flag," "God Bless the USA," "America the Beautiful," and the "Star Spangled Banner" at regularly-scheduled meetings. Others noted that they provided music for funeral services and birthday celebrations. Units regularly visited nursing homes, VA Hospitals, and Senior Centers to provide music and song to the residents. Units reported that members were involved with religious services and the choir. Several members participated in bands and one member played with a symphony orchestra. Other members are involved in Community Chorus while junior members participated in talent shows and high school drama programs. This Chairman was informed that members were involved with their units at the various functions including 4th of July and Veteran's Day Parades.

Quite a few of the Units reported that karaoke was a great opportunity for the members to sing at the Post. Although a wide selection of songs were sung, patriotic songs were always a crowd favorite.

This Chairman has been made aware that many of the Units do not have a Music Chairman or participate in singing at meetings. For those Units not having a Music Chairman, the President or Chaplain chose the song.

For God and Country,
Believe Equality Exists Supporting Every Veteran,

Monica Rae Stein
Department Music Chairman

**American Legion Auxiliary
National Security**

February 2019

Did you attend the Children and Youth/National Security Workshop last month? Are you aware that January is National Security/Legislative month? So you figured out the reasoning in holding a workshop in January.

Please take time to track your hours, money spent and in-kind donations so you can report them on your Year End Report which is due May 1, 2019. Have you held a Welcome Home Event? Did you assist a military family? Are you involved with a Blue Star or Gold Star family? Do take pictures and send those pictures to me at yodobo@msn.com and when you honor that family present them with the proper banner. Both Blue and Gold Star Banners are available at Emblem Sales at emblem.legion.org.

Please take time to look at the “Action Plan” at alaforveterans.org and select just what will work for your Unit. As you work the program do not get overwhelmed; select “doable” activities for your Unit. Some easy suggestions are:

- **If your community has a National Guard Unit, call them and ask to speak to the “Family Support” section and ask how your ALA Unit can help. If you live near a military base take the same steps.**
- **Simply wear your “Red” on Friday.**

Your Department Chairman will attend the 2019 Mid-Winter National Executive Committee Meeting in Indianapolis from February 22-24. Look for a report in the March Newsletter. Questions and comments are always encouraged with a telephone call or email.

Yolanda Bonilla

National Security Chairman

602-989-3321

yodobo@msn.com

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY
BELIEVE EQUALITY EXISTS SUPPORTING EVERY VETERAN

MARCH 2019

Who is a member of your Unit who is there for you? She goes out of her way with your programs giving all she has. She could be the next American Legion Auxiliary Member of the Year. What an honor to give to recognize how much this member does for our organization. In your packet you received at Fall Conference are the requirements, please follow the rules.

What are you doing for our lady veterans? Invite them to dinner at your events and please remember those lady veterans at our Arizona State Homes in Phoenix and Tucson not only during the holiday season but throughout the year.

What two Past Department Presidents went on to become National President?

If you know the answers email me!!! gcushing@cox.net

2006-2007

<u>Past Department President</u>	<u>Past Department Commander</u>	<u>Past Detachment Commander</u>
Helen Griffin	Tom Cosgrove	Steve Blank

We will be honoring female veterans who are now serving in the military. Please let me know (giving her name, branch of service, rank and current duty station. I will include it in my next bulletin. Thank you so much!

POPPIES

February 2018



Hi ladies,

Hi Busy Bees

What better way then a Poppy for St Patricks Day! A smidgen of Green will keep the pinchen away!

Can't wait to see what you ladies have in store for Convention!

Just a reminder.....

When you have your Poppy Posters ready, they can be mailed to the above address for judging. They're due by April 19, 2019 and for rules instruction go to www.alaforveterans.org . Click on: members only, member resources, poppy committee, look for poppy poster rules. If I can be of any assistance you have my contact information.

Ladies keep up the good work and paint Arizona Poppy for our Veterans!

For God & Country

Nita Kimball- Poppy Chair





PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT 2018-2019

FEBRUARY 2019

Visually Impaired Veterans

I BELIEVE

Thank you to all the units, districts, and individuals who have so far donated to this most worthwhile program. Being involved with this program, I have been asked many great questions. I would like to share some of what I have learned.

Seeing-eye dogs are still used by visually impaired persons. Today there are many service dogs for many disabilities, and we see them everywhere. A new law in Arizona prohibits misrepresenting a pet as a service animal.

Braille is still taught in Schools for the Blind and other rehabilitation programs. January 4, 2019, was declared World Braille Day by the United Nations General Assembly. Braille is a tactile method of writing for the blind. My father used what was called a stylus which creates raised dots for letters that can be felt. Today the most common tool is a Perkins Braille which is similar to a typewriter.

There are still state schools for the blind. The American Foundation for the Blind has a wide variety of information, education, and resources. The Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, located in central Phoenix, offers multiple services for adults. The Arizona Foundation for Blind Children has an adult program in addition. The Southern Arizona Association for the Visually Impaired also works with blind and visually impaired persons.

Please continue to ask questions. Forgive me if I cannot answer them spur of the moment.

Margaret Ellis	Chairman	maggylou@cox.net	480-818-3166
Kathy Szakonyi	Southern	N3SAD@aol.com	520-400-5839
Patti Eames	Northern	pattya6103@gmail.com	928-821-3891

**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona
February 2019**



BELIEVE EQUALITY EXISTS SUPPORTING EVERY VETERAN

It's that time of the year again, it is time to start thinking about awards.

Public Relations Awards (National)

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 Programs Action Plan.
- 2) Provide details/examples about the activity as outlined in the award's materials and guidelines section.
- 3) Submit as indicated in the Annual Supplement to the Programs Action Plan. National Report and Awards Cover Sheet, deadlines, and Public Relations committee contact information may be found on the Public Relations committee page on the national website. www.ALAFforVeterans.org.

So, come on! Tell a story to everyone you meet about what your Auxiliary unit is doing right now to help veterans, the military and their families.

And don't forget were your brand everywhere you go!

Post your activities to "Ring Your Bell!" and Visit the Department Public Relations Facebook page to announce your events.

Public Relations Department Team:

**Josie Herrera: (623)340-5936 jherrera268@aol.com, Marge Christenson (763) 234-9852
ALAunit62az@gmail.com, Laurie Castillo (602)359-0409**

**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona
February 2019**

President's Scrapbook



February 2019

Greetings Ladies;

Please don't forget to send me any pictures, articles and keepsakes for President Cindy's Scrapbook. This will be an ongoing project so any pictures or mementos to help commemorate President Cindy's year would be greatly appreciated. Thank you to those who have been sending in pictures along with posting on Facebook.

Please make sure you are capturing Cindy's official visit to your unit and posting on Facebook if you have access to do so. Posting these pictures on Facebook helps us both capture these memories. Please make sure you include location, names, and event information.

Don't forget to send me your pictures for them to be included into Cindy's Scrapbook. You can either email or mail them directly to me.

Sincerely;

Cheryl Miller

Cheryl Miller
Scrapbook Chairman
10732 E. Ananea Ave.
Mesa, AZ 85208
602-885-2782
cherbears@cox.net

SERVICE TO VETERANS

February, 2019

Greetings Ladies. REPORT, REPORT, REPORT.

Only 22 of 87 units reported their mid year numbers. Good job and a big thank you to all those who reported as requested. All units can still be counted in the year end report. Your information from May 2018 to April 2019 will be due in my hands by May 1, 2019.

Whenever you get new members, please instruct them on how to report their numbers and impress upon them how important that is...we all literally hold the life of a veteran in our hands when turning in our member tracking report every month. As always, if you have questions or concerns please contact me.

I have included the member tracking form for your convenience. You can use this form for each member and also as a compiled form for the total numbers each month. This will help you with your year end report.

Also, keep a running tally of your events, example: 15 visits to VA home, 12 lunches, 8 dinners, 2 stand downs and number of veterans served etc. This will also help with year end reporting.

PLEASE CONSIDER DOING A NARRATIVE FOR YOUR PROGRAMS TO EARN AWARDS FOR YOUR UNIT. You all work hard and deserve the recognition.

HAPPY VALENTINE DAY

For God and country,

Mary Ann Anderson Jaymes, 502 S. 80th Place, Mesa, AZ 85208

Apache Unit 27 480-209-6332 mandyfbis@gmail.com

**Unit Development and
Revitalization
2019 January**



Hello and thank you to all who work hard to keep your unit focused and active. Your department has a committee in place to help you with any issues you may have. Chairman is myself with Nancy, focusing on the Southern end of the state and Jan Cushing, Northern area. Our Department President Cindy Queen and Department Secretary Barbara Matteson have been working with the committee in the forming of our new unit Unit #90, Black Canyon City who received their charter at Fall Conference. Congratulations to our baby unit!

We realize that membership is an ongoing problem with the units. Some steadfast members continue to serve and keep your unit alive, not only with new members but having the current members pay their dues or rejoin. Begin with the basics at your meetings, remember we work for the cause (our veterans) not applause. If you haven't looked at your unit handbook in a while, take it to a meeting and review areas. Personal contact is always a great idea to get people to attend the meetings and participate. You are working the programs, be prepared to **LISTEN** to new ideas. And don't be afraid to try something different and exciting! The national website has a handout on UD & R with a lot of good ideas. If you can't access it, please contact me and I will send you a copy. Or if you have any other questions in this area, do contact this committee. Our information is as follows:

Karen Smith	ksmith111@cox.net	(520) 249-1119
Jan Cushing	gcushing@cox.net	(623) 544-0797
Nancy Berg, Member	lpnmoe14@gmail.com	(520) 678-1027

ARIZONA STATE VETERANS HOME – PHOENIX

FEBRUARY 2019

Greetings !

HERE IS SOME VERY EXCITING NEWS!! The National President, Kathy Dungan, will be having dinner and visiting with the Women Veterans at the State Home on March 27, 2019. This should be a wonderful evening.

Thank you all for your continued support of the Veterans at the State Home. How about sending a Valentine's Day card to the women Veterans just to say hi and let them know we are thinking of them. Maybe enclosed a dollar or two so they can purchase a treat from the store located in the building. No candy please. Currently, there are 13 women living at the home. If you want their names, please send me an email request at LBUBBLES@COX.NET and I will forward their names to you.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY'S

Unfortunately, I did not receive the Birthday list for February in time for this printing. Please email me at LBUBBLES@COX.NET for the list.

MARCH BIRTHDAY'S

1 st Edwin K.	7 th Allen T.	9 th John T.	14 th Robert E.	14 th George P.
20 th Richard G.	20 th Harold S.	25 th Jack J.	27 th Michael R.	29 th Billy S.
31 st Syide N.	31 st James S.	31 st Bruce C.		

Due to some health issues, I am asking each Unit to please mail the monthly birthday cards directly to the ASVH. The address is:

Arizona State Veterans Home
Attention: Kayla Uptine
4141 N S. Herrera Way
Phoenix, AZ 85012

I received a call this morning about how to donate funds to the State Home. Answer: Send your donation check to:

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona
4701 N 19th Ave #100
Phoenix, AZ 85015

On the memo line write, ASVH Phoenix or ASVH Tucson donation. Once received, Barbara Matteson will send a check to the respective State Home Chairman with your Unit number on the check.

Here is the Updated Wish List:

- DVD Players with remotes for Veterans' Rooms (Doesn't need to be expensive)
- Universal Programmable Remotes
- Visa Gift Cards
- Amazon Gift Cards
- Wendy's Gift Cards

- Applebee's Gift Cards
- Chili's Gift Cards
- Dunkin Donuts Gift Cards
- Harkins Gift Cards
- Starbuck Gift Cards
- Phoenix Art Museum Gift Cards/Vouchers
- OdySea Aquarium Tickets
- SeaLife Tickets
- Remote Control Cars - Large Cars with easy to use remotes
- Chips (Individually Packaged)
- Soft Snacks (Applesauce Pouches, Twinkies, SOFT cookies, Smoothie Pouches, Yogurt Pouches)
- Soda (Regular & Diet)
- Trivia Books
- Portable Bluetooth Speaker
- Large Duty Thermal Roll Laminator
- Postage Stamps
- Magnifying Glasses

As always, we are unable to use glass, toiletries, date expired food items, or medical supplies. All food items donated must be purchased at a store.

Please let me know if your Unit participates in monthly ASVH activities by emailing me at lbubbles@cox.net If you have any questions, please call me at 602-312-9245.

For God and Country,

Linda Hubbs
ASVH (Phoenix) Chairman

Joyce Livingston
ASVH (Phoenix) Co-Chairman

**BELIEVE EQUALITY EXIST SUPPORTING
EVERY VETERAN**



PROUD TO BE A MEMBER THE BEE TEAM

ARIZONA STATE VETERANS HOME – TUCSON (ASVH-TUCSON)

FEBRUARY, 2019

Ladies,

Units hosting the monthly Birthday Cake and Ice Cream Socials are as follows:

February – Unit 36 March – Unit 132/68 April – Unit 7 May – Unit 59

Please contact Terry Soto to schedule for the monthly event or for questions. Contact her at 520-551-3628.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ASVH-TUCSON RESIDENTS – BEST WISHES ALWAYS TO YOU

A toast for your blessed life!!! Salute!!!!

February	Robert 4	Thomas 11	Jack 14	Lewis 18
	Rudolph 18	James 23	Gilbert 24	Michael 28

REMINDER: Second Monday monthly Arizona State Veterans Home-Tucson, Steering Committee Meeting at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel Room, Bldg. #1

Third Tuesday monthly Auxiliary hosted a Birthday Cake and Ice Cream Social at 1:30 p.m. Set up is at 1:00 p.m. in the Chapel Room in Bldg. #1

Third Tuesday monthly Pizza Party – Cost is \$140 which includes pizza and chicken wings – need sponsors

Third Wednesday monthly Bingo in Bldg. 2 hosted by Fred H Humphreys Auxiliary Unit 8

Remember to let Nancy or I know when you are having an activity at one of the buildings, donating items to ASVH-Tucson so that the steering committee can recognize you in these monthly articles. The steering committee is great to attend as we plan out monthly and future events. And, yes by all means we greatly support, “Adopt a Building.”

DONATION REQUESTS

ASVH-Tucson needs a popcorn machine for their new movie theater room. Contact me at 520-404-7646 if you are interested in donating this equipment.

Other need reviewed at a recent steering committee meeting is a need for a handicap golf cart. Staff assistant in walking the residents in wheelchairs to the VA. It is a long walk and it would be easier to transport them using a golf cart to carry the driver, resident, and wheel chair. If interested, contact me.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February, 2019

February 3	Super Bowl Tailgate Party, 2:00 p.m. Hosted by the American Legion Auxiliary and ELKS. ALA will provide subs and Unit 132 will donate chips and dips, and ELKS will provide pizzas,
February 8	Elks hosting Valentine Ice Cream Social at 2:00 p.m.
February 11	ASVH-Tucson Steering Committee Meeting at 11:00 a.m.
February 14	American Legion Auxiliary hosting a Sweetheart breakfast burrito event 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Bldg. #1 by community and chapel rooms – Need chorizo, potatoes, eggs, and tortillas. And, each resident will received a box (heart shape) of chocolate candy Chapel Room
February 14	Sam to coordinate a group of residents to attend Thursday Tardeada at Cocio-Estrada Post 59. Auxiliary will be making heart shape enchiladas. Trio music starts at 12:00 p.m. and food served at 1:00 p.m. Sam to have residents to attend at approximately 12:30 p.m.

February 19	American Legion Auxiliary Unit 36 hosting Monthly Birthday and Ice Cream Social – Set up at 1:00, event starts at 1:30 p.m. Chapel Room
February 21	Rodeo Parade – residents get to see the parade as it passes by the home. The home will provide hamburgers and hot dogs afterwards inside Bldg. 1.
February 27	Elks host the monthly money bingo 2:30 p.m.

March through May, 2019 (Further Plans to be Shared Next Month)

March 2	Elks BBQ Ribs
March 5	Fat Tuesday – planning stage. Aiming at Food Services providing a gumbo dish. ALA to bring kings cake to serve around 2:00 p.m. including masks, beads, and a king and queen
March 17	ASVH-Tucson will host a meal in celebration of St. Patrick's Day
March 19	Monthly Birthday and Ice Cream Social – Set up at 1:00, event starts at 1:30 p.m. in Chapel Room – Hosted by ALA Sahuaro Unit 68 and ALA Oro Valley Unit 132
May 18	Spring Fling to be combined with open house, Oro Valley American Legion Post 132 to post colors, John to DJ 50's to 60's, and early 70's
May 24	Oro Valley American Legion Post 132 Color Guard to participate in memorial event

Bike and Car Shows to be planned for later dates

WISH LIST – UPDATE

Recreation therapists are still in need of 300 piece puzzles (residents specifically want 300 pieces only) and CD players (portable or boom box style). Also, need batteries AA, D, and C. Beverages for events (contact Anna Marie for recommendations)

HAPPINESS AND ENTERTAINMENT IS ALWAYS NUMBER 1 THERAPY!

For God and country,

Anna Marie Arenas
ASVH-Tucson Chairman
aarenas@cox.net
520-404-7646

Nancy Morrow
ASVH-Tucson Co-Chairman
nancymorrow52381@gmail.com
520-867-1725

VA&R REPORT
TUCSON VA MEDICAL CENTER
1-31-19

Upcoming Events (Volunteers & Monetary Donations Needed):

Bingo parties which are held on the **third Saturday of each month at 1:30PM in Building 60** at the VA hospital. Volunteers are needed to assist with this activity, which is much appreciated by our hospitalized Veterans. Please consider sponsoring the Bingo program. Thank you to the past & current District presidents who volunteered at the June Bingo. We are now welcoming Veteran patients from the Building 95 Substance Use Treatment Disorder Program to our Bingos. Thank you Unit 68 for volunteering to fund and work the February Bingo.

Bridging Ceremony refreshments for the Substance Use Disorders Treatment Program (SUDTP) on the **third Tuesday of each month and any month that there is a fifth Tuesday**. We sponsored refreshments on January 15, 2019 and January 29, 2019. We will be sponsoring refreshments on February 19, 2019. The time is 2PM and the venue is Building 90 at the VA hospital. Thank you to members of Unit 131 & Unit 68 who have volunteered to help with this program. Special thanks to Fire Woman (Ku Istan) and Jude for all their assistance with this activity.

Veterans Creative Arts competition and display will be held on February 19, 2019. Volunteers are needed to assist with the Popular Choice balloting.

Employee Appreciation Luncheon is scheduled for March 13, 2019. Units are asked to donate salads and desserts for this activity. Volunteers are needed to help starting at 9AM on March 13th to prep and help serve. We will be serving between 11AM and 1PM.

Tucson Stand Down will be held March 13th through March 15th (flyer attached).

New items for Wish Lists

Golf clubs, Gloves, Gift Cards and Meals for PGA Hope Golf Program POC Scott Strzyzewski (520) 792-1450 X6367

Yuma CBOC (Community Based Outreach Clinic) is seeking donations of gift cards to local food stores (Fry's, Walmart, Albertsons, Sam's Club, Food City). These donations will support a collaboration between American Legion Post 19 and the Yuma CBOC. The Registered Dietician, Kelly Hamlin, MA, RDN is coordinating the effort to provide a cooking class for Veterans who would benefit from these skills. Many Veterans at the Yuma CBOC suffer from diabetes, obesity, high blood pressure and kidney issues due to a diet of processed foods. They want to teach these Veterans to prepare some healthy, simple meals to help improve their health. POC: Kelly E. Hamlin, MA, RDN; phone (520) 403-0217; mailing address 3111 S. 4th Ave., Yuma, AZ 85364. Should you decide to support this effort, please make sure that you submit a donation form to Southern Arizona VA Healthcare System.

The new Residential Mental Health Rehabilitation facility is now open. This added 25 new beds to house Veterans in various treatment programs with on-site housing on the hospital campus. The staff requesting donations has put forward that donations in kind, rather than monetary donations, would best fill this need. We ordered 150 backpacks and water bottles and provided colored pencils in June, 2018. The Building 95 donation was made possible largely by a very generous donation from Unit 66.

The grand total of monetary donations by American Legion Auxiliary Units for May 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019 is \$1,950.00.

The grand total of material and activity donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019 is \$45,799.05. We would like to express special thanks to Elaine Yates and Yuma Unit 19, Unit 7's Ann Reatherford, Unit 24, Unit 131, Unit 132, Unit 73 and Unit 109 members and unaffiliated volunteers for their constant support of VA programs through their donations. The Legion family is the largest supporter of the Arizona Fisher House. Currently, Arizona Fisher House is funded for the foreseeable future. Other programs are in dire need of donations (ie. Homeless, Building 95, Social Services, Bingo, etc.).

Sixteen registered hospital volunteers and nine summer youth volunteers, donated time which was credited to the American Legion Auxiliary. The grand total of registered volunteer hours May 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019 is 4,853. Occasional hours are 274 donated by sixty nine volunteers. Please consider volunteering at SAVAHCS if you can possibly devote the time.

This chairman has volunteered 251.5 hours and logged 3,660 miles this year in service to the Tucson VA Medical Center as of January 31, 2019.

Respectfully Submitted, Kathy Szakonyi, VAVS Representative

ARIZONA STATE VETERANS HOME – PHOENIX

FEBRUARY 2019

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ASVH (Phoenix) Co-Chairman

**BELIEVE EQUALITY EXIST SUPPORTING
EVERY VETERAN**



PROUD TO BE A MEMBER THE BEE TEAM

VA&R REPORT
TUCSON VA MEDICAL CENTER
12-31-18

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This chairman has volunteered 224.5 hours and logged 3,240 miles this year in service to the Tucson VA Medical Center as of December 31, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted, Kathy Szakonyi, VAVS Representative

**STAND DOWN AIMS TO HELP
VETERANS IN NEED
MARCH 13-15, 2019**

Volunteers Needed

12 March - Setup

13 March - Veteran Check-in and Career Fair

14 March - Resource Fair / Pets / Female Shopping Trip

15 March - Check Out / Load Out



Tucson, Arizona – Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans (**TVSV**) is hosting Tucson's annual Stand Down, **March 13-15, 2019** at the **Grand Luxe Hotel, 1365 W Grant Road**. Over 80 local service providers, will offer at risk Veterans, clothing, showers, haircuts, health screenings, medical care, legal assistance, housing options, employment support services, as well as food stamps, VA and Social Security benefits and perhaps most importantly, the Stand Down offers homeless Veterans a break from the harsh conditions of life on the street. Pet services will include pet grooming, vaccinations, licensing, spay and neuter and a pet store.

On active duty, a Stand Down is a necessary mental and physical break from combat. Military personnel spend a few days in a safe place to rest and recuperate before returning to the front lines.

This Stand Down aims to reach as many of those homeless Veterans and Veterans at risk of becoming homeless as possible, connecting them to services that will allow them to get on the path to self-sufficiency.

Volunteers are needed for all events, set-up, take-down, veteran support and navigation. Large groups are welcome. If you would like to volunteer, please go to the following website:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F48A8AB2CA7FB6-tucson>

Due to liability reasons, we will be asking everyone sign a liability waiver on the day of the event.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Deb Martinez-Garibay 520-241-9595

Volunteer Coordinator dmartinez.garibay@gmail.com

Press questions tucsonvetsservingvets@gmail.com

All Volunteers must register

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

FEBRUARY 2019

WOW!!!. Just wanted to let you ladies know you are all amazing in the work you do for our veterans. I have received reports from the VA Hospitals, the Veterans Homes and Units reporting on the support, love and care during the holidays. I am sure there are many more activities that are being provided and we are missing. Why is that?. Because we fail to report the numbers. Now is the perfect time to "Toot your horns" and brag about the things you do.

Ladies as we try to reach our goals of Service to Veterans because We BELIEVE EQUALITY EXISTS SUPPORTING every veteran remember to document, document and document volunteer hours, monetary donations, in kind, and milage. Some ideas offered and tried by others include, visiting veterans in their homes, transporting to appts, taking them meals and just being a resource of information to help them meet their needs.

There are all types of activities coming up this month in which you are able to join in. We have the Creative Arts this month. Ongoing is President Cindy's Special Project for Visually Impaired Veterans. This particular project is making a tremendous impact in Arizona. LET US SUPPORT IT!!!! We also need to support the family and children of our current active duty service men and women in the United States or deployed.

On this note I leave you with the hope that the spirit of why we are members of this great organization shines on you and gives you more time, strength and resources to accomplish all you wish to accomplish.

God Bless You and God Bless America

Jennie Molina

truelepa@gmail.com

Depart of Az. VA&R Chairman

(520) 220-8460

UNIFIED ARIZONA VETERANS (UAV), P.O. BOX 34338, PHOENIX, AZ 85067
MINUTES OF THE UAV GENERAL MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 1, 2018
AT A SPECIAL LOCATION: CATHOLIC CHARITIES MANA HOUSE, 2422 W. HOLLY STREET, PHOENIX 85009

CALL TO ORDER: 10:05 a.m. by UAV Chairman Dylan Dalzotto followed by Invocation by Chaplain Beth Nehring, and Pledge of Allegiance by Treasurer Jim Denzien.

Paul Mulligan, Navy veteran and Catholic Charities Arizona President and CEO, welcomed everyone to MANA House!

Briefing: 2019 Women Vet Summit – Gabe Forsberg, Army veteran; Alternate Representative – WACVA Army Women United; Member, ADVS Women Vet Work Group; and COL Wanda Wright, USAF, Ret., Director, Arizona Dept of Veterans' Services (ADVS)

Gabe Forsberg and COL Wright reported that Arizona Military and Women Veteran Expos have been conducted successfully for the last four years. On Friday & Saturday, June 14 & 15, 2019, a first ever Women Vet Summit is being planned at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel & Conference Center, 60 E. 5th Street in Tempe; the theme is: "Military and Veteran Women Staying Connected." On Friday, June 14th, a Networking social is planned from 6 pm to 9 pm. On Saturday, June 15th, the program is scheduled for 7 am to 4 pm. The budget is \$14,000. Plans include bringing women veterans from major cities to Tempe via busses, and room sharing. Sponsors are being sought. Point of contact: Monica De La Rosa, email: mdelarosa@azdvs.gov

Briefing: Arizona Veteran's Memorial Cemetery, Marana, Arizona; & the AVMC/Arizona Veteran's Memorial Cemetery Foundation - Tom Shambo, Air Force veteran and Vice Chair; and Marlon Ruiz, LtCol, USAF, Retired; Board Member; emails: tom.shambo@gmail.com, marlon.ruiz@earthlink.net

Tom and Marlon reported the story of Paul Marsh, military veteran, who realized that the Tucson area needed its own veteran cemetery since the closest veteran cemetery was in Sierra Vista. Starting in 2007, Mr. Marsh obtained clear title to 42 acres of land in Marana. The next step was to build a road to the 42 acres. In 2015 they broke ground and the first burial was in 2016. Tom and Marlon showed us slides of the beautiful cemetery. The AVMC Foundation is partnered with the Missing in America Project (MIAP) non-profit which conducts two dedicated burial ceremony events per year (April & October) to inter the cremains of unclaimed veterans upon their passing, providing a military burial ceremony with full honors. Another activity at the AVMC is the observance of placing wreaths on December 15th, Wreaths of America Day. Twenty-four (24) veterans currently serve on the Cemetery Committee.

Briefing: Buffalo Soldiers Memorial at Wesley Bolin Plaza – Commander Frederick Marable, Army veteran, AVHOF 2016; Founder, Official Arizona Centennial Legacy "Buffalo Soldiers of the Arizona Territory – Ladies and Gentlemen of the Regiment," and Deputy Commander Michelle London-Marable; email: mlondon3@cox.net

Commander Marable and Deputy Commander London-Marable reported the introduction of SB 1179 – memorial; buffalo soldiers in January 2018 by Primary Sponsor Senator Catherine Miranda, D-Dist 27. The purpose of the bill: would authorize a memorial to the Buffalo Soldiers in Wesley Bolin Plaza at the State Capitol. In January the bill was assigned to the Senate Govt Committee and the Senate Rules Committee. In March the bill was assigned to the House Govt Committee and the House Rules Committee. In April the bill passed the House and was returned to the Senate. On April 3rd the bill was transmitted to the Governor who signed the bill on April 5th. Slides were presented which showed the beautiful design of the Monument. The budget is \$292,000. The goal for collecting funds is February 14th, 2020. Sponsor packages are available. Support by veterans organizations is welcome!

ROLL CALL: Roll call taken, quorum certified.

November 3rd, 2018 Minutes – Motion to approve by Secretary Culbertson and seconded by Past Chair Reggie Yates. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Denzien

Statement of Funds

General Fund: \$8,526.82
Event Fund - \$1,502.89
Veterans Scholarship Fund - \$12,000.00
WWI Memorial Fund - \$6,159.00

Savings \$14,045.13

Hall of Fame Account \$36,083.67

TOTALS \$78,317.51

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS REPORTS:

Cards for Dave Willis, Navy veteran & Primary Rep – Fleet Reserve Association. Dave sustained a fall upon exiting a public restaurant in August, has had surgery to repair his hip, and is back home at: 15807 W. Cimarron Drive, Surprise 85374.

REPORTS:

A. Congressional Offices – Representatives

Luis Cardenas-Camacho, Congressman Gallego's Office

Luis read Governor Ducey's tribute to the late Congressman Ed Pastor. Luis reported that VA Secretary Robert Wilkie has announced that student veterans will soon be receiving their education benefits/back pay.

B. **VA Medical Center Phoenix – Chief of Staff Dr. Maureen McCarthy** thanked UAV for ongoing support and to MANA House for hosting, and congratulated Chair Dalzotto and wife Shelby on their firstborn Baby Mia born in November.

1. Med Center updates:

- a. Moving along with Robotic surgery—first case scheduled for January.
- b. “Rapid Performance Improvement Workgroups (RPIWs) are Us!”
 - i. Streamlined Mental Health access, so no longer do we require multiple appointments before beginning definitive treatment.
 - ii. Opening of our Customer Service Center was set for December (now open.)
 - iii. We are looking at streamlining the whole process of operative care—preop, helping patients be in maximum condition medically, scheduling, flow through the OR, and aftercare.
 - iv. We have worked very hard on several conditions for which our patients get hospitalized, in an effort to decrease hospitalizations and manage these conditions as outpatients. Two, we have had a special focus on congestive heart failure and COPD—chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, sometimes called emphysema.

2. Celebrations/Successes

- i. We received the American Heart Association Silver Plus award for our resuscitation practices.
- ii. Two of our doctors were recognized by the Arizona Chapter of the American College of Physicians.
- iii. We had a successful Women’s Health Month in October. In addition to Breast Cancer Awareness Month, it was also Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Combining the two, we had a drive for brassieres for women in shelters, and collected 615. (Something we don’t often speak of!)
- iv. We had a successful Men’s Health Month with Men’s Health Day in November. This included more topics we don’t often speak of but are nonetheless important. We had screening for impotence, incontinence, infertility, and prostatic and testicular cancer in addition to depression and suicide. Many of the sports teams donated gifts for a drawing. About 400 men participated.
- v. We had a very successful visit and inspection of our Community Living Center (used to be called the Nursing Home) by the Long Term Care Survey Institute.

- vi. We are working on shared research space at the University of Arizona College of Medicine—Phoenix.
- vii. We have worked hard on phone calls and instituted a new messaging system to help the primary care teams get messages.

3. Challenges

- i. Access—especially in our SE Clinic. We are moving podiatry from there and NW Clinic to the main Medical Center and Physical med like PT to two of the local schools very close to SE Clinic, all to make room for more Mental Health and Primary Care at SE Clinic.
4. Update: I was asked to give UAV an update on the No Show Rate—Thanks for your support. We have increased the number of appointments cancelled by the patient before the appointment by 12%. Still we have more work to do. We have over 100,000 no shows however—which is about a little less than 7% no show rate (100,000 over the 1,500,000 encounters).

C. Arizona Dept of Veterans' Services – COL Wright introduced Jennifer Harris, Legislative Liaison at ADVS. Welcome to UAV, Jennifer! A Phoenix medical survey was completed on November 30th. Good news, a former homeless veteran is now an ADVS veteran benefits counselor.

D. UAV Legislative Liaison – Terry Araman reported

- a. A stakeholders meeting was conducted on November 16th by Veterans Caucus Co-Chairs Richard Andrade and Jay Lawrence. Important issues for the Veterans Caucus include Veteran suicide in Arizona, and the need for 22 more veteran benefits counselors (VBCs). There are 30 VBCs currently funded; 32 more VBCs are needed. The cost of a VBC is approximately \$100,000. By assisting veterans to obtain their earned benefits, additional VBCs can bring 1.2 million dollars of revenue to the State.
- b. The Be Connected program needs to expand in 2019. Currently there are 22 counselors. 30-50 counselors are needed.
- c. At the Federal level, the Blue Water Navy legislation has not gotten the Senate's support. There are 8 days remaining to contact your Senators.
- d. January 14th, 2019 is the Arizona Legislature's first day on the job.

UNFINISHED/PENDING BUSINESS:

1. After Action Report – World War I Monument Re-Dedication Ceremony on November 11, 2018, Wesley Bolin Plaza: David Lucier

The WWI Monument Re-Dedication Ceremony was a success. Approximately 75 participants attended the Ceremony. The granite veneer plaques are beautiful.

2. Progress Report – Friday, December 7th Remember Pearl Harbor Ceremonies – Judy Hatch, Pearl Harbor Committee Chair

Judy reported a December 7th weather forecast of 67 degrees. The B-17 Sentimental Journey flyover is scheduled. Wreath presenters are requested to sign in before 9:30 am.

NEW BUSINESS/OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Slate of Candidates for 2019 UAV Board of Directors – Second and Final Presentation, Elections, & Installation: Nominations Chair/Past UAV Chair Reggie Yates

Candidates so far:

UAV Chair – Dylan Dalzotto

UAV Vice Chair – Lea Seago

Director (2 vacancies) – Gene Crego, Dennis Gardner

No additional Nominations were received from the floor.

A motion was made by Judy Hatch – election of all Candidates by acclamation – and seconded by Gerry Berger. Motion carried.

Charles “Danny” Bugh, Past Dept Commander, American Legion was introduced as the new appointed Director-TAL replacing Billy Ellis. “Thank You!” to Billy for his ideas and service to the UAV Board of Directors.

The installation of the new UAV Board Members was conducted by Past Chair Yates.

Congratulations to Chair Dalzotto, Vice Chair Seago, Directors Crego and Gardner, and Director-TAL Bugh!

2. Next UAV meeting: Saturday, January 5th, 2019 at the VA Medical Center, ACC/Ambulatory Care Clinic Building, Basement Conference Center, 650 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix 85012 (Northeast corner of N. 3rd Street and E. Indian School Road). Free parking at the Parking Garage adjacent to the ACC Building.

GOOD OF THE ORDER ANNOUNCEMENTS – were distributed via email right after the December 1st Meeting and will not be re-described here due to many of the events have passed.

50/50 Raffle Winner: Beth Nehring, \$21; \$21 to the UAV Treasury.

Benediction: Chaplain Nehring

Closing Salute to the Flag: Chair Dalzotto

Meeting adjourned at 12 Noon.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/CAROL CULBERTSON, Secretary
Unified Arizona Veterans, azuav.org
Emails: secretary@azuav.org, caroleenculbertson@earthlink.net
Cell: 602.799.9480

UAV UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

5 JANUARY 2019

Meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Chairman Dalzotto, the opening ceremony was conducted and guests introduced.

Dave Lucier gave a report on the Phoenix Initiative to bring a "Fisher House" to Phoenix in support of hospitalized veterans and their families. Fisher House is a home away from home, provided to the families of hospitalized veterans free of charge. Most of the Houses have up to 21 rooms. Due to the large veteran population here in Phoenix the Fisher House will most likely have more than 21 rooms. The "Fisher House Organization" is a 501(c)3 organization. They are supported entirely by donations from the communities. Once the house is built, it is donated to the local VA Hospital for their use and maintenance. To obtain a Fisher House in your area, an application must be made. Currently there is a long list of applications. We cannot put in an application until 2020. Things that have to be done now are:

1. Contact your state legislators requesting they support a Fisher House for the Phoenix area.
2. Seek out upcoming meetings and attend and voice your support.
3. Have your organization write a letter in support of this issue. (see attachments)

They are the owners of Fisher House but donate to the VA and the VA is responsible to maintain it. It must be within walking distance to the VA or transportation must be provided.

For additional information you can contact Dave at davidflucier@gmail.com

Jennifer Harris gave a report on the procedures to be followed in order to Speak at the Arizona Legislature. For more information you can contact her at jharris@azdvs.gov.

Dr. Sue Sisley, MD updated the UAV on her ongoing studies of Cannabis/PTSD/Veterans Clinical Trial Completion and what steps are next. This FDA Study was strictly monitored. Over 6,000 veterans applied for the study but only 80 made it into the study, they only needed 76. Regular users of cannabis were ineligible, the study was to research the effects to help PTSD and TBI veterans suffering from pain. She is waiting for the results of the study to be published. They plan on having a day long party in March to celebrate the completion of this study. She will be looking into additional studies for different methods of use, i.e. misting as some veterans are unable to tolerate the smoke.

Roll call was taken, a quorum was established. A motion was made to accept the minutes from the previous meeting as written, second and approved.

Treasurer Jim Danzien gave the treasurer's report. The combined account total is \$78,968.96.

Sickness and Distress: Pearl Harbor Survivor Jack Holder is going in for surgery.

The passing of Luis Salaverria (AVHOF Class 2012) and Past Department Commander of the American Legion Robert "Bobby" Reyes.

Dave Willis, had surgery to repair his hip that was injured in a fall. He is home. Get Well Cards can be sent to him at 15807 W. Cimarron Dr., Surprise 85374.

Judy Hatch gave a report on Pearl Harbor Day. Despite weatherman's predictions, the weather was great, the rain went north and the temperature was perfect.

Luis Cardenas-Camacho from Congressman Gallego's Office and Lee Huff from Congressman Biggs' Office gave a short legislative update.

Sean Branski from the VA Medical Center reported on ongoing projects at the VA. The Resource Center is up and operational. This is a one stop shop for the veterans to go if they need help with any issues at the VA. Representatives

from the respective areas will be brought in to the Resource Center to help the veteran solve their problem, to include billing issues.

They are working on making the VA more accommodating to the veteran and not the medical team. They have opened nurse appointment schedules, to help serve the veteran when they have an issue that really doesn't need a doctor's appointment.

The VA will be breaking ground for the new Medical Clinic that will be located at 32nd Street and Van Buren, in March. The clinic is projected to open in 2021. They will be starting work on the second parking garage which is scheduled to open later this year.

Work to improve the current clinic and hospital at 650 E. Indian School Road to start soon. They will be ripping out the walls and floors and replacing them. The work will be done in the evenings and weekends when there is less traffic throughout the facility. All patient rooms will be single patient when the renovations are completed.

Jennifer Harris from ADVS reported on some upcoming legislative issues to be addressed with the Legislation Session opening January 14th. The current statute on Veteran's Home needs to be updated to reflect multiple homes. Also they will be breaking ground on two new homes this year. A bill to raise the tax exemption on military retirement is expected to be submitted again this year. It will request raising the tax exemption from \$3,500 to \$10,000. Another bill to be proposed is to make all State Parks free for all Veterans and Active Duty personnel. Legislator Lawrence is still working on his suicide prevention bill.

Chairman Dalzotto introduced two new Board Members.

Legislative Chairman, Terry Araman gave his legislative report. Once again a bill is being drafted to increase the number of VSO's in our state. On the Federal side, we need more people to support the Blue Water Veterans Bill to insure it is passed this year. Senator Senama has been appointed to the Veterans Service Commission.

The Arizona Silent Service Memorial is scheduled to break ground in March or April with the dedication being scheduled in November.

Gerry Berger reminded everyone of the upcoming Spring Awards Ceremony on Saturday, March 16th.

Sam Young from VMLC stated that the VMLC was donated a large poster of Uncle Sam. It is available to an organization that has room to display it. The poster is 6' high, cost: FREE.

There being no further business to come before the membership, the closing ceremony was conducted and the meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith Hatch".

Judith Hatch