

# **VETERANS Our Hometown Heroes**

February 2023

**THIS OFFICE IS OPEN...PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT BEFORE YOU COME TO DEPARTMENT OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE...THIS IS STILL DUE TO COVID-19.**

**DO NOT SEND...**District or Chairman's mail to this office. Send it directly to their address. Don't know it call them...they are in the Directory. The Directory is on the department website [aladeptaz.org](http://aladeptaz.org).

**NATIONAL PRESIDENT VICKIE KOUTZ...**Her official visit to Arizona approaching fast. She will be visiting February 16-19, 2023, in the Valley of the Sun. Planning is being done now!  
National President Special Project...You can send donations thru Department or directly to National...make sure either way you identify as National President Special Project 2023-Vickie Koutz.  
It's not too late to sign up to attend her dinner. Flyer is in the packet.

**DUES NOTICE...**Did your Unit submit your dues increase to Department. If you haven't contact Department.

**STATE CONVENTION...**State Convention is fast approaching. You can now make hotel reservations. The link has been placed on Ring Your Bell or on the [azlegion.org](http://azlegion.org) website. Rooms fill up fast, don't delay in making your reservation.

Date of the State Convention are June 22 – June 25, 2023, at the El Conquistador in Oro Valley.

**STATE VETERANS HOME...**This is President Barbara's Special Project this year. You need to identify the state home because there will be 4 very soon...Phoenix...Tucson...Yuma...and Flagstaff coming soon.

**FISHER HOUSE ...**You need to identify your Fisher House donation for Tucson or Phoenix starting now.

**POPPY...**Did you get your Poppy Order in? Just a FYI...Poppys that were not picked up at Fall Conference contact Department to make arrangements to pick them up.. Those that were not picked up...are here in the office...you can come to Department and pick them up...we will ship some

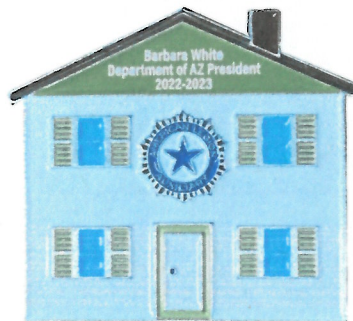
## DIRECTORY ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS ...

**MEMBERSHIP... "RACHING TO OUR GOALS".** Membership is everyone's job. Legion Act has opened the window of eligibility from 12-7-1941 thru now. The Department Goal this year is 14700 and we are at 78.01%.

**RENEW MEMBERSHIP BY PHONE...**Call National Headquarters at 317-569-4570 with your member ID and debit or credit card ready.

**ALAMIS ACCESS...**Your Unit is not required to have FULL UNIT ACCESS.

**IF YOUR WANT FULL ACCESS TOALAMIS Units MUST email department requesting to be put on the ALAMIS class sign up. NOW BE ADVISED: CLASSES ARE HELD THE 2<sup>ND</sup> WEEK OF EVERY MONTH ON TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY. BE PREPARED SO YOU CAN TAKE THE CLASS.**



President Barbara for

Barbara Matteson  
Dept Secretary/Treasurer  
[secretary1@aladepaz.org](mailto:secretary1@aladepaz.org)

Pat Stanaski  
Dept Membership Processor  
[membership@aladepaz.org](mailto:membership@aladepaz.org)

**2023-2024 UNIT MEMBERSHIP  
NATIONAL AUTOMATED RENEWAL NOTICES**

Type, or Print using blue or black ink  
Non-legible forms will be Returned.

We understand that your Unit is working very hard on the program and it just January; however, you must be pro active on this issue...NATIONAL is raising they portion of dues...per capita to \$18.00 per senior...that means a dues increase at the Unit level...that's you. **You will now be sending to Department \$4.00 for Juniors and \$25.00 for seniors.** Please address this now. We **MUST** have the requested information on or before **January 31, 2023.**

The dues amount listed below will be printed on the upcoming 2024 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICES that will be mailed to each SENIOR MEMBER IN YOUR UNIT. Also listed below is the address to be printed on each renewal notice showing where and whom to mail the dues for your Unit.

Please understand that **“NO CHANGE IN THE AMOUNT OF DUES OR THE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE DUES ARE TO BE SENT CAN BE MADE AFTER FEBRUARY 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.** Please return this form to Department Headquarters, 4701 N. 19<sup>th</sup> Ave. Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ 85015 Attn: **Barbara Matteson.**

**IF YOUR UNIT FAILS TO RETURN THE NEEDED INFORMATION BY THE DUE DATE, THE CURRENT INFORMATION ON FILE WITH THE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS WILL BE SENT TO NATIONAL.**

\*\*\*\*\*NO EXCEPTIONS\*\*\*\*\*

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DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA	UNIT NUMBER _____
2024 SENIOR DUES OF THE UNIT ARE	\$ _____
2024 JUNIOR DUES OF THE UNIT ARE	\$ _____

**ADDRESS AT WHICH THE UNIT WILL RECEIVE MEMBERSHIP DUES not the person filling out this form.**

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Street, or R.R. & Box)

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

AREA CODE \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

# President's Message

February 2023

## VETERANS Our Hometown Heros

It's "Love a Vet" month! Is your Unit doing sending LOVE to veterans in your Post, Unit, State Homes? It's not too late to have school children make Valentine cards for the veterans and those on active duty.

**National President, Vickie Koutz, will be visiting Arizona February 16-19, 2023. Any member can attend events that take place while she is visiting. We will be taking her around the East Valley, also to the State Capitol. The schedule of her visit has been posted on Ring Your Bell.**

A dinner honoring the National President will be held Friday, February 17, 2023, flyer is enclosed. It's not too late to sign up.

I attended the National Training in Las Vegas February 4, 2023. We learned a lot of information and refreshed my memory on other programs. You don't want to miss the 2024 Mission Training!

Did you know the Good Deed and Youth Hero Awards can be uploaded on the National website. From the home page, click Forms, the link is in the Applications Forms – Award box.

My calendar is filling up. Please reach out to me, in writing, if you would like to schedule a visit. My current schedule is on the back.

Until next month . . . .

Barbara White  
Department President  
602-908-2980  
Barbarawhite99@gmail.com  
1616 W Nopal Dr  
Chandler, AZ 85224-2244

## President's Schedule 2022-2023

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
January 2, 2023	Unit 27 Official Visit	Post 27
January 7, 2023	Department Open House	
January 8, 2023	District 3 Official Visit	Post 45
January 15, 2023	District 4 Official Visit	Post 54
January 17, 2023	Unit's 66 and 131 Official Visit	Post 131
January 21, 2023	District 8 Official Visit	Post 90
January 28, 2023	District 11 PPP	Post 62
February 3-5, 2023	Mission Training	Las Vegas
February 11, 2023	District 6 Official Visit	Post 86
February 16 - 19	National President's Visit	
February 26 - March 10, 2023	Sailing the Seven Seas	
March 11, 2023	District 12 Picnic	
March 18, 2023	Birthday Ball and District 1 Meeting	Post 19
March 25-27, 2023	Car Show	Post 81
March 30 - April 2	SAL Campout	Patagonia State Park
April 8, 2023	Unit 2 Official Visit	Post 2
April 20, 2023	Unit 35 Award Banquet and Official Visit	Post 35
April 22, 2023	District 7 Official Visit	Post 14
April 27 - 30, 2023	Northern Run	
May 12 - 13, 2023	Personal	
May 20, 2023	Homecoming (ALA President and TAL Commander)	TBD
June 2 - June 10	ALA AZ Girls State	UofA



Department of Arizona

Dinner Honoring National President Vickie Koutz

February 17, 2023

No Host 4:00 p.m.  
Dinner 5:00 p.m.  
Cost \$22

Menu

- Lasagna  
Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Dessert

Dress Code: Business Attire

Location

The American Legion Post 35  
2240 W Chandler Blvd  
Chandler, Arizona 85224

Questions? Call or Text Barbara White at 602-908-2980

.....  
**Please send in the bottom part, along with your payment**

Make check payable to: ALA Unit 91  
c/o Barbara White  
1616 W Nopal Dr  
Chandler, AZ 85224-2244

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ dinner(s) for the National President's Dinner

**Deadline: Sunday, February 12, 2023**

Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the names for this event:

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American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Arizona  
**Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF)**  
February 2023

Greetings!

***Our Own Backyard***

We answer the call of ‘*Service Not Self*’ which is the legacy we all strive toward in supporting our Veterans and their families. Those in ‘our own backyard’ sometimes get lost in that focus and their need for assistance is pushed to the back burner whether it’s because we are not aware of the need or we don’t know how to meet the need. When one of our members is struggling to make ends meet and gets behind with rent or utilities and has nowhere to turn, that’s when your knowledge of the AEF comes into play. You can be the link that the member needs to obtain assistance to get them through that difficult time by encouraging them to apply for a Temporary Assistance grant. Applications can be completed and filed online at [www.legion-aux.org](http://www.legion-aux.org) under the ‘How We Serve’ tab.

***What can you do to assist those that don’t qualify for an AEF grant?***

One stumbling block that a member may face is their lack of membership years. Eligibility is based in part on the member’s number of membership years. They must have 3 consecutive years of paid membership (current year plus the previous 2 years). I would encourage you to create a referral list of local resources such as contact information for a local food bank, Catholic Charities, or housing authority or maybe each Unit can create their own ‘Help-a-Sister’ or Unit AEF type fund to be able to meet an emergency need for members within your American Legion family. Sometimes all it takes is paying a utility bill or part or all their monthly rent/mortgage using the same or similar parameters as the National AEF.

For God & Country,  
Jonnie Maddox  
Department AEF Chairman

Contact Info: Text or Voice: (760) 413.5912 Email: [mimi2twins@gmail.com](mailto:mimi2twins@gmail.com)

## Chaplain Report

### February 2023

On Feb. 3, 1943, the U.S. Army Transport Dorchester was moving across the Atlantic from Newfoundland to an American base in Greenland. It was crowded to capacity, carrying 902 servicemen, merchant seamen and civilian workers.

It was only 150 miles from its destination when a German submarine U2 struck the ship far below the water line. The initial blast killed scores of men and seriously wounded many more.

Through the pandemonium, four men spread out among the Soldiers, calming the frightened, tending the wounded and guiding the disoriented toward safety. They were four Army chaplains,

- Lt. George Fox, a Methodist;
- Lt. Alexander Goode, a Jewish Rabbi;
- Lt. John Washington, a Roman Catholic Priest;
- and Lt. Clark Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister.

The chaplains opened a storage locker and began distributing life jackets. When there were no more lifejackets, the chaplains simultaneously removed theirs and gave them to four frightened young men. When giving their life jackets, Rabbi Goode did not call out for a Jew; Father Washington did not call out for a Catholic; nor did Fox or Poling call out for a Protestant. They simply gave their life jackets to the next man in line. As the ship went down, survivors in nearby rafts could see the four chaplains -- arms linked and braced against the slanting deck.

Of the 902 men aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester, only 230 survived. The Four Chaplains' Medal, was authorized by Congress and awarded by the President on January 18, 1961.

It was never given before and will never be given again.

It is customary to hold a ceremony in February. The Ceremony for Four Chaplains is in the Chaplains Prayer book, found here: <https://www.legion-aux.org/Member/Guides/Prayer-Book>

**If you know of someone who could benefit from a card or phone call from the  
Department of Arizona, please let me know:**

**Marge Christianson, Chaplain, [alaunit62az@gmail.com](mailto:alaunit62az@gmail.com), (763) 234-9852 (call or text)**



American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Arizona  
Children and Youth Program

February 2023

I'm please to announce that I've received our first nomination for the Good Deed Award Program for our District. Thanks to Unit 62 for the submission. Let's continue to seek out those youths who have gone above and beyond and served as inspirational role models. We need to reward them for the great job that they are doing.

In addition to the awards and programs that were listed in the January newsletter, some Patriotic Youth Programs that are available are The Americanism Essay Contest, ALA Junior Membership, Vets in Community Schools and the National Poppy Poster Contest.

ALA Scholarship Programs that are available are:

**Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship** - Three \$5,000 scholarships are awarded annually per geographic division, for a total of 15 scholarships. These scholarships are for undergraduate study only at a four-year accredited college or university, and may be used for tuition, books, fees, room, and board.

**Non- Traditional Student Scholarship** - One \$2,000 scholarship is awarded annually per Auxiliary geographic division. Applicant may be pursuing training in a certified, trade, professional, or technical program, or a two-year or four-year degree program.

**Jr Member Loyalty Scholarship** - The American Legion Auxiliary offers the Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship to current college students. Ten scholarships, in the amount of \$2,500 each, will be awarded to a current college student. Two scholarships will be awarded in each division of the American Legion Auxiliary. The scholarship is a grant; not a loan.

**Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund** -- The Spirit of Youth Scholarship Fund is an umbrella that supports three separate scholarship opportunities for participants in American Legion Auxiliary programs. One is for American Legion Auxiliary Junior members, another for the Honorary National Junior Division Vice Presidents, and one is for participants in the American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation program. The American Legion Auxiliary annually provides one Junior member in each of the five American Legion Auxiliary divisions with a \$5,000 scholarship.

The deadline for all ALA Scholarship programs is March 1<sup>st</sup>. All information, requirements, scholarship rules and applications can be located at [ALAforVeterans.org](http://ALAforVeterans.org). The Youth Programs booklet can also be downloaded from that site.

Just a reminder, April is the month of the military child with April 15<sup>th</sup> being designated as Military Kids Day. Please send me plans on ways to celebrate our children and youth and I will share them with all Units in next months newsletter.

Thank you for the time, hard work and dedication that is being done to support our Children and youth programs. In working together, we will be successful in supporting, protecting educating and caring for the children and youth, particularly those of veterans and military families.

# Community Service

## February 2023

### **“VETERANS Our Hometown Heroes”**

The previous bulletins from this chairman have offered suggestions on how members and Units can work this program. Here are additional ideas that have been presented from our National Chairman, Melanie Taylor.

- Sponsor a bike-a-thon and give away bike safety gear, like helmets and knee pads (which could be donated from local merchants), as prizes
- Sponsor and/or coach a youth sports team
- If the Unit and/or members are on Facebook, host a donation drive for your anniversary/birthday and donate the proceeds to a local non-profit organization
- Organize a musical hour or reading program for kids at a local park or library
- Raise money to provide a bulletproof vest for a police dog

After it's decided what community service projects in which a member/the Unit is interested, think about how the project is to be accomplished.

- Time – how much can be devoted?
- Place – if going to an animal shelter or nursing home, do they accept volunteers?
- Resources – is a program already in existence with which you can join?

Keeping track of your hours, mileage and money spent can be easy by using the downloadable fillable monthly tracking worksheet and annual report form at [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) under Members Only, Annual Report Forms section.

***“The difference you make today, counts in all our tomorrows.” C. H. Pearce***

Rebecca Faris  
rebeccafaris3@gmail.com  
928-715-4926

PO Box 3122  
Kingman, AZ 86402-3122

## Finance

February 2023

Salutations Arizona ALA!

Now that we are into this new year, have you given serious thoughts to the 2023-2024 year? Will you continue to serve your current office? Will you take on a new office? These are serious questions, and just how can I contribute to the ALA? Am I overwhelmed or do I find this office an easy fit? Can I mentor a new Officer?

Should you decide to continue, congratulations to you for continuing efforts to assist your Unit in the same job. And should you choose to turn it over to a new Officer, please help them as much as possible by sharing ideas, files and any information that will make the transition an easy one. This is especially important when your Unit has a new Treasurer. Help that new Treasurer with your experiences. Share that District information, ask your Department Officers or Past Department President for helpful hints. And just remember that time when you were new to the Auxiliary and had lots of questions.

Most of all, kindness and respect goes a long way, with any position in our organization and please be true to yourself and the American Legion Auxiliary.

Please any questions or comments, please feel free to ask.

Yolanda Bonilla, Chairman, 602-989-3321, [yodobo@msn.com](mailto:yodobo@msn.com)  
Penny Maklary, Member, 520-364-5038, [ahhpenny@aol.com](mailto:ahhpenny@aol.com)  
Helen Stout, Member, 520-294-3593, [helenstout84@gmail.com](mailto:helenstout84@gmail.com)  
Virtue of Office: Barbara White, President, Jennie Molina, NEC  
Barbara Matteson, Sec/Treas. (no vote)

## Leadership/Arizona Mission Training

February 2023

### “Veterans, Our Hometown Heroes”

Greetings to our members and I hope that blessings continue to happen in your lives and our organization! We will continue to stress the trainings for all members and honoring our MENTORS throughout the year. A relationship between mentor and member evolves over time. To find a good and reliable mentor is a blessing indeed! He/she tries to provide a support system and helps in solving challenges as they come along. Actually, we all are mentors at some stage in life, helping each other out in every possible manner.

Last month's Leadership Bulletin contained the awards for this program. I hope that many of you will honor a member from your unit. This year we will present certificates to all entries and recognize them at convention, not only the one chosen for the Department. If you have questions about this award, please feel free to call, text or email. The new award for this program is the “Hometown Hero” award which corresponds with President Barbara's theme. Any member can write a “short” narrative about their experience in joining the Auxiliary. **Who** encouraged you then and **who still** encourages you today to go on to a leadership role? Everyone will be recognized and thanked at convention with a small gift. We all have received some mentoring along the way and we would like to recognize and honor them!

I participated in a Zoom meeting with Western Division and National Chairman recently and heard about other departments and what they are doing in the Leadership program. Arizona has a unique and workable program and members are learning. If you have attended or plan to attend a training, please remember to thank the Mission Training Instructors. They give of their expertise and time to work with members so that we may continue to be the great organization we are!

Karen Smith, Chairman

520-249-1119

ksmith111@cox.net

MEMBERSHIP  
FEBRUARY 2023

This year is just flying by. We are four months away from convention and five months away from a new membership cycle.

Arizona is 28<sup>th</sup> in the nation and in 6<sup>th</sup> place in the Western Division. We are as of this writing at 70%.

I am writing this on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January, so Arizona if you want to see me in a dress for processional you have 43 days to hit 100%.

We have six units that are kicking butt, and are OVER 100%

141 Pearce 140.00%, 97 San Tan Valley 112.00%, 134 Phoenix 111.11%

28 Clifton 109.21%, 136 Yucca 107.14%, 53 Buckeye 105.26%

114 Bushmasters 101.82% 56 Yuma 101.59%

CONGRADULATIONS TO THESE EIGHT UNITS!!

Remember membership is EVERYONE'S responsibility. Lets get ARIZONA to 100% by March 1<sup>st</sup>, so I have to wear a dress. Remember, 100% after March 1, means I can wear dress slacks.

For God and Country

Rose

# UNIT NUMERIC OBJECTIVES 2023

## As of February 6, 2023

		UNIT	CITY	OBJECTIVE	TOTAL	PERCENT
		0100	Phoenix	158	136	86.08%
		0115	Glendale	0	15	
		<b>Total</b>		<b>158</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>95.57%</b>
	<b>Total</b>			<b>158</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>95.57%</b>
01		0019	Yuma	198	169	85.35%
		0046	Bouse	54	24	44.44%
		0056	Yuma	63	71	112.70%
		<b>Total</b>		<b>315</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>83.81%</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>315</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>83.81%</b>	
02		0007	Tucson	71	32	45.07%
		0010	Ajo	25	15	60.00%
		0036	Tucson	278	176	63.31%
		0059	Tucson	157	112	71.34%
		0066	Green Valley	929	725	78.04%
		0068	Tucson	60	43	71.67%
		0073	Tucson	29	27	93.10%
		0109	Corona	341	269	78.89%
		0125	Tucson	16	1	6.25%
		0131	Green Valley	534	427	79.96%
		0132	Oro Valley	82	71	86.59%
		<b>Total</b>		<b>2522</b>	<b>1898</b>	<b>75.26%</b>
	<b>Total</b>			<b>2522</b>	<b>1898</b>	<b>75.26%</b>
03		0011	Douglas	175	143	81.71%
		0016	Bisbee	73	59	80.82%
		0024	Tombstone	414	256	61.84%
		0045	Benson	50	40	80.00%
		0052	Sierra Vista	174	132	75.86%
		0141	Pearce	10	14	140.00%
		<b>Total</b>		<b>896</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>71.88%</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>896</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>71.88%</b>	
04		0008	Casa Grande	41	34	82.93%
		0009	Florence	89	38	42.70%
		0051	Coolidge	63	60	95.24%
		0054	Coolidge	107	71	66.36%
		0097	San Tan Valley	25	28	112.00%
		0129	Queen Creek	17	9	52.94%
		0133	Maricopa	37	35	94.59%
		<b>Total</b>		<b>379</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>72.56%</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>379</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>72.56%</b>	

05		0004	Globe	48	36	75.00%
		0028	Clifton	76	93	122.37%
		0032	Safford	121	111	91.74%
		0095	Solomon	74	66	89.19%
		<b>Total</b>		<b>319</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>95.92%</b>
	<b>Total</b>		<b>319</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>95.92%</b>	
06		0030	Springerville	79	67	84.81%
		0031	Saint Johns	10	1	10.00%
		0037	Holbrook	41	32	78.05%
		0069	Payson	142	66	46.48%
		0076	Show Low	30	18	60.00%
		0086	Overgaard	301	243	80.73%
		0130	Concho	10	2	20.00%
		<b>Total</b>		<b>613</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>69.98%</b>
	<b>Total</b>		<b>613</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>69.98%</b>	
07		0003	Flagstaff	92	45	48.91%
		0013	Williams	42	34	80.95%
		0014	Kingman	123	110	89.43%
		0022	Golden Valley	109	108	99.08%
		0042	Grand Canyon	25	15	60.00%
		0057	Ash Fork	70	11	15.71%
		0081	Lake Havasu City	559	497	88.91%
		0087	Bullhead City	144	90	62.50%
		0088	Dolan Springs	16	13	81.25%
		0103	Meadview	57	32	56.14%
		0136	Yucca	14	15	107.14%
		<b>Total</b>		<b>1251</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>77.54%</b>
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1251</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>77.54%</b>	
08		0006	Prescott	229	207	90.39%
		0025	Cottonwood	265	227	85.66%
		0040	Chino Valley	102	68	66.67%
		0078	Humboldt	152	126	82.89%
		0079	Yarnell	152	97	63.82%
		0090	Black Canyon City	44	33	75.00%
		0093	Camp Verde	97	88	90.72%
		0108	Prescott Valley	41	36	87.80%
		0135	Cornville	64	49	76.56%
		0140	Prescott Valley	27	11	40.74%
		<b>Total</b>		<b>1173</b>	<b>942</b>	<b>80.31%</b>
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1173</b>	<b>942</b>	<b>80.31%</b>	

11		0001	Phoenix	115	95	82.61%
		0005	Phoenix	71	31	43.66%
		0012	Wickenburg	208	161	77.40%
		0029	Glendale	296	228	77.03%
		0053	Buckeye	19	20	105.26%
		0061	Avondale	185	160	86.49%
		0062	Peoria	787	646	82.08%
		0105	Phoenix	209	129	61.72%
		0134	Phoenix	18	20	111.11%
		<b>Total</b>		<b>1908</b>	<b>1490</b>	<b>78.09%</b>
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1908</b>	<b>1490</b>	<b>78.09%</b>	
12		0002	Tempe	100	82	82.00%
		0026	Mesa	242	213	88.02%
		0027	Apache Junction	1815	1213	66.83%
		0034	Cave Creek	316	248	78.48%
		0035	Chandler	305	216	70.82%
		0039	Gilbert	411	400	97.32%
		0041	Phoenix	315	237	75.24%
		0044	Scottsdale	309	249	80.58%
		0058	Fountain Hills	295	280	94.92%
		0065	Phoenix	286	261	91.26%
		0084	Sacaton	62	54	87.10%
		0091	Chandler	200	182	91.00%
		0107	Phoenix	213	157	73.71%
		0114	Scottsdale	55	56	101.82%
		0117	Phoenix	188	191	101.60%
		0124	Guadalupe	17	18	105.88%
		0138	Tempe	35	40	114.29%
	<b>Total</b>		<b>5164</b>	<b>4097</b>	<b>79.34%</b>	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>5164</b>	<b>4097</b>	<b>79.34%</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>14698</b>	<b>11466</b>	<b>78.01%</b>	





American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Arizona  
**MUSIC REPORT 2022**

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**February 2023**

Greetings Melomanos (“music lovers”),

I hope you’re finding ways to promote music within your Unit and Post. I promote music every month and everyday. Please continue to promote music within your Unit and Post. Let’s get the love of music out to everyone. Let’s do this together. Use your imagination and spread the love of music and our Country. Together, we’ve got the music in us!.

I’m currently researching music for Convention and the Memorial choir. If you have any suggestions, please don’t hesitate to let me know. I welcome all suggestions. I have a couple music selections in mind and currently finding ways to interpret them.

It is my pleasure to be the DJ/KJ when our National President visits Arizona for the dinner in her honor at Post 35, February 17. Please plan on attending and meeting her. I’m excited about this opportunity.

“I’d like to teach the world to sing in perfect harmony.”

Bill Backer and Bill Davis for The Coca-Cola Company as sung by the Hillside Singers

With a song in your heart.  
For God and Country,

Alma Mattingly, Department Music Chairman

16575 W. Moreland Street, Goodyear, AZ 85338

[amblonde01@gmail.com](mailto:amblonde01@gmail.com)

602.999.4054 cell

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INTRODUCING..... DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA'S FIRST MISS POPPY 1959

PEGGY CHILTON CLOSKY

Member and Unit Treasurer of Casas Adobes Unit #73

It seems that the first Miss Poppy contest, at the national level, was held in 1959. This Dept. Poppy Chair hasn't located any info of previous Miss Poppy's in Az. in any informal way. I believe Peggy is our first one. This is quite a 'find' for me!! In my Nov. submission I gave you the history of how Miss Poppy started. She is a time honored tradition in the ALA. I was surprised and excited when I received an email from Peggy complete with photos. Here is an exert of her email to me.

“ I was Miss Poppy for the Department of Arizona in 1959. I was on TV in both Tucson and Phoenix, and I was accompanied by my father, Jerry Chilton, Past Department Commander. I was only 10 years old, ... I remember we went to the VA and visited Veterans in the hospital. My dress was red and I had a "fascinator" headband of poppies, and a bouquet of poppies. It was a very exciting time for me. “

Peggy's father, T. Gerald Chilton was Dept. of Az. Cmdr in 1955. Her mom, Maxine Chilton became ALA National President 1972-1973. She was a member of Unit 18, now closed. Dept of Az. has an award for Public Relations in her honor—Maxine Chilton Memorial Plaque. Peggy, thank you so much for making me aware of this!! Thank you for being Miss Poppy!

With Peggy's permission, Peggy's information has been sent to the ALA National archives to preserve our poppy history. She is on [www.facebook.com/groups/ALAPoppy](http://www.facebook.com/groups/ALAPoppy) Also fb for Ring Your Bell Az ALA, This has also been sent in to Jeanne Haas, National Poppy Chair. Thanks to Marge Christianson for her assist as I'm tech challenged, couldn't put Peggy's photo on fb.

Please send your own poppy photos in to the Nat'l Poppy fb listed above.

Please remember Az. Dept. awards for Poppy in website award section pages 55 thru 59.

We have Miss Poppy Plaque, Marie Townshend Plaque, Marie Cooney Memorial Plaque, Nita Kimbal Community Poppy Awareness Award, Patriotic Poppy Decoration Plaque. Plenty to win here-- just read the rules and enter. Have fun.

Poppy Poster deadline to be received by me at my home, no later than April 21,2023, address at bottom. Same for Miss Poppy scrapbook. Are you interested in National Little Miss Poppy? Thank you for everything you do and poppy on.

For God and Country,

Julie Ross

Dept of Az. Poppy Chair

[juliedistrict3@gmail.com](mailto:juliedistrict3@gmail.com)

mailing address: 14 Strong Row, Bisbee, Az. 85603





**PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT**

**FEBRUARY 2023**

**ARIZONA STATE VETERAN HOMES**

February is National Recreation Therapy Month. This would be a good time for your Units to send a simple note of appreciation to the Recreation Therapists at the State Homes. Recreational Therapy may sound like fun and games, which it is, but it is much more. Many games are designed for physical rehabilitation. When you think of physical therapy you think of walking and weights. But simple things like drawing or talking help restore physical function to stroke patients. Some games are designed for cognitive stimulation and others for social interaction. All these activities promote wellbeing for the residents of the State Homes.

Time is winding down for the fiscal year! Remember all reports are due by May 1 to the respective chairmen. Please write me a short story of what your Unit has done to promote and support the President's Special Project. There are two awards that I will be giving at convention; the Cathy Jarvis Plaque for Units with membership of 200 or less, and the Ginger Cox Plaque for Units of 201 or more. These awards are really easy to win, just write a narrative about what you already do and basically the best story wins! I know the word "*narrative*" strikes fear into many of you, but it's really not that difficult. Give it a try, you might be surprised! I know all Units are doing something! Just tell me about it.

Thank you for supporting our hometown heroes!

In the spirit of Service Not Self,

Margaret Ellis, Chairman [mellis3166@gmail.com](mailto:mellis3166@gmail.com) 480-818-3166

President's Special Project Committee

Area A: Cleone Magnuson [jazzydoll@cox.net](mailto:jazzydoll@cox.net)

Area C: Terri Doran [theadora70@yahoo.com](mailto:theadora70@yahoo.com)

VA & R

February 2023

Hello fellow members and Happy February!

The Auxiliary year is well underway and before you know it... REPORT TIME!!! It is never too early to start filling out your report forms and start narratives.

- Did your Unit send money to or participate in Gift Shop activities? Put it on the report.
- Did your Unit participate in Stand Down? Report, report, report.
- Have you work on any activities with the state homes or VA Hospitals? You got it... put it on your report.

All reports are due to the chairman on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

We have to have our reports to the National Chairman by May 15<sup>th</sup> so time is of the essence.

Please remember to send me photos and a short synopsis of what your Unit has done for Veterans and I will forward them to the Western Division and National Chairman.

For God and Country,

Stacey Mayberry

Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Contact Info: e-mail: [mayberry.stacey@gmail.com](mailto:mayberry.stacey@gmail.com) Ph: 702-403-4903

Address: 9139 W. Harmony Ln Peoria, AZ 85382

# Service to Veterans

*February 2023*

*“Believe in yourself and all that you are. Know that there is something inside you that is greater than any obstacle.” ~Christian D. Larson*

Hello ALA members,

It has come to my attention that some need better clarification concerning how and what a spouse of a Veteran can claim towards their STV hour bars. The following is sent directly from National concerning Spouses of Veterans. If you have *any* questions regarding this subject, *please* direct them to *me* since I am the Chairman and things have changed in the program and I *am* up-to-date on these changes and the Service To Veterans program.

The following describes hours of service specifically for those caring for their spouse.

Caregivers can now be awarded “Service to Veterans” hours which may accumulate for hour bars for time spent providing care and assistance to Veterans within their families if they do not receive PROFESSIONAL compensation for doing so. VA stipends (PCFAC stipends) do NOT count as professional compensation.

If the caregiver lives with the Veteran, they may be awarded 10 hours a week. If they do NOT live with the Veteran, then they may be awarded 5 hours a week. The onus is placed upon the caregiver to report these hours through the existing structure within their units and departments. These hours can be claimed for activities such as but not limited to

- Medical appointments
- Any assistance provided with activities of daily living (bathing, dressing, feeding, managing prescriptions, etc.)
- Support activities outside the home such as errands
- Activities that positively impact the health and welfare of the Veteran

I hope this will clarify matters.

Sara C. Decker

Service to Veterans Chairman

[Saradeckeraz@gmail.com](mailto:Saradeckeraz@gmail.com)

480-580-3269

## AZ STATE VETERANS HOME – PHOENIX

### February 2023

The Christmas Stars Program was once again a huge success. Every Veteran Resident received multiple gifts from this and a variety of other Christmas Tree Tag types of programs hosted by our Units and Posts throughout the Valley. It was incredible watching the interaction between our Legionnaires, Sons, Auxiliary, JR Members and Riders and the Residents at the Home during the holidays. Veterans shared stories, the participating children gave and received lots of hugs. A couple of the children even read Christmas stories to the older Veterans who haven't seen their own grandchildren in far too long. I cannot tell you how many tears of joy and love fell on December 18<sup>th</sup> when the Riders rolled in escorting that trailer and a couple of trucks filled with holiday gifts and love. I happily admit, my eyes leaked multiple times.

Dang y'all, it's February already. Valentine's Day and Spring are rapidly approaching. We're going to need some volunteers who have been vaccinated to assist with Bingo, Game Days and even Picnic on the Patio types of activities. We won't stop showing the love just because the holiday season is over. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering for these types of activities.

Our caregivers are often the unsung, and far too often overlooked heroes when it comes to saying our thank yous. The District 11 PPP and Unit 62 have teamed up for a special project to recognize the nurses who take care of our Veteran Residents at the Phoenix Home every single day. They are making/donating 65 Nurse Survival Kits, which contain nurse themed etched glass, door hangers, suncatchers, retractable credential fobs along with other goodies and treats for the amazing nursing staff. What a fabulous way to say thank you to those who have boots on the ground every single day caring for our disabled, elderly and infirmed Veterans. Our Auxiliary Dept Chaplain, Marge Christianson is spearheading this project. If you'd like to participate, donate or want more information about it, she can be reached at 763-234-9852

Efforts such as these do not go unnoticed for our Veterans and those who care for them. I learned long ago that a small act of kindness goes a very long way. You never know when that smile, thank you or a simple "I appreciate you" can literally save a life. If your Unit is doing something special for the Veterans at the ASVH-Phx, please let me know so I can share the information with everyone. We love knowing what our Units are doing for our Veterans.

February birthdays are listed below. I will get the March list out as soon as I receive it. Please mail all cards in one large envelope to the AZ State Veterans Home c/o Brittany Tashner, Rec Therapy Director at 4141 S. Herrera Way, Phoenix AZ 85012.

#### February:

2nd- Tom Bun. 9th- Harold B. 12th- Leslie T. 19th- Leo K. 20th- Bruce B. 26th- Dan B

THANK YOU ALL, You are appreciated.  
Keep being your AMAZING selves. Until next time,

Cat Ludwick, Chair ASVH-PHX  
480-226-3967

[Cat4vets@gmail.com](mailto:Cat4vets@gmail.com)

## AZ STATE VETERANS HOME – TUCSON

February 2023

Thank you to Sherrie Wood from Unit 35 for the generous donation of hand painted & hand-crafted items for the Tucson State Veteran Home. Sherrie & her husband delivered them to me at Post 131. Those items are decorating some of the residents' rooms now! Thank you, Unit 59, for the great items donated last month. They collected 77 deodorants, over 65 pairs of socks, an abundance of razors & shaving cream plus men shirts! It certainly filled up my car. Please fill out a "ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MATERIAL DONATIONS" form each time you deliver something to the HOME. Please send a copy to me ([alabonnidistler@gmail.com](mailto:alabonnidistler@gmail.com)) so I can keep track of everything being donated and I can thank each unit for your donation. I have included a copy of the form. If you are sending a monetary donation, please send it to Department so it can be registered with them. They in turn will send me a check. Please remember to designate which State Veteran Home you wish your donation to be awarded.

If someone wishes to donate some time at the Home, there is a need for escorts to walk residents over to the VA so they can visit the Cantina.

They finally have a volunteer for the library, but he is only available to be there on Mondays. If anyone is available to offer some assistance on a different day that would be greatly appreciated. Please let me know if you are interested.

Thank you to Unit 59 for offering to bring the birthday cupcakes and ice cream for January. I have sent a reminder email to the Presidents of Unit 10, 73 & 109 for their assistance in providing for the monthly birthday party. PLEASE, reply and let me know if you are able to provide in the month I have suggested. If you prefer a different month, please let me know and I'll see if I can accommodate. Thank you to those that have replied, it helps me with scheduling this very important event. Birthdays for January & February are as follows: 1/1 Martha, Robert; 1/5 Ralph; 1/11 Morris; 1/21 Neidon ... 2/4 Louis, Karla; 2/8 Juan; 2/13 Richard; 2/18 Charles.

The Gift Shop needs full-size candy bars, soda (regular and diet) of all kinds and individual bags of chips (variety packs work great). If anyone is able to donate some it would be greatly appreciated. Plus, gift cards are always welcomed at the home to allow the Residents a chance to shop either online or downtown ... places like Walmart and Target. Plus, anything for a nice restaurant.

Please remember to mark on your donation check which AZ State Veteran Home you wish your donation to go toward (Tucson, Phoenix, Yuma or Flagstaff), plus you need to mark if it is a donation or if it goes towards the Presidents Special Project (PSP).

VETERANS – Our Hometown Hero's  
Bonni Distler  
Department Chairman – Arizona State Veteran Home – Tucson  
360-317-4708  
[alabonnidistler@gmail.com](mailto:alabonnidistler@gmail.com)

**To volunteer at the Tucson State Veteran Home, you must be fully vaccinated against COVID and wear a mask at all times you are inside and around the residents.**



**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MATERIAL DONATIONS**

Arizona State Veteran Home – Tucson

555 East Ajo Way

Tucson, Arizona 85713

(520) 638-2150

Please fill out all the information below that applies to you or your organization. If you need assistance, a Recreation staff member will be glad to help you. Please **PRINT** legibly so we can better serve your needs. Thank you for your donation.

Date this form submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Donated: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Value of donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Item(s) Donated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Credit to organization (Name-if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**Donor Information:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Carbon Copy to (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

On behalf of our residents we thank you for your donation.