



AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF
ARIZONA CONVENTION
November 3-5, 2023

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
REGISTRATION - \$10.00
At Fall Conference - \$20.00**

PLEASE RETURN FORM WITH CHECK MADE OUT TO:

American Legion Auxiliary Dept. of Arizona
4701 N. 19th Ave. Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ 85015

UNIT NUMBER _____	AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____	
NAME (PRINT)	POSITION/TITLE (PRINT)	If ALR place an X
1 _____	_____	
2 _____	_____	
3 _____	_____	
4 _____	_____	
5 _____	_____	
6 _____	_____	
7 _____	_____	
8 _____	_____	
9 _____	_____	
10 _____	_____	
11 _____	_____	
12 _____	_____	
13 _____	_____	
14 _____	_____	
15 _____	_____	

**PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE October 23, 2023
NO REFUNDS OR SUBSTITUTIONS**



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
2023 DEPARTMENT FALL CONFERENCE
LUNCHEON

Honoring Jan Cushing
Western Division National Vice President
Saturday, November 4, 2023

MENU

Taco Salad with Taco Meat
Choice of 2 Dressings
Chocolate Cake

Cost \$30.00

MAKE CHECKS OUT TO: AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

MAIL TO:

ALA Department of AZ
Attn: Luncheon
4701 N 19th Ave Suite 100 Phoenix, AZ 85015

*Seating is limited to 90...Please make your reservation before **October 27, 2023***

	NAME	Unit #
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

PUT ADDITIONAL NAMES ON BACK.

\$30.00 X number of tickets _____



**American Legion Department of Arizona
2023 Fall Conference**

When: November 3 --5, 2023. Opening ceremony Friday, Nov 3 at 6pm, closing Sunday, Nov 5 at about 12 noon.

Where: El Conquistador, A Hilton Resort 10000 North Oracle Rd Oro Valley, Arizona 85704. AAA Four Diamond Hotel.

Lodging: Full

Overflow hotel: Fairfield Inn, Full

Overflow hotel: Wyndham Westward Look Grand Resort & Spa 245 E. Ina Road Tucson, AZ 85704
Use online booking not later than October 17 for our event pricing;

\$114.00 + \$15.00 resort fee per day + \$4.00 gratuity per day = \$133.00 +14.55% tax on the \$129.00 **MAKING RESERVATIONS:** A dedicated website is now available for you to book your hotel rooms online. Reservations can be made starting Sep 27, 2023, at this web address:

Booking Website:
<https://book.passkey.com/e/50685850>

Conference attendee registration: All attendees, even if attending only a portion of the conference must be registered. Advance and on-site registration available.

Legion registration form:

SAL registration form:

Sponsor/program ad/vendor info:

Vendor registration form:

Booster signup form:

Description of sponsorships available

Host Post: American Legion Oro Valley Post 132, CDR Wayne Larroque, 520-301-5303, XLCA1UN@gmail.com
www.ovamericanlegion132.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/ovamericanlegionPost132 Post 132 does not have a facility of its own.

Hospitality rooms: Those wishing to host a hospitality room, must contact Dept Adjutant Angel Juarez, 602-264-7706 or ajuarez@azlegion.org to make this separate reservation.

About the El Conquistador Resort: Nestled at the base of the Santa Catalina Mountains in the town of Oro Valley on 500 acres. City of Tucson visible in the distance. Recipient of the prestigious Forbes Travel Guide, Star Award.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope October brings us cooler weather, so we can all get out and work the ALA Mission.

First, I would like to tell everyone that I, nor any other Department officer, will ever email members about purchasing gift cards. THIS IS A SCAM. The past few ALA Presidents have had this happen to them. It isn't even an email hack they just use my name and an email that looks official. Believe me, if I have something sensitive to talk to you about, I will call you on the phone. The State Veterans Homes and VAMC's will ask for gift cards but, you deliver them to the respective agency NEVER BY EMAIL.

Second, Arizona received National awards in Legislative, Education, Leadership and we are a member of the Gold club for donations to the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival. WAY TO GO AZ

My schedule for the rest of this year is pretty much booked up, so if you would like me to visit please start looking after the holidays.

I am starting to put together our Fall Conference agenda and I would like to remind everyone that we will be having training sessions that last 45 minutes to an hour. So please, even if you don't stay the night be there for Saturday's Session.

Until next month...

Rose

PRESIDENTS SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
September 9, 2023	Unit 117 Christmas Cards	Post 117
September 14, 2023	Official Visit Unit 5	Post 5
September 23, 2023	Unit 135 Car Show Cottonwood	Galipin Auto
September 23, 2023	PSP Fundraiser Unit 25	Post 25
September 30, 2023	AZ Mission Training	Post 24
October 7, 2023	Mission Training	Unit 41
October 14, 2023	District 8 Official Visit	Post 25
October 20, 2023	Post 32 Early Bird Dinner	Post 32
October 21, 2023	District 5 Official Visit	Post 32
October 28, 2023	Mission Training Unit 2	Post 2
November 3 -5, 2023	Fall Conference	El Conquistador
November 11, 2023	Veterans Day	
November 12, 2023	Luncheon Female Veterans Unit 117	Post 117
November 18, 2023	ALR 26 Ride	Post 26
November 19, 2023	District 12 Official Visit	Post 27
November 21, 2023	Unit 131 Official Visit	Post 131
December 2, 2023	Missin Training Unit 115	Post 29
December 4, 2023	Unit 27 Official Visit	Post 27
December 10, 2023	Post 26 Christmas Party	Post 26
January 4, 2024	Official Visit Unit 41	Post41
January 13, 2024	Missin Training Unit 125	Casino Del Sol
January 14, 2024	District 3 Meeting	Post 141
January 21, 2024	District 2 Meeting	Post 36
January 26 -28, 2024	National Mission Training	Las Vegas
Febuary10, 2024	Official Visit Unit 2	Post 2
March 16, 2024	Post 19 Birthday Ball	Post 19
March 17, 2024	District 1 Official Visit	Yuma
March 20 - 24, 2024	NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S VISIT	YUMA/MESA
March 23, 2024	Unit 81 Car Show	Post 81
April 19- 21	SAL Campout	Cottonwood
May 1, 2024	REPORTS DUE TO CHAIRMAN	



American Legion Auxiliary Department of Arizona

ALAMIS Access

Mail this form and check to the below address

Each Unit and District is eligible to have up to two ALAMIS (ALA Membership Information System) users. The cost of ALAMIS is set by National. Only members that are paid up for the current year will be given access to ALAMIS.

Type of Access	Benefits	Cost per User
Unit Full Access	Pay Dues Online, Rejoin Former Members, Edit member data, Add new Members for your Unit	\$20
Unit Write Access	Edit Member Data and Add New Members for your Unit	\$15
Unit View Access	View your Unit, No Change Capabilities	\$10
District View Access	View All Units, No Change – limited to Dist Presidents Only	\$10

User #1 Name _____ Member ID# _____

Unit # _____ District # _____ Email _____

Type of Access _____ Replacing User? _____

User #2 Name _____ Member ID# _____

Unit # _____ District # _____ Email _____

Type of Access _____ Replacing User? _____

Cost of User 1 _____ + Cost of User 2 _____ = _____
(amount to be sent to Department)

Check # _____ Date of Check _____

The above members have been selected to have access to ALAMIS for the current year for our Unit or District.

Signature of President

Earmark Check: ALAMIS
Make checks payable to ALA, Dept of AZ
Include Unit and/or District number on all checks



2024: RECRUIT 10

Members who recruit 10 new junior or senior Auxiliary members for the 2024 membership year.

One entry per recruiter.

Certified forms must be received at ALA National Headquarters by June 5, 2024.
Please send this form to your department headquarters office no later than one week prior to the deadlines.

New members must be paid in ALAMIS by June 1, 2024.

ENTRY/CERTIFICATION FORM

Please type or print legibly and fill out the form completely. Incomplete forms may not be processed.

Recruiter's Name: _____ Member ID#: _____
Recruiter's Department: _____ Unit #: _____ Email: _____
Recruiter's Street Address: _____
Recruiter's City, State & Zip Code _____

Names of <u>New</u> Members	Member <u>ID#</u>	Names of <u>New</u> Members	Member <u>ID#</u>
1. _____	_____	6. _____	_____
2. _____	_____	7. _____	_____
3. _____	_____	8. _____	_____
4. _____	_____	9. _____	_____
5. _____	_____	10. _____	_____

Certified by Department Secretary: DATE: _____
 Department Secretary
 Printed Name: _____ Dept: _____
 Dept Secretary Signature (required): _____
 *I certify that **all 10 members** are new and joined into the 2024 year.
 *I've provided or verified member ID numbers and that the form is filled out legibly and completely.
DO NOT SEND INCOMPLETE FORMS or more than 1 form per recruiter.

Units: Send form to your department secretary.
Departments:
 Please either scan and email to:
membership@ALAforVeterans.org
 (Subject line: Recruit 10)
 Or
 Fax: (317) 569-4502 (Attn: Membership)
 *Must be received at NHQ no later than midnight June 5, 2024.

Each recruiter will receive a special gift selected by the 2024 National Membership Committee Chairman.
One award per recruiter.

UNIT NUMERIC OBJECTIVES 2024

As of 10-11-2023 at 9:39 a.m.

		UNIT	CITY	OBJECTIVE	JUNIOR	SENIOR	TOTAL	PERCENT
		0100	Phoenix	163	2	56	58	35.58%
		Total		163	2	56	58	35.58%
	Total			163	2	56	58	35.58%
01		0019	Yuma	216	0	33	33	15.28%
		0046	Bouse	58	0	5	5	8.62%
		0056	Yuma	84	0	32	32	38.10%
		Total		358	0	70	70	19.55%
	Total			358	0	70	70	19.55%
02		0007	Tucson	62	0	1	1	1.61%
		0036	Tucson	279	1	70	71	25.45%
		0059	Tucson	160	0	20	20	12.50%
		0066	Green Valley	930	0	323	323	34.73%
		0068	Tucson	61	0	6	6	9.84%
		0073	Tucson	35	1	17	18	51.43%
		0109	Corona	365	0	84	84	23.01%
		0125	Tucson	15	0	1	1	6.67%
		0131	Green Valley	555	0	178	178	32.07%
		0132	Oro Valley	85	0	18	18	21.18%
		Total		2547	2	718	720	28.27%
	Total			2547	2	718	720	28.27%
03		0011	Douglas	176	0	34	34	19.32%
		0016	Bisbee	80	0	8	8	10.00%
		0024	Tombstone	420	0	91	91	21.67%
		0045	Benson	52	0	7	7	13.46%
		0052	Sierra Vista	175	1	33	34	19.43%
		0141	Pearce	20	0	0	0	0.00%
		Total		923	1	173	174	18.85%
	Total			923	1	173	174	18.85%
04		0008	Casa Grande	42	1	10	11	26.19%
		0009	Florence	90	0	19	19	21.11%
		0051	Coolidge	65	0	0	0	0.00%
		0054	Coolidge	108	0	12	12	11.11%
		0097	San Tan Valley	30	2	26	28	93.33%
		0129	Queen Creek	21	0	1	1	4.76%
		0133	Maricopa	40	0	4	4	10.00%
		Total		396	3	72	75	18.94%
	Total			396	3	72	75	18.94%

05		0004	Globe	50	0	5	5	10.00%
		0028	Clifton	105	0	26	26	24.76%
		0032	Safford	152	0	44	44	28.95%
		0095	Solomon	84	3	49	52	61.90%
		Total			391	3	124	127
	Total			391	3	124	127	32.48%
06		0030	Springerville	80	0	13	13	16.25%
		0037	Holbrook	55	0	3	3	5.45%
		0069	Payson	145	0	10	10	6.90%
		0076	Show Low	31	3	7	10	32.26%
		0086	Overgaard	328	2	84	86	26.22%
		0130	Concho	10	0	1	1	10.00%
		Total			649	5	118	123
	Total			649	5	118	123	18.95%
07		0003	Flagstaff	93	0	3	3	3.23%
		0013	Williams	52	1	7	8	15.38%
		0014	Kingman	131	8	37	45	34.35%
		0022	Golden Valley	120	1	23	24	20.00%
		0042	Grand Canyon	32	0	7	7	21.88%
		0057	Ash Fork	71	0	11	11	15.49%
		0081	Lake Havasu City	650	6	174	180	27.69%
		0087	Bullhead City	165	0	8	8	4.85%
		0088	Dolan Springs	40	0	3	3	7.50%
		0103	Meadview	58	0	7	7	12.07%
		0136	Yucca	15	0	2	2	13.33%
	Total			1427	16	282	298	20.88%
	Total			1427	16	282	298	20.88%
08		0006	Prescott	240	0	86	86	35.83%
		0025	Cottonwood	280	4	111	115	41.07%
		0040	Chino Valley	103	0	7	7	6.80%
		0078	Humboldt	160	2	25	27	16.88%
		0079	Yarnell	153	0	42	42	27.45%
		0090	Black Canyon City	55	0	7	7	12.73%
		0093	Camp Verde	110	0	7	7	6.36%
		0108	Prescott Valley	42	0	2	2	4.76%
		0135	Cornville	65	0	12	12	18.46%
		0140	Prescott Valley	30	0	1	1	3.33%
		Total			1238	6	300	306
	Total			1238	6	300	306	24.72%

11		0001	Phoenix	125	0	14	14	11.20%
		0005	Phoenix	72	0	2	2	2.78%
		0012	Wickenburg	209	0	28	28	13.40%
		0029	Glendale	297	1	58	59	19.87%
		0053	Buckeye	26	0	14	14	53.85%
		0061	Avondale	201	2	94	96	47.76%
		0062	Peoria	915	23	226	249	27.21%
		0105	Phoenix	210	1	45	46	21.90%
		0115	Glendale	22	1	9	10	45.45%
		0134	Phoenix	22	0	1	1	4.55%
		Total		2099	28	491	519	24.73%
	Total			2099	28	491	519	24.73%
12		0002	Tempe	103	2	32	34	33.01%
		0026	Mesa	248	0	89	89	35.89%
		0027	Apache Junction	1820	4	398	402	22.09%
		0034	Cave Creek	318	1	29	30	9.43%
		0035	Chandler	316	0	64	64	20.25%
		0039	Gilbert	475	4	169	173	36.42%
		0041	Phoenix	317	7	124	131	41.32%
		0044	Scottsdale	326	0	126	126	38.65%
		0058	Fountain Hills	355	2	97	99	27.89%
		0064	Phoenix	20	0	1	1	5.00%
		0065	Phoenix	345	16	45	61	17.68%
		0084	Sacaton	63	6	40	46	73.02%
		0091	Chandler	235	9	104	113	48.09%
		0107	Phoenix	225	2	65	67	29.78%
		0114	Scottsdale	58	0	0	0	0.00%
		0117	Phoenix	240	4	99	103	42.92%
		0124	Guadalupe	25	2	8	10	40.00%
		0138	Tempe	56	0	15	15	26.79%
	Total		5545	59	1505	1564	28.21%	
Total			5545	59	1505	1564	28.21%	
Total	Total		15736	125	3909	4034	25.64%	



Americanism October 2023



Happy Fall Ya'll! Can you feel the cooler weather in the early mornings? Is the apple cider, pumpkin spice, hot tea or my favorite hot coco, already a part of your mornings or evenings?

Americanism, how can promote it within our communities? I had the opportunity to participate in the National zoom meeting. There were great ideas on who to reach out to in our communities, ideas I never thought of:

Libraries, Boy or Girl scout troops, PTO, school board. Maybe you know a teacher or have a great rapport with your local schools, and other Auxiliary Organizations, just to name a few. I am sure your unit can think of some more!

Do you hand out candy or have a Halloween Party? Some small units make bags of candy and put a label with their unit on them. Small ideas to help promote your Unit.

I encourage you each to help promote some kind of Americanism in your community, big or small. Please email me or post your pictures on ALA Ring Your Bell.

Did you know?

The American Flag always flies at the White House, Fort McHenry, and the two Jima memorial?



Maggie Chavez-Montijo

Po Box 155

Pomerene AZ 85627

520-904-1814

maggiemontijo@gmail.com

Change at Fall Conference

Flag practice and set up will be held at 7pm Friday evening.

Due to limited space we will process **JUST** the District and Unit flags only.

Be lined up and ready to go for the morning procession at 730am.



Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF)

Hi Everyone

It looks like our weather is finally starting to cool down. But we still need to check on our family, friends and neighbors and our auxiliary family.

I have a question for all our units in Az? How many units hold a fund raiser for the AEF program and what are some of the things you have done? I'm new to this chairmanship and would love to hear from everyone. That way we all can learn how to raise money for this program.

I know this program works. It helped a friend who was in need, and they helped her through a tough time.

If anyone needs help please contact me, Patti Hartfiel 320-282-0896, or pjhplace@aol.com.

Be the one

Patti Hartfiel



Chaplain Report October 2023
October is Education Month

As an American Legion Auxiliary Chaplain, the most important thing for you to remember is that the American Legion Auxiliary does not promote any one religion. We must not offend anyone by promoting our own religion or being insensitive to others' beliefs.

Traditional roles of ALA Chaplains:

- Attend all meetings and being prepared to deliver an opening and closing prayer
 - Report the names of members who are ill and send them cards
 - Send sympathy cards to family members. If possible, visit the funeral and/or do a memorial service for the deceased member.
 - Send cards of "joy" for special occasions.
 - Be in charge of religious services for your unit.
 - Visit members and veterans in nursing homes or those who are shut-ins.
 - Keep in contact with Gold Star and Blue Star Families and remember them on holidays.
 - Make a prayer book or devotional book. In doing this, encourage member participation.
- Why? Because:

- Prayer calms our heart & mind
- Praying grows our trust
- Prayer provides guidance
- Prayer gives us perspective
- Prayer leads us to forgiveness

Resources

Join the National Chaplain Facebook Page: American legion Auxiliary Chaplains

Chaplains Manual - This American Legion Auxiliary Chaplains Manual was created to aid ALA chaplains.

Chaplains' Prayer Book - The prayers are a compilation of those submitted by past chaplains of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Manual of Ceremonies - This manual provides examples of suggested ceremonies for Unit meetings and special occasions.

Please send me prayer for The Department President's Prayer Book. Please remember to sign them for President Rose will remember you 20 or 30 years down the road.

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

Lynda Griffin Chaplain, Lynda4ala@gmail.com, (623) 349-3979



**AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY**



Hi Everyone,

I hope your year is off to a great start.

It was passed to me from Dorothy Hazen the Western Division Chair for Children and Youth that we push The Youth Hero Award and the Good Deed award (form is on national under Children and Youth Resources.

- To recognize and reward the positive actions of our children and youth, the American Legion Auxiliary has two special national awards bestowed to youth nominated by units: the Youth Hero Award and the Good Deed Award.
- Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2 (KDH2) is an initiative honoring military children who may be experiencing a separation from one or both parents, whether deployed to a war zone, having a short tour or on an extended temporary duty assignment.



She also told me that the National Chairman is requesting that we ask all units to donate one dollar (\$1) per member to the Child Welfare Foundation. National has the goal of raising over \$74,000.



Also, please send any awards or children's activities (ie. Poppy Princess and Halloween Events) photos and stories to me. I want Arizona to be recognized at the 2023-2024 National Convention for all the wonderful things we do.

Phone – (480)955-7557

Email – katherinewojahn@gmail.com

End of Year Awards for Children and Youth(or completed by kids)

You can get more information on these awards at aladep taz.org under member resources 10. DEPARTMENT AWARDS AND NARRATIVES

If you have any questions, please reach out.

For God and Country

Katie Wojahn

Community Service

October 2023

“No one has ever become poor from giving.”

Anne Frank

Hello ALA Members of Arizona,

October is education month. This is a great time to visit local schools and talk about ways to help your local veterans, active military, and their families.

The fall holidays are not far away. Have a food drive to put together meals for people in need. Work with your local medical facility or school to put together a community blood drive.

It's time to think about the awards to be given at next convention. Information and requirements are on the National and Arizona auxiliary websites.

I don't need monthly reports but please share with me the activities your unit has done or is doing. I would like to share these with all the units for ideas.

Lisa Young

Community Service Chairman



Education October 2023



Everyone is well into the school year. Each month I will focus on one of the areas mentioned in the August newsletter. This month: **Enhance respect for the sacrifices of our military heroes among school children by scheduling Veterans in Community Schools programs at local schools.**

Information on the Veterans in Community Schools program is available in the publications, *Veterans in the Classroom: History in the First Person*, on the Legion's website at <http://archive.legion.org/handle/123456789/1664> and <http://archive.legion.org/handle/123456789/1663>. They contain helpful hints on starting this program in your area.

- Collaborate with your local American Legion post to present this program in your schools.
- Contact your local school teachers to see if they would be interested in hosting a Veterans in the Classroom event.
- Provide information to the teacher hosting your program about the challenges facing today's military families.
- The teacher can introduce the topic before your unit's presentation. It may be helpful to reference the article that was published in the Legion's magazine at <https://www.legion.org/magazine/162500/hardest-year>.
- Promote your Veterans in the Classroom event through local media and on your own social media accounts.
- Volunteer to provide transportation to and from the school for the veteran speaking in the classroom.
- Wear your American Legion Auxiliary apparel when you visit classrooms.

"The American Legion believes that our military veterans are living textbooks of American History. Their accounts of experiences in a uniform of the United States Armed Forces should be preserved and shared with others, especially with students in America's schools." (American Legion Publication No. 23-015, Rev. 1-2012)

I'm looking forward to hearing about the creative ways in which your Units and Members promote the Education Program.

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

Julie Vietri

Education Chairman
Department of Arizona
jvietri@msn.com
480-495-1558

Units, you are reminded about Mandates as follows:

Per Policy and Procedures, Page 24, Unit Related Finance Policies

“There are several mandated items the Units must send to Department. They are Unit Bonding Fee; Rehabilitation Senior Per Capita tax, Senior and Junior Delegate Per Capita Tax; Junior Activities Per Capita. District Per Capita Tax must be sent to the District Treasurer. Per Capita taxes are based on membership totals of previous year at Department close of books. All mandates must be paid for Unit voting privileges. 2022-2023: 2023-2024: Rehab Sr Per Capita is \$0.20 per Sr member Sr Delegate Per Capita is \$0.20 per Sr member Jr Delegate Per Capita is \$0.20 per Jr member Jr Activities Per Capita is \$0.20 per ALL members Going forward Sr Delegate Per Capita will be \$0.40 per Sr. member and all other per capita mandates will remain at \$0.20 until any future change by convention resolution. Unit Officers handling American Legion Auxiliary funds are bonded through the National organization, and pay a premium for this coverage annually. This premium is submitted to Department Headquarters. (2006) This fee for the three year period beginning in 2022-2023 will be \$5.50 per year.”

If a Unit is not in compliance your Charter is in jeopardy. As of this writing there are Units in the Department of Arizona with past due Mandates for 2022-2023 that will be addressed at Pre-Convention Finance and Department Executive Committee meetings.

Do you have questions, please call the Department office or drop me an e-mail.

Yolanda Bonilla, Chairman, 602-989-3321, yodobo@msn.com

Penny Maklary, Member, 520-364-5038, ahhpenny@aol.com











Helen Griffin, Member, 602-478-4909, hgriffin6868@gmail.com

Members by Virtue of Office: Rose Ficklin, President, Barbara White, NEC, Barbara Matteson, Sec/Tres. (no vote)

History October 2023

Fashion is a fun way to reflect about History....

Did you match the Past National Presidents with the decade in which they served—just by evaluating their photo? Hair style, hat (or lack thereof), glasses, jewelry, neckline all provide you clues. Here's the answers.....

A 	B 	C 	D 	E 	F 										
G 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">1921-22: J-- Mrs. Lowell F Hobart Sr. [Ohio]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">1937-38: H--Mrs. Malcolm Douglas [Nebaska]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">1943-44: B—Mrs Lawrence H. Smith [Wisconsin]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">1958-59: D—Mrs Chas. W. Gunn [Oregon]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">1967-68: F--Mrs. Vernon H. Randall [Maryand]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">1977-78: A--Mrs Alvin Moltzen [North Dakota]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">1985-86 E—Josie Melgard [California]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">1992-93 C Linda Boone [Oregon]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">2004-05 I-- Sandy Dutton [Maryland]</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">2013-14 G—Nancy Brown-Park California</td> </tr> </table>		1921-22: J-- Mrs. Lowell F Hobart Sr. [Ohio]	1937-38: H--Mrs. Malcolm Douglas [Nebaska]	1943-44: B—Mrs Lawrence H. Smith [Wisconsin]	1958-59: D—Mrs Chas. W. Gunn [Oregon]	1967-68: F--Mrs. Vernon H. Randall [Maryand]	1977-78: A--Mrs Alvin Moltzen [North Dakota]	1985-86 E—Josie Melgard [California]	1992-93 C Linda Boone [Oregon]	2004-05 I-- Sandy Dutton [Maryland]	2013-14 G—Nancy Brown-Park California	H 	I 	J 
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Remember the "Big Hair" of the 90's(C) vs the wave of the 40's (B)?

Loving the hats from the 30's (H)!

Classic 50's pearls (D)!

Notice the fashion statement made by glasses of the 20's (J) vs the 60's (F), the 70's (A), 80's (E) and 2010's(G)!

Whether you know it or not, you are making history! We want to see YOUR Unit represented in the Department History Book!

Post your Unit's Mission work on Ring Your Bell Arizona Facebook page and/or send info to:

Marge Christianson, Department Historian, alaunit62az@gmail.com, 763-234-9852

DEPARTMENT JUNIORS FALL MEETING

Sunday, October 15, 2023 NOON to 4:00 pm

**American Legion Post 29
6822 N. 57th Dr. Glendale, AZ**

ELECTIONS, FRIENDSHIP, FUN, FOOD

**Questions? Patricia Lugo
text 602-475-0208, email plugo1@cox.net**

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona
Leadership/Arizona Mission Training
October 2023

Once again, we on the Leadership team ask that you “EMPOWER YOUR MEMBERS!” This chairman has encouraged units to engage and recognize your mentors. Most units and districts have a wealth of knowledge in their membership. Seek out that knowledge. They will be happy to be asked about the workings of the Auxiliary. They also know a lot about the history of our organization. Then let me know about the mentoring in your unit.

Another step that members can utilize is to take the Basic Course on the National website. This can be shared with your entire membership. There are several courses available which I will share with you as soon as I know current courses. Another step is to attend or plan a Mission Training. If you have been following the bulletins you will see that several have been scheduled.

September 30th – Unit #24 October 7th – Unit 41 October 28th – Unit #2
December 2nd – Unit #115 (held in conjunction with Unit #29)

Remember to contact me if you wish to schedule Arizona Mission Training. That is the initial step and I will let you know the process, or read your bulletins.

Karen Smith ksmith111@cox.net 520-249-1119

*“GREAT LEADERS ARE NOT THE BEST AT EVERYTHING,
THEY FIND PEOPLE WHO ARE THE BEST AT DIFFERENT
THINGS AND GET THEM ON THE SAME TEAM”*

- National Leadership Team

Legislative Bulletin
October 2023
Educating Tomorrow's Veterans Today

Greetings,

Last month I shared ways to get connected and stay informed. This month I would like to take a deeper dive and look at a couple of big issues.

The Major Richard Star Act

Right now, VA deducts the retirement pay of veterans with a disability rating of less than 50%. The American Legion stands with disabled veterans and urges Congress not to continue this denial of retirement benefits. **The Major Richard Star Act** would repeal this harsh offset for those veterans who are medically retired due to injuries sustained in combat and allow them to receive both their retirement pay without forfeiting their disability compensation.

Pay the Coast Guard

Did you know Under Article I, Section 6 of the U.S. Constitution, lawmakers are still paid their salaries despite the federal government being shut down due to their inability to reach an agreement? Did you know, The Coast Guard is the only military branch working without pay during government shutdowns? The Coast Guard is vital to our National Security and should continue to be paid. Please reach out to your Congressman on this one! I must admit, as my Mama would say, "this burns my britches".

There are other important bills to check out on the following website. Check it out here: <https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home>.

Create an account and click away supporting these important legislative issues.

Be sure to be on the lookout for an updated Year-End Legislative Report. Coming soon!

Questions? I am here to help you!

Sincerely,

Kathy Amery
Arizona Department Legislative Chair
Luv2p8@gmail.com
623-640-0134

Support our Afghan Allies

In the U.S. military, there is a code: "no one left behind." For two decades, members of the U.S. Armed Forces fought shoulder-to-shoulder with brave Afghan allies who served with and protected Americans, fighting for the freedom of Afghanistan and its people. The United States must honor its promises and provide genuine, lasting protection for the Afghans who have made it safely to the United States, and for those who were left behind. The American Legion urges Congress to reintroduce and pass legislation that would grant permanent legal status to Afghan refugees and improve the Special Immigrant Visa process for Afghans who served alongside U.S. servicemembers.

Military Quality of Life

The U.S. military's greatest resources are individual servicemembers and their families. Without highly qualified and committed men and women, even the most sophisticated weaponry will not provide the deterrent necessary to defend our nation. Factors that contribute to quality of life include proper compensation, career development, appropriate housing, quality healthcare, reasonably priced commissaries and access to affordable daycare. The American Legion urges Congress to pass legislation that would increase access to child care for military families, increase appropriations to address matters involving servicemember food insecurity and increase funding to renovate military housing.

Pay the Coast Guard

U.S. Coast Guard personnel carry out vital national security missions, but they are the only U.S. military branch that works without pay during government shutdowns, due to their status under the Department of Homeland Security. The common threat of government shutdowns brings severe and unnecessary hardship on these men, women and their families. The American Legion urges Congress to reintroduce and pass the Unwavering Support for our Coast Guard Act, which would guarantee that Coast Guard personnel are paid without delay, even in the case of a government shutdown.



DoD Photo

Protect the American Flag

The American Legion urges Congress to approve an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would allow Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the U.S. flag. Additionally, The American Legion urges Congress to pass the Flag Code Modernization Act of 2021 to amend the U.S. Flag Code to codify multiple common patriotic customs and practices, as described in American Legion Resolution No. 19: Flag Code Amendment.

The American Legion Legislative Agenda

For the 118th Congress, 1st Session



The American Legion Legislative Agenda FOR THE 118TH CONGRESS, 1ST SESSION

The American Legion is the voice of nearly 1.6 million U.S. military veterans and servicemembers. A resolution-based organization, The American Legion's positions represent the views of its membership and shape the organization's legislative priorities for the 118th Congress:

Mental Health & Suicide Prevention

The leading issue facing the veteran community is suicide. The suicide rate among veterans is nearly double that of their civilian counterparts, with more than 6,000 veterans taking their lives annually. It is imperative to destigmatize asking for mental health support. Simultaneously, access to such support must increase. The American Legion encourages Congress to enhance access to alternative therapies, robustly fund VA's suicide-prevention outreach budget and continue to invest in mental-health research.

VA Healthcare Modernization

The future of VA healthcare is as a hybrid system consisting of Veterans Health Administration provided inpatient and outpatient care, telehealth and community care. Ensuring VA is equipped to meet the unique needs of an increasingly diverse veteran population requires that VA fully leverage all healthcare modalities and ensure a seamless transition between them. Modernizing electronic health records, veteran-centric access standards, and a transparent online scheduling system for VHA-provided care and community care alike are all essential to ensuring veterans receive the care they deserve. The means by which VA delivers care may change, but one thing will not: VA should continue to provide the best care anywhere to our nation's veterans.

PACT Act: Implementation & Oversight

Passage of the SFC Heath Robinson PACT Act in the 117th Congress ensured millions of toxic-exposed veterans will now have access to healthcare and compensation they rightfully deserve. VA estimates there will be up to 7 million new disability claims filed, due to eligibility expansion under the PACT Act and that the claims backlog will increase to 450,000 by October 2023. The efforts put forth by the VA workforce to reduce claims backlogs in recent years have been admirable, but substantial backlogs of hundreds of thousands of claims for sustained periods of time are not acceptable. It is imperative that VA fully leverage the resources made available in the PACT Act to assist in the continued modernization of information technology systems, as well as the hiring of additional employees to ensure veterans claims are adjudicated in a timely manner. The American Legion urges Congress to provide necessary oversight and funding to ensure VA has the resources needed to properly implement this legislation.

Protect Veterans from Predatory Actors

America's veterans are targeted by predatory actors that seek to profit from an array of benefits that have been rightfully earned by those who have served our nation. From claims companies that charge exorbitant fees (for services provided free by veterans service organizations) to lawyers vying for billions of dollars set aside for victims of diseases associated with contaminants, veterans and their families are met by promises of large payouts if they agree to surrender substantial portions of their benefits. Predatory actors often attempt to overwhelm veterans with aggressive marketing tactics and complicated contracts. The American Legion urges Congress to oppose legislation that elevates the standing of unaccredited claims companies or legitimizes predatory practices that target veterans and encourages Congress to impose a cap on legal services provided in association with the Camp Lejeune Justice Act.

Concurrent Receipt

Currently, 50,300 military retirees with combat related injuries qualify for DoD retirement pay as well as VA disability compensation. However, for retired veterans with disability ratings less than 50%, the VA compensation is deducted from their DoD retirement pay. The American Legion strongly supports ending this unfair policy. The Major Richard Star Act would repeal this draconian offset, allowing disabled veterans to concurrently receive their retirement pay and disability compensation.

Guard & Reserve GI Bill Parity

Despite the same duties, National Guard and Reserve servicemembers are deprived of education benefits that active-duty servicemembers enjoy. According to current law, National Guard and Reserve servicemembers only accrue GI Bill entitlement when called to active duty under federal orders. When National Guard and Reserve servicemembers are activated under state orders, they do not accrue eligibility for Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits, as do their active-duty counterparts. The American Legion believes that every day in uniform counts and urges Congress to recognize the service of National Guard and Reserve servicemembers as eligible for the GI Bill.

GI Bill for Honorable Service

To receive most VA benefits, a veteran's characterization of discharge from service must be "under honorable conditions." However, education assistance benefits within the GI Bill, require that servicemembers receive an "honorable discharge." If the characterization of service is "general under honorable conditions," the Post-9/11 GI Bill remains out of reach for these veterans. The American Legion urges Congress to correct this statutory incongruity by amending U.S. Code to allow access to VA educational assistance to veterans with "general under honorable conditions" discharges.



October 2023
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona
MUSIC REPORT 2023

Greetings Musicophiles (“music lovers”),

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!. Turn other people on to music.

We have given the choir a new name, “The American Legion Family Choir”. They are wearing their name proudly. I’m certainly proud of the men and women who lend their voices to the American Legion. Please continue to encourage your members and Post to participate in “The American Legion Family Choir”. The more voices participating the better we sound.

Fall Conference is approaching very fast. I’ve found a couple songs for the Sunday morning Memorial Service. I’m excited about these choices and hope the attendees will enjoy hearing the Choir lend their voices to these selections. Please encourage your members to participate in the Choir. Remember the suggested attire is an American Legion branded polo and dark pants or skirt. See you there!!!!

“I think music in itself is healing. It’s an explosive expression of humanity. It’s something we are all touched by. No matter what culture we’re from, everyone loves music.”
Billy Joel

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
602.999.4054 cell

POPPY PROGRAM

OCTOBER 2023

In 2017, The American Legion brought National Poppy Day® to the United States by asking Congress to designate the Friday before Memorial Day, as National Poppy Day.

Donation per poppy is about 15 cents. Clearly, there is room for an increase in poppy donations.

How can ALA departments and units support National Poppy Day? Honor the fallen. Support the living. National Poppy Day is the Friday before Memorial Day! Remember: Poppies are not sold by volunteers — they are “distributed.” The person acquiring the poppy is invited to donate at his or her discretion, but we should be suggesting at least a dollar per poppy. The average donation.

Identify a specific purpose for which you are collecting your poppy money. For example, your goal is \$1,500 because you want to provide treats for the veterans at the State Home.

If distributing in front of a business, please make sure you have permission or permits to do so. When you are distributing poppies, have fun; be joyful! Don't forget to wear your ALA branded apparel. Remember that you are representing The American Legion Family when you are out in public.

Get creative! You can bake spritz cookies (www.ALAforVeterans.org/Programs/Poppy-Cookie-Recipe) or make felt poppies (www.ALAforVeterans.org/Programs/Poppy). You don't have to limit yourself to traditional crepe paper poppies.

See you next month with more Poppy facts and ideas!

Josie Herrera, Chairman

Email: jherrera268@aol.com /PH# 623-340-5936



President's Special Project:
Arizona Girls State
October Bulletin 2023

Hello to all,

This is going to be an amazing year full of fun and learning to say the least!

This year Madame President Rose has chosen Arizona Girls State for her Special Project.

I am here to help give you a better understanding of the amazing program, how it is beneficial and so important to our up and coming youth.

I have a wonderful presentation that I would be happy to share in person or via zoom anytime. Please reach out to me if you would like to schedule some time for the presentation.

To get us started here are some facts about Girls State:

- Arizona Girls State is the GREATEST STATE IN THE LAND!
- Arizona Girls State has been running each year for the last 76 years, all hosted at the University of Arizona. Go Wildcats!!
- We had two years of virtual sessions during COVID. We were one of 2-3 Girls State Programs that NEVER stopped during the pandemic. We adapted, overcame and succeeded.
- Girls State has produced more successful women than any other girls' citizenship program to date.
- This program changes lives by bringing together dynamic young women for a week of leadership, patriotism and community.

For more information on Arizona Girls State please visit the website at:
www.azgirlsstate.com or our facebook [pagefacebook.com/ArizonaGirlsState](https://www.facebook.com/ArizonaGirlsState).

Shannon Mead
Department PSP Chairman
623-521-1263
shannonmead@live.com

CREATIVE ARTS

OCTOBER 2023

The arts can be powerful therapy and the American Legion Auxiliary recognizes that. Veterans with physical and psychological wounds are treated at U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs facilities through visual and performing arts. Each year, the artistic achievements of our veterans are displayed at Creative Arts Festivals at local VA Medical Center for the public to see. The annual competition recognizes the progress and recovery made through therapy and promotes the visibility of creative achievements of our Nation's Veterans.

Due to my sciatica, I was unable to attend the Creative Arts Festival held in Tucson on August 23, 2023; however, Kathy Szakonyi and Dawn Davidson were in attendance. They reported 36 entries were submitted and provided photos of some entries which I posted on Ring Your Bell. The support of Units 24, 73, and 104 are appreciated.

I attended the Creative Arts Festival in Prescott on Friday, September 8, 2023. Twenty-nine veterans submitted 56 works in 23 categories. First place winners will compete in the 43rd National Creative Arts Festival in Denver, Colorado. I want to thank Sally Fine and members of Unit 105 for their warm welcome and assistance with the Festival. Several photos were also posted on Ring Your Bell.

Working together, we can and will make a difference in the lives of those who served and now need our help. Your donations will help to purchase art supplies for the rehabilitation of our veterans. Please let me know what events your Unit is holding to raise funds for our Creative Arts Program. I know you are creative and will support our Veterans. For a fundraising dinner in August, I cooked Chicken Fajitas, rice, and beans with rice pudding for dessert at my Post 41; it was well attended.

The 2023-2024 Creative Arts team members in your area are:

Phoenix:	Anita Ritter, Chairman	Ritmar@cox.net
Prescott:	Sally Fine	mightfine123@gmail.com
Tucson:	Kathy Szakonyi	N3SAD@aol.com

I look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones at Department Conference in November. Remember, if you have any questions regarding Creative Arts, fundraising, etc, please contact me at 602-679-1785.

For Service not Self,

Anita Ritter, Creative Arts Chair

SAVAHCS Creative Arts Festival REPORT 2023

This year's SAVAHCS Veterans Creative Arts Festival was held August 22 & 23. It was held in the SAVAHCS auditorium and displayed beautifully around the room. The musical and drama entries were displayed on stage with a big screen and played ongoing throughout the festival, highlighting these art forms for all to enjoy.

This year we had 36 veterans enter the VCAF. 23 were new to the SAVAHCS VCAF. There were 72 art entries, and 64 entries were submitted to the National Creative Arts Festival. The veterans will be contacted sometime in December 2023 if their entry will be in the National Veterans CAF in Denver, CO in April 2024. Last year we had 4 gold medal artists from SAVAHCS, we are hoping that we will have representation again for the 2024 VCAF as well.

We had a unique collaboration with the Southern Arizona artist Guild in Tucson this year. The local 1st place winners in each category were invited to display their works of art in their gallery for the week after our CAF. This was a very rewarding opportunity for our veterans and created a new relationship among area artists. Everyone had very positive feedback and there is a plan to expand this relationship in the coming years and even create a month long display and recognition of veteran artists next year.

This was a very rewarding year for the ALA involvement in the SAVAHCS VCAF. The ALA was instrumental on the day of the festival and in the planning. Local units provided refreshments for artists and for visitors. Unit 73 assisted each day with the refreshments and they were very well received and appreciated. ALA VAVS Representative, Kathy Szakonyi and Deputy, Dawn Davidson attended pre planning meetings, artists open house to assist apply, 2022 National gold medal winners recognition reception for the artists, created posters and ballots, and attended post wrap up meetings. We had more than 60 hours combined invested in this CAF. It was a terrific success.

American Legion Auxiliary VA&R REPORT
TUCSON VA MEDICAL CENTER
8-31-23

Major changes to mask requirements have finally happened. We are working very hard with the Recreation therapists to get our traditional events back up and running. We need volunteers for the second Saturday for Bingo at the /community Living Center. We need volunteers for the third Wednesday for Bridging at Building 90. Please contact me if your Unit can help.

Ward W2 (Dementia Ward) in Building 60 is currently seeking twin size blankets for their patients. They request that the blankets be different colors/patterns so each patient will recognize their personal blanket. Thank you Unit 8, Unit 62 & Unit 66 for your generous donations. They are also requesting clothing donations (sweatshirts and sweatpants all sizes especially size small in "girly" colors for the two female Veterans, socks and shoes men's sizes 9 and above). Many of the Veterans they serve come in with no clothing. One female patient in Building 60 is 106 years young.

Southwestern Blind Rehabilitation Center (SWBRC) is continuing going on outings where they are invited. They would like to request support for outings which are not direct donations such as going to the movies, Pima Air & Space Museum, Botanical Garden, etc. These outings must be financed by donations of the purchase of tickets directly by the sponsor. They currently have a population of twenty.

Patriot Pantry is up and running at is currently supporting 40 to 50 Veterans with food insecurities. The current monthly cost for this program is estimated at \$1,000. VA funds can now be used to purchase the food and different donors are shopping and delivering the items to SAVAHCS. There is also a Patriot Pantry program at the Sierra Vista CBOC.

The grand total of monetary donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2023 to August 31, 2023 is \$832. Thank you Unit 32 for your generous donation to Fisher House.

The grand total of material and activity donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2023 to August 31, 2023 is \$7,559.86. Thank you Unit 62, Unit 109, Unit 131 and Unit 132 for your generous donations to support our programs.

Eight registered hospital volunteers donated time which was credited to the American Legion Auxiliary. The grand total of registered volunteer hours May 1, 2023 to August 31, 2023 is 373. We have on-boarded two new volunteers whose hours will benefit the American Legion Auxiliary. The Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE formerly Voluntary Service) is bringing back many volunteers.

This chairman has volunteered 68.5 hours and logged 800 miles this year in service to the Tucson VA Medical Center as of August 31, 2023. This chairman has now logged over 4,000 hours in service to SAVAHCS. This chairman was re-elected to be the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the VAVS Executive Committee at the meeting on October 12, 2021. This chairman has been elected to fill a three year term on the VAVS Executive Committee. This chairman has attended every Executive Committee meeting and every VAVS meeting this year. This chairman is working with the Homeless Program to ensure that our Homeless Veterans and those in Transitional Housing have the food and beverages that they need. This chairman is actively supporting the Patriot Pantry at SAVAHCS. This chairman is working with the Recreation departments to purchase needed supplies for the National Veterans Creative Arts Program and other recreational activities. National Veterans Creative Arts Festival was held August 22 & 23, 2023. I am also attaching the wrap up report for this year's festival. Annual Joint Review was completed December 8, 2022. VAVS Committee voted to fully fund transportation for the gold medal winners from NVCA at SAVAHCS on February 1, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Szakonyi, VAVS Representative



We are moving right along at the Arizona State Veterans Home Tucson. We are glad to be able to get back in to do the birthday parties on the third Tuesday of every month . Even be able to volunteer . To volunteer you need to go to the guard desk in main lobby and get a volunteer form fill it out and you will need to show proof of your covid-19 shot records. Once you turn those two things in you will need to get a TB test done by a RN . Then come back 2 days later to get it read. Then you will need to set up an appointment with Sam and go up to second floor and get your fingerprints done. Once all that is done you are in . Septembers birthday party was put on by unit 59 thank you and October birthdays are being done by unit 36 thank you . Units can drop off the cupcakes and ice cream with the guard in the lobby around 12:30pm. You don't have to stay, but it would be nice for units and other members of the American Legion family to interact with the residents. Some of the residents get no visitors and all they see is staff and volunteers. Please I am trying to update what records I have and thank you department for the directory that helps a lot. I still need to know if units have chairmen for the State Veterans Home. I need first and last name and phone number and email address. It would be very helpful. Also anyone can get involved and help at the State Home. Not just auxiliary . Even the Legionnaires and Son's of The American Legion can volunteer. The Gift Shop needs full-size candy bars, water, soda (regular and diet) of all kinds and individual bags of chips and crackers (variety packs work great). Please remember to mark on your donation check, before sending it to Department, which AZ State Veteran Home you wish your donation to go toward (Tucson, Phoenix, Yuma or Flagstaff).

Nancy Morrow
Department Chairman – Arizona State Veteran Home – Tucson
520-278-9257
alachairmansavht@gmail.com

Tucson SAVAHCS Christmas Gift Shop

Southern Arizona VA Healthcare System

American Legion Auxiliary Units of Southern Arizona

**7, 8,9, 10, 11, 16, 19, 24, 28, 32,36, 45, 46, 51, 52,54, 56,59,66, 68, 73, 95, 97, 109, 125, 129,
131,132,133**

Listen! Can you hear them? The sounds are in the air. The bells are ringing, and the carolers are singing; it's Christmas everywhere. It's that time of the year to spread some cheer for our veterans we hold so dear.

The shopping is done, so let's have some fun at the Tucson VA this year.

The packing "party" will be held on December 18th. We will meet in the auditorium of Building 4 at 9:00 a.m. Parking is available in Lot Q.

To the Units that have so generously donated, THANK YOU, so much. And for those Units that would like to make a Happy Holiday for our veterans please make your check payable to ALA Department of Arizona. In the memo section designate it for the Tucson VA Gift Shop. Mail your check to the Department of Arizona, do not mail it to me.

Madame President, thank you so much for appointing me to this special committee.

Carla Neill

Department Gift Shop Chairman, Tucson SAVAHCS

lnu1976@aol.com

520-709-8936

Northern AZ VA Health Care System

Whipple Gift Shop

Our Gift Distribution is tentatively set for December 20, 2023. Our plan this year is to have a holiday activity in the Community Living Center in the morning and to have a holiday party for the Domiciliary during the afternoon. These events will provide an opportunity for many volunteers to be involved. If your unit is interested in helping for either the morning in CLC or the afternoon with the Dom, please call or text me at 928-632-2290 or e-mail me at patricia.aljets@hotmail.com. I will contact you directly once our plans are complete.

We are accepting quilts, afghans or plush throws to be given to each Veteran residing at the facility during the holiday. Tied fleece blankets would also be most welcome. If you are interested in donating, please make sure the item is at least 48" x72". If crocheting or knitting, we ask that they are tightly knitted or crocheted so that the item does not have holes that can get caught on wheelchairs, fingers or toes and cause a tripping hazard.

I will be picking up donations of blankets/throws during the Fall Conference or donations could be delivered to the VA at 500 Hwy 89 North, Prescott, AZ 86315. Please make sure that any donations are clearly marked for Trish Aljets, ALA Gift Shop and your unit information is enclosed.

We will not be providing a shopping experience this year, but the parties will provide an opportunity to thank our Veterans in person and to wish them health and happiness during the holidays and the coming year.

Trish Aljets

[Patricia.aljets@hotmail.com](mailto:patricia.aljets@hotmail.com)

928-632-2290

P.S. The Prescott VA can always use new hoodies, sweatpants, long sleeve T-shirts and men's shoes. We do not need any handmade hats or scarves or socks for men or women for this winter. Monetary donations to the Recreation Therapy program are also needed.