



BOOK
OF
REPORTS
2020-2021

## DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT MESSAGE BOOK OF REPORTS

2019 - 2021

Our Mission Statement states in part "In the Spirit of Service not Self" the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families both at home and abroad.

To keep our promise, we must remain committed to encourage members to renew their membership; membership gives members strength, unity, and power.

When I was elected your Department President, I committed my year to Service not Self. When one year turned into two, I was happy to continue my service.

In my travels around the State of Arizona I was able to see firsthand how the Legion Family worked together to accomplish the tasks at hand during the difficult times. I want to thank the chairmen and the office staff who continued to work the programs during the pandemic.

The Special Project "The 100 Club of Arizona" focused on raising money for First Responders. All the money raised stayed in Arizona to help our local heroes. First Responders were honored by the Legion family throughout the state at various events for their work in the community especially during the pandemic.

It was an honor to serve as The Department of Arizona Auxiliary President alongside Ken Queen The American Legion Commander and Chuck Treat The Sons of the Legion Commander.

I hope to see you at department convention to celebrate who we are, what we do, and why it matters!

May God bless you; may God bless our troops. and may God bless the United States of America.

Patricia Lugo 2019 – 2021 Department President

#### American Legion Auxiliary Department of Arizona District 2

Units: 7, 10, 36, 59, 66, 68, 73, 109, 125, 131, 132 Year End Report for 2020-2021

It has been a great honor and privilege to serve as District 2 President for FY 2020-2021. This year has definitely been a unique one due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although all our District meetings were set to be held at five different posts, the first three meetings were held at Post 36, with the final two held at Post 109 and Post 66, respectively.

As District 2 President, I had the honor of making my official visits to all Units except 7, 10 and 68. To encourage better communication between Units, I started a District Newsletter that gets emailed to Unit Presidents and interested members which includes updates from each of the reporting Units. Units have reported what they've been doing to earn money with ideas, including, but not limited to, art auctions, basket raffles, t-shirt sales, participation in the Tucson Home Show, and Craft Sales.

Units continue to support VA&R with individual cupcakes and ice cream cups for the Arizona State Veterans Home Monthly Birthday and Ice Cream Party.

Many Units were unable to participate in Girls State due to reduced income when their posts were closed or their funds went to support their local post. Many parades were cancelled. However, one bright star was that Helen Glass (a Legionnaire and Auxiliary member of Unit 73) was the Grand Marshal of the parade held in Tucson for Veterans Day.

All Units were encouraged to update their Constitution and By-Laws to include the new wording due to the passage of the Legion Act.

I greatly appreciate the innovative ideas and encouragement our Units have given me and each of their members. It has been an honor to serve as your District 2 President.

For God and Country,

Diane M. Helser District 2 President American Legion Auxiliary Department of Arizona

#### secretary aladeptaz.org

From:

Lois Thomas <chumithchamp@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, June 18, 2021 11:14 AM

To:

secretary aladeptaz.org

Subject:

District 4 Book of Reports

This year started out to be a good year, unfortunately due to the ongoing unknown health and alarming death reports, and restrictions for the spread of the unknown virus, Covid, in our country, it was safest to limit many activities of public and private contact.

Virtual communication and contact became into being, but not everyone had access.

Although I was not able to meet with all units, I did visit three. Our District 4 meetings were ongoing but attendance was low. District Reports were minimal due to the impact and threat of spreading the unknown Covid Virus.

All my Units kept the membership as a one of their priorities, in addition to continuing to help veterans and their families at the local level such as food boxes, donation drives, burial/funeral support (i.e. donation of water, food, family sympathy card and prayers)

In keeping membership a priority, our District was rewarded by having the highest percentage in the State of Arizona for the month of June 2021.

Unit 129, Queen Creek and Unit 97 SanTan Valley were able to increase their membership after being in jeopardy of losing their charter. Unit 97 SanTan Valley made an increase of over 50%. The most notable increase was Unit 73 Florence. Their membership was at an increase of 174%.

Due to the circumstances of my tenure as District 4 President, which started out as being the Centennial year; the second year began the threat of the Covid virus which lead to a historical third year of tenure for the good of the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. Feel blessed to have served at this time.

For God and Country Thank you, Lois A. Thomas-Homewytewa American Legion Auxiliary District 4 President

#### District 5 Report

This has been a challenging year for our area with many successes. All Units have their Mandates paid, reports completed and 3 Units participated in Girls State. Units 28 and 95 have been closed for most of the pandemic time.

Unit 4: The Unit reached 100% on their membership. They are discussing ways to develop a family atmosphere making a room for children. Plans are being discussed for Memorial Day with the intent for Juniors to present the wreath. A school flag project was completed with awards and prizes for participants. They also plan to participate in their county Fair. Outstanding notation is the Service to Veterans which has been provided: 9,620 veterans.

Unit 28: This Unit has been working on membership: updating numbers and information. A huge task accomplished. A candidate has been selected for Girls State. Poppies have been given to the Commander and Honor Guards at funerals. The Unit has unanimously selected Margarita Chacon to be recognized as a PUFL in recognition of her continued work and support for the Unit's success. The Unit also lost a member this year.

Unit 32: The Unit has worked on their membership and has lost one member this year. 2 fish dinners were held; one for the American Legion Riders going to Toombstone. This Unit had 89,000 + volunteer hours (Amazing) and have always been very active in the community. A window downtown has been decorated with the Poppy theme. They plan to have a Fund Raiser later this month for one of their members to help support medical issues.

Unit 95: 2 girls were selected for Girls State. The Unit combined efforts with the Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church for All Souls Day providing hot dogs, chips and drinks to the children. A Halloween Event for Take Out was held for the children in October. The Unit has a Facebook page. A donation was made to the Tucson Hospital Gift Shop. 75 Legion Riders from Sierra Vista, Wilcox, Benson and Tucson had breakfast burritos and a packaged lunch provided by the Unit. Membership for this Unit was 102%, and they lost 5 members this year.

#### District 6 Annual Report 2020-2021

First, I would like to stop and remember our Units who lost members to the Covid Virus. I am sure All Units were effected in someway. I continue to pray for all who have been effected by loss of life, loss of family member or friend, income and isolation.

As for District 6, at first I thought what can we accomplish in the year? How will we meet? How can we stay connected. Now in comes the younger members with the answer, Zoom, Google Connect, email and the phone for those of us who do not understand the other named above.

Our Units have been busy participating in school activities, supporting Americanism via virtual connections. Subjects we participated in covered flag etiquette, our flag, our constitution and what it means to be a Veteran and the respect they deserve. We had Veterans in the Classrom taped and presented to the classes and taped the students program and showed it to the Veterans at the presentaions. Several auxiliaries collected school supplies and clothing to donate to the school. Our Juniors have just completed a garage sale that raised over \$1000. for ALA programs in their area.

Many units adopted homeless veterans in their communities, collected food, blankets, clothing, warm jackets, blankets and household items. We could not visit Veterans in the Nursing Homes this year because of Covid restrictions but we able to bring new, sealed items and cards to the homes for distribution. Two units collected and transported over \$2000. worth on new clothing to the Whipple Hospital and other donated to the Whipple Christmas Shop. Girls have been sponcered to Girls State. There also has been some scholarship awarded. Again because of Covid restriction on the Navajo Reservation 126 new and many handmade Quits and blankets were collected along with water, shoes, socks, toiteries and winter coats were taken to the Sanders exit on Interstate 40. There we met the Navajo Veteran Association who took these gifts to 87 veterans and their families.

Each unit paricitpated in Drive Thru meals for Veterans Day and other Holidays. They attended socially distanced memorials and funerals, placed wreaths on graves for the Wreaths Across America and distribued poppies during Memorial Day Services. They also placed American Flags on the graves of Veterans for Memorial Day. We also had lots of bake sales. Several Units participated in a socially distanced parade for 4th of July and Patriots Day.

Membership has been down and three of our smaller units were having difficulty. I am proud to say one unit has reorganized and is doing well, another is reorganized and making progress. Both units have the support of their posts. The last unit has lost several members to illness and deaths and we plan to continue to support their efforts to get new member and return to be as active as they were prior to this year. Springerville is at 100% and two units are close to that goal.

I look forward to participating in upcoming activities with our incoming president and the new slate of officers.

For God and Country,

Kathleen Chamberlain District 6 President American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Arizona

District 11

Annual Report

Unit 1,5,12,29,53,61,62,105,134

has been a pleasure and honor to serve as District 11

erident for the last two years 2019-2021.

The National Covid Pandemic has placed much hardship and great loss on many alts in District 11 and this Organization. As we welcomed new members, we also had to say goodbye to many including a past Unit President and past District 11 President. As charters draped across the great state of Arizona, units manage to continue to serve and support Veterans and their families in their communities.

District 11 held six District meetings both in person and via zoom for those participating remotely.

Units held Centennial celebrations, handed out food boxes and care packages to those veterans and families displaced by the pandemic. As members in many units worked around the clock effortlessly to make face masks and gather clothing and much needed household supplies and delivered them to homeless Veterans. Members volunteered at the Carl Hayden VA Gift Shop assisting veterans during the holidays. Units held Poppy Drives, bake sales, arts and craft sales, yard sales and held raffles to benefit their Unit programs. Birthdays were celebrated over the phone and on social media as the pandemic prevented most from visiting loved ones. Units supported Mana House, held Four Chaplain Ceremonies, conducted meals to go for Veterans and their families, Many Units held their Bar Bingo to help support Girl state, participated in joint ceremonies with their Legion Families for Flag Retirement Ceremonies. Units contributed countless hours working with their Legion, SAL, and ALR families to provide safe environments for their members and families to help follow CDC guidelines and maintain social distancing during the pandemic.

It it with much Thanks to All of District 11 Officers, Unit Presidents and members who made my last two years as District 11 memorable.

For God and County,

Tina Ganados

District 11 President

#### President's Report 2019-2021

In September, this President visited Unit 39. She received a warm welcome and enjoyed the opportunity to speak/answer questions about membership and even was asked input about their new poppy shirt designs.

In October, this President visited Unit 27. She always enjoys her time there and had a very productive conversation on the new membership changes. She also had the chance to visit Unit 44, where she had a great time meeting new members and learning about their projects. Unit 65 requested a visit as well. This President had a great time and, as always, couldn't pass up getting dinner from their wonderful kitchen.

In November, this President was proud to visit her home Unit 107 to speak about membership and all the new changes. Unit 26 also invited this President to visit. They introduced one of their male Auxiliary members and were busy adopting 5 families for the upcoming holiday season.

In December, this President attended the meeting at Unit 91. Lots of laughter ensued and a good time was had. They donated over 100 goodie bags to the VA and were planning a breakfast for first responders. Unit 58 also invited this President for a visit and to attend their Christmas party, which was a blast

In January, this President attended Unit 41's meeting. She felt very we loomed and was impressed by all they had going on. She also attended the Department open house and the dinner for National President Nicole Clapp. In addition, this President attended the pancake breakfast at Unit 26 to benefit Girls State. Unit 124 invited this President for a visit and she was impressed with how hard these members work.

In February, this President assisted at the Rehab dinner at Post 35. She also visited Unit 2 and was glad they were so interested in membership and had so many questions. Unit 138 invited this President for a visit and was impressed by all their brainstorming ideas for upcoming fundraisers. She also attended the First Responders event at Post 41

Unfortunately, COVID took a big toll on district activities after this point. This President was saddened to have to cancel visits and planned activities, but needed everybody to stay safe. She switched the district meetings from in person to virtual. The collective effort to make and donate masks to the VA, check in with veterans and their families, donate cleaning supplies to charities, advise people on how to utilize online support, etc was astounding. The Units were able to work their membership as well! This president could not be prouder because they rolled with the punches and still excelled. Looking forward to a new and better year.

For God and Country,

Rebecca Gulley President, District 12 Dear Friends, Future Friends yet to be made, Chairmen and Chairwomen,

The following summarizes year end reports.

- 28 Units turned in a year-end report.
- 4 Units reported promoting community awareness activities
- 4 Units reported participating in Flag folding activities folding more than 450 mini-flags.
- 16 Units reported how they observed patriotic holidays. Lots of Memorial services, Flag raisings, lots of parades, placing Flags on grave sites, Flag retirement ceremonies.
- 2 Units reported they encourage participation in the Americanism Essay Contest. With 46 essays being submitted.
- 5 Units reported they were able to enter schools to teach flag / pledge etiquette. Some groups are small and some large, over 447 students were influenced by these efforts. Thank you.
- 5 Units reported supporting American Legion programs. They supported Baseball, Oratorical, and more.
- 19 Units reported wearing pins, badges and other ALA identifiable branding material. You folks are doing good work in getting the American Legion Auxiliary brand and information out to the public.
- 7 Units reported wearing or displaying "Honoring Their Service" Buttons.
- 12 Units report being actively involved in giving elevator speeches regarding the American Legion Auxiliary.
- 8 Units report having an active Juniors program and being involved in the Americanism Program. Continue your great works.
- 10 Units reported having unit members participate in color guards, parades, funerals and other events. 53 participants were involved in the various activities.
- 9 Units reported conducting initiations,
- 3 Units turned narratives with their reports.

Sincerely,

Barb Shields, Americanism Chair

#### **AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND**

#### BOOK OF REPORTS 2020-2021

I want to thank all the members of Arizona for a job well done. Your hard work really paid off. As of May 25, 2021, a total of \$9.000.00 was raised for the AEF Program.

This Chairman received MANY End Reports. Many AEF pins have been ordered from National for donations. The Unit awards for Department are:

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

As the Covid-19 Pandemic raged on for a second year the Units reported that they held funds raisers for their Unit's AEF funds and for National AEF donations. Some of the functions were meat raffles, auctions, special dinners for AEF and marathons. Other events included 50/50 raffles, lunches and dinners, Bingo, community garage sales. Good Job to all of you for ideas and efforts.

This Chairman has learned a lot about AEF and the kindness of the members of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Arizona.

Thank you for sharing with me this year.

Jessica Matteson – Chairman 602-573-8681



#### Cavalcade of Memories

#### **Book of Reports**

#### June 2021

There are 85 Units in the Department of Arizona. Reports were received from 23 Units, with 17 reporting no activity for 27% reporting. I would like to thank all the units that took time to send me their reports in the time of what's going on in the world. Thank you so very much. Most units have a display the wall of honor were they have pictures of their Unit and Department Presidents and years they have served. One unit has a Video that runs with all their Unit Presidents and Past Department presidents and their Post past Commanders and their SAL Past Commanders, a Legion Family.

Arizona has had 2 National Presidents - Mrs. Wilma Hoyal Unit #11 1930 - 1931, Mrs. Maxine Chilton Unit #27 1072 - 1973.

Arizona has had 11 Western Division National Presidents in order, Mrs. Harriet Southworth Unit #6, Mrs. Wilma Hoyal Unit #11, Mrs. Glenn Snodgrass Unit #1, Mrs. Guy J. Gaston Unit #1, Mrs. Faye Dorsett Unit #26, Mrs. Maxine Chilton Unit #27, Mrs. Nell Burt Unit #11, Mrs. Adene Steffen unit #34, Mrs. Adelen Smith Unit #7, Mrs. Penny Maklary Unit #11, Mrs. Ginger Cox Unit #107.

Arizona has had 1 National Chaplain Mrs. Carmelite Staker Unit #108

And 3 National Historian in order Mrs. J. B. McQuown Unit 37, Mrs. Joyce Arent Unit #117, Mrs. Sharon Doran Unit #93.

#### 31 Units with PAST Department Presidents-

1,2,3,4,6,7,11,15,19,20,21,24,26,27,28,29,32,34,35,36,41,42,53,62,65,75,93,105,107,108,117. Out of 85 Units some units may not exist anymore but they still had Department Presidents from 1920 to Present. Congratulation to all these Past Department Presidents!!! In 2008 when the National Convention was here Mrs. Barbara Matteson was Department President and now 13 yrs. Later Mrs. Patricia Lugo is Department President at this National Convention 2021.

All together we have received \$949.78. Awards will be given out at Fall Conference. May God continue to bless you and be safe

Paula Burgess

Department Cavalcade of Memories Chairman

#### **Centennial Celebration**



#### **Book of Reports**

#### 2019-2020

Thank you to the Units who reported their Centennial activities this past year. Reporting was not as good as I had hoped even though COVID-19 pandemic was responsible for curtailing our activities. We hope that this has given you time to plan more activities for the coming year. The National organization is planning a week-long celebration of our heritage at the 2021 National Convention in Phoenix.

The number of Unit/District members reported participating the our 100 Year Celebration activities was 453. American Legion Family members reported participating in Centennial Celebration activities was 1002. Centennial activities that were planned and executed were 45. The number of postings on social media REPORTED was 125. I did notice a lot of postings on Ring Your Bell Arizona. Thank you all for spreading the word of our 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday! Two units posted on Instagram using #ALA100Celebration. I would like to commend Unit #35 and Unit #91 for sending full report with many pictures. The two units worked seamlessly and shared resources to ensure a great celebration!

Three units reported large celebrations in Parks which were sponsored and attended by the American Legion Family. Membership drives were held along with live music and free gifts to promote our organization. They had a wide variety of games including a potato sack race and pie eating contest. Throughout the state other celebrations were held in the same format, opening with ceremony, a short program and concluding with lots of fun. Part of one program was a JROTC demonstration.

Many of the Units had Proclamations read and published while spreading the word of our Centennial Celebration. A Veterans Resource Fair was held with an Auxiliary Centennial booth. Formal and Informal events were held with our 100<sup>th</sup> Year Birthday Cake. As we conclude this year let us look forward to a continuing year of celebration promoting this wonderful organization.

#### Karen Smith, Chairman

#### Chaplain

In an unprecedented year, I want to thank all of the Units and Districts that submitted reports. Your commitment to the American Legion Auxiliary is very much appreciated. There has been a lot of activity for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 year.

- Due to Covid-19 and other circumstances, there were many beloved members that pass away. At the time of this report, the number stands at 223 members lost.
  - 36 Units held memorial services.
  - o Units draped their charters 87 times.
- Only 3 Districts reported.
- There were a lot of cards sent out:
  - Sympathy cards 429 sympathy cards were sent
  - o Get Well Cards 846 Get Well cards were sent
  - Thinking of You 379 Thinking of You cards were sent
  - Birthday Cards 235 Birthday cards were sent
- Due to Covid-19 there were no hospital visits made that were reported
- Donations made by our Units were \$75.00
- Three Units held 4 Chaplains Services
- 3 Units used grace cards
- Veteran's day had 3 Units participate
- Memorial Day had 3 Units participate
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July had 6 Units participate

This Chaplain has received many prayers for Madam President's Prayer book. She will receive her Prayer book at our Fall Conference in November so there is still time to submit prayers to this Chaplain.

I want to thank each and every member of the American Legion Auxiliary for remaining strong through these very difficult times. Your dedication and perseverance is very much appreciated. Continue to work hard for your Unit/District; We love and appreciate all that you do.

For God and Country,
Stacey Mayberry
Chaplain
Department of Arizona



### American Legion Auxiliary Department o Arizona 2020 -2021 Year End Children and Youth Book of Reports

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Arizona membrers continues to honor and support the Veterans, their familes, and their children. The members devotion, and true conviction in serving God and Country has enabled it to provide an immeasurable amount of assistance throughout the community and the nation.

This chairman sent out monthly bulletin to keep our units infomed on activity, fundraises and project to support the Children and Youth Programs.

The Children & Youth Program inspired many of our unit's participation in National Children & Youth programs objectives with volunteer hours totaling 7,190.05 and over \$54,240.71 dollars spent.

Units reported value of cash and goods spent on donations for the following:

Dollars Spent on goods for youth activities: \$6,679

Direct cash aid to help a needy child: \$5,395

Number of Children and Youth Served: 4,723

Donations to the Child Welfare Foundation: \$2,700

Did your Units Nominate a Star-Spangled Kid? No

Did your Units nominate a child for the Youth Good Deed Award? Yes

Several events promoting Children & Youth Program held by Units were:

Back to School Supplies, one unit teamed up with Mesa Public Schools and assists Homeless Children. In January they donated school supplies and hygiene. Another unit teamed up with the Legionaries, Auxiliary and Sons, held a drivethru back to school event, Backpacks and school supplies to families and their children.

October the Units goal was to connect with the public, and help support the educational system, schools, and the student's future. Some unit's held Truck N Treat from the parking lot of their post. One post provider dozens of Halloween bag filled with goodies for the military children.

Due the pandemic this year our units were not able to assemble food baskets this year due to the virus restrictions. One unit but we were able to purchase 10 Fry's food gift cards worth \$25.00 each. Some units had drive-thru food and Turkey give away.

One Unit developed online art lesson for Veterans and Military families throughout the year through the Heal Her Art Program.

April Purple Up for Military Children – Units again Rock the Purple. One unit handed out lunches to the homeless and their families, wearing purple American Legion shirts.

The Mayor of Peoria, Cathy Carlat, joined one unit in its celebration of Purple up Day by lighting up Peoria City Hall with purple lights from April 15-18 to honor the military families for their tremendous service and sacrifice

Even during a Pandemic Arizona American Legion Auxiliary Member ROCKED in the Children and Youth program.

#### Community Service Book of Reports 2020-2021

The American Legion Auxiliary members of Arizona provided many hours of their time and money to assist various people and organizations throughout the State of Arizona even through the pandemic. Out of the 85 Units in Arizona, 27 reported back. Due to the current pandemic, it has been tough to get accurate data due to not having our meetings in person and most Posts have been closed.

Members are busy volunteering at shelters, food banks, Veterans Commemorative Project, VA Hospitals, Fisher House, MANA House, schools, Veterans Community Centers, House of Hope and in the community at large.

Unit 11 in Douglas, AZ has been hard at work at the Veterans Commemorative Project. The Veterans Commemorative Display is located in the historic Gadsden Hotel in Douglas. One member has spent countless hours keeping it going as it exists through donations and grants. It began as a display for Vietnam veterans on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War. Since then, it has grown to include veterans from all wars. The display has come to be recognized as the "Wall of Faces." Members of Post and Unit have supported this display with volunteer hours and donations.

Unit 11 also made "Centennial Care Kits" with toiletries, food items and \$5.00 gift cards. These were given to the local Fire and Police Departments as a way to help our President's Special Project, "Serving Those Behind the Badge". Patrolmen hand them out to the homeless and those in need.

Unit 11 partners with the Rotary Club to sponsor American Education Week, Americanism essay contest and the Poppy Poster contest. Members volunteer at the Fort Huachuca Thrift Shop working over one thousand hours last year. Unit and Post 11 gathered items to donate to the new Legion in Bisbee Post 16. A bar refrigerator, roaster, glasses, coffee pot and miscellaneous items were donated. Through attendees in the Thrift Shop they gathered flags for our flag disposal ceremony held by the Boy Scouts at Post 16.

Unit 32 in Safford started The House of Hope, a halfway house for males. The House of Hope came about with the assistance of an elderly auxiliary member with extensive community ties and a community need identified. A team was formed of local business owners and volunteers. Property was donated and plans for the house were researched, completed and the house was built. The member donated over \$100,000 for this project. The ribbon cutting and dedication occurred on April 23, 2021.

Many Units participated in community beautifications. Several of the small towns take pride in their clean up days. In addition to community beautification, plastic bottles and cans were collected; the money was used for various programs.

Units held community-wide drives for toiletries, personal care items, cards, games and munchies so care packages can be sent to deployed troops. This includes drives to send Girls Scout cookies to the troops. Many holiday cards were handmade and signed for our deployed Servicemen and sent overseas.

Several Units adopted families during the holidays. Many children had a nice Christmas thanks to the generosity of Post families.

Unit 32 members helped with a local cat rescue, volunteering to catch, transport and care for the cats that were either strays or unwanted. One such member who has fostered numerous cats, transports them from the area caught and also ensures veterinarian appointments are kept and then helps with transportation to Tucson by either going or providing a vehicle for transport.

Many Units hold school supply drives. Unit 91 in Chandler receives a special request for socks and underwear every year from the school the Unit adopted. This is a Title VI school. Many times, the kids come to school with no socks.

Unit 6 in Prescott held rummage and bake sales. They help family members to Doctor appointments, shopping and running errands. Unit 6 members donate their time at the information desk at the Prescott VAMC. Members also

volunteered at the blood bank and VA Pharmacy along with many other places. They assisted in Kids Vision USA and at the Creative Arts Festival along with many other volunteering opportunities.

Flag raising ceremonies were held on Memorial Day, July 4th, Veterans Day and Pearl Harbor Day by Unit 62. Unit 62 in Peoria, donated to many charities including Heal Her Art program, Soldiers Best Friend, elementary schools, food banks, and other charities. Two hundred crocheted and quilted blankets were made by auxiliary members and donated to the Sunshine Group Home for foster children. Three hundred forty hours were spent building a Habitat for Humanity house. Unit 62 has been remarkably busy in the community despite COVID restrictions.

Unit 39 Juniors worked with six local Cheer Teams to make handmade cards to distribute to the Phoenix VA Home all year long. Cards were sent to residents for birthdays, Valentine's Day, Veterans Day, Christmas and were included in the 200 Packages for Troops mailed. Unit 39 provided 200 folded pocket flags for the packages. Unit 39 Junior members continued to collect soda/beer pop tabs to support their special project — Shriners Hospitals for Children. The Juniors collected well over 100 pounds of pop tabs. They will be recycled, and the funds generated will be used to transport children with cancer to their non-emergency medical appointments. Unit 39 Junior Chair took advantage of the partnership between the Cheer Teams and Unit 39 Juniors to teach about Americanism, the importance of the US Military and the ways to serve veterans. Many of the parents were involved in the projects throughout the year.

During the COVID-19 outbreak, Unit members made masks and delivered them to the VAMCs. They also handed them out to members of the community who needed them. Members are checking in on those that cannot get out. Members are shopping, running errands and doing anything that they can including making phone calls and checking in with their members. It is truly heartwarming how much outpouring of love and kindness is being shared.

The numbers below show the dedication the members have to the American Legion Auxiliary and how Arizona ALA members are helping in the community. Even during the lockdowns, Post closings and social distancing, our total money spent increased by 240% and our volunteer hours increased by 136%!

Total Miles Driven: 66,132 Total Money Spent: \$268,550 Total Hours Spent: 157,843

Sara Decker Community Service Chairman Department of Arizona

#### Education Year-End Report 2019-2021 Department of Arizona

Unfortunately, the activities in this program were affected by the hybrid/online schooling during the 2020-2021 school year due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Despite this, the Auxiliary Education projects in the Department of Arizona were extremely successful. During the 2019-2020 Auxiliary year, twenty-four Units in the Department of Arizona reported activity in the Education program, with approximately 1192 Auxiliary members, 71 Junior members, and 142 Legion members participating. During the 2020-2021 Auxiliary year, twenty-five Units in the Department of Arizona reported activity in this program, with approximately 1121 Auxiliary members, 32 Junior members, and 85 Legion members participating. This Chairman informed the Units and Districts about the Education program via information packets distributed at the Department 2019 Fall Conference, as well as bulletins in the monthly Department newsletters during both years.

Units participated in American Education Week by providing Thank-you notes, lunch, cookies, and treats to teachers at local schools. Thank-you cards were sent to staff members, including school nurses, custodians, and bus drivers. Units held in-person events and drive-through events to collect and distribute school supplies and backpacks to children at local schools. Units presented videos and booklets on flag etiquette and Halloween safety, and donated craft supplies. Schools were presented U.S. flags and Arizona state flags to replace old flags in front of schools and in classrooms.

Units participated in the *Give 10 to Education* program by providing school supplies and educational materials to schools. Members of all Post entities donated school supplies or money toward purchase of school supplies. Other necessities such as backpacks, tissue, hand sanitizer, wipes, story books, toiletries, and shoes were collected and distributed to local schools. School wish lists were fulfilled.

All Units reporting also assisted needy students in many ways. Clothes were donated and delivered to a school district clothing bank where every student in need has access to free goods. Food pantries were stocked. Christmas Angels worked with local schools to provide gifts, toys, and food baskets for needy students. Units also delivered Christmas and Thanksgiving food baskets.

During the 2019-2020 school year, Units reported awarding 32 Unit scholarships, totaling \$23,930. During the 2020-2021 school year, Units reported awarding 32 Unit scholarships, totaling \$21,980. Units raised funds for scholarships in a several ways including dinners, raffles, contests, and sales. National scholarship applications and information were published in monthly Unit correspondence newsletters and delivered to local high schools through the mail, and in person. Units delivered information regarding the Past Presidents Parley nursing scholarship to community colleges and assisted with the Arizona State University's Veterans Program. In 2019-2020, two applications for the *Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship* were received by the Department. In 2020-2021, four applications for the *Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship* were received, along with one application for the *Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship*. A Department winner was selected and forwarded to the Western Division Education Chairman for each of the scholarships. All submissions to Western Division became National winners! Each applicant received a letter thanking them for their application and informing them of the outcome. The Department winner in 2020 received a \$25 cash award sent in the mail. The Department winners of the 2021 scholarships will receive the \$25 cash award while being recognized at the Department Convention.

The Department of Arizona has established the *Wilma Hoyal/Maxine Chilton Memorial Scholarship*. There are three scholarships of \$1000.00 available annually: one to Arizona State University, one to The University of Arizona, and one to Northern Arizona University. This scholarship is renewable provided the student meets the outlined criteria. Recipients must be enrolled as second year or upper-division students in Political Science, Public Programs, or Special Education. An essay competition was conducted at last year's Virtual Arizona

Girls State session in which 24 delegates participated. The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the United States Constitution led to the topic "What kind of world do you think we would have if the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment had never passed?" Three submissions were awarded scholarships of \$150 each by Arizona Girls State. A similar competition will be held at the 2021 virtual session of Arizona Girls State.

Units involved the Legionnaires, the Sons and the Legion Riders in donating time, school supplies, money, and manpower to all the Education and Children's programs. They installed an outdoor flagpole at a local elementary school. They assisted with Halloween safety programs, Christmas parties, and Easter parties. Legionnaires acted as judges for an essay contest and attended the awards ceremony.

Units reported presenting "Veterans in the Classroom" programs. Veterans visited elementary schools for interviews, spoke at assemblies and in classrooms about the Poppy story, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the difference between Veterans Day and Memorial Day. Schools honored veterans on Veterans Day with flags, songs, and videos. Units presented programs on the accomplishments of our Veterans by honoring veterans on Veterans Day at local schools.

All reporting Units used many community resources or activities to assist students, teachers, or support personnel. Units participated in National Night Out promoting neighborhood safety. Monetary donations were made to a local mentoring program, Junior ROTC awards, Girls State, Girls Scouts, Cub Scouts, baseball teams, Special Olympics, and Future Business Leaders of America programs.

The Department of Arizona offers the **JEAN BATLEY PLAQUE** for Units with membership of 150 and under and the **CHRYSTEEN FRITZINGER PLAQUE** for Units with membership of 151 and over. The purpose of these awards is to stimulate interest in good participation in the Education program of the American Legion Auxiliary by giving recognition to the Unit which makes the most use of the available ideas in education, scholarship, and loan possibilities.

The Department of Arizona recognizes that our young people are our future, and a good education is the key to their success. The members of the Department of Arizona are devoted to contributing to this success.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie M. Vietri
Julie M. Vietri
Education Chairman
Department of Arizona

(996 words)

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE Book of Report 2020-2021

Of the 88 total Units in the Department plus 10 Districts only 39 Units and 4 District reports (1, 2, 3 & 6) rather sad. Some were a month late reporting. To the District Presidents that contacted, reported Units in their District, I express to you sincere thanks on behalf of the entire Finance Committee and the Department.

For information of ALL, the decisions made for benefit of Arizona Units and Districts this is a six person committee and when an issue is presented to this chairman it is then brought to attention of all committee members for a vote, then the final tally for action is passed on to Units and Districts.

I urge all Units and Districts to secure a copy of the Department Policies and Procedures, the Constitution and Bylaws and pay attention to Policies and Procedures pages 16, 20, 21, 23-24, 26, 31, 44 and 45. It is your job to keep current in all phases of rules and regulations pertaining to your American Legion Auxiliary, be it District, Unit or Department finances.

To the members of this committee, I thank you for your assistance when called upon many times for your valuable input.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Helen Stout Chairman

Penny Maklary, Helen Griffin, Pres Patricia Lugo, Cindy Queen, NEC, Barbara Matteson, Sec/Tre (No Vote)



The Seventy-fourth session of American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State is scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup> to June 12<sup>th</sup>. With COVID precautions still in place, it is necessary to do a virtual program again this year. Doing a six day virtual session last year prepared us to improve on this year's session. We increased the number of hours from two to four and added another day. Our ZOOM format has been upgraded to provide more interaction with the Delegates.

There are 134 Delegates from 79 High Schools registered to attend. Eight more delegates were replaced and there are 12 alternates to fill in if necessary. Arizona State elected officials have been contacted to provide virtual welcomes which worked out well last year. Speakers are also working on visual presentations of City, County, Judicial and Legislative processes to assist with teaching.

American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State will have 6 Cities with 6 Cities still in quarantine, 3 Counties with 1 County still in quarantine. Last year's elected Governor will preside over the session. Three Delegates from last year will return as Junior Counselors and assist in Cities and Counties and wherever needed.

Handbooks have been printed and mailed out with a poppy to make later in the week with instructions, notice of how to participate in talent show, community service showcase, blogger request, brochure of The Legion Family Programs, impact sheet from the National Auxiliary and "did you know" facts of Arizona. How to apply for the Samsung Scholarship if eligible was also included. T-shirts have been ordered and color chosen. Staff meetings are scheduled in the upcoming weeks. A daily agenda is complete and we are making sure it is workable and within the time constraints. We will again present "Do you know Us and What We Do?" about the American Legion Auxiliary.

Our participation is down a little from last year for some of the following reasons: Unit members were unable to get into schools for one on one participation, explanation of program and selection; students were tired of virtual programs and wanted in person attendance; counselor non participation and promotion of the program and girls wanting to graduate early as they had more time for classes on the computer without in person school.

This is but an outline of what American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State has planned for this year. After the session we can fill in the blanks and give the results of our plans, who the elected Governor, Secretary of State, Girls Nation Senators, Samsung Scholarship winner and what we learned again to better the program for the 75th session in other words, what worked an what did not.

We are always reminded "Look to Girls State and you'll find...Tomorrow's Leaders of Mankind." Our staff is always mindful of the challenge and responsibility of that statement.

Penny Maklary...Director

#### **HISTORIAN**

#### **BOOK OF REPORTS**

#### 2019-2021

It's been a crazy two years. But WE MADE IT.

I want to thank all of you for your commitment to our wonderful organization and here are the highlights of the past two years.

- 20 Units, and 5 Districts around the state held Centennial celebrations for both The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary. Most of these the public was invited to see who we are and what we do.
- Units dedicated fundraisers to the President's Special Project, The 100 Club of Arizona
- 10 units reported holiday adopt a family, Thanksgiving and/or Christmas baskets to veteran families, with over 100 families served and close to \$7, 00 dollars either donated to the families or spent on helping with utility bills.
- 5 units held back to school supply drives with close to 500 students helped
- 10 Units reported working VA Gift Shops in 2019
- 10 units reported donating to VA Gift Shops and creative arts. (2 gift shops in AZ were cancelled but will hold the monies for next year)
- 2 units reported Veterans Day parades in their small towns. (metro areas cancelled or held virtual parades)
- Department Convention and Fall conference were cancelled due to Covid-19
- Majority of members are sick and tired of the virus and miss ALA activities
- Twenty-six units out of 85 reported to me for year-end. Seven of those sent a narrative. All others had nothing to report.
- . 6 units have held monthly dinners as fundraisers one unit held a cake walk
- One unit received a grant from their city and purchased gravel and plants to redo the landscaping of the veteran's community center they meet at. Hoping to entice new members.
- 3 units held services for the 4 Chaplains
- 8 units reported activities for poppy day

For God and Country

Rose Ficklin

Historian, Department of Arizona

#### **JUNIOR ACTIVITIES 2019 - 2021**

The Department of Arizona Junior Activities Chairman for the year 2019 – 2021 structured the program to inspire the Junior members to become knowledgeable about the Organization, in as much as they are the future of The American Legion Auxiliary.

The Junior Chairman contributed to the Department of Arizona Monthly Bulletin. Information was disseminated to the Unit Junior Chairman regarding ideas on activities, such as the Junior Activities Patch Program and how to make Junior meetings fun and informative. They focused on the Mission based programs such as Americanism, Community Service and the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation program. Junior Unit Chairmen were also encouraged to help their Juniors better understand American Legion Auxiliary programs by Using the Junior Leadership Training Course.

The Junior Fall Conference was held on October 26, 2019, at The American Legion Post 29, in Glendale, Arizona. The members were welcomed by the Department President who thanked them for their attendance at the conference and the significance of their membership in the Auxiliary which is of service. A presentation of the significance of the Poppy was made by the Department Vice President. The Juniors also colored a Poppy picture that was presented to National President Nicole when she visited Arizona. Plans were made to send Care Packages to the Troops at the Spring Conference in April of 2020, that event was not held due to the Covid 19 outbreak.

In the year 2020 – 2021 although hindered by the pandemic Units in Arizona succeeded. Careful to wear their masks and continuing to social distance they went about trying to carry out the Mission of Service not Self.

The Juniors visited patients at nursing homes. A Tiny Tot recited the Pledge of Allegiance with the patients and juniors sang songs. They attended City Council meetings. They were present when the Mayor of one Arizona city read a Proclamation to honor the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American Legion Auxiliary.

In the community Juniors distributed snacks, sack lunches and water to homeless citizens. They also participated in "Shop with a Cop" for the needy children of the community, they also observed "Purple Up Day" for Military Children in April.

At various times of the year Juniors visited the veterans at the Veterans home to leave cards and snacks for the veterans.

Juniors also collected snacks, socks, and toiletries to be sent to the croops at a future date.

Juniors were seen passing out Poppies at local shopping centers and helping at Post functions. Juniors also raised funds for the Department President's Special Project The 100 Club of Arizona which raises funds for First Responders.

Arizona is proud of our Juniors an all they have achieved.

Lexis Nicole Escudero, Chairman 2019 - 2021

#### **BOOK OF REPORTS**

#### **LEGISLATIVE 2020 - 2021**

At the end of the 2021 year, the Department of Arizona had 21 out of 86 Units actively working the Legislative Program. There were six Units that had nothing to report, but reported to the Chairman. One Unit did not work the program, but sent in a report stating such. Out of the 21 reports, only three included some type of narrative. Out of those three, only two met the guidelines for an award. Two were sent after the May 1 deadline.

The committee educated members in the legislative issues promoted by the American Legion, by sharing with members in the Department Monthly Bulletins upcoming legislation the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary supports, how to find polling locations, and newly elected officials and their contact information. Information was also shared on social media.

There was one special legislative meeting held, but the Unit that held the meeting did not provide further information. There were no legislative rallies held. There were five town hall meetings. Unit 76 (William House), held all five town halls. There were no Units that held a "Meet the Candidates Night". Five Units promoted and discussed the Dispatch at meetings and in emails. An unknown number of subscriptions were purchased.

There were over 380 letters sent to US Senators, US Representatives, State Officials, Local Officials and the White House. There were over 829 other contacts with US Senators, US Representatives, State Officials, Local Officials, and the White House. There were over 129 replies received from US Senators, US Representatives, State Officials, Local Officials, and the White House. Several Units and Posts also have members that are State and Local officials.

Members connected and made contact through phone calls, letters and emails. Members discussed their concerns and issues they faced. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and government restrictions, many Units had to make contact with their elected officials via phone calls, letters and emails rather than in person visits and meetings.

Units in the Department promoted and supported women veterans by donating funds to charitable organizations, encouraged women veterans to join the Auxiliary with paid memberships for the first year, held luncheons and sponsored Heal Her Art events. Units in the Department also assisted the Navajo Nation Women Veterans, which were affected the most in the state with the pandemic. Units provided clothing for the women veterans along with bedding, toiletries, shoes and children's clothing to the needy female veterans and their families. One Unit made a \$200 donation in honor of eight nurses killed in the Vietnam Conflict.

Ten Units promoted voting, by telling members how important the election was and go vote. Units made calling lists for members that needed rides to polls, and provided information in online newsletter. Members helped distribute and put up yard signs in local elections. Members also worked at polling places and also helped members that needed assistance filling out mail in ballots.

Two Units participated in government and civic education by starting a Facebook page for the Unit, and another gave pocket flags to students of a local elementary school to fold. They were then given out to the troops. Many other Units were not allowed into the schools due to school closures and online education only, because of COVID restrictions and CDC Guidelines.

In March members from the American Legion Department of Arizona and American Legion Auxiliary Department of Arizona Legislative Chairman were to attend the National Conference in Washington D.C. Due to COVID, the conference was cancelled in person and held virtually.

Department of Arizona Auxiliary members continue to advocate for veterans, active duty military and their family's rights.

For God and Country,

Stephanie M. McMullen, Chairman

#### **ARIZONA MEMBERSHIP**

#### **YEAR END REPORT 2021**

THIS HAS BEEN A YEAR OF CONTINUED CHALLANGES FOR OUR ORGANIZATION. MEMBERS OF THE ARIZONA AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY HAVE STEPPED UP TO THE PLATE AND ENTICED, RECRUITED AND HELPED WITH RETENTION OF MEMBERS. IT IS BECAUSE OF THE EFFORTS OF MEMBERS TO SHOW THEIR PASSION, AND DESIRE TO HELP OUR VETERANS AND COMMUNITIES THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO CELEBRATE OUR GROWTH INTO THE NEXT ONE HUNDRED YEARS.

EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE STILL BEEN RESTRICTED DUE TO THE PANDEMIC, MEMBERS HAVE BEEN EXTENDING WELCOME ARMS TO BRING IN NEW MEMBERS. UNDER MASK WEARING, SOCIAL DISTANCING AND HAND WASHING WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONTINUE TO EXPAND OUR ACTIVITES AND BEING PRESENT FOR COMMUNITY ACTIVITES HONORING OUR VETERANS. OUR POSITIVE ATTITUDE OF WHAT MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH OUR COMMON GOAL OF SERVICE NOT SELF GIVES OTHERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE WHAT THEY ARE MISSING AND BE DRAWN TO OUR ORGANIZATION.

NEW MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY INTRODUCED LAST YEAR IS STARTING TO TAKE OFF AND HOPEFULLY WILL SOON BE WELL UNDERSTOOD BY ALL. EFFORTS ARE MADE CONSTANTLY TO REACH OUR GOALS. THIS HAS BEEN DONE THROUGH PHONE CALLS, LETTERS, SOCIAL MEDIA AND PERSONAL INTERACTION WITH THE COMMUNITY. MEMBERS SHOW THEIR TRUE COLORS BY MAKING SURE OUR EMBLEM IS VISABLE WHEN WE ARE OUT. SOME HAVE PRACTICED AN ELEVATOR SPEECH TO PRESENT WHEN ASKED A QUESTION ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION. INTEREST FORMS SENT BY NATIONAL TO DEPARTMENT ARE FOLLOWED UP ON IN HOPES OF BRING IN NEW MEMBERS OR AT LEAST SHARING THE PURPOSE OF OUR ORGANIZATION AND PROGRAMS.

MEMBERS HAVE VERBALIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING A SMILE AND MAKING OTHERS FEEL WELCOME. UNITS HAVE SET UP TABLES WITH BROCHURES AND INFORMATION AT SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY EVENTS. MENTORING OUR JUNIORS HAS ALSO PROVEN TO BE EFFECTIVE IN BRINGING MORE MEMBERS. THERE ARE SO MANY UNIQUE WAYS UNITS HAVE USED TO BUILD MEMBERSHIP BASED ON THE CULTURE OF THE LOCATION OF THEIR UNIT.

AT THE TIME OF THIS REPORT ARIZONA IS AT 89.30%. THIS CHAIRMAN HAS NO DOUBT WE WILL BE REACHING 100%. OUR MEMBERS KNOW THE IMPORTANCE OF MEMBERSHIP AND STAYING POSITIVE. THIS MEANS WE WILL USE OUR ARIZONA THEME OF STAYING ALIVE, STAYING ALIVE, STAYING ALIVEINI TO BRING IN MEMBERS AND HAVE ARIZONA BE NUMBER ONE.

SUBMITTED BY JENNIE MOLINA

DEPT OF AZ. MEMBERSHIP.



#### ARIZONA MISSION TRAINING / LEADERSHIP YEAR END REPORT 2020-2021

Arizona held no formal in-person training sessions this training year. Members were encouraged to participate in the on-line training provided by National. Instructors were encouraged to be mentors and provide in-house training of members.

- 18 Units submitted a report.
- 7 Members reported as utilizing the National Training on-line. Some only did sections of the training but are continuing to encourage other members to participate.
- Goodwill was promoted by all Units this year with most Units utilizing community resources in the individual Unit campaigns as allowed due to restrictions.
- Of the Units reporting 9 reported reviewing individual Constitution and By-laws and 3 reported reviewing District Constitution and Bylaws.
- No Units reported utilizing the National "Shoutout" or doing videos.

The evaluation sheet was not utilized due to lack of in-person training.

Stats for this year include: Out of 84 units capable of reporting, only 18 sent in reports for 4.67% Unit reporting. 53 members acted as mentors with one member doing in-house and assisting other units and enhancing the department website; 7 initiations of new members were conducted with 3 scheduled after this reporting period; and 70 members were trained in poppy making.

This was a year of enlightenment which was illustrated in reviewing the reports provided as new training methods were introduced to enhance meetings by Unit mentors and instructors. Congratulations to those instructors and mentors that "thought outside the box" this year.

For God and Country in Service to Veterans

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

#### Music

#### 2020-2021 Year End

At the end of the 2021 year, the Department of Arizona had 21 out of 86 Units actively working the Music Program. There were three Units that had nothing to report, but reported to the Chairman. One Unit did not work the program, but sent in a report stating such. Out of the 21 reports, only three included some type of narrative. Out of those three, all met the guidelines for an award. One was sent after May 1 deadline.

The committee shared information about the Music Program with it's members through the Department Monthly Bulletin.

Out of 86 Units, 21 actively work the program. The Unit Chairman chooses songs for meetings and other events. Some Units incorporate music after opening prayer at meetings where the membership sings a Patriotic song together, other members participate in church choir, visitation to schools, nursing facilities, or participates in theater groups.

Due to Covid 19 pandemic however, this has made it challenging to visit such facilities as schools, hospitals, and nursing facilities. The State is starting to open, therefore this will create more opportunities for the Unit members to bounce back and work their programs again.

Department of Arizona Auxiliary members continue to advocate for veterans, active duty military and their family's rights.

Alma Mattingly - Music Chairman

#### National Security Book of Reports 2020-2021

The National Security Program promotes a strong national defense by supporting servicemembers and their families. In light of COVID-19, which was announced effective March of 2020 the Governor closed Posts making Units having to cancel meetings or hold via zoom. However, keeping on a positive note, Units have worked the mission making sure that the National Security program is supported. This chairman is pleased to share the information that at least 29 Units submitted reports with the following results for the year 2020-2021.

A reminder that the objective is to develop, implement and monitor programs and activities that contribute to the practical, emotional and social well-being of military servicemembers and their families. So what did our Units do this year?

JROTC...With 55 members, ALA, TAL and SAL participated in 25 programs volunteering 240 hours and donating \$1,5245.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)...Only 1 Unit with 30 volunteers submitted 60 hours in participating with a donation of \$50.00.

Wear Red on Fridays; REMEMBER EVERYONE DEPLOYED...although not included on the report form, almost all of the Units have indicated that they are supporting this endeavor.

Yellow Ribbons...A symbol to <u>support our troops</u> and to give us hope. It is also a symbol for POW/MIA (Prisoners of War, Missing in Action), suicide prevention, and much more. Many events were held resulting in 150 ribbons handed out to Veterans, volunteers of 55 members of the ALA, TAL and SAL of 90 hours, and contributing \$35.

POW/MIA...Auxiliary members (400), Legionnaires (250) and Sons of the American Legion (75) held 60 ceremonies donating \$35 with 150 hours of volunteerism. It is nice to hear such dedication honoring and recognizing these individuals each month at meetings as well as military/Legion events.

Pocket Flags...Only a few Units shared that they had schools fold these flags intended for active duty deployed or deploying troops. When schools finally opened back up, these flags could only be dropped off and picked up, no in-person contact was allowed.

Blue Star banners are used as a symbol to recognize the **family member or members that were away, in service of their country**. The blue stars, amidst the white field, represent **each member of the family that is in active duty**. Fifty Auxiliary, along with a few Legionnaires presented 5 banners at a cost of \$25 and reported 20 hours of service.

Gold Star Banners...Five Units gave out banners with 55 Auxiliary members in attendance and a cost of \$120. The Gold star represents a family member killed during active duty and stands for sacrifice made for honor and freedom.

USO (United Service Organization)...Over 25 events were reported with 275 Auxiliary supporting this program by volunteering 75 hours and donating \$450.

Welcome Home Events...events were held with 135 Legion family members volunteering 600 reported hours and donated over \$100.

Operation Comfort Warriors...Units reported holding 4 events with 20 members present and giving 60 hours of volunteer time and donating \$2,100.

Family Readiness Groups...Twenty events were held with 275 Legion family members volunteering 30 hours and donating \$1,600 with over 150 children involved.

Blood Donor...Over 100 blood drives were set up with 185 members giving their time io 530 hours reported and made a monetary donation of \$50.

Go Bags...Several Units shared that they used the bulletin (October 2020) as a guideline to gather items in case of an emergency and have to leave their house. With the COVID virus resulting in death, many members had to prepare to stay various places away from home, thus "go bag" needed to be ready to go.

Other items that Units reported included yard work, social calls, telephone calls, child-care, cooking meals, transportation and much more...250 members to include the Auxiliary and Legion volunteered 2,800 hours and donated \$2,100. Units cut coupons to send to troops overseas in the amount of \$110,000 and more. Multiple Units hosted free meals to First Responders. Quite a few Units sent Christmas cards to the troops and all three Veterans' State Homes. These were dropped off since entry to the hospitals and VA state homes were closed to visitors. The amount of miles driven exceeded well over 6,000.

Twenty-five hours and \$275 supported the Quilts of Valor program.

Again, with COVID prevalent, many Units donated hand-made masks for distribution to local nursing homes, employees at essential stores, etc.

Overall, Units reported that in addition to the above programs under National Security, an additional 4,000 hours and more than \$13,800 were reported in support of this vital program.

This Chairman would like to extend a thank you to those Units who sent in their year-end reports so that the figures above could be recorded.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and stay strong.

For God & Country

Cindy Queen National Security Chairman

### American Legion Auxiliary Past Presidents Parley

Thank you Arizona for your continued support of the Past Presidents Parley Program and in spite of all roadblocks and challenges we are now at end of year, unlike no other? The real statement is that this year we continue our mission to enhance the lives of veterans, military and their families by "Serving those Behind the Badge" in this multi-year's quest to fulfill the National goal of "Century of Service". Past Presidents Parley Program honors our veterans and military through meaningful service, Units in the Department of Arizona support the emotional and social needs of active, reserve and transitioning service members and their families.

Units continue to hold fundraisers in support of this program. This program was supported by dinners, raffle baskets, post garage sales, 50/50 drawings, bingo events and special events. With ten districts in the Department of Arizona, there are three active district parleys. Units and Districts are encouraged to contribute to the Department Fund for Past Presidents Parley to raise funds for Nursing Scholarships and Health Care Occupation Scholarships.

Units report that they pay dues for women currently serving in the military and Women Veterans. Unit 35 honors both active duty and women veterans by supporting WIMSA, Women In Military Service for America Memorial, by yearly adding qualified women members to this federal memorial who have served in the Armed Forces. This same Unit nominated a dual member to the Veteran Trailerblazer program. This female Veteran is the founder of Operation Shockwave, a 501c3 organization dedicated to preventing suicide by empowering Veterans to overcome adversity through the promotion of complementary healing modalities, community outreach opportunities, and transitional/rehabilitation services. Unit 62 reports holding wellness paint sessions for women veterans in a virtual format which ultimately led to helping isolated women veterans. Unit 14 states that they donated \$200 to the Vietnam Memorial in honor of eight deceased women veterans. A total of \$4,690 was donated by Units and Districts

Communication with all Units is made monthly by this Chairman in the form of the distribution of the Parley Newsletter encouraging Units to participate in the program by promoting the experience and knowledge of past Auxiliary leaders for training and encouragement of future Auxiliary leaders; thus, promoting the ever watchful mission of the American Legion Auxiliary. Each month this Chairman honors Past Presidents who continue their commitment to the organization. Honorary Junior Past Presidents are also acknowledged by their ongoing service to the American Legion Auxiliary. This information is also available on the Department website, <a href="www.aladeptaz.org">www.aladeptaz.org</a> under the Member Resources section. In 2019-2020, this Chairman promoted dual Auxiliary-Legion members by honoring a member in the monthly Newsletter. This was a popular feature since some Units have furnished information about newer members to the Auxiliary that hold dual membership.

National PPP Chairman hunted for prior Members of the Year in the Department of Arizona, and is happy to report that four answered the call and their information was forwarded to Carlene Ashworth.

Thank you Arizona for this wonderful ride!!!!

Yolanda Bonilla, 2019-2021 Past Presidents Parley Chairman 602-989-3321 yodobo@msn.com

### PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT 2019 - 2021

## "THE ONE HUNDRED CLUB OF ARIZONA" SERVING THOSE WHO WEAR THE BADGE

Thank you to all that contributed to this Special Project. It was a pleasure working with everyone that held fund raisers, came up with ideas on how to raise funds and the units that supported the First Responders with a special breakfast and luncheon in their honor.

The final amount will be announced at the Department Convention in June and a check will be presented to the 100 Club of Arizona. As a reminder, all the money raised will remain in Arizona to assist Arizona's First Responders.

It was a pleasure working with Linda Welch our Southern Area Chairman. Thank you, Linda!

Josie Herrera, Chairman

May 1, 2021 Dept of Arizona Year-end Public Relations Report 2020-2021

Despite COVID restrictions, Units in Arizona worked hard to stay in the public eye—collaborating with other businesses and non-profits as well as using media to engage their communities:

- Unit 117 sent 11,886 cards to troops via a local radio station. They collected cards at open businesses while they handed out poppies! See attached photos posted on social media.
- Unit 76 Seniors and Juniors collaborated with their local Elks and VFW for crafts and recognition. They also held
  a flag presentation outside at a local school as part of a "Veteran Appreciation Day". It was later streamed inside
  the school on Veteran's Day (Social Media Posting attached). One of their members was recognized by the local
  Independent Newspaper for some of her volunteer work and networking.
- Unit 109 provided hundreds of free Thanksgiving dinners to their local community via a drive-thru. Many local businesses were engaged to contribute to the effort (poster attached).
  - https://www.thevailvoice.com/in-cdt-neighbors-friendsveterans/?fbclid=IwAR06uoDap0QERyyPThAZnHVN6tfcl7YRYTFlyb15pZcMAp0XCRKdwJ1lkAU
- Since August, Unit 62 was published in multiple local papers:
  - https://www.yourvalley.net/peoria-independent/stories/peoria-kids-earn-honors-for-smile-cards-for-covid-patients,205256?
  - https://www.yourvalley.net/peoria-independent/stories/peoria-veterans-shop-for-christmascompliments-of-auxiliary,204232?
  - https://www.yourvalley.net/peoria-independent/stories/organizations-team-up-to-benefit-soldiersbest-friend,201822?
  - https://www.yourvalley.net/peoria-independent/stories/peoria-auxiliary-unit-helps-families-for-holidays,201666?
  - <a href="https://www.yourvalley.net/peoria-independent/stories/peoria-auxiliary-unit-honors-surprise-teen-for-good-deeds,201323">https://www.yourvalley.net/peoria-independent/stories/peoria-auxiliary-unit-honors-surprise-teen-for-good-deeds,201323</a>?
  - https://www.yourvalley.net/peoria-independent/stories/peoria-legion-unit-coming-to-aid-of-homelessveterans,195854?
  - https://www.yourvalley.net/peoria-independent/stories/peoria-teen-raises-money-to-help-homeless,184093?
  - <a href="https://www.yourvalley.net/peoria-independent/stories/peoria-donates-to-american-legion-auxiliarys-efforts,155387">https://www.yourvalley.net/peoria-independent/stories/peoria-donates-to-american-legion-auxiliarys-efforts,155387</a>?

A local high school media group livestreamed their Veteran's Day event: <a href="https://livestream.com/accounts/14884070/events/9376551?fbclid=lwAR1uk2KhSLtwllwTV3-ea2jeoUZJ3eEucOp1-izG8LM4Ej">https://livestream.com/accounts/14884070/events/9376551?fbclid=lwAR1uk2KhSLtwllwTV3-ea2jeoUZJ3eEucOp1-izG8LM4Ej</a> 6IC 0XseAU4Y

Unit 62 continues its free Facebook Live art program that is promoted widely on social media. More recently:

- o https://yourvalley.net/peoria-independent/stories/purple-up-in-peoria-on-april-15,223611?
- https://yourvalley.net/stories/daughters-legion-post-donate-during-holidays,205845?
- o Peoria City Hall was bathed in purple to support the Purple Up! Initiative.
- Published later this month will be Unit awards results, Wildlife Zoo Day for children of Luke AFB, quilt presentation to local women veterans.

- Unit 53 reaches out to every local veteran service organization and promotes their collaboration within their community. Here is a video posted on social media: https://fb.watch/2HIwcDwBEM/
- Unit 53 held a community sale organized with several non-profit organizations
- Unit 22 partnered with a local resort to put together health kits for homeless and at-risk veterans. Kits included shampoo, conditioner, lotion, facial tissues, TP, toothpaste and brushes, lip balm, combs.
- Unit 35 worked with the city to get the city's water tower bathed in orange light to bring attention to the effects of Agent Orange. More recently they set up a public display of Flanders Fields for Poppy Day.
- Unit 65 got their Juniors, wearing their branded clothing, out in the community helping! They also supported COVID testing at their Post; held a public trunk or treat event; held a back to school back-pack event at a local community college.
- Unit 132 held a unique poppy drive attaching poppies to Unit addressed envelopes for the public to take and use to make a donation.
- Unit 11's Wall of Faces growing exhibit was in the local paper after being visited by the National Commander. Thousands of people have viewed it.
- Unit 39 Juniors bought advertising on the back of "USA Team Cheer" shirts
- Unit 66 was on the local radio station in March 2021 talking about who we are, what we do, why we matter. They visit the station regularly.
- Unit 4-- one of their new members teaches third grade, so she had her class color a flag and then write what the flag means to them.

Unit Development and Revitalization

**Book of Reports** 

2020-2021

REVITALIZATION is about identifying new and existing members with new ideas that breathe life into

Units that are declining in membership and mission outreach. It is more than just organizing new units

and trying to help keep their charters. Revitalization is also about providing mentors for struggling Units,

providing training for new members, and finding leaders to replace long-time chairmen and officers.

More importantly, revitalization is about finding, exploring and trying new ways for all members to

become engaged in meaningful opportunities for mission outreach. While revitalization is not focused

on solving Unit disharmony and personality conflicts with the Units, conflict resolution training can help

members learn to solve many of the problems that damage the Auxiliary's reputation, discourage

members and distract from our mission and purpose.

I am pleased to announce we have two new baby units, Cochise Stronghold Unit 141 and Prescott Valley

Unit 140. Both units will be receiving their new baby at State Convention in June. It has been a long 12

months but we have succeeded, Unit 141 is in District 3 located in Pearce, AZ. We will travel to Cochise

Stronghold and Prescott Valley to provide a mini leadership training. Welcome Unit 141 & Unit 140 to

our great organization. Unit 140 is in District 8.

The Department Team traveled to Yoeme Unit 125 in April & May to get that Unit back on track and to

help with nominations and electing new officers and handed out New Members Kit that has been

updated. District 2 President was there to install the new officers in May.

I want to thank you, the units for not having any conflicts this year and if you did you resolved them

yourself, you made my job easy. Thank you for all you do for our great organization.

For God and Country,

Jan Cushing

New Units/UD&R Chairman

## Veterans Affair and Rehabilitation Department of Arizona Book of Reports 2020-2021

The American Legion Auxiliary members of the great state of Arizona assisted veterans in numerous ways. Fundraisers for various veteran programs within the Department, wrapped Christmas gifts and delivered the gifts to veterans, made blanket/lap blankets, and delivered food baskets to name a few. The pandemic did slow down the number of events that are normally held throughout the year, but what was done was astonishing!

Unit 117 in Phoenix held a tie day party with proceeds going to Soldier's Best Friend.

Unit 65 junior members wrapped and delivered gifts to the veterans at Victory Place. Victory Place is an affordable studio and one-bedroom apartments for the homeless and in-need veterans.

Unit 22 in Golden Valley purchased \$950 of goods for the Prescott VA Medical Center.

Modified Gift Shops were held this year. Unit 1 in Phoenix hosted the Phoenix Gift Shop. Even though not as many veterans were served, Auxiliary members enjoyed shopping with the veterans.

Unit 41 Juniors made poppies to distribute to veterans on Veterans Day.

Junior and Senior members of Unit 76 in Show Low made cards and patriotic gifts to present to veterans at their Veterans Day Dinner.

Unit 2 in Tempe delivered 120 cupcakes and Easter/Spring cards for the residents and staff at the Phoenix VA Home.

Many Units celebrated Veterans Day with displays in their Post homes.

Veterans were assisted by ALA members by shopping, cleaning, medical appointment.

Unit 105 in Phoenix held a fundraiser for needed items at the James Walton Home in Phoenix.

Units assisted veteran families with food baskets for Thanksgiving and December holidays.

Unit 62 donated \$802 in personal hygiene products along with new clothing to the Women Veterans of the Navajo Nation.

Units provided gifts and holiday cards to the VA Homes in Phoenix and Tucson.

Unit 14 in Kingman honored their legionnaires who served in WW II with quilts or afghans.

Hundreds of masks were made by Unit members. They were distributed to the VA Homes and VAMC's.

Unit 39 implemented a phone tree to check in on the veterans. It was learned these phone calls were the only meaningful human contact some of veterans had.

The numbers below are the numbers reported by the 30 Units that submitted year end reports.

With the pandemic, the ALA members of the Department of Arizona did an outstanding job assisting veterans, coordinating fundraisers for the VA Homes and VAMC's, and private organizations that support veterans.

Respectively,

Barbara White VA&R Chair

#### Veterans Creative Arts 2020 – 2021

Again, this year brought many challenges to the world. More than ever, veterans need outlets for the physical and emotional trauma of quarantine, on top of other issues. Being isolated is one of the key factors in suicide. Creative Arts has been shown to help many veterans cope with their feelings, so it is more important than ever now!

Activities were sparse this year. Twenty-six Units reported to this chairman as of May 15. A few were past the deadline of May 1, but they reported! A total of \$3,338 was reported donated. Unfortunately, there was not much to report in the way of hours since all the Festival shows have been postponed for 2021, and most local fundraisers couldn't happen. This however, gives Units a chance to still make a difference in the 2021 festivals. Remember, poppy funds may be used for Creative Arts as it is a rehabilitation program. As the country opens up gradually, there are high hopes that the local shows will be able to be held in person later this year. Phoenix, for one, is working hard to make sure a show happens, even if it has to be virtual.

The National Veterans Creative Arts Festival was held virtually for the winners of the 2020 local Creative Arts shows. While the veterans didn't get the chance to meet face-to-face and share their experiences, many shared their stories on video and other veterans across the country had the opportunity to watch.

Thank you to all the Units who reported. Thank you to the Creative Arts Team; Kathy Szaconyi and Sally Fine. And as always, many thanks to Department Secretary Barbara Matteson for all her support in good times as well as difficult times

In the spirit of service, not self,

Margaret Ellis ALA Creative Arts Chairman, 2020 – 2021 Department of Arizona

# Phoenix Christmas Gift Shop Carl T Hayden Medical Center

The gift shop was once again a success because of "YOU"

Units donated cash in the amount of \$4,950.00.

There was also 1 unit and was given a receipt in the amount of \$2,648.36, that did their own shopping. Total cash and value of goods equal a donation totaled \$7,598.36. Thank you all for such a tremendous sow of support. The gift shop was not as well attended as we wanted, but because of the virus we are dealing with, we had to make several changes. Because we could not use the Hospital like past years we moved the gift shop to Luke Greenway Post 1 on the request of the VA Hospital Volunteer office. They furnished the table cloths, the face masks and the thermometer to take all the veterans temperatures before entering the building. This was also the first year that we did not wrap the gifts. We did not want the veterans in the building any longer than necessary. We did offer paper tape and bows to those wo wanted to wrap the gifts at home. The Volunteer office also provided coffee snacks and lunch through Franks Kitchen.

We were contacted by two different groups, one was for a veterans organization called Shockwave, the other was Female Veterans of the Navajo nation. Since these were veterans I spoke with President Patsy Lugo to see if we could help them, she approved. For shockwave they asked for blankets, after shave kits and soap. The Navajo nation they needed blankets and towels and toys.

The gift shop served 97 veterans and 318 family members. Because of all the changes this year we did not have the normal amount that we usually serve. We feel that because we served the two additional organizations we were able to help a great deal more veterans.

It was great to help as many as we did. We had 55 volunteers for a total of 234 volunteer hours.

Thank you president Patsy Lugo for this assignment.

Joyce Livingston - Gift Shop Chairman

Valerie Kelly - Member

Dottie French - Member

# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY TUCSON VA GIFT SHOP 2020-2021

First, I would like to thank madam President Patsy for this appointment as Tucson VA Gift Shop Chairperson, it has really been quite a challenge with this pandemic and not being able to have contact with our veterans because of the pandemic.

I would like to thank the ALA units that were able to make a monetary donation to the Tucson VA Gift Shop.

Units: 8, 36,41,56,95,97 due to the ALA members a deposit of \$1300.00 was made to the Tucson VA gift shop account.

Since, the ALA was not able to provide a hands-on, physical in-person gift shop this year, the ALA was able to provide 200 Christmas gift cards at \$20.00 each for our veterans, total came to \$4000.00. Had it not been for the ALA members and their generous monetary donations made in the previous years and what was donated this fiscal year we would have not been able to provide gift cards. A special thank you to Kathy Szakonyi for helping purchase the gift cards and was able to hand them out to our veterans. We deeply appreciate all that you do.

My sincere thank you to all the units. I hope that next year the ALA will be able to have the in-person gift shop.

The American Legion Auxiliary makes a powerful and positive statement when serving and volunteering for our veterans!!!!

Dolores Chavez, Chairperson Becky Ruiz, Co-Chairperson Tucson VA Gift Shop

## Book of Reports Prescott ALA Whipple Christmas Gift Shop Bob Stump Northern Arizona Veterans Health Care Center

Units in this area: 3, 4, 6, 12, 13, 14, 25, 30, 31, 37, 40, 42, 46, 57, 62, 69, 76, 78, 79, 81, 86, 90, 93, 103, 108, 126, 135, 136 & 139.

Due to Covid 19 in 2020, our Christmas Gift Shop, which opens after Thanksgiving and held in the Theater Building had to be cancelled.

The VA employees of Voluntary Services really stepped up and we were able to provide 2 gifts per Veteran, if they were living on the VA grounds, which turned out to be 78 Veterans. They filled out a gift questionnaire and returned to gift shop personnel who purchased the gifts via the Internet. The gifts were wrapped and returned to the Veterans. If unable to pick up they were mailed out. After all gifts were returned to the Veterans and all packages were mailed, statements for the total cost was mailed to me from Voluntary Services and they were reimbursed from the Gift Shop checking account. We were unable to provide gifts for children in 2020.

Pam Taylor, Trish Aljets and I cleaned out the storage room. The only things left to give away were women's toiletries. We filled 60 Christmas stockings and 30 were distributed to Veterans to give to whomever. We took 30 stockings to the DAV to be handed out there.

Hopefully, there will be a Christmas Gift Shop in 2021 but it will have to start from scratch so donations from above Units listed will be much appreciated. A BIG thanks to those who have already donated.

I will be Chairman of the Gift Shop until the end of 2021 and then Trish Aljets has graciously accepted to be the new Gift Shop Chairman. I have held the above position for 24 years and have enjoyed every minute of it. I want to Thank Patricia Lugo for appointing me for the past few years and all the previous Presidents of whom I had the privilege of serving with at the Gift Shop.

Carmen Goswick, Chairman Sally Fine & Mitsu Burns, Co-Chairman

#### State Veteran Home – Phoenix

#### Book of Reports 2021

First, I would like to thank President Patricia Lugo for the privilege of Serving as Chairman of the program.

It has not been an easy year with the pandemic running loose. Not being able to visit the Veterans was hard. As a Unit, we were pretty well shut down for the whole year. I'm hoping with the new year and a new Manager at the Sate Home, we will have a good year 2021-2022. The new State Home manager is Brittany Tashner and sounds like she will be easy to work with.

We have 4 Districts assigned to our Phoenix State Veterans Home. That is 47 Units and with that I would like to take the time to thank the 8 Units that donated to our programs. Units are 5, 6,14, 27,29,61, 81 and 91. THANKS...GREAT JOB. The money they received from us this year goes toward the things they need. Their Christmas, Easter and all holiday parties. There funds provided items on their wish list, snacks and anything needed.

So here's to a new year, new people and new programs. Keep in mind these are more ways to help our Veterans stuck in a place with no future. We can give them out time and talents. I know there is a lot of that out there.

Thanks, it has been a quite a privilege for me to do this job.

Pat Stanaski - Chairman

**ASVH Phoenix** 

#### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, VA&R PROGRAM

Hello, To My Fellow Auxiliary Sisters,

My name is Gloria Torres. I am the Treasurer for Unit #41. I have the honor of being asked to be the Chairman of the VA&R Program for the Veterans Hospital In November 2020.

As the Chairman, I had to go through the Veteran's Hospital Volunteer Training, clear the FBI fingerprints, and do blood work thru the Hospital. Never in my life did I ever realized what it takes to become a Volunteer with the Veterans Hospital.

They are now just starting to take baby steps with allowing the Volunteers to help. They had a Volunteer Welcoming Party on May 14 with food, music, and free gifts for current Volunteers. It was fun event and enjoyed by all that attended.

I am especially honored because it involves directly working with the Veterans Hospital Programs, and for me that was the main reason I joined the Auxiliary five years ago to help our Veterans.

I know it has been a difficult time for all of us due to Covit-19, but hopefully we can all go back to some "normal" time and start enjoying ourselves raising funds for Auxiliary Programs.

Thank you for your past donations, and support to the VA&R Program, and please continue your donations to this worthy Auxiliary Program.

Gloria Torres, Chairman, VA&R Program

#### VA&R REPORT TUCSON VA MEDICAL CENTER BOOK OF REPORTS

All events are suspended until further notice. There is communication that some volunteer activities will be restarting. No specifics as of this date. Thank you volunteers for your help!

Moderna vaccine has arrived and all staff who desired vaccination have been vaccinated. All Veterans and caregivers have been offered the two dose vaccine. Current numbers are encouraging according to Director.

Southwest Blind Rehabilitation Center is now opening back up. There is limited visitation at SAVAHCS. Monetary donations are being accepted at this time. American Legion Auxiliary Gift Shop was done differently this year.

There is a new program in start-up process to assist Veterans patients with food insecurities. Once implemented, a separate food pantry will fill this need.

The grand total of monetary donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021 is \$800.

The grand total of material and activity donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for February 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021 is \$41,114.42. This amount includes the Christmas Gift Shop donation for 2019. Thank you Unit 7, Unit 24, Unit 66, Unit 131 and Unit 132 for your generous donations to support our programs.

Four registered hospital volunteers donated time which was credited to the American Legion Auxiliary. The grand total of registered volunteer hours May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021 is 1,012. **S AVAHCS is in the process of bringing back volunteers. Volunteers will be phased in as needed and the process will be closely monitored by the Director. Volunteers will be contacted by the Voluntary Service office as their services are needed. One more Auxiliary volunteer has been called back.** 

This chairman has volunteered 145.5 hours and logged 1,980 miles this year in service to the Tucson VA Medical Center as of April 30, 2021. This chairman has now logged over 4,000 hours in service to SAVAHCS. This chairman was elected to be the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the VAVS Executive Committee at the meeting on October 8, 2020. This chairman has attended every Executive Committee meeting and every VAVS meeting this year. The audit of the books was completed. This chairman is working with the Homeless Program to ensure that our Homeless Veterans and those in Transitional Housing have the food and beverages that they need during this time of enormous stress on all community resources. This chairman is working with the Recreation departments to purchase needed supplies for the National Veterans Creative Arts Program and other recreational activities. Annual Joint Review was completed November 10, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Szakonyi, VAVS Representative