

# HIGH HEELS & SPURS IN SERVICE

February 2018

**NATIONAL PRESIDENT...**her official visit is in March... see flyer in this packet...**we want to have a paper and hygiene products drive take to Sister Jose's Place during her visit. Please see the other side of this for National President Preferences.**

**DUES INCREASE...** We understand that your Unit is working very hard on the program and it just January; however, you must be pro active on this issue...**NATIONAL** is raising they portion of dues...per capita to \$12.00 per senior...that means a dues increase at the Unit level...that's you. **You will now be sending to Department \$4.00 for Juniors and \$19.00 for Seniors.** Please address this now. We **MUST** have the requested information **on or before March 15, 2018. The form is in this packet.**

**MISSION TRAINING & JUNIORS...**did I see you in Vegas.

**DEPARTMENT CONVENTION...**It is true, it is at Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass. Housing information is in the packet along with the registration form

**GIRLS STATE...**School packets are at the schools. Contact your schools and get those delegates.

**IMPACT REPORT...**in this packet...look at them...learn what you need to do...track and report.

## **DIRECTORY ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS...**

District 2...President email...[ymartinez1053@msn.com](mailto:ymartinez1053@msn.com)

Unit 8...mailing address PO Box 11312, Casa Grande, AZ 85130

PDP...Karen Smith 1133 Carmelita Dr, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

**MEMBERSHIP...** **"WE CAN-CAN increase membership, YES WE CAN".** Membership is everyone's job. Please double check the information on the applications...have someone else check...we spending too much time getting missing information and corrections. Please let your members know that if they pay online they need to let you know. ..National does not send out cards.

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

**Everyone...**We encourage you to work hard and watch deadlines...it takes both to be a winner and make membership meaningful.

**"High Heels & Spurs"**

**Barbara Matteson**  
Dept Secretary/Treasurer  
[secretary@aladeptaz.org](mailto:secretary@aladeptaz.org)



**Pat Stanaski**  
Dept Membership Processing  
[membership@aladeptaz.org](mailto:membership@aladeptaz.org)



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT CONVENTION  
JUNE 21-24-2018**

**PRE - REGISTRATION - \$10.00**

**REGISTRATION AT CONVENTION - \$12.00**

**PLEASE RETURN FORM WITH CHECK MADE OUT TO:**

**ALA DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA**

**4701 N 19<sup>th</sup> Ave Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ 85015**

UNIT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (PRINT)	POSITION/TITLE (PRINT)	PUFL	HLM	Veteran
--------------	------------------------	------	-----	---------

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

**PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE JUNE 14, 2018**

**NO REFUNDS OR SUBSTITUTIONS**

---

**YOU MUST HAVE YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD AT REGISTRATION**

**YOU WILL NOT GET YOUR REGISTRATION BADGE WITHOUT THE MEMBERSHIP CARD**

**American Legion Auxiliary  
High Heels and Spurs In Service to Veterans  
President's Message**

**February 2018**

February is full of many activities and are you aware that National Mission Training was held on February 3 in Las Vegas, Nevada? It was a great experience, learning and connecting with lots of Auxiliary members and also, our Juniors attended their Western Division Meeting. If you missed this one there will be more held next year. Heads up Arizona; there will be three Creative Arts Festivals this year – Tucson, February 5-7, Phoenix, February 7-8 and Prescott, February 14-16.

This year is flying by at an extremely fast pace and the countdown is on to Convention 2018 which will be held at the Sheraton Grand Hotel at Wild Horse Pass in Phoenix from June 21 thru June 24. Please look for details in this month's newsletter.

National President Diane Duscheck's theme is "ALA Member Pride" and the ALA Foundation is her Special Project. President Diane will visit the Tucson area March 7 through 10 and has plans to tour Fisher House, the VA Home, the Blind Center, and the Community Living Center. Do make plans to attend the National President's Banquet at Post 66 in Green Valley on March 9. She asks that in lieu of gifts; please make a donation to the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation. We are so excited to meet her and give her a tour of facilities available to Veterans in the Tucson area.

A HUGE THANK YOU FOR YOUR MID-YEAR REPORTS! Your Department Chairmen appreciate when you take time to share you work by reporting. Thank you District 2 and District 3 for the hospitality and camaraderie extended to me on my official visits. Send invitations to your Unit or District by either MAIL at: 15606 South Gilbert Road, Lot 103, Chandler, AZ 85225 or Email to [yodobo@msn.com](mailto:yodobo@msn.com)

Until next time!

High Heels and Spurs in Service to Veterans,

**Yolanda Bonilla  
ALA Department President  
602-989-3321  
[yodobo@msn.com](mailto:yodobo@msn.com)**

Date	Description	Location
November 3-5, 2017	Fall Conference	Doubletree Inn, Tucson, AZ
November 8, 2017	Creative Arts Planning Meeting @ 8 am	VA, Phoenix, AZ
November 10, 2017	Post 65 Veterans Day Commemoration	Phoenix, AZ, Post 65
November 11, 2017	Veterans Day Parade	Tucson, AZ
November 12, 2017	District 11 Official Visit`	Wickenburg, AZ. Post 12
November 18, 2017	Girls State Dinner	Tempe, AZ, Post 2
November 19, 2017	District 12 Official Visit	Chandler, AZ, Post 35
November 25, 2017	Post 26 Dedication Ceremony	Mesa, AZ, Post 26
November 27, 2017	VA Gift Shop	Prescott, AZ
December 4, 2017	VA Gift Shop	Phoenix, AZ
December 6, 2017	VA Gift Shop	Tucson, AZ
December 7, 2017	Pearl Harbor Day	Wesley Bolin Plaza, Phoenix
December 9, 2017	District 6 Official Visit	Snowflake, AZ Post 126
Decmber 13, 2017	Unit 39 Official Visit	Gilbert, AZ, Post 39
December 19, 2017	Unit 1 Official Visit	Phoenix, AZ, kPost 1
January 3, 2017	El Zaribah Installation	Phoenix, AZ
January 6, 2017	Strategic Planning Meeting`	Department Office, Phoenix, AZ
January 6, 2018	Department Open House	Department Office, Phoenix, Az
January 14, 2018	District 3 Meeting`	Tombstone, AZ
January 14, 2018	Southern Run Tour	Tucson Area
January 17, 2018	Post 145 Charter Anniversary	Post 145
January 21, 2018	District 2 Official Visit	Tucson, AZ, Post 36
January 27, 2018	National Security/Children & Youth workshop	Phoenix, AZ, Post 1
February 2-3, 2018	Mission Training	Las Vegas, NV
February 5, 2018	Unit 27 Official Visit	Apache Junction, AZ, Post 27
February 7-8, 2018	Creative Arts	Phoenix VA, Phoenix, AZ
February 10, 2018	District 12 Rehab Dinner	Chandler, AZ Post 35
February 23-25, 2018	ALA NEC Meeting	Indianapolis, IN
March 7-10, 2018	National President's Visit	Tucson Area
March 17-18, 2018	District 1 Official Visit, Unit 19 Birthday	Yuma, AZ, kPost 19
March 28-April 1, 2018	National Commander's Visit` - Northern Run	Northern Arizona
April 7, 2018	Strategic Planning Meeeting	Department Office, Phoenix, AZ
April 14, 2018	Post 29 Dinner	Glendale, AZ , Post 29
April 19, 2019	Unit 35 Official Visit	Chandler, AZ, Post 35
April 28, 2018	District 7 Official Visit`	William AZ,

American Legion Auxiliary  
High Heels and Spurs in Service to Veterans  
Auxiliary Emergency Fund  
February 2018

Hello fellow Auxiliary Members!! This Chairman hopes you have recovered from the Holidays and are ready to do the Auxiliary business for the remainder of the fiscal year! I am creating this page in the middle of January for the February packet so if you are thinking "this lady is way behind" that is why.

Would like to address keeping AEF alive and well on the local level. It is probably a for sure thing that one of the members of your Unit has in the past, is right now or will be in the future in need of some small personal help financially. Does your Unit have a small fund that can be utilized to help someone over a small hump? Each Unit definitely should have a fund that can be utilized to help in a small, emergency way. Probably 90% of the Units contribute to AEF on a Department/National level but a lot less than that have a fund of their own! Would like to suggest making that a Unit goal.

Some ideas that were passed on from the mid-year reports are: Have a small collection from each member at each meeting. One of the Units calls this the door collection and uses 25cents. This is turned into the treasurer and over time adds up for an emergency. Another Unit is holding a 50/50 and the half they keep is placed into the Unit emergency fund. One Unit has a fundraiser that is repeated every month and one third is put in the local emergency fund! Lots of quick, easy ways to slowly build up a local fund.

Linda Ruyle AEF Chairman

Lexis Escudero

[lindaruyle@ gmail.com](mailto:lindaruyle@gmail.com) 480.766.1550

623.221.7132

**The American Legion Auxiliary**  
**Department of Arizona**  
**AMERICANISM**  
**February 2018**

The American Legion passed Resolution No. 163 at the 1960 National Convention in Miami that established February as **Americanism Month**. “It is a time to reflect on what it means to be an American and rededicate ourselves [and our posts] to taking action that will uphold the principle of 100-percent Americanism”.

Americanism is one of the Legion’s four pillars – which is simply the love of America, loyalty to its ideals and institutions, allegiance to its flag, willingness to defend it against all enemies [foreign and domestic] and a desire to pass on the blessings of liberty to future generations.

**Four U.S. Army Chaplains** gave up their life jackets and prayed together when their transport ship, the U.S.A.T Dorchester was torpedoed eighty miles south of Greenland on February 3, 1943. The Chaplains came from different faiths and backgrounds. John P. Washington was a Catholic Priest from Kearny, NJ, Rabbi Alexander D. Goode was a native of York, PA. Clark V. Poling was a minister in the Reformed Church in America in Schenectady, NY. George L. Fox, a decorated World War One veteran, was a Methodist minister in Gilman, VT.

The story of the Four Chaplain’s includes not only the background of the Chaplains, their interfaith cooperation, and their selfless sacrifice but it also includes the memories of the close to seven hundred lives lost that day, the stories of the survivors, the bravery of the rescuers and those who are inspired even today. We may never be asked to give up our own life jacket to save another person, but the story of the **Four Chaplains** can inspire us to reach out a helping hand in a time of need.

In 1941, the **USO** (*United Service Organization*) is organized as a way to serve and entertain American troops. Today, their mission is to “strengthen America’s military service members by keeping them connected to family, home and country, throughout their service to the nation”. The USO provides programs, entertainment and services at more than 200 USO locations worldwide, including Afghanistan, Djibouti, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Germany, Italy, Japan, Iraq, South Korea and the United States.

**Americanism Essay Contest** – This year’s theme is ***What can I personally do to promote Americanism in my school or community***. A citation and \$50 prize will be awarded, along with an additional \$50 donation to the *Children of Warriors National Presidents Scholarship Fund*. Encourage your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, neighbors – any child in grades 3-12. Still plenty of time to spread the word and to get the entries sent to the Americanism committee by **April 1, 2018**.

**Upcoming Patriotic Days:**

2/3	Four Chaplains Day	3/5	Seabee Birthday
2/4	USO Birthday	3/13	K-9 Veterans Day
2/19	President’s Day	3/15	The American Legion Birthday
	Coast Guard Reserve Birthday	3/25	Medal of Honor Day
3/3	Navy Reserve Birthday	3/29	Vietnam Veterans Day

**Reporting dates to remember:**

Americanism Essay Contest due 4/1/2018

Year-end reports due 5/1/2018

High Heels and Spurs In Service to Veterans,

Michele Root  
*Americanism Chairman*  
(602) 501-7940  
[Americanism2017@gmail.com](mailto:Americanism2017@gmail.com)

Linda Lopez  
*Americanism Committee Member*  
(928) 322-7655  
[llopez10@cableone.net](mailto:llopez10@cableone.net)

# **ARIZONA STATE VETERANS HOME – TUCSON (ASVH-TUCSON)**

## **FEBRUARY, 2018**

Ladies,

Happy Valentine's Day!

We are in dire need of units to host the monthly Birthday Cake and Ice Cream Socials for May through the next year. **Please contact Fran Johnston at 520-599-4786 to host a social.**

### **EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES HOSTED BY AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**

Thank you Auxiliary Unit 24 for your wreaths. We missed you in January's bulletin. Thank you Auxiliary Units 32 and 45 for your donations.

**REMINDER:** Second Monday monthly Arizona State Veterans Home-Tucson  
Steering Committee Meeting at 11:00 a.m.

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

### **ARIZONA STATE VETERANS HOME-TUCSON (ASVH-TUCSON) ITEMS NEEDED – WISH LIST**

1. Need candy bars, chips, and soda beverages for the bingo activities. Candy bars used to give to bingo winners. They really need 9-12" latex balloons, the variety of colors package, which is used for therapy activities. This therapy is fantastic for memory care unit, Bldg. #5

Note: Balloon therapy is excellent and I have experienced firsthand with my mother in the past. Fantastic for eye-hand coordination, touch, social, exercise, and memory therapy.

2. Sam Nanez, recreation manager, also advised the committee on additional needs, for example:

Cribbage boards	Velvet art painting
Water colors	Art paper
Batteries needed i.e., AA, AAA, C, D, and 9 Volt sizes	CD players
Puzzle Books	Word Search Books
Arts and crafts – supplies	Crossword Puzzles
Audible Books	

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

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

#### **February Birthdays**

James 2	Allen 8	Robert 8	Roddy 11	Thomas 11
Jack 14	Lewis 18	Clinton 26	Joseph 28	Charles 29

And, God bless the residents of ASVH-Tucson who have passed away recently. Please keep them and their families in your prayers. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all and your family!

## **EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

### **January Events**

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| January 13 | POWWOW – 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. – Produce Donations activity   |
| January 15 | ASVH-Tucson will have movie night in honor of Martin Luther King.  |
| January 16 | Birthday and Ice Cream Social hosted by ALA at 1:30 p.m. Volunteers to set up at 1:00 p.m. Hosted by ALA Unit 59 and department committee.       |
| January 30 | ASVH-Tucson Annual Chili Cook-off at 2:00 p.m. Open to anyone who wants to join the contest. Residents will be selected as judges for the event. |

### **February Events**

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| February 4  | Super Bowl Tailgate and munchies and beer in Sports Lounge at ASVH-Tucson hosted by ALA and Unit 109 respectively from 2:00 p.m. Munchies to include a variety of pizza, pigs in the blanket, chips, dip, etc. |
| February 14 | Recreation Department to host Vaudeville and Music entertainment. American Legion Auxiliary Department committee to provide candy boxes shaped in hearts for each resident.                                    |
| February 16 | Chinese New Year – entertainment hosted by ASVH-Tucson. Time TBD.  |
| February 22 | Rodeo Parade – Escort residents to designated area in front of home on Ajo Way. Need volunteers to escort residents to attend the parade. Hot dogs and entertainment after the parade at the home.             |

### **March**

Planning visit from American Legion Auxiliary National President - TBD  
St. Patrick's Day – TBD

### **April**

Easter - TBD

Please remember if you have any ideas, want to donate, host an event, or volunteer call Nancy or me.  
Thank you.

For God and country,

Anna Marie Arenas  
ASVH-Tucson Chairman  
[aarenas@cox.net](mailto:aarenas@cox.net)  
520-404-7646

Nancy Morrow  
ASVH-Tucson Co-Chairman  
[nancymorrow52381@gmail.com](mailto:nancymorrow52381@gmail.com)  
520-867-1725



## Chaplain

### February 2018

Unit and District President's, please make sure the Chaplains are keeping track of how many cards are being sent out. Also, have them keep track of the number of visits they make. I will be reporting both numbers on the year-end report.

Do you or the Chaplain or Unit members share the information in the Reflections article in *Auxiliary* magazine? There are some powerful words National President Evelyn Espinola has shared with us in the November *Auxiliary* magazine.

***Ladies, I have received very few requests to send cards. PLEASE let me know if you would like a card sent to a Legion Family member. Please email or call me, email preferred. Thank you to those who have contacted me to send out a card.***

*IMPORTANT -- It is not too early to start sending your prayers, inspiration poems/quotes, favorite scriptures or anything inspirational to me for President Yolanda's prayer book. You can email or snail mail them to me.*

I leave you with this prayer . . .

Lord hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them  
and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need,  
Amen.

High Heels & Spurs In Service to Veterans

Barbara White  
1616 W Nopal Dr  
Chandler AZ 85244  
602-908-2980  
barbarawhite99@gmail.com



## *Creative Arts*

*February 2018*

It's Here! It's February and your local Creative Arts Festivals are happening! I hope you get a chance to visit one. When you see and hear the many creations by the veterans, you not only see how talented many of them are, but you can *feel* how therapeutic the arts can be. Just as everything in life, some things appeal to some while not to others. That's what makes us all unique. But you don't necessarily have to like something, to be able to feel something about it. You don't need to make some sort of meaning out of everything you see and hear. Relax and open your senses. The artist put his/her emotions into it and there is pride in the accomplishment. That's what is important. And I know there will be some things you see and hear that you really like!

Once again, here are the dates for the three VAMCs in Arizona. Enjoy!

Tucson; February 5-7

Phoenix; February 7-8

Prescott; February 14-16

Contact your Department Creative Arts Team for specific information:

Phoenix: Margaret Ellis     [maggylou@cox.net](mailto:maggylou@cox.net)     480-818-3166

Prescott: Sally Fine     [mightyfine123@gmail.com](mailto:mightyfine123@gmail.com)     928-713-5842

Tucson: Kathy Szakonyi     [N3SAD@aol.com](mailto:N3SAD@aol.com)     520-400-5839



## DEPARTMENT CONVENTION 2018 PRE-CALL INFO

We are excited to announce American Legion Department of Arizona Annual Convention to be held at the “Sheraton Grand” at Wild Horse Pass. 5594 W. Wild Horse Pass Blvd, Phoenix, AZ 85226.

The **Room Rate is \$113.00 per night**, tax and room gratuity inclusive.  
Includes

- Unlimited internet access
- Two complimentary bottled waters in room
- Local, long distance (domestic) and 1-800 guest room calls
- Daily shuttles service to Phoenix Premium Outlet Mall and dining and sports venues
- Complimentary self-parking

\$20.00 per day extra is needed to use the Aji Spa Fitness Center

### Reservation Cut-Off Date

The final date to secure accommodations at the contracted rate is **May 30, 2018**. On that date, any additional reservations will be made based on availability of the resort. The resort will no longer be able to guarantee the contracted group rate after the cut-off date.

### The 2018 Annual Department of Arizona Convention

Begins Thursday, June 21, 2018  
at the Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass (**not the casino**)

A phone number contact will be available soon. The web page below has a “Contact Us” link that will show “TBD” until a phone number is provided.

Book your Hotel room TODAY!

Click here:

<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/events/start.action?id=1801085228&key=37434FE3>

Or call [866.837.4156](tel:866.837.4156)

Be sure to confirm the \$113 all inclusive daily rate.

# EDUCATION

## FEBRUARY 2017

Thank you, Auxiliary membership, for all you do for veterans, the community and children and youth. Think creative, be creative, and share your ideas. It is getting late in the year, so get those “heels” out (these shoes are made for walking) and start “spurring” (encouraging) the membership to participate in the Auxiliary Programs and Projects. Let’s show the community how “Heels and Spurs in Service to Veterans” works for everyone in the community, not just veterans. Smile - *A smile is the light in your window that tells others that there is a caring, sharing person inside.* Denis Waitley

February is the time to check with the schools about the scholarships. If you haven’t taken any scholarship documents to the schools, time is getting short as the turn-in dates are getting closer. Check the national website ([www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org)) to ensure your application is current. Review the application and keep a copy handy for reference. These applications are lengthy, so get them out now. Some dates to remember:

Application due to Unit on or before March 1, 2017

Certified Unit Winner due to Department March 15, 2017

Certified Department Winner due to Divisional Chairperson April 1, 2017

Certified Divisional Entry due to National Chairperson by April 15, 2017

Certified National Entry is then sent to National Headquarters

Have you checked on or ended your Essay Contest? Perhaps you have not started one yet. There is still plenty of time to conduct an Essay Contest and get some awards out. If completed, did you give out awards or certificates?

How about your Veterans in the School Room? Your Post has plenty of veterans to choose from to complete this task. Have you approached anyone yet? Perhaps some of the veterans on your local Honor Guard would like to participate.

Did you check with the schools for supplies needed after Christmas? How about the clipping of box top coupons and “labels for education”? To create incentive within your Unit, you can offer a certificate available from membership. the National Website to present to your



Start now to promote “Teacher Appreciation Week occurring in the first full week in May. Order or create certificates for the teachers and distribute. *Looking for something new???* Loop a small blue ribbon, tack a poppy to the middle; or a larger blue ribbon (ends v’d) with the poppy on top and present to the teachers in your assigned school (of course you need to include a nice pin to attach to clothing). The making of this small token of appreciation could be counted under the Poppy Program, and the presentation counted under Education.

For God and Country in Service to our Veterans

***Kat Sticklin***

Kat Sticklin, Education Chairperson  
1519 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Safford, 85546  
[gsticklin@cablone.net](mailto:gsticklin@cablone.net)  
928-428-7431 / Cell/ 928-322-1550

### ***Committee Members***

Ladonna Nieman  
Barbara Ballard  
Lydia Rodella-Cress  
Teri Thiessen

# LEGISLATIVE 2017 – 2018 February

**We need to protect the rights of our veterans, active military and their families!**

I would like to express my appreciation to the few, yes, the few, that submitted a Mid-Year Report. Reports were received from the following Districts:

District 2 – 3 Units

District 6 – 1 Unit

District 7 – 3 Units

District 8 – 3 Units

District 11 – 1 Unit

District 12 – 4 Units

**(Please provide this bulletin to your Unit Legislative Chairman)**

In the beginning of every new administration we are Gun-Ho in doing our best in providing a service to our veterans, active military and their families. A key part to supporting them is through legislation. Legislation can take away their rights, shorten their benefits/programs, or vastly improve them. We, as Auxiliary members, want to make a difference and vastly improve the life styles of our veterans, active military and their families. We must be Pro-Active!!!

I can't express enough times on how important it is that our Auxiliary members sign up to receive current legislation information through the Legislative Action Center (<http://capwiz.com/legion/issues>). Everyone that is signed up has an opportunity to send emails/letters to your Congressmen advocating for bill passage to better the lifestyle of our veterans. As of December 2017, we have 8678 members. Can you imagine our Congressmen receiving letters/emails from the State of Arizona Auxiliary demanding the veterans, active military and their families' rights be saved? It would be MASSIVE

The Year-End Report is due to me on May 1, 2018. What you will be striving for is the "Most Outstanding Legislative Program." Arizona Department Legislative plaques are:

- Jessie Gribble Memorial Plaque to a Unit with membership of 151 and over; the Betty Kent Legislative Plaque to a Unit with membership of 150 and under. The Unit Chairman is required to create a notebook and type a narrative, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Alice Thomas National Legislative Bulletin "The Dispatch" Plaque; which is awarded to the unit submitting the greatest number of subscriptions to The Dispatch according to percentage of membership. Included are subscriptions sent to libraries, schools, V.A. Hospitals, Nursing Homes, etc.
  - The address to order "The Dispatch" newspaper is: The Dispatch, The American Legion, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.
  - For Plaque and Narrative Writing information go to [www.aladeptz.org](http://www.aladeptz.org) and connect to the links: Member Resources; Reward, Reporting & Recognition; 2017-18 Department Awards Book.

Encourage your Auxiliary to advocate legislative issues promoted by The American Legion and the importance of attending Town Hall meetings and legislative receptions in their communities; to continue developing relationships with their elected officials.

Yours in Service

Patricia Thomas, Legislative Chairman

(623) 670-1788

[mpthomas4@msn.com](mailto:mpthomas4@msn.com)

## **AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY HISTORY**

**February 2018**

### **HEELS AND SPURS**

LADIES FROM THE GREAT STATE OF ARIZONA, I HOPE YOU ALL HAD A GREAT MONTH IN FEBRUARY AS IS EVIDENCED BY SOME OF THE MEETING INFORMATION I RECEIVED AND SEEING IN AZ RING YOUR BELL.

SPRING IS IN THE AIR AND THE WEATHER WILL BE ASKING FOR YOUR ACTIVITIES. WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE RECORDING, REPORTING AND MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE AS YOU WORK ALL THE PROGRAMS YOUR UNITS ARE WORKING ON.

NOW IS THE PERFECT TIME TO START WORKING ON YOUR HISTORY BOOKS. ALL THE NEEDED INFORMATION WAS HANDED OUT IN YOUR FALL CONFERENCE PACKETS.

JUST A REMINDER OF THE FOUR CATEGORIES FOR HISTORY BOOKS;

CONNIE ERICKSON MIDDLEBROOK PLAQUE	JUNIOR HISTORY
HELEN BLAKESLEE MEMORIAL PLAQUE	UNITS WITH MEMBERSHIP 150 AND UNDER
BETTY KENT PLAQUE	UNITS WITH MEMBERSHIP 151 AND OVER
RASMUSSEN DISTRICT HISTORY PLAQUE	DISTRICT HISTORY

YOU CAN GO ON LINE AND DOWN LOAD THE WORD FORMAT AND CRITERIA FOR EACH AWARD. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

WE DID NOT HAVE ANY RESPONSES TO LAST MONTHS TRIVIA QUESTIONS SO THIS MONTH WILL BE AN EASIER ONE.

TODAYS QUESTION. HOW MANY AZ PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS HAVE SERVED AS WESTERN DIVISION VICE PRESIDENTS? LOOK FORWARD TO ADDING ANOTHER WINNER TO THE PAST RESPONDERS.

LADIES, PLEASE CONTINUE WITH THE AWESOME WORK YOU DO AS YOU KICK UP YOUR HEELS AND SPURS AND DO THE CAN CAN.

GOD BLESS YOU AND GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JENNIE MOLINA

DEPT OF AZ HISTORIAN

[truelepa@gmail.com](mailto:truelepa@gmail.com) (520) 220-8460

## **Are Your Juniors Signed Up for the Mission Training in Las Vegas?**

The most exciting time of the year is coming up for Juniors to take part in their own "Mission Training" session in Las Vegas on the 3rd of February.

I hope all of the units have been encouraging their Juniors to attend this Mission Training Conference and **National Junior Meeting**.

The Juniors hold their own meeting just down the hall from the Auxiliary events. Any girls who have attended this Mission Training in the past will tell you how much fun they had experienced. This is where the Juniors have formed life long friends.

The **National Junior Meeting** is open for girls 8-17. Each Junior needs to register on line for the conference and just follow the instructions on the website.

I am pleased to announce that a few of our Arizona units have turned in mid-years reports telling us what their Juniors have been doing the first half of this year. These girls have really been busy doing wonderful things for their local and military communities which includes our Veterans.

I see some of the pictures that you have posted on the Auxiliary website but some of those units never send a report on what their Juniors are doing. If you don't tell us, we can't brag about the fact that we are so proud of these young ladies and their mentors. These Juniors are our future and by reporting their events, it helps give other units ideas as to what their units could also be doing.

Believe me, no one likes to write reports because we are afraid we aren't good at writing them. It really doesn't matter in the long run because as this years Department Chairman, I will be judging on what your Juniors did and not on how good you can write a report. Proper grammar does count if you want your report to go to Western Division and onto the National level, but we can work on that part when it happens. Please give your Juniors credit for what they do as they deserve to be recognized.

Remember, "Sharing is Caring"

Any Question text or call me  
Karon Quigg 623-32-1621

**See You In Las Vegas**

# LEGISLATIVE 2017 – 2018 February

**We need to protect the rights of our veterans, active military and their families!**

I would like to express my appreciation to the few, yes, the few, that submitted a Mid-Year Report. Reports were received from the following Districts:

District 2 – 3 Units

District 6 – 1 Unit

District 7 – 3 Units

District 8 – 3 Units

District 11 – 1 Unit

District 12 – 4 Units

**(Please provide this bulletin to your Unit Legislative Chairman)**

In the beginning of every new administration we are Gun-Ho in doing our best in providing a service to our veterans, active military and their families. A key part to supporting them is through legislation. Legislation can take away their rights, shorten their benefits/programs, or vastly improve them. We, as Auxiliary members, want to make a difference and vastly improve the life styles of our veterans, active military and their families. We must be Pro-Active!!!

I can't express enough times on how important it is that our Auxiliary members sign up to receive current legislation information through the Legislative Action Center (<http://capwiz.com/legion/issues>). Everyone that is signed up has an opportunity to send emails/letters to your Congressmen advocating for bill passage to better the lifestyle of our veterans. As of December 2017, we have 8678 members. Can you imagine our Congressmen receiving letters/emails from the State of Arizona Auxiliary demanding the veterans, active military and their families' rights be saved? It would be MASSIVE

The Year-End Report is due to me on **May 1, 2018**. What you will be striving for is the "Most Outstanding Legislative Program." Arizona Department Legislative plaques are:

- Jessie Gribble Memorial Plaque to a Unit with membership of 151 and over; the Betty Kent Legislative Plaque to a Unit with membership of 150 and under. The Unit Chairman is required to create a notebook and type a narrative, not to exceed 1,000 words.
- Alice Thomas National Legislative Bulletin "The Dispatch" Plaque; which is awarded to the unit submitting the greatest number of subscriptions to The Dispatch according to percentage of membership.
  - As of January 2018, The Dispatch is digital, free through <https://www.legion.org/dispatch>; no longer available in print. **Criteria for plaque is currently under review.**
  - For Plaque and Narrative Writing information go to [www.aladeptz.org](http://www.aladeptz.org) and connect to the links: Member Resources; Reward, Reporting & Recognition; 2017-18 Department Awards Book.

Encourage your Auxiliary to advocate legislative issues promoted by The American Legion and the importance of attending Town Hall meetings and legislative receptions in their communities; to continue developing relationships with their elected officials.

Yours in Service

Patricia Thomas, Legislative Chairman

(623) 670-1788

[mpthomas4@msn.com](mailto:mpthomas4@msn.com)



## Legislative – Need your CALL for Action

**Our adopted Battalion, the 1st 285th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion (ARB) needs your help! Please share this message with your Legion families, friends, members of your own families, and Email, Facebook and Twitter followers. This is a Last-Ditch effort to save one of the nation's finest Apache Helicopter Battalions; one that has given exemplary service to our nation.**

Please watch the Facebook link to the speech made by General McGuire of the AZ Army National Guard.

<https://www.facebook.com/AZNationalGuard/videos/10155332131866325/>

We are asking all Auxiliary members to please stand with us in support of this Battalion and contact our state and national representatives by Twitter, Facebook, or phone.

### **Proposed voice message:**

"I am calling to express my strong support in keeping the AH-64 Apache helicopters at the Silverbell Army Heliport and to prevent deactivation of the 1-285th ARB. The loss of these jobs will result in a significant negative economic, employment and security impact to our community. Thank you and as you work to resolve these issues, please know that the soldiers and families of the 1-285th ARB have my full support."

### **Background notes:**

- The chief of the Arizona National Guard is mounting a last-ditch effort to save Apache attack-helicopter training at the Silverbell Army Heliport near Marana, as the Army moves to transfer most of the Guard's Apaches to active-duty units.
- The plan will cut hundreds of soldiers from the already diminished AH-64 Apache combat unit at Silverbell, which together with other units contributes an estimated \$147.4 million annually to the local economy.
- The Army already has withdrawn helicopters from the 1st/285th at Silverbell. The battalion has already lost all but four of its former fleet of 20 Apaches, and unless Silverbell is picked as one of the Guard Apache battalion sites, the 1-285th ARB faces possible deactivation.

### **Phone numbers:**

- **Sen. John McCain**  
Phone: Washington D.C. (202) 224-2235, Phoenix (602) 952-2410, Tucson (520) 670-6334
- **Sen. Jeff Flake**  
Phone: Washington D.C. (202) 224-4521, Phoenix (602) 840-1891, Tucson (520) 575-8633

### **Depending on which Congressional District you live in:**

- **Rep. Tom O'Halleran**, AZ 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Phone: Washington D.C. (202) 225-3361, Casa Grande (520) 316-0839
- **Rep. Martha McSally**, AZ 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Phone: Washington D.C. (202) 225-2542, Tucson (520) 881-3588
- **Rep. Raul Grijalva**, AZ 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Phone: Washington D.C. (202) 225-2435, Tucson (520) 622-6788
- **Rep. Paul Gosar**, AZ 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Phone: Washington D.C. (202) 225-2315, Prescott (928) 445-1683
- **Rep. Andy Biggs**, AZ 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Phone: Washington D.C. (202) 225-2635, Mesa (480) 699-8239
- **Rep. David Schweikert**, AZ 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Phone: Washington D.C. (202) 225-2190, Scottsdale (480) 946-2411
- **Rep. Ruben Gallego**, AZ 7<sup>th</sup> District  
Phone: Washington D.C. (202) 225-4065, Phoenix (602) 256-0551
- **Rep. Trent Franks**, AZ 8<sup>th</sup> District  
Phone: Washington D.C. (202) 225-4576, Glendale (623) 776-7911
- **Rep. Kyrsten Sinema**, AZ 9<sup>th</sup> District  
Phone: Washington D.C. (202) 225-9888, Phoenix (602) 956-2285



## American Legion Auxiliary Department of Arizona

---

### **“HIGH HEELS AND SPURS” IN SERVICE TO VETERANS MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

**February 2018**

*What's up for 2018? Well congratulations to the following Units that made 85% by January 11th. Unit 51 and Unit 132.* Ladies, there were several Units that were close and too many Units that need to start kicking up your heels and getting that “Can-Can” theme in submitting your membership to department. National will be contacting our Department to find out the problem. Let's please get our numbers up before that happens!!!

In addition, be sure to share with your members that if they pay online, be sure they print out the paid receipt and bring it to your unit membership chairman, so they can (1) get their card; and (2) be counted in your Unit's membership number which is turned into Department.

Good news, in receiving the comparison reports each week from National, we are ahead of last year, so let's keep that momentum going!

WE CAN-CAN make those high heels and spurs work for our Units increasing our membership to an all new high, but need “everyone's help”.

*If you need help in getting members to renew, create a team to make phone calls and reach out to those who “seem to forget” to renew or rejoin. Have an event creating interest in potential members to join.*

### **WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT?** **SEND YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO DEPARTMENT WEEKLY**

For more information about membership, please go to [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) and link on “members only” and click on Membership Program Action Plan.

Cindy Queen, Department V.P., Membership Chairman  
4718 S. Adelle Circle, Mesa, AZ 85212  
[cynqueen53@cox.net](mailto:cynqueen53@cox.net)

602-316-7647 (cell) 480-358-6923 (home)



American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Arizona

---

**“HIGH HEELS AND SPURS IN SERVICE TO OUR VETERANS”  
MUSIC REPORT  
FEBRUARY 2018**

Happy February Ladies:

February is Americanism month and it brings a great opportunity to celebrate being American by wearing red, white and blue. More importantly, it gives each of us the opportunity to sing about our National colors. February is the perfect month for adding some patriotic marches to your Unit and District meetings. John Philip Sousa wrote over 135 marches. His most famous march, “The Stars and Stripes Forever,” became the official march of the United States of America in 1987 through an Act of U.S. Congress. If a music selection is not part of your meetings, make a plea to your Unit or District President to add a song to the meeting agenda. Everyone loves to sing and singing a patriotic song about this great country is a wonderful way to show our Americanism. Remember that February 19 is President’s Day!

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

Remember to provide your year-end reports no later than May 1, 2018.

Department Music Awards are as follows:

**MUSIC PLAQUES**

**Frances Aros Memorial Music Plaque awarded to Unit with membership of 151 and over  
Millicent Kasun Music Plaque awarded to Unit with membership of 150 and under**

Information regarding the above awards can be found on the website: [www.aladeptaz.org](http://www.aladeptaz.org) under Ruling Documents.

Monica Rae Stein, Department Music Chairman  
11533 E. Kilarea Ave., Mesa, AZ 85209  
[steinent@cox.net](mailto:steinent@cox.net)  
480.272.1255 cell

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

NATIONAL SECURITY

FEBRUARY 2018

This Chairman was disappointed in the number of Mid-Year report received.

The importance of the American legion Auxiliary's National security program is analogous to the sense of security one has from unwanted intrusion by locking the doors in our homes. By providing for the needs of our military families on the home front, we hope to ease the minds of our deployed service members so they won't worry about their loved ones back home and can focus on the monumental task of protecting our country.

Auxiliary members step up and reach out to help military families during deployments in very practical ways, such as assisting with their needs for child care and lawn work or by providing a listening ear to a spouse. Members do helpful things such as collecting coupons and sending them to overseas commissaries, hosting send-off and welcome-home events for our troops, providing them with pocket flags, and showing the gratitude of our nation by providing military families with Blue Star and Gold Star Banners. Auxiliary units are encouraged to partner with other organizations that serve the military, such as local USO affiliates and ROTC/JROTC units.

Auxiliary members also assist our communities in times of natural and manmade disasters through Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) courses. These trainings prepare members to act as an emergency response resource in times of national disasters such as floods, hurricanes, and blizzards, as well as during manmade disasters. The Auxiliary's National Security program works collaboratively with the FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Division, in keeping with a standing agreement.

Upcoming dates for February 2018:

February 1<sup>st</sup> National Freedom Day  
February 12<sup>th</sup> Lincoln's Birthday  
February 19<sup>th</sup> Presidents' Day  
February 22<sup>nd</sup> Washington's Birthday  
February 23<sup>rd</sup> Iwo Jima Flag raised 1945  
February 24<sup>th</sup> Operation Desert Storm 2/24/91 - 2/28/91

Jan Cushing  
National Security Chairman  
2017-2018

[gcushing@cox.net](mailto:gcushing@cox.net)

623-544-0797

NATIONAL SECURITY  
REPORT FORM 2017-2018

Please send report to: Jan Cushing, 20089 N. Pinewish Ct., Surprise, AZ 85374

Name of Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Contact No. \_\_\_\_\_

Did your unit participate in the following?

\*Clip Coupons # \_\_\_\_\_ # of members & hours \_\_\_\_\_ Value \_\_\_\_\_

Did you participate in the CERT Program? \_\_\_\_\_ # of member's participating \_\_\_\_\_

Yellow Ribbon Project \_\_\_\_\_ # of Ribbons \_\_\_\_\_ # of Volunteers \_\_\_\_\_

Number of POW/MIA presentations: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Volunteers \_\_\_\_\_

Welcome Home Activities:

# of events \_\_\_\_\_ # of members \_\_\_\_\_ # of children \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Offered Child Care:

# of events \_\_\_\_\_ # of members \_\_\_\_\_ # of children \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Social Calls:

# of events \_\_\_\_\_ # of members \_\_\_\_\_ # of children \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Cooking Meals:

# of events \_\_\_\_\_ # of members \_\_\_\_\_ # of children \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Yard Work:

# of events \_\_\_\_\_ # of members \_\_\_\_\_ # of children \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Support the USO:

# of Volunteers \_\_\_\_\_ Total Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Blue Star Banner:      Number Provided \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Gold Star banner:      Number Provided \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Blood Donor Program:

# of volunteers \_\_\_\_\_ Total Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

ROTC/JRROTC:

# of events participation \_\_\_\_\_ # of medals presented \_\_\_\_\_

# of certificates presented \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Members attending the Department National Security/ Children & Youth Seminar:

Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_ Legion \_\_\_\_\_ SAL \_\_\_\_\_ Legion Riders \_\_\_\_\_ Juniors \_\_\_\_\_

Please include additional details regarding National Security projects and activities on the back of this form or on a separate sheet of paper. For winning awards, see Department Rules guide for instructions. Please meet due date of May1, 2018. Thank you.

# PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY

## February 2018

The PPP committee's salute to our Past Department Presidents continues this month. A suggestion: Units with active Past Presidents should consider forming a Past President's Parley committee. Past Presidents can mentor the new members of the Unit so they may learn about the various auxiliary programs.

### Helen Griffin 2006-2007

**Department Theme:** "Invest in America's Veterans"

**Special Project:** Hacienda

**National President:** JoAnne Cronin

**National Theme:** "We CAN Do It"

**Membership Theme:** "Shoot for the Stars the Skies the Limit"

**Member of Unit 2**

Currently serving as District 12 Chaplain, and various Department committees.

Served Department on various committees including Past Presidents Parley

### Barbara Matteson 2007-2008

**Department Theme:** "Above and Beyond"

**Special Project:** Homelessness

**National President:** Jan Pulvermacher-Ryan

**National Theme:** "Forward Thinking..a ripple today a wave tomorrow"

**Membership Theme:** TEAM "Together everyone achieves membership"

**Member of Unit:** 105

**Currently:** Department/Secretary Treasurer and various Department committees.

Served as District 11 President .

### Woman Veteran of the Month:

#### Rita Brock-Perini

Military Service 1969-1971 United States Air Force, she served stateside during the Vietnam Era at Sheperd AFB TX, Lackland AFB TX, and Luke AFB AZ, She reached the rank of Captain with the US Air Force Nurse Corps. She was inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame in 2013. She is a member of Marine Corp League Detachment. She is a member and volunteers with Phoenix Military Veteran Commission, Vice President of the Veterans Medical Leadership Council and served as Judge Advocate for Post 41 in 2009. Rita Currently belongs to Tony F. Soza/Ray Martinez American Legion Post 41 and Auxiliary Unit 100 . She has served many offices and levels in the Legion.

#### Past Presidents Parley Award - Unit Member of the Year Award

**Criteria:** Senior members in good standing are eligible, cannot have obtained an elected or appointed leadership role higher than that of unit president. Selection is based on accomplishments, activities, etc., for the current administrative year. Years of membership not part of the criteria.

Josie Herrera

Past Presidents Parley Chairman

[jherrera268@aol.com](mailto:jherrera268@aol.com)

Serving Those Who Served

VA&R REPORT  
TUCSON VA MEDICAL CENTER  
12-31-17

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

The American Legion Auxiliary Units sponsor Bridging Ceremony refreshments for the Substance Use Disorders Treatment Program (SUDTP) on the third Tuesday of each month and any month that there is a fifth Tuesday. We sponsored refreshments on December 19th, 2017. We will be sponsoring refreshments on January 16th & January 30th, 2018. Volunteers are needed to help with this program. The time is 2PM and the venue is Building 90 at the VA hospital. Thank you to members of Unit 131 & 132 who have volunteered to help with this program. Special thanks to Fire Woman and Jude for all their assistance with this activity.

The new Residential Mental Health Rehabilitation facility is now open. This added 25 new beds to house Veterans in various treatment programs with on-site housing on the hospital campus. The staff requesting donations has put forward that donations in kind, rather than monetary donations, would best fill this need. Units 102, 131, 132, 109 and District 2 have responded to this need and we ordered 250 backpacks and water bottles in July, we ordered athletic equipment, adult coloring books, crayons, colored pencils and yoga mats during December with the final delivery on January 2nd, 2018. The December donation was made possible largely by a very generous donation from Unit 102.

Veterans Creative Arts Festival is scheduled for February 7, 2018. Volunteers are needed to assist VA personnel with conducting this event.

Employee Appreciation Luncheon is March 7th, 2018. As always, volunteers, salads and desserts are needed from all Units. Start time is 9AM; we serve from 11AM to 1PM.

The grand total of monetary donations by American Legion Auxiliary Units for May 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017 is \$10,778.13. Thank you Unit 66 & Unit 39 for your generous donations.

The grand total of material and activity donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017 is \$39,473.50. We would like to express special thanks to Elaine Yates and Yuma Unit 19, Ann Reatherford, Unit 24, Unit 131, Unit 132, Unit 73 and Unit 109 members and unaffiliated volunteers for their constant support of VA programs through their donations. The Legion family is the largest supporter of the Arizona Fisher House. Currently, Arizona Fisher House is funded for the foreseeable future. Other programs are in dire need of donations (ie. Homeless, Building 95, Social Services, Bingo, etc.). The donation figure does not include Christmas Gift Shop at this time.

Fifteen registered hospital volunteers and ten summer youth volunteers, donated time which was credited to the American Legion Auxiliary. The grand total of registered volunteer hours May 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017 is 3,706; occasional volunteer hours are 239.5 donated by fifty five occasional volunteers (includes Christmas Gift Shop volunteers). We are now down to ten registered volunteers at SAVAHCS. Please consider volunteering at SAVAHCS if you can possibly devote the time. We have one new American Legion Auxiliary registered volunteer. Please consider sponsoring a summer youth volunteer at SAVAHCS. The cost is \$40 per youth. All hours logged by each sponsored youth will be credited to the American Legion Auxiliary.

This chairman has volunteered 245 hours and logged 2,820 miles this year in service to the Tucson VA Medical Center as of December 31, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted, Kathy Szakonyi, VAVS Representative

# VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

February 2018

## VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

Recruitment and retention of VAVS volunteers is imperative for our organization to meet the needs of hospitalized veterans. To that end, every member of the VA&R Committee (at each level) is charged with the responsibility to recruit and retain volunteers. Inquire with your area's hospital director, VA&R chairman to coordinate your efforts to increase the volunteers at a facility near you. Caring for our veterans is at the core of the ALA mission. We have a proud tradition to maintain. What can your unit do to ensure that the VAMC has the volunteer resources it needs to get the job done? Work collaboratively with your VAVS reps, your department's hospital director, VA&R chairman, department president and VAMC chief of Volunteer Services to coordinate your efforts to increase and diversify volunteer opportunities in each facility.

The biggest challenge the Auxiliary and other VSOs face is our approach to meeting the needs of an inter-generational volunteer force. How do we appeal to three to four generations of potential volunteers, each with its own unique mindset and value system?

Consider the following:

- Offer opportunities to mentor other volunteers.
- Offer interesting volunteer options where personal and professional talent can be put to good use.
- Offer opportunities that have flexible hours they can work around their work and home life.
- Provide volunteer opportunities to help volunteers grow personally and professionally.
- Identify challenging assignments where volunteers can see quick results.
- Offer access to the latest technology.

**Volunteer opportunities at the Southern VA facility: Contact Anna Maria Arenas 520-404-7646**

### **February Events**

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| February 4  | Super Bowl Tailgate and munchies and beer in Sports Lounge at ASVH-Tucson hosted by ALA and Unit 109 respectively from 2:00 p.m.<br>Munchies to include a variety of pizza, pigs in the blanket, chips, dips, etc. |
| February 9  | Valentine's Day Ice Cream Social hosted by ELKS  |
| February 14 | Recreation Department to host Vaudeville and Music entertainment. ALA Department committee to provide candy boxes shaped in hearts.  |
| February 16 | Chinese New Year – entertainment hosted by ASVH-Tucson. Time TBD.  |
| February 22 | Rodeo Parade – Escort residents to designated area in front of home on Ajo Way. Need volunteers to escort residents to attend the parade.<br>Hot dogs and entertainment after the parade.                          |

Patricia Lugo, Chairman,

602-475-0208, plugo1@cox.net



# ARIZONA STATE VETERANS HOME

## PHOENIX

### FEBRUARY 2018

Good Morning

As I was delivering Birthday Cards to the State Home in January, I had the opportunity to speak with Kayla Uptin, Therapeutic Program Manager, she was elated with the Christmas Gifts every resident received last year. She was actually smiling from ear to ear when she was repeating some of the Veteran's comments.

As well as monetary donations, Units adopted a ward, brought in socks, blankets, or pillow for everyone. Some of our members even made personal donations. As I was leaving the Home, I met Ken, a Navy Veteran, who was wearing the Navy ball cap he received at Christmas from us. He was sitting outside in his wheelchair (his left leg was amputated). After our chat, I thanked him for his service and told him I was going home and the traffic was heavy today. And he said, "What a Blessing to be out there in the traffic." That stop me in my tracks, he was right! I don't think I will ever look at traffic in the same way again. **WE ARE BLESSED!**

Please be advised that half of the residence have been infected with the flu. Activates have been suspended for the time being and will resume when it is safe to do so.

Below is the list of February Birthdays:

2<sup>nd</sup> Robert L. 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom B. 7<sup>th</sup> Carol W. 8<sup>th</sup> Ronald K. 13<sup>th</sup> Joseph T. 17<sup>th</sup> Charles L.  
18<sup>th</sup> Freddie 20<sup>th</sup> Linda G. 26<sup>th</sup> Daniel B., Jr. 27<sup>th</sup> Ruth H.

Below is the list of March Birthdays:

1<sup>st</sup> Edwin K. 1<sup>st</sup> Joseph S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Leroy L. 7<sup>th</sup> Allen T. 9<sup>th</sup> John H. 10<sup>th</sup> David R.  
14<sup>th</sup> George P., Jr. 14<sup>th</sup> Robert E. 20<sup>th</sup> Harrol S. 24<sup>th</sup> James S. 26<sup>th</sup> George De L., Jr.  
27<sup>th</sup> Michael R. 29<sup>th</sup> Billy S. 29<sup>th</sup> Gary K. 29<sup>th</sup> Gary J. 30<sup>th</sup> Curtis R. 31<sup>st</sup> Bruce C.  
31<sup>st</sup> James S., Jr. 31<sup>st</sup> Syide N. *(And yes, Harrol and Syide are the correct spelling.)*

Below is the 2017-2018 donation wish list for the home. I have underlined the most desired items needed but they will appreciate everything. Keep in mind that items might be added or deleted as the months go by, so keep checking the list. Thanks.

Donation Wish List

VISA GIFT CARDS

WALMART GIFT CARDS

AMAZON GIFT CARDS

DUNKIN DONUTS GIFT CARDS

PORTABLE BLUETOOTH SPEAKER

PLASTIC STORAGE CONTAINERS- A LOT! (ALL SIZES)

1 LARGE STURDY WIRE RACK

WESTERN BOOKS

LARGE PRINT BIBLES

PHOENIX ART MUSEUM GIFT CARD/VOUCHERS

ODYSEA AQUARIUM TICKETS

REMOTE CONTROL CARS- LARGE CARS WITH EASY TO USE REMOTES.

LARGE NERF GUNS (10) AND EXTRA BULLETS

SODA (REGULAR & DIET)

GIANT CONNECT 4  
ADULT COLORING BOOKS AND COLORED PENCILS  
11 x 14 CANVAS'S FOR PAINTING  
PAINT BRUSHES  
INDIVIDUAL CRAFT KITS  
LATCH HOOK SETS  
UMBRELLAS (20)  
LARGE DUTY THERMAL ROLL LAMINATOR  
GIFT BAGS  
TISSUE PAPER  
CRAFT SUPPLIES  
BOARD GAMES (NEW)

If you are considering sending Gift Cards, Walmart and Amazon cards have no purchase fee. Visa Gift Cards have a \$4.95 to \$5.95 purchase fee. I would suggest cards be purchased for \$25.00 each. These should be sent to the State Home. They will be used when a veterans request items needed that are not sold at the small store, or are not provided by the State Home. If your Unit send the money to Department, Barbara will send me a check and earmark it for gift cards. I will the purchase them and give them to Kayla. This way your Unit will receive credit for donating to the State Home.

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

Please let me know if your Unit participates in monthly ASVH activities by emailing me at [lbubbles@cox.net](mailto:lbubbles@cox.net)  
If you have any questions, please call me or Joyce Livingston.

For God and Country,

Linda Hubbs 602-312-9245  
ASVH Chairman

Joyce Livingston 623-846-9670  
ASVH Co-Chairman

*High Heels and Spurs in Service to Veterans*

## UAV UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

6 JANUARY 2018

Meeting was called to order by the newly elected chairman, James Katzenberger at 10:07 a.m. The opening ceremony was conducted and guests introduced.

Emily Laflamme, Program Coordinator, Crisis Response Network for “Be Connected” gave a report on her organization. Be Connected is a state-wide initiative aimed at reducing the rate and risk of military suicides in Arizona by connecting veterans, service members and their families to the right resource at the right time. The rate of suicide is 3xs higher among Arizona veterans, and 4xs higher among older veterans. The magnitude of this issue shows a collaborative community approach is needed. The presentation discussed “Be Connected” program components, including the 24/7 Support Line, Resource Matching Tool, and training opportunities. If you want to learn more, please call the Support Line at 866-4AZ-VETS or visit them online at [www.beconnectedaz.org](http://www.beconnectedaz.org). Point of contact: Emily Laflamme at: [Emily.laflamme@crisisnetwork.org](mailto:Emily.laflamme@crisisnetwork.org).

Kathy Laurier gave a presentation on the upcoming “Patriotic Gala” being held on Saturday, April 21, 2018 at the Embassy Suites in Scottsdale. The cost is \$65 if purchased before 31 March 2018.

Terry Araman gave an overview of “How to advocate for a bill” in the State Legislature. There are over 1,000 bills introduced during each Legislative Session. To log on go to [azleg.gov](http://azleg.gov).

Roll call was take, a quorum was established. Carol made a motion to accept the minutes as printed, second by Pat Connell, approved.

Treasure report was given. Current cash balance for this period is \$56,318.81.

Members were encouraged to send get well wishes to Jesse Gersten and Art Sloane.

Luis Cardenas-Camacho gave a report from Congressman Gallego’s office.

Director Nelson from the VA Medical facility reported on issues dealing with the VA Medical Facility. Currently they are seeing between 181 and 185 patients daily in the Emergency Room. Their bed have been full due to the flu outbreak. They are continuing to work on the suicide prevention program. In 2017 the VA spent \$93 million in patient care. The CVS mini clinic referrals are going well. The need for Primary Care Physicians is growing and continues to be a primary concern. Mental Health is trying for same day services. The new Dental building will be opening on Tuesday, the formal ribbon breaking ceremony will be at a later date. One change is in the podiatry clinic. You do not need a referral from your Primary Care Physician to schedule an appointment in podiatry. The hospital has received a davency (not sure of spelling) robot for the surgery department. Using it will cut down on pain and healing time. Cardiology will now be able to perform more in house surgical treatments and not have to send them down town. There are 91,000 veterans in the Phoenix VA System.

Director Wanda Wright, AZ Department of Veteran's Services gave a report on last year's activities. The "Be Connected" program was launched by her office as a pilot program to the purpose of preventing suicides". Another program "school assist' has helped 750 students with school needs. Their Virtual Veterans Assistance through Skype is also doing well. They brought \$450 million to the stat from federal programs. Veteran's unemployment has dropped to 3.9% but many veterans are underemployed. Efforts are being made to correct this issue. The Tucson State Home currently has 117 patients. The Phoenix Home has 160 beds filled out of 200. Need to fund additional staff to be able to fill the remaining beds. There were 763 internments at the veterans cemeteries throughout the state last year. In 2018 they are planning on having a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary program for the POW/MIA/KIA's and the Gold Star Families. Also hope to have the "Be Connected" statewide. Looking for pre 9-11 donations to help out those veterans that were pre 9-11.

Judy Hatch gave a report on "Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day". The program went well. She is working with the ADVS to have a separate fund set up where people and organizations can donate specifically for Pearl Harbor Day so as to avoid the issue that came up this year which almost resulted in no fly over. Organizations or individuals can make a donation to the Department of Veterans Services specifically for Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day by writing Pearl Harbor Day in the memo of the check. About \$3,000 is needed to insure both the flyover and the rest of the program.

A propose change to the by-laws was made, changing the secretary and treasurer positions from elected to appointed. A vote was taken and approved.

There being no further business to come before the membership, closing ceremony was conducted and the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith Hatch". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid.

Judith Hatch