

HIGH HEELS & SPURS IN SERVICE

January 2018

DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE...1st Saturday in January....noon to 5pm

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...National training is in Las Vegas see flyer in this packet...you must register online with National yourself...see flyer in this packet.

JUNIOR... National Junior Meeting is February....see flyer in this packet...you must register online with National....see flyer in this packet...have you seen this ! <https://www.facebook.com/alajuniors/?fref=ts>

GIRLS STATE...School packets go out this month. Did you contact your schools for the current contact? Have you followed the check off sheet provided in the Girls State packet from Fall Conference.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT...her official visit is in March... details coming.

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

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

President

Gladyce

Nielsen

1770 E Bishop Place

Casa Grande, Az 85122

520-836-

85122

doug.gladyce.neilsen@gmail.com

Membership

Kathleen Rikli

11063 N Tank Road

Casa Grande, AZ 85125

520-280-9732

kjseaburg@hotmail.com

Unit 5...

Unit Mailing Address: PO Box 1010 Dr, Laveen, AZ 85339

President

Cheryl Wade

10448 S 43rd Ave

Laveen, AZ 85339

Secretary

Patricia Anaya

4618 W Valencia Dr

Laveen, AZ 85339

Membership

Sandra Byers

2848 W Sunrise

Laveen, AZ

85339

602-237-4849

cherlywade@hotmail.com

602-488-0282

tricia_anaya@yahoo.com

602-237-2421

Unit 35...

President

Stacy Riebold

2225 W Frye Rd

#1026

Chandler, AZ 85224

480-857-2209

anastacia563@aim.com

Unit 133...President phone 520-208-0586

PDP...Karen Smith Unit, 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 some 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.

MEMBERSHIP CREDIT VOUCHERS... Effective this month membership credit vouchers will be sent by email and to the membership person in each Unit. This will save Department postage and get to the membership person sooner so they know they have credit and how much.

WOODEN NICKLES...yes we have wooden nickels for sale here in the Department office. Did you see or get any at Fall Conference?

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



Pat Stanaski
Dept Membership Processing
membership@aladeptaz.org

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

January 2018

Thank you Arizona for your hard work in all three Gift Shops. I had the pleasure of participating in all three Ribbon Cutting ceremonies. Units do an amazing job making sure that our Veterans have the opportunity to select gift items for their families.

I had the honor to be a part of the Wreath Laying Ceremonies at Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day at Wesley Bolin Plaza on December 7 was impressive. There were many veteran service organizations present to honor our WWII Veterans.

Our National President Diane Duscheck has chosen "ALA Member Pride" as her theme and the ALA Foundation as her Special Project. President Diane will visit the Tucson area March 8 through 10 and has plans to tour Fisher House, the VA Home and the Blind Center. Look for further details in future newsletters and do make plans to attend the National President's Banquet in the Tucson area on March 9. Further details will follow next month.

Take note that Department Open House is scheduled for Saturday, January 6, 2018 at noon. We can get together for camaraderie with Legion family and please bring a dish to share.

Do not forget about the Children and Youth/National Security Workshop on January 27 at Post 1 from 9 am to 1 pm. Thank you District 6, Unit 126 and Unit 1 for the hospitality and camaraderie extended to me on my official visits. I look forward to visiting District 2 and District 3 this month! 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

Happy New Year Everyone!

High Heels and Spurs in Service to Veterans,

**Yolanda Bonilla
ALA Department President
602-989-3321
yodobo@msn.com**

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

First things first!! This chairman would like to thank all the Units who sent me a mid-year report. You make my Chairmanship so much easier! I am really impressed with the amazing good work all of you are doing. Also would like everyone to know that the forms for the individual pins have been requested and will be sent as soon as this Chair receives them. Each pin is for an individual who donates \$50.00 on her own and quite a lot are qualified to receive one. Unit Presidents if any of your members are qualified for one please let me know.

Now to pass on some of the wonderful ideas Units are using to raise money for AEF. Most do have a local AEF fund for their_[LR1] own members in addition to sending to the National AEF to be distributed as applied for. One Unit has a jar that members place at least a quarter in at every meeting. That total is then sent on to AEF. Another holds a 50/50 at each meeting and the 50% not won accumulates for AEF. Some Units that are physically close to another Unit have held joint fund raisers. The cost is split and the profit is sent on to AEF. Love this one –all working together.

January is Legislation and National Security month. A good, quick fund raiser may be to distribute the yellow ribbons worn on the lapel for a small donation. A basket of the ribbons with a jar for donations could be set out at a Post function- with the Commander's approval.

Linda Ruyle AEF Chairman

lindaruyle@gmail.com

480.766.1550

Lexis Escudero

623.221.7132

AMERICANISM
Annual Report 2017-2018

Please return your Unit's report/narrative May 1, 2018 to:
Michele Root, 2220 N Stockton Place, Mesa, AZ 85215 americaism2017@gmail.com 602-501-7940

Unit Number _____ Americanism Chairman _____ # of 2018 Members _____

1. Did your Unit promote community awareness of yellow ribbon reintegration programs, deployment of troops and/or welcome-home events? _____ How? _____

2. Did your Unit participate in the Pocket Flag Project? _____ If so, how many flags were sent to troops? _____
3. How did your Unit observe patriotic holidays? _____

4. Did your Unit encourage participation in the Americanism Essay Contest? _____ How many essays were submitted for judging? _____
5. Did your Unit go into the local schools to teach flag / pledge etiquette? _____ How many children were involved? _____
6. Did your Unit support The American Legion programs, such as Baseball, Oratorical Contest, Junior Shooting Sports, ALLECA? _____ How? _____

7. When and where did members wear and display their name, unit, or department identification badges? _____

8. Did Unit members wear and display "Honoring Their Service" buttons? _____ How many members have them? _____
9. Have elevator speeches been written or given to explain the American Legion Auxiliary to potential members? _____ How many? _____
10. How have your Juniors been involved in the Americanism program? _____

11. How many Unit members have participated in color guards in parades, at conference, at convention, or other activities? _____ How? _____

12. How many initiations did your Unit conduct? _____ What does the Chaplain say in the second line of the second paragraph about Americanism? _____

13. Has your Unit enclosed a narrative for a Department competition Americanism Plaque this year? _____

An extra page or the reverse of this form may be used, if needed, for all questions.

Chaplain
January 2018

Happy New Year!

Hope you all had a wonderful Holiday with friends and family.

January is upon us and we are on the downhill side of the ALA year. Wow, where has the time gone?

Thank you to the Units that sent me their mid-year reports. Hopefully, more Units will send in their mid-year reports next year

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. ☺

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 . . .

We all need courage no matter our station in life. We need the courage to live fully as God would have us do. But, soldiers have a special need for courage. May God be with you and provide you with the courage needed to carry out your daily tasks, may they be on the battlefield, or safe at home. 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

JANUARY 2018

The deadline is approaching! February is the time for Creative Arts Festivals in all three VA Hospitals in Arizona. Do you know a veteran who is enrolled in the VA Healthcare system who has an artistic talent? Encourage them to submit something to the Veterans Creative Arts Festival near you. The deadline for submissions to the Phoenix show is January 24, before 2:30PM.

Has your Unit sent a donation to Department for Creative Arts yet? The American Legion Auxiliary is the only other sponsor of the Creative Arts Program other than the Veterans Administration. This is a very special program for veterans and a wonderful opportunity for Auxiliary members to volunteer or come see and hear the creations veterans have been working on.

The dates for the festival near you are:

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	480-818-3166
Prescott:	Sally Fine	mightyfine123@gmail.com	928-713-5842
Tucson:	Kathy Szakonyi	N3SAD@aol.com	520-400-5839

FINANCE “FACTS & INFORMATION”
JANUARY 2017

The following information came to our Dept. after the Fall Conference, otherwise you all would have been informed at that time BUT all Units must heed the word that came to us from National Secretary Dubbie Buckler thru advice of the National Judge Advocate.

The issue deals with the wording “Candidate Fund” or “Campaign Fund”. If your Unit or District have such labeling within your documents , PLEASE CHANGE IT TO READ: “LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FUND” and DO NOT IN THE FUTURE establish such funds with the names “Campaign Fund or Candidate Fund”.

Reasoning: the IRS has cited an ALA Unit that made a Unit donation to a Legion National campaign fund for making a political contribution. While the Judge Advocate explained that supporting internal ALA/Legion/SAL candidate funds is not an engagement in partisan politics, the IRS has interpreted such support differently, and in a field audit cited an ALA unit for engaging in political activity contrary to our IRS tax exempt classification.

The IRS does not distinguish between campaign activities that are external (partisan political party candidates seeking public office) and internal (ALA members seeking leadership positions within their departments/intermediate bodies/units). The IRS’ position is that ALA candidate campaigns constitute “political campaigns”. If you are not in compliance with the foregoing information you are jeopardizing the entire ALA non-profit status with the IRS.

I could go on and on about the email from National (I received 5 pages) but what I have written for you all is the gist of those 5 pages, so please heed the warning. Your Department is in the process of correcting some of the wording with our accountants. The Finance Committee gave its unanimous approval to the change of name and ALL MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE have been notified and asked to give their approval to the change. Not all have replied as of the writing of this document.

Christmas Gift Shops will be over when you receive this bulletin – we hope you all were part of this fantastic program. Has your Unit remembered to file their reports with the IRS, the AZ Corporation Commission and the Secretary of State. If you had a change of officer from the original Secretary of State form, you need to notify that agency of the ,change. **ALSO DON’T FORGET THE YEAR END FINANCE REPORT TO ME BY MAY 15, 2018.**

Bless all of you and keep up the good work on behalf of our veterans, their families and the communities.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP TEAM

Helen Stout, Chairman, Dept. Pres. Yolanda Bonilla, NEC Jan Cushing, Penny Maklary, Helen Griffin, Dept. Secy/Treas. Barbara Matteson (no vote)

Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year of 2018!

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
HISTORY FOR JANUARY 2018
HEELS AND SPURS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

I wish you all an upcoming great new year. Let us remember all the good things that happened to us last year by keeping track of everything you did. Did you have some great moments. It is not too late to capture them on paper, memos, computers or even as I do, writing them down. As I look at Ring Your Bell Arizona ALA I see some wonderful things that are being done.

I really don't have to suggest events since you ladies are posting so many things. But because some of us do not look at face book that often here are some more things to consider. Is your unit working President Yolanda's Special Project, ALA Girls State, has she visited your site, did you participate in any of the three Gift Shops at the hospitals?

Ladies of AZ, you are all awesome and I am so looking forward to having some great reports. I am excited about sending all this information to your National Historian so she can be blown away by the work, dedication and service by our members.

WE HAVE A WINNER! On the last bulletin I asked who was the youngest Department President we had serving and what was her age. It was our dear departed friend, Kathleen Medalen who served in 2012-20123. She was 45. Thank you Kathy Szakony.

Since ALA Foundation is our National President's Special Project, This month's question: Name four states, the year, the program and the amount of money granted to them. The first four responses will be the winners.

Thank you all for all you do. God Bless you and God Bless America

Jennie Molina

Department Historian

(520) 220-8460

truelepa@gmail.com

**AZ MISSION TRAINING
LEADERSHIP
JANUARY 2018 BULLETIN**

“High Heels And Spurs”

Give us a call to schedule a workshop for your members. Don't hold back because you may not have enough to attend, call other Units and plan one together. The Mission Training team is here for you and you must take responsibility to provide your members with the much needed training for SUCCESS!!

AZ Mission Training will provide:

PROTOCOL	PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES
GOODWILL CULTURE	HOW TO CONDUCT A MEETING
CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS & STANDING RULES	MEMBERSHIP
FINANCE (INCLUDES BUDGET/AUDIT)	ALL AUXILIARY PROGRAMS
REPORTING, IMPACT REPORT, WRITING NARRATIVES, DEPT. AWARDS	
TEAM WORK with BREAKOUTS	
DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND CHAIRMAN	OTHERS ITEMS AS NEEDED

A low cost of \$8.00 to attend!!!!

Eight hours of priceless training!!! **Eight hours of priceless information!!!**

Not all members profess to be leaders but every member of your unit has many talents and strengths that will enhance the Unit. With training there is no limit to every Units success.

AZ MISSION TRAINING WORKSHOPS SCHEDULED TO DATE:

SCHEDULED WORKSHOPS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>HOST</u>	<u>WORKSHOP PLACE</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>	
<u>1/13/18</u>	<u>8-4:30</u>	<u>Dist. 11</u>	<u>Post 1 Phoenix</u>	Jan Cushing	gcushing@cox.net
2/17/18	8-4:30	Unit 75	Sunny Slope VFW 804 E. Purdue Ave., Phoenix 85020	Crystal Kane	crystalkane33@yahoo.com
<u>2/24/18</u>	<u>8-4:30</u>	<u>Dist. 1</u>	<u>Post 19 Yuma</u>	Marge Greene	t104greene@aol.com

MORE TO COME, STAY TUNED OR CALL US TO SCHEDULE A WORKSHOP !!!!

Ginger Cox, Dept. Chairman Phone:602-616-2811

Committee Members:

Helen Griffin	Rose Ficklin	Sherrie Tucker
602-478-4909	602-628-4088	918-808-7540

LEGISLATIVE 2017 – 2018 January

We need to protect our veterans' rights!

Hope you have a very Happy and Prosperous New Year!! As the New Year begins veterans are still in need of the American Legion Auxiliary support.

(Please provide this bulletin to your Unit Legislative Chairman)

Thank you to those that submitted a Mid-Year Report. It truly helped in constructing a report to the National Legislative Chairman. Information provided from the reports indicated that your members have been provided direction to the ALAforVeterans.org and legion.org/legislative websites. They are also submitting emails to their Congressmen and attending local Town Hall meetings. It is imperative that we remain diligent keeping our members informed on legislation that affect our veterans and their communities.

Recently an email was sent to your District President regarding signing an e-petition on Senate Bill 2193 Caring for our Veterans Act of 2017; VA's comprehensive caregiver assistance benefits to disabled veterans of all eras. The request was for the District President to sign the e-petition to support Bill 2193 and then to forward the message to their Unit Presidents, who in turn were to forward the information to Unit Membership supporting Bill 2193. I truly hope you and your membership have received the email message and signed the petition. Veterans and their families need your support on this bill. All members can read up on Bill 2193, as well as other legion supported legislative bills, through legion.org/legislative website.

This was not the first time I had sent an email to District Presidents. There were others that linked into The American Legion Legislative Action Center requesting signing letters to your congressmen for Medical Cannabis Research and Legion Opposes Steep TRICARE Fees Hikes. I will continue to send emails to the District Presidents who will in turn forward them on. The letters can be made into a hard copy for your members that do not have email, to sign. Generally there are 3 letters, 2 Senators and 1 Representative. The letters are grouped by the name of the Congressman and mailed directly to that Congressman's DC address; so there will be 3 large envelopes sent. Again, it is imperative that we take action and tell our Congressmen that we support our veterans, active duty military and their families.

In the coming months I encourage you to continue educating your Unit on 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
Arizona American Legion Auxiliary**

For God and Country

**4534 N. 50th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85031
(623) 670-1788
mpthomas4@msn.com**



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona

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

January 2018

Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a wishing each of you a Happy New Year.

What's up for 2018? Next goal is 85% by January 11, 2018. In checking the weekly standings, there are already a few Units who have made this goal? So, ladies please keep up the “Can-Can” theme in submitting your membership to department? So far, we have achieved our goals of increasing membership over last years numbers.

So, ladies let's keep the “CAN-CAN” theme active and keep those numbers dancing into the new year? YES -- WE CAN-CAN make those high heels and spurs work for our Units increasing our membership to an all new high.

Thanks to the Units who submitted their short report to me by December 15th because I can now report to our National Office how Arizona is doing.

Are we continuing to increase membership? Yes, we CAN-CAN!!!!

WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT?

SEND YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO DEPARTMENT WEEKLY

For more information about membership, please go to 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

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
JANUARY 2018**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

“Our veterans who fall on hard times and find themselves without a home deserve more than just handwringing or kind words. They deserve real help that gets them back on their feet.” – Michelle Obama. This year let’s vow to put those High Heels and Spurs in Service to Our Veterans!

It’s also a good time to think about adding more cheer to our daily lives and those lives of the veterans we so fondly serve. Take time out of your busy day to spend time with a veteran.

Oftentimes a veteran just wants to be heard. Be a good listener. As music chairman of our individual units and districts, let’s resolve to add more music and singing to our gatherings. Ask that a song be added to the agenda just like every other important item to be discussed. Make it a habit to sing a song at every monthly meeting.

Thanks to those Unit Music Chairmen or Presidents for turning in mid-year reports. It’s always such fun 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. In order to be considered for an award, a narrative of not more than 1,000 words must accompany your reports.

Department Music Awards are as follows and will be handed out at the Department Convention:

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 under Ruling Documents. Music Plaque information is on page 48.

Monica Rae Stein, Department Music Chairman
11533 E. Kilarea Ave., Mesa, AZ 85209
steinent@cox.net
480.272.1255 cell



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona

**“HIGH HEELS AND SPURS IN SERVICE TO VETERANS”
YEAR-END MUSIC REPORT
May 2018**

Hello you wonderful ladies:

It's that time of year when our thoughts are on springtime and vacations. Before you get too far off-track, please send me a short narrative telling me how you used music in your activities throughout this year. Even if the Unit or District doesn't have a Music Chairman, send in a report anyway. I want to include as many responses as possible in the year-end report.

1. If your unit/district had a special song selection using President Yolanda's theme of "High Heels and Spurs in Service to Veterans," what song was it? _____.
2. Did your unit/district sing/play a song at regular meetings? If so, which songs were sung/played?
_____.
3. Did members regularly participate in music programs in their individual churches and communities?
Give some examples: _____.
4. Were regular visits made to VA Hospitals/facilities to entertain with songs? If so, what locations were visited and what kind of programs were held? _____.

Submitted by: _____; **Unit/District:** _____; **Total Membership;** _____

Please email or mail this form to me no later than May 1, 2018 so that I will have time to submit them to Department by deadline.

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

Visit the website: www.aladeptaz.org under Ruling Documents for more information

Monica Rae Stein, Department Music Chairman
11533 E. Kilarea Ave., Mesa, AZ 85209
steinent@cox.net
480.272.1255 cell

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

NATIONAL SECURITY

JANUARY 2018

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

The Auxiliary believes in maintaining a strong National defense and endeavors to educate its members on all vital National Security issues. In cooperation with The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary members are briefed on a wide range of topics at local and national meetings thru publications and bulletins. Topics include national and civil defense, crime prevention, emergency and disaster preparedness and environmental protection. National activities include the annual Awareness Assembly, a legislative forum in Washington, D.C., POW/MIA awareness, crime prevention and local and worldwide support of the USO activities, ROTC/JROTC programs.

January is National Blood Donor Month but with your blood donation, you are providing strength, hope, courage and the gift of life with that of a pint of blood.

- The Children & Youth /National Security workshop will be held on January 27, 2018 at Luke Greenway Post 1 in Phoenix starting at 9 AM until 1 PM. There is always great information and speakers at this workshop and ideas to take back to your Units, Posts and Squadrons. We welcome all Legion Family members. If you plan to attend please contact me at the information below for a head count for lunch.

Upcoming dates for January 2018:

January 15th Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 27th Vietnam Cease-Fire 1973

Do your members cut and collect coupons? There was a list in the October packet and one in your Fall Conference packet.

Jan Cushing
National Security Chairman
2017-2018

gcushing@cox.net

623-544-0797

PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY

January 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.

Paula Burgess 2005-2006

Department Theme: "Let the Light from the Lighthouse Shine"

Special Project: Homeless Veterans

National Theme: Catch the Wave

Membership Theme: Bases Loaded

Member of Unit: 65

Currently serving as chairman of Cavalcade of Memories

Served Department on various committees including Past Presidents Parley

Ginger Cox 2006-2007

Theme: "On Eagles Wings We'll Soar for Veterans"

Special Project: Abused Children

National President: Carol Kirk

Member of Unit: 107

Currently serving as Department Leadership Chairman and District 12 Parliamentarian

Served as District 12 President 1999-2000

Served as Western Division Vice President 2013-2014.

Woman Veteran of the Month:

Joan Sisco

Military Service 1974-1977 United States Marine Corp, Boot Camp Paris Island, South Carolina. Stationed 29 Palms, California. Company A, Headquarters Battalion USMC Quantico, VA. Radio Repair person supporting Communications Office School. She was discharged with the rank of Sergeant. She is the founder and CEO of Veteran's First, Ltd., Phoenix enhancing the lives of veterans, their families and caregivers. She serves as Arizona's State Coordinator for Homeless Veterans. She also serves as the State Coordinator for Women Veterans. She was inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame in 2009. Joan is a member of TAL Christopher J. Lapka Post and Unit 105

REMINDER

Past President's Parley Nurses Scholarship

SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS: AMOUNT \$500, DEADLINE: May 15, 2018,

REQUIREMENTS: RESIDES IN AZ

POPPY PROGRAM

Jan. 2018

Hello Ladies. I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and wishes for a Healthy, Happy, & Prosperous 2018.

My thanks to the Units that sent their Mid Year report in.

Correction on the Year End Report form. I put due date of 2017 instead of 2018. Also, I'm a bit technology challenged. My last question disappeared when I printed it. Don't know where it went, but it left the page. So-- please add # 18. to the questionnaire.

18. Total hours your Unit members worked with Poppies? _____

Reminder-- Dept. President Yolanda will collect any Poppy Poster entries and deliver them to me for you provided you get them to ALA Dept. by Jan. 6, 2018.

Please be sure you follow the rules- you can find them at www.alaforveterans.org

Go to Poppy Committee and find rules there for Posters. This contest is not only for Junior members, you don't need to have a Junior group to submit entries. Please contact schools and other youth groups to participate. Most of these young artists aren't going to find you, you need to seek them out. Deadline delivery to me is April 19, 2018.

There is also a copy of the Poppy Guide on that site. It has helpful information in it.

With winter heating needs and the holidays upon us, please keep eyes and ears aware of veterans who need utility and other help that qualifies for Poppy money assistance.

There might be someone in your own Post who you can quietly help.

Remember : Guidelines have been established to ensure Poppy Fund money is used properly. They are listed in the resolution as follows:

1. For the rehabilitation of veterans honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces after April 6, 1917.
2. For the welfare of the families of veterans of the above-named period.
3. For the rehabilitation of hospitalized military service personnel returning home and awaiting discharge who require treatment in service hospitals.
4. For the welfare of veterans, active-duty military personnel, and the families of veterans and active-duty personnel of the above-named period where financial and medical need is evident.
5. For the purchase of poppy kits and supplies used to make symbolic poppies and poppy items that will be distributed for donations to the Poppy Fund.

The Poppy funds can only be used specific for veterans / their immediate family. It can be used for veterans creative arts and other needed programs that are for veterans only. It cannot be used for things like community food banks etc. where the general public collects. Those type of donations must come from other income sources, not poppies.

Please feel free to contact either one of us, we're to help.

For God and Country,

Julie Ross

Gulley

Dept. Poppy Chairman

juliedistrict3@gmail.com

beccaP1020@gmail.com

Rebecca

Poppy Committee

Public Relations: January 2018



CONTACT STUFF:

Promotional support, questions, comments: Marge Christianson;

ALADeptAZpr@gmail.com

Social Media support specialist: Cynthia Millard; azmillard@gmail.com

Ring Your Bell Event publications: Amaris Jones: ala.laveen134@gmail.com

Department webpage: www.ALADeptAZ.org

Facebook Group: Search for "Ring Your Bell Arizona ALA"

- Units post activities of pride or interest to each other and department.
- Posts from this page "feed" the Department webpage—get your activities & photos on the Department website!
- Get help from other Units/Department
- Also "Ring Your Bell" central for the contest. Request membership today!

2017-18 Ring Your Bell

- Welcome Unit 2, 11, 44—1st time postings in November! 53 units are now participating.
- Special thank you to Linda Lee Smith (Vail) and to each of you for your dedication and support of this communication tool. Each of your contributions is important. And interesting. And fun. And more.....
- Beginning December 1, we've added a new challenge:
 - 25 Points for Facebook Postings that show the American Legion Auxiliary emblem during any event or activity where the public (non-Legion Family members) is present. Parades, poppies distribution, holiday events, etc. Maximum 25 points per event. 50 point maximum per month.
- Keep all the other postings coming. WE ARE ALL LOVING THEM!

Recent Highlights – Fall Conference Survey

- Thank you for participating in the Fall Conference Survey. Here's what you said:
 - Overall, 75% of respondents selected "meeting/networking with other members, chairmen, legion family members" as one of their top 3 reasons to attend.
 - Respondents demonstrated a diverse set of mission interests and a desire for more detail as it relates to operational procedures.
 - 100% of respondents said they "would" or "probably would" recommend the conference to other members
- The leadership team will use this information to continually build better gatherings!

Public Relations Reporting

YEAR END (2017-18)

Unit Name & #: _____

1. Has your Unit started a new Facebook page or other social media account in the last year or so? If so, what is the name of your page? (Hint: If your Facebook page is listed on the Department website under the “map”, you do not need to report it again).
2. Did your Unit have an event or activity where you successfully promoted the Auxiliary to the public? Please tell us about the event (what, when, where) and what you did to promote the ALA (banners, emblems, media coverage, etc).
3. If your unit is participating in posting to the “Ring Your Bell Arizona ALA” group Facebook page (either directly or through emailing department), you may skip down to question 4. **If your unit is NOT participating in posting to the “Ring Your Bell Arizona ALA” group Facebook page, please answer the following questions:**
 - a. Why not? Would you like help in getting started?
 - b. What community engagement activities or events has your unit conducted or participated in since July 2017?
 - c. Has your unit been recognized by any other outside organizations? If so, which ones and for what?
 - d. Has your unit been recognized in any media (newspapers, radio, TV, social media)? If so, which ones?
4. What is your name, position within the Unit & email address?

Please return to:

Marge Christianson
aladeptazpr@gmail.com
9611 W Bonita Court
Sun City, AZ 85373

Acceptable methods of sending it--

- Write in your answers. Then:
 - Take a photo and email it from your phone
 - Scan it and email it from your computer
 - Mail it
- Just send me an email with the answers—forget the form!!!



Service to Veterans Annual Report Form

Please complete and return by May 1, 2018

Colleen Heck, 21128 E Roundup Way, Queen Creek, AZ 85142 602-290-5568;
check@ionet.net ; 602-290-5568

Unit Name and number _____

Chairman _____

Did your Unit or Members Adopt-a-Veteran? _____

How many? _____ Cost Involved _____

Did your Unit or Members participate in one of the following?

Stand Downs _____ Where _____ Cost _____

Assist Homeless Veterans _____ Hours _____ Cost _____

Participate in Salute to Veterans _____ Hours _____ Cost _____

Please fill in lines below with **Numbers** so that all of your hard work can be counted.

Volunteers	Hours	Number of Veterans Served
Legion _____	_____	_____
Auxiliary _____	_____	_____
Sons _____	_____	_____
Juniors _____	_____	_____
Non Affiliated _____	_____	_____
Totals _____	_____	_____

Total Miles Driven _____ Total Expense _____

Be sure to attach your narrative for Department Awards.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation January 2018

It is important to remember that our nation's heroes deserve be honored and taken care of every day of the year. Assist in activities that help homeless veterans. There are many ways that we as auxiliary members can help.

What can you do?

Ideas: Members and Units

- Crochet hats, scarves or mittens to be distributed to homeless veterans. Use information provided by your department chairman to contact the homeless veteran coordinator at the VA health care system nearest you to explore what the unit or you can do to help homeless veterans in your community.
- Participate in the VA Project CHALENG organized by the VA health care system nearest to you. (Project CHALENG for Veterans enhances the care for homeless veterans provided by your local VA and its surrounding community service agencies.)
- Contact your local post chairman and offer your assistance if requests for help come through the Legion's Family Support Network (FSN).
- Raise funds for local American Legion posts to help veterans and their families through the Family Support Network for veterans at risk of losing their housing or homeless veterans transitioning to permanent housing.
 - o Make payments of overdue rent, utility payments or deposits and security deposits.
- Host or volunteer at homeless veterans' stand downs, events where homeless veterans receive free goods and services such as haircuts and medical exams.
- Contact homeless veteran emergency shelters, transitional housing projects and permanent housing projects in your community and identify the organization's volunteer and in-kind contribution needs, including:
 - o Meal preparation and serving
 - o Clothes collection and distribution
 - o Assembly and delivery of hygiene kits, buddy baskets
 - o Purchasing or securing household items or furniture
- Reach out to specific homeless veterans, such as residents of projects mentioned above to provide her/him practical, social and moral support
- Compile "blessing bags" to be given to the local police department or other organizations that deal with the homeless veteran population.
- Create a "Tree of Warmth" by collecting scarves, mittens, hats and attaching them to a tree in a location the homeless frequent. Include a sign that says, "Please Take if Needed," "Free if Needed," or something similar.

Patricia Lugo. VA&R Chairman
Plugo1@cox.net., Phone 602-475-0208

ARIZONA STATE VETERANS HOME – TUCSON (ASVH-TUCSON)

JANUARY, 2018

Ladies,

Upcoming schedule for Birthday Cake and Ice Cream Socials hosted by Auxiliary Units are as follows:
January thru next December, 2018

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

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES HOSTED BY AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Operation Holiday Wreaths was announced at the American Legion Auxiliary Conference on November 2, 2017. Thank you ladies from Units 109 (located in Bldg. 4 hall way), 131 (located in Bldg. #3, and 132 (wreath located in Bldg. 2 hall way). You are fantastic and always support the home. We also received two wreaths, however; I am so sorry but the recreation therapists didn't get the names of the unit. Thank you also as the wreaths are in the hallways in Buildings 2 and 3.

The annual Christmas party was a total success. Although Santa was unable to attend the party, Santa's helpers were on the ball. The helpers arrived early at 9:00 a.m. and started to fill the Christmas gift bags with presents from department, steering committee, other units, and personal donations from auxiliary members. Had music and door prizes from playing trivia (the residents love to reminisce and it's a win win therapy session). Each male veteran received a baseball cap with the United State Flag on it (this was the number one choice from the residents) and lap covers; and the ladies received beanies, gloves, and toiletries. And, for desserts, Mexican pastries, and pies and fruit salads. Boy, we left them with a lot of energy! All the hustle and bustle was so worth seeing the residents, our veterans, enjoy themselves. Now for 2018, we will be planning Super Bowl, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's, and Easter activities and will be reporting in January. Happy New Year ladies!!!!!! Thank you from Nancy and me for all that you do!!!!

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.

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
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!!!!!! (Sorry update of birthdays available actually in January.

December Birthdays

Katharyn 12/4	Robert 12/10	Francisco 12/10	Michael 12/13	Charles 12/13
Anacleto 12/15	Edwin 12/15	Douglas 12/15	Eugene 12/15	Thomas 12/18
David 12/19	Carl 12/20	Lawrence 12/21	John 12/21	Claude 12/22
Francisco 12/25 (Santa Baby)				

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!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR RECENT DONATIONS

Thank you Units 16, former 102, 109, and 131 your donations helped give 117 residents a great Christmas celebration and gifts. Also, all the previously activities and events. Also, Units 24 and 132 for the gift cards for snacks for events and movies.

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
520-404-7646

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

VA&R REPORT
TUCSON VA MEDICAL CENTER
11-30-17

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 November 21st, 2017. We will be sponsoring refreshments on December 19th, 2017. 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. Previously these Veterans were bussed to and from residential shelters. This facility will allow for additional supervision of Veteran patients and it is felt that this will contribute to their success in the program. This facility is requesting clear backpacks (25 per month) and water bottles (25 per month). The staff requesting these 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.

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

The grand total of monetary donations by American Legion Auxiliary Units for May 1, 2017 to October 31, 2017 is \$6,858.13. Thank you Unit 66 for your generous donation.

The grand total of material and activity donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2017 to November 30, 2017 is \$29,499.50. 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.).

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 November 30, 2017 is 3,361; occasional volunteer hours are 84 donated by twenty one occasional 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 199 hours and logged 2,400 miles this year in service to the Tucson VA Medical Center as of November 30, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted, Kathy Szakonyi, VAVS Representative

**ARIZONA STATE VETERANS HOME
PHOENIX
JANUARY 2018**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Hello and Good Morning,

I would like to thank the following Units for donating money to the Phoenix State Home: #107, #39, #89, #14, #29, #81, #75, #61, #35, and The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Arizona. We were able to purchase a gift for every resident at the State Home, and Walmart gift cards for some the needed items on the Wish List. If I have failed to mention your Unit, please call me at 602-312-9245, I will mention your Unit in the February issue.

Also, thanks to Units #78 and #1, for sending in monthly birthday cards. They really appreciate hearing from you and realize that they haven't been forgotten. Keep up your kindness.

Thank you Post #1 for donating 6 large bookcases to the State Home, and thank you Unit #1 for delivering them.

Below is a list of January Birthdays:

8 th Betty S.	9 th Christopher B.	25 th James C.	20 th James I.	15 th James R. W.	2 nd Joseph D.
27 th Kevin M.	22 nd Linda P.	16 th Melvin H.	14 th Ramiro G.	26 th Walter B.	31 st Wayne S,

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)

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

Please let me know if your Unit participates in monthly ASVH activities by emailing me at lbubbles@cox.net
If you have any questions, please call me 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
2 DECEMBER 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Reggie Yates at 10:02 a.m. The opening ceremony was conducted and guests introduced.

Jeanne Blaes and Ron Perkins (ASU ROTC Advisory Council) gave a presentation on "Support Our Nation's Future Leaders". They are trying to come up with some ideas to help our future leaders. Currently instate tuition is \$12,000 and out of state is \$20,000. Most ROTC students do not receive any scholarships. It is hard to ask students to go out and raise funds and take away from their study time. ASU is the home of 4 prestigious units (each branch of service). For more information go to asu.edu/rotc.

Cynthia Olortegui Vargas, Community Outreach Liaison gave a presentation on "Coper Springs Hospital". It is a 72 bed mental health hospital & outpatient clinic. They do accept most insurances. They will be opening another facility in Gilbert in about 15 months. The current facility has been open about 18 months. They do not treat adolescents and geriatrics. They are working with the VA to help with the current epidemic of suicides.

Roll call was taken, the minutes were approved.

Financial report was given. Current cash balance is \$52,467.79.

Kansas City Chiefs Hall of Fame, Nick Lowery gave a presentation on his Youth Foundation designed to help youth and veterans. He invited everyone to come to St. Vincent DePaul, 1075 W. Jackson for Christmas.

Lee Huff from Congressman Biggs office discussed the new program dealing with the appeals process. For more information call 602-256-0551.

Dr. Maureen McCarthy updated everyone on events at the VA Medical Facility. They will be dedicating the new cardio clinic where they will be able to do angioplasty. The new dental building will be opening soon. To get the new Veteran ID Card, you have to go on line to vets.gov. Dr. McCarthy advised the membership that the suicide rate in the west is far greater than in the east.

Legislative Chairman Terry Araman reported that the next Legislative session is due to start January 8th. Next month he will be providing information in how to log on to the legislative calendar to information on bills pending and how to put you input.

Reggie Yates announced that the nominations are now open for next years Veterans Hall of Fame induction. The Patriotic Gala is coming up Saturday, April 4th.

Judy Hatch gave an update on Pearl Harbor Day. There were a few issues regarding the program, but it finally made it to the printers. She was also notified of a financial problem regarding the flyover.

Needed to come up with an addition \$\$2,000. The American Legion came up with \$1,000 and the CAF agreed to do the flyover, but we still need \$1,000 to help with the program. She will be meeting with Wanda Wright and her committee in the near future to work out these issues.

Rob Welch, nominating committee chairman announced the slate for officers of the UAV. A call went out for additional nominations, there were none so Reggie Yates cast one vote for the recommended slate.

Joan Cisco thanked everyone for the support she has received for women veterans.

There are numerous scams and fraud issues out there. Members were reminded to be diligent to protect themselves from the scam artists.

There being no further business to come before the membership, the closing ceremony was conducted and the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith Hatch". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a large initial 'J' and a stylized 'H'.