



*American Legion Auxiliary Newsletter (334) 262-1176*

Department President, Sharon Atkins 2018-2019



*February 2019*

Theme for the year:

*Let Your Voice Be Heard for Our Veterans!*

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

As February is the month of Love, I hope that you are all spreading our LOVE for our VETERANS throughout your Units, Posts and Communities.

We had a good Mid-Winter Conference. We heard mid-year reports from our Department Chairmen, we had some training and we still had time to have some FUN! I just want you to know if you were not there, we did miss you. We had a special guest at our Mid-Winter Conference, our Southern Division National Vice President, Gloria Fochtman-Haygood. Gloria presented the history of the American Legion Auxiliary to the joint opening session and she had a great message for us. We recognized some special members; on Friday we introduced our New Members. We had a meet and greet for them to get to know us and for us to get to know them. On Saturday, we recognized our members with 50 continuous years of service. These ladies are our foundation and our mentors! Not all the Certificates were picked up. We will try to get these to the Units soon.

We also have a special guest coming on February 19-20. Our National President, Kathy Dungan will be here visiting the Department of Alabama American Legion Auxiliary. We will be celebrating our upcoming 100-year anniversary by completing our Department Cavalcade of Memories by allowing our National President to hang the Portrait of Alabama's only National President, Mrs. Lillian Andrews 1964 – 65. Also, our Past President's Plaques have been repaired and will be hung up for display. You will have two opportunities to meet our National President. There will be a reception at the Department Headquarters on Tuesday, February 19th from 1 – 3 pm. The second reception will be at Post 255 in Fultondale on Wednesday, February 20th from 6 – 8 pm. Please RSVP with Carol for which reception you plan to attend. The National President's Project is Female Veterans. If you or your Unit would like to donate to her project, we will be presenting checks to her at the receptions. Please let me know if you will have a donation so that I can recognize you at the reception. All checks should be made out to the ALA Foundation and earmarked for the National President's Veterans Project Fund. She is advocating for Female Veterans and the hardships that they endure. Female veterans are more likely to commit suicide than men. Some female veterans are sexually assaulted during their years in the military. If the female veteran is homeless and she has children, she is less likely to go to a shelter for fear of her children being taken away from her. I hope we have a lot of checks to present to her.

I will be traveling to Washington, D.C. along with Gloria Fochtman – Haygood, Judy Daughtry and Vickie Thrower- Mills on February 24th to storm the hill with our American Legion Family, where we will be visiting with our Senators and Congressmembers to advocate for our veterans. We will be telling our “WHY.” We will be sharing our numerous hours and our many dollars spent. I know that they will be impressed with our work and commitment to our veterans. Please keep us in your prayers for safe travel and for receiving ears to hear.

Membership – We need to continue to work membership. We are losing too many Auxiliary members every year for one reason or another. We are going to start a Revitalization team. We will be setting up a Revitalization Day in each of the three divisions.

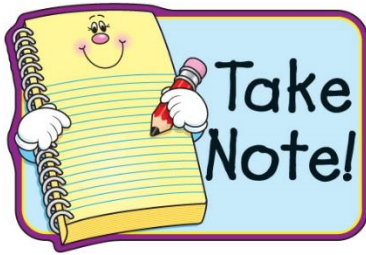
I would like to share with you 5 ways to welcome new members:

1. Don't wait – Make sure that your new member receives some form of communication from your Unit as soon as her membership application is submitted. Don't let them wonder if their membership means anything to the Unit.
2. Make sure that they have the information they need. - They have joined – so now what? Pass out new member packets. Be sure that the new member gets a Unit Handbook. Give out a member roster book.
3. Personalize it – Find unique ways to tell a new member you are thankful that they have joined. This could be a handwritten thank you note, a phone call from another member, tagging them on social media. Little touches will let them know you are there to support them and that their membership matters.
4. Provide peer support – Membership offers a unique opportunity to talk to other people who face the same challenges and opportunities that you do. Consider a membership welcoming committee made up of mentors, who will be willing to reach out to new members to see how they can help them become active and involved members.
5. Don't go cold – Remember, to the new member, the first year of membership is unfamiliar territory, so make sure that you continue to reach out to them even though you have newer members.

If we will practice this, it will help us to retain members and have more involved members. If we make our new members feel welcomed - ultimately, they will become long time members.

I hope to see you all very soon. Remember to let “Your voice be heard for our veterans!”

Sharon Atkins, President  
Department of Alabama  
American Legion Auxiliary



New Office Hours:

**Effective January 7, 2019**

Monday and Wednesday  
8a – Noon

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday  
8a- 4p

(334) 262-1176  
ALAux.Sec@legional.org

*Cookbooks are for Sale:*

REDUCED...Cookbooks have been reduced to \$20/ea  
(plus s/h) What a great gift idea for any occasion.



Rehab and Bonding Fees are due. If you are unsure as to how much your Unit owes, contact Carol at Department and she will give you that information.

*Just a Reminder:*

Department has Poppies for Sale. Poppies are \$20/100 plus \$8 for shipping and handling per 100 for a total of \$28/100. Just send a letter requesting where to send them along with the proper amount and they will be sent out to you promptly.





### EDUCATION

It's time for Scholarships to be filled out and sent in. All scholarships are located on our Department website. Please refer anyone eligible (school-age or wanting to return to school) to our page and they can determine which one(s) they are eligible for and apply. Make sure to follow all rules and adhere to all deadlines. If selected, they will only receive one, but can apply for all they are eligible for.

### CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS



When is the last time your C&B was updated? Do you know? Check with Department or the C&B Chairman to find out. Don't put it off; it's important.

## **YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**

### MEMBERSHIP

Have you renewed your membership? You matter! Your membership matters! If you are the Membership Chairman for your Unit, make sure you are contacting your members and let them know they matter. Make sure you send it in, don't hold membership. Note: If your membership hasn't been turned in yet, you are not a member in good-standing. Make sure it's turned in and you are letting your voice be heard for our Veterans.

### ALA Girls State:

The University of Alabama – Tuscaloosa will be hosting ALA Girls State from June 9-14<sup>th</sup>, 2019. I have included a hard copy of the Delegate Registration form for your reference; but please encourage your Delegates to register online at [www.alabamagirlsstate.org](http://www.alabamagirlsstate.org) as every registration for mailed in hard copy has to be entered into the online system once it is received. If you have any questions, you may email [ala.ags.help@gmail.com](mailto:ala.ags.help@gmail.com)



## ***2019 American Legion Auxiliary Alabama Girls State Delegate Registration Form***

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This form is ONLY to be completed the local person (must be a member of the American Legion Auxiliary or the faculty/staff of the high school) responsible for coordinating and selecting the ALA Alabama Girls State representative from the high school. Delegates must be selected to represent their high school at ALA Alabama Girls State (by a local unit if present and the high school).

Each delegate must:

- Be a junior in high school to be selected and must be entering their senior year in the fall
- Have an interest in government and current events, high moral character, strong leadership ability, and above average scholastic standing.
- NOT have participated in a previous session of Girls State.
- Be able to participate in ALL activities from Sunday, June 9-14, 2019.

High Schools with

- 1-199 students in the junior class may send one delegate.
- 200-599 students in the junior class may send two delegates.
- 600 or more students in the junior class may send three delegates.

(This policy is strictly enforced. For any questions, please email [ala.ags.help@gmail.com](mailto:ala.ags.help@gmail.com))

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*Name of Delegate (First and Last):* \_\_\_\_\_

*Delegate Phone Number:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Delegate Email Address:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Delegate's Parent/Guardian Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Delegate's Parent/Guardian Phone Number:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Delegate's Parent/Guardian Email Address:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Delegate's High School:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Number of People in High School's Junior Class:* \_\_\_\_\_

*High School Contact Name (First and Last):* \_\_\_\_\_

*High School Contact Phone Number:* \_\_\_\_\_

*High School Contact Email Address:* \_\_\_\_\_

*High School's City:* \_\_\_\_\_

*High School's County:* \_\_\_\_\_



**\*\*Name of person completing this form:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address of the person completing this form:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number of the person completing this form:** \_\_\_\_\_

I am the person responsible for coordinating the selection of this high school's delegate to ALA Alabama Girls State - as authorized by the local unit of the American Legion Auxiliary and/or the high school being represented. (Check one.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes. \_\_\_\_\_ No.

I verify that this delegate selected is a junior in high school to be selected and is entering her senior year in the fall. (Check one.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes. \_\_\_\_\_ No.

I verify that this delegate selected has an interest in government and current events, high moral character, strong leadership ability, and above average scholastic standing. (Check one.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes. \_\_\_\_\_ No.

I verify that this delegate selected has NOT participated in a previous session of Girls State and is able to participate in ALL activities from Sunday, June 9-14, 2019. (Check one.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes. \_\_\_\_\_ No.

I verify that the number of delegates selected to represent this high school is consistent with the program's policy: High Schools with 1-199 students in the junior class may send one delegate; 200-599 students in the junior class may send two delegates; 600 or more students in the junior class may send three delegates. (Check one.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes. \_\_\_\_\_ No.

There is a registration fee for ALA Alabama Girls State. Who will be responsible for the registration fee payment? (Check one.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Local Unit of the American Legion Auxiliary

\_\_\_\_\_ The high school being represented

\_\_\_\_\_ The Delegate and her family

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address for the person responsible for the registration fee payment:

**Please mail the completed form by April 15, 2019 to**

**Mary Lee Caldwell**

**Box 870298**

**The University of Alabama**

**Tuscaloosa, AL 35487**

American Legion Auxiliary  
Alabama Girls State  
**INTEREST FORM**

The 2019 Session of ALA Alabama Girls State is June 9-14 in Tuscaloosa.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA (on 4.0 scale): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

List your top 5 involvements and accomplishments:

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Please describe in 3-5 sentences why you are interested in attending Alabama Girls State:

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*\*Please note that this is NOT an application for Alabama Girls State.  
This form merely serves as an indication of your interest.\**





American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alabama  
2018-2019 Membership Report

2/15/19

2nd Division	2018	2019	Senior Rnwls	Junior Rnwls	VIM	New Srs	New Jrs	Total Mmbrs	% of Quota
<b>DISTRICT 21</b>									
General Gorgas #1	15	25	12	4			1	17	68%
Bessemer #22	23	33	2					2	6%
General Bare #43	38	48	18	19				37	77%
Leeds #107	73	93	52			5		57	61%
Tarrant #113	49	64	54	1		4		59	92%
Shades Valley #134	66	81	40			1		41	51%
Fairfield #137	130	150	89	29		2		120	80%
Brighton #149	28	38	8	6				14	39%
B.W. Howell #171	107	127	55	21		18	8	98	77%
Fultondale #255	287	307	186	32		12		230	75%
Birmingham #267	12	20	0					0	0%
Fairfield #347	58	73	34	6		1		41	58%
Leeds #400	24	39	22			3		25	64%
Ryan Winslow #911	15	20	14			2		16	80%
D. W. Segar #1228	23	33	5					5	15%
15 Units	948	1149	591	118	0	48	7	762	68%
<b>DISTRICT 22</b>									
Livingston #10	15	20	9	1				10	50%
Marion #16	15	20	0					0	0%
Tuscaloosa #34	38	48	25	4				29	60%
Gordo #40	10	20	10					10	50%
Greensboro #65	4	10	1					1	10%
Alberta City #123	23	33	13	2		1		16	48%
Pleasant Valley #239	10	15	12					12	80%
Aliceville #327	22	30	16	3				19	63%
8 Units	137	196	86	10	0	1	0	97	49%
<b>DISTRICT 23</b>									
Talladega #17	18	30	18					16	53%
West Blocton #47	12	20	7	1				8	40%
Columbiana #131	1	10	0					0	0%
Alabaster #138	14	20	13					13	65%
Chilton County #216	9	15	4					4	27%
Cottage Grove #339	20	30	10	2				12	40%
Pelham #555	27	35	0					0	0%
7 Units	99	160	50	3	0	0	0	53	33%
<b>DISTRICT 24</b>									
Opelika #18	15	20	7			2		9	45%
Roanoke #53	22	30	17	1		2	0	20	67%
Valley #67	24	30	10					10	33%
Phenix City #135	111	126	29	1		4		34	27%
LaFayette #141	29	39	23					23	59%
Pepperell #152	111	131	66	34		10	9	119	91%
6 Units	312	376	152	36	0	18	9	215	57%
<b>Total 34 Units</b>	<b>1494</b>	<b>1881</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1127</b>	<b>60%</b>

**American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alabama  
2018-2019 Membership Report**

2/15/19

3rd Division	2018	2019	Senior Rnwls	Junior Rnwls	VIM	New Srs	New Jrs	Total Mmbrs	% of Quota
<b>DISTRICT 31</b>									
Camden #84	15	20	15					15	75%
Grove Hill #116	16	20	16					16	80%
<b>2 Units</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>78%</b>
<b>DISTRICT 32</b>									
Montgomery #2	13	20	9					9	45%
Prattville #122	99	114	54	4		16	1	75	66%
Millbrook #133	112	132	78	1		15	5	99	75%
Tuskegee #150	2	10	2					2	20%
Montgomery #1948	10	10	11	6				17	170%
Goudy #179	31	35	1					1	3%
Union Springs #337	49	59	35	21				56	95%
<b>7 Units</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>68%</b>
<b>DISTRICT 33</b>									
Gulf Shores #44	96	111	63	1		5		69	62%
Mobile #76	157	177	132	8		11	1	152	86%
Mobile #88	57	72	37			3		40	56%
Foley #99	120	140	103		11			114	81%
Prichard #153	10	10	18					18	180%
Citronelle #164	70	85	45	22		1		68	80%
Bay Minette #188	15	25	9	1				10	40%
Fairhope #199	95	110	78	1		8	2	89	81%
Theodore #250	100	115	35	19	0	5		59	51%
<b>9 Units</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>73%</b>
<b>DISTRICT 34</b>									
Greenville #24	2	10	2					2	20%
Brewton #79	0	10	0					0	0%
Andalusia #80	31	40	22					22	55%
Atmore #90	30	40	20	6		2		28	70%
Gantt #157	10	15	0	0				0	0%
Floral #304	11	15	0					0	0%
<b>6 Units</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>DISTRICT 35</b>									
Dothan #12	21	30	8	2		5	1	16	53%
Troy #70	14	20	15					15	75%
Enterprise #73	51	66	27	9		6	2	44	67%
Samson #78	20	25	17					17	68%
Abbeville #119	18	25	15	2		1	7	25	100%
<b>5 Units</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>Total 28 Units</b>	<b>1275</b>	<b>1561</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1078</b>	<b>69%</b>
<b>HDQ Unit #1983</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>44</b>	<b>59%</b>
<b>Total All Units</b>	<b>4750</b>	<b>5869</b>	<b>2796</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>11</b>			<b>3699</b>	<b>63%</b>

American Legion Auxiliary  
P O Box 606  
Montgomery, AL. 36101

**Phone**  
(334) 262-1176

**E-mail**  
ALAux.Sec@legional.org

Don't Forget to Let Your  
Voice Be Heard for Our  
Veterans!

## Key Dates:

**January 7, 2019**  
Office Hours Change  
**March 15th**  
Scholarship applications for  
National scholarships  
Must be rec'd by Dept no later  
Than 3/15  
**April 1<sup>st</sup>**  
Dept Scholarship Applications  
Due to Dept

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ALABAMA**  
P O BOX 606  
MONTGOMERY, AL 36101

