



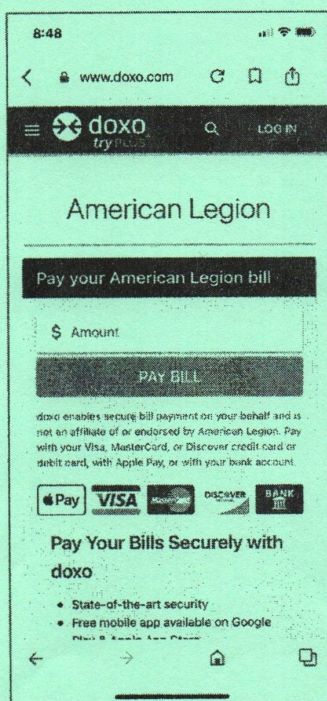
American Legion Auxiliary

*A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans,
Military, and their Families*

To: ALA PNPs, ALA Foundation Board, ALA Dept. Sec/EDs, ALA NHQ Staff, 2021-2022 National Chairmen, National Officers, Dept Presidents, NEC, Alt NEC
CC: Dan Wheeler, James Baca, Dean Kessel, Chanin Nuntavong, Mark Seavey; Jeff Stoffer
From: Kelly Circle, Executive Director
Re: Weekly Briefing 01-14-2022

IMPORTANT + IMMEDIATE NOTICE — PLEASE SHARE WITH OTHER MEMBERS

*** Don't pay your ALA member dues through anything but www.ALAforVeterans.org. ***



Please be aware of a company called Doxo, which promotes itself as an official American Legion Auxiliary national bill pay site but is NOT affiliated with us. You might stumble upon Doxo if you Google terms like “alaforveterans.org dues.” This external site appears as an option in the search results and misleads members into thinking they are part of us. Don't be duped — Doxo does a nice job of branding their site to look ALA official (see screenshot).

While this payment site does work, our members have reported delayed payments, missed due dates, and additional service fees when paying through Doxo. Using our name and logo is unauthorized and makes it appear as if the service is affiliated with ALA when it is not. This has caused confusion and created hassle for some members.

This is a reminder to always use the national ALA's official payment processing through the MyAuxiliary member portal at www.ALAforVeterans.org which is a quick, secure,

convenient, and FREE way for members to pay their dues and update their contact information. Please contact membership@ALAforVeterans.org if you have any questions.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MAKING A BRIGHTER WORLD FOR OUR VETERANS

FEBRUARY 2022

HAPPY VALENTINES' DAY TO ALL YOU SWEETHEARTS!!

THE YEAR IS MOVING FAST AND WE HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE TO STILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE WITH OUR WORK. AT TIMES IT SEEMS LIKE IT IS TOUCH AND GO WITH THE CONTUNED PANDEMIC THAT REFUSES TO END. BE SURE TO THANK YOUR HIGHER BEING FOR KEEPING YOU SAFE AND WELL WITH YOUR LOVED ONES.

I WANT TO THANK OUR CHAIRMEN FOR THE GREAT JOB THEY ARE DOING WITH KEEPING ALL OUR MEMBERS INFORMED ON WHAT HAS BEEN TRANSPILING ON THEIR PROGRAM AND OFFERING IDEAS ON WAYS FOR OUR MEMBERS TO CONTINUE WITH THE WORK. MEMBERS, THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR EFFORTS AND SUCCESSES WITH OUR ORGANIZATION.

REMEMBER IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN OUR MOTTO OF SERVICE NOT SELF, WE NEED TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN MEMBERS TO WE HAVE THE NUMBERS TO PROVIDE THE ELBOW POWER AND STRENGTH TO ENRICH OUR SERVICE.

THANK ALL THE UNITS THAT HAVE BEEN HAVING FUND RAISERS FOR THIS YEAR'S SPECIAL PROJECT, PTSD AWARENESS AND EDUCATION, WITH FUNDS TO BE GIVEN TO THE PTSD FOUNDATION OF AMERICA.

THOUSANDS OF CANDLES CAN BE LIT FROM A SINGLE CANDLE AND THE LIFE OF THE CANDLE WILL NOT TO BE SHORTENED. "BUDDA"

GOD BLESS YOU AND GOD BLESS AMERICA.

Jennie Molina

truelepa@gmail.com

ALA AZ. President

P.O. Box 448 Douglas, Az 85608

President Jennie Molina Calendar Activities

July 11th District 3 Pierce/Sunsites

17th & 18th Tombstone Post 24 Leadership

August 7th Tucson Officers'/Chairmen workshop

14th Tombstone Auction

26- Sept 3rd^h National Convention Phoenix

September 12th District 3 Tombstone

October 2nd Post 109 First Responders Day

7th-13th Presidents retreat -Kentucky

22nd Safford Early Bird Dinner

23rd, District 5 Post 32 Safford

November 4th-7th Fall Conference Tucson

21st District 12 at Post 138 Tempe

December 1st Tucson VA Gift Shop

7th Pearl Harbor Phoenix/ Phoenix Gift Shop Post 1

10th Post 16 Christmas dinner

11th Post 45 Benson Veterans honored

15th Post 1 AZ staff luncheon

January 2022 8th AL Open House, Phoenix

9th Unit 91 Chandler

9th District 11 Post 62 Peoria

22nd Post 36 Tucson District Commander's dinner

29th-30 Las Vegas Mission Training.

February 15th Unit 66 and Unit 131

March 24th-27th National President Visit.

Americanism February

Happy Valentine's to all. Valentine's is a time we show our love and affection to/for others. The following sacrifice is worthy of mention. If you're not familiar with the story, it's worth reading. The names of these four Army chaplains(Immortal Chaplains)come to my mind this month,

- George Fox, a Methodist;
- Alexander Goode, a Jewish Rabbi;
- John Washington, a Roman Catholic Priest;
- and Lt. Clark Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister.



George L. Fox, Alexander D. Goode



Clark V. Poling, John P. Washington

These 4 chaplains gave up their life jackets and sank with the SS Dorchester as civilians and military personnel were being rescued February 3, 1943.

Linda Lopez, Americanism President
Llopez10@cableone.net

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND

FEBRUARY 2022

Special 100th Anniversary Program Facts:

The Auxiliary Emergency fund was established in 1969 by the National Executive Committee, as National President Marcella Davidson, Department of New Mexico, started this as her special project. It was funded initially through a generous legacy gift from Auxiliary member Helen Colby Small of Burlington, Wisconsin. The AEF is now able to continue to grant assistance through voluntary contributions. The Auxiliary promotes awareness of the fund, disseminates information about the application process, and solicits donations from units, departments, and individual members in order to continue its availability as a resource to help members in certain dire states. A national AEF grant review committee awards AEF grants to applicants based on criteria, membership, and fund availability.

In 1981, the AEF program was expanded to include a fund to help members who needed to support themselves due to unexpected life-changing circumstances such as death or illness of a spouse, divorce, or desertion. Those women found it difficult to obtain employment, and who are without the job skills necessary to obtain adequate employment. Because of this, short-term assistance can now be provided to help our members acquire marketable job skills through schooling or job training when all other sources of financial aid have been exhausted. This was called the Displaced Homemakers Fund. With the continuous generosity of our unit members, the funds allowed a wider use of the benefits to our members and it continues today. The first AEF grant amount was \$150 and today the grant amount is for \$2,400 that our members may be eligible to receive. Since the AEF Program's existence, our members have received an estimated \$5.8 million, with over \$6 million in donations from our generous members.

AWARDS

Individual contributors donating \$50 or more can receive a citation and lapel pin.

Unit awards for Department listed below...

Patricia M. Lee –Gloria Elliott Memorial Plaque

Paula Burgess "President's Plaque"

Paula Burgess "Per Capita Award"

Jessica Mc Comb – Chairman

602-573-8681

mommytobrent@gmail.com

Chaplain

February 2022

We are getting close to the end of this trying year. I pray for our families, friends and whomever is reading this, please stay healthy, positive and have faith in your heart that God will bring us through.

Greetings to everyone, hope that you are having an exciting time working on all the wonderful programs and offering prayers on every occasion. Time is fleeting and convention will be here before you know it. A suggestion for this month is to hold a joint Four Chaplains Service. It could be a part of your regular meetings or a special event. Many people have not heard of this awesome story.

It is time (if you have not already) to think about the unit prayer book. I hope to see many of them at department convention. The unit Chaplain does not make the Unit Prayer Book alone, all members should be asked to give the unit chaplain something for the prayer book. I have not received very many prayers for our Dept. President's Prayer Book, please send some prayers.

Here are some suggestions for the prayer book.

1. The book should have the Auxiliary emblem on it
2. The book can be a three-ring binder and decorated
3. Prayers, devotional thoughts, poems are collected from members or other people
4. Can be typed, handwritten or a mixture of each
5. Pictures can be used
6. Book should contain a cover page with chaplain's name, address, unit number, District number and Department
7. Book should contain Pledge of Allegiance and Preamble
8. List category of entry for award
9. Judging will be using a point system for neatness, grammar, content, and items mentioned above

Remember President's Jennie's theme "Making a Brighter World for Our Veterans" along with our National President's theme "Caring for those who CARE for others"

"Almighty God, Our Father, look upon our World, a world of turmoil, a world of fear....

Emblazon upon our hearts and minds, the value of human life...turn us away from war,

From violence...teach us peace...teach us love; make us equal to whatever task, above all...

Keep us just." AMEN

Community Service

February 2022

Hello ALA Members,

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention." ~Oscar Wilde

National Volunteer Month is April with the National Volunteer week being April 17th thru April 23rd. Volunteer Month is a month dedicated to recognizing the importance of volunteering and honoring the significant contributions volunteers make by generously donating their time and talents to worthy causes.

I encourage you to do something special and share it with us by starting to write your narrative to be turned in with year end reports, due May 1st.

Wishing you great joy and success in all your endeavors this year.

Sara C. Decker
Community Service Chairman
SaraDeckeraz@gmail.com
480-580-3269

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

February 2022

What it Takes to be a Good Leader

To some, the title "leader" implies a domineering, take-charge, charismatic individual. Leadership isn't an adjective. You don't need to be an extrovert or charismatic to be a leader. Most members define leadership as the ability to achieve a position, not the ability to get followers. Leadership is a mindset in action; it stems from social influence, not authority or power. Leadership has nothing to do with titles. You can be a leader in your workplace, your neighborhood, your family, and/or our organization, all without having a title.

Be Knowledgeable: It is not necessary to be an expert on everything, but basic knowledge is essential. Where are your resources?

- Familiarize yourself with documents that govern the operation of your unit or committee
 - National Constitution & Bylaws (www.ALAforVeterans.org)
 - Department Constitution & Bylaws (contact your Department Headquarters or Department Chairman)
 - Sample Constitution & Bylaws (www.ALAforVeterans.org)
 - Unit Guide Book (available for download from www.ALAforVeterans.org and sold through [American Legion Emblem Sales](#))
 - Parliamentary procedure (sold through [American Legion Emblem Sales](#))
 - Local bookstores
 - internet, etc.
- Possess a level of familiarity with programs of the American Legion Auxiliary
 - Finding program helpful hints: (www.ALAforVeterans.org) The following committee tabs will provide additional information: Americanism, Children & Youth, Community Service, Education, ALA Girls Nation, Junior, Legislative, National Security, Poppy, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation.
- Strengthen knowledge on Parliamentary Procedure
 - Parliamentary Procedure ("how to run a meeting")
 - Unit Guide Book (How to be a successful unit leader)
 - How-to sheets
- Know the process for the appropriation and control of money. Bad financial practices do not just hurt the organization; they can result in criminal investigations and prosecution.
 - Finance: How to monitor finances

Be Passionate: A good leader exhibits excitement; and through demonstrated, unswerving commitment to our vision, instills hope and inspiration to other members. A good leader “walks the talk” and in doing so, earns the right to lead.

Listen: If you exhibit a proper attitude in listening, really listening to your members, the potential for identifying new opportunities will emerge. Instill in yourself, and others, that listening is an opportunity to grow. In the end, your success as a leader will be predicated upon your ability to listen and understand the viewpoint of others.

Have a Positive Attitude: Leaders should have an upbeat, optimistic attitude that serves as a source of inspiration for others. If leaders seem discouraged or apathetic, members are likely to also become uninspired and demotivated.

- Be a cheerleader. Motivate others by your enthusiasm.
- Follow up with your members to ensure they are achieving the goals, objectives, and milestones established.

Lead with Integrity: A good leader must possess unquestionable character and lead with integrity. Integrity gives you so much as a leader; credibility, trust, confidence, influence, and more.

Lead by Example: Who says leadership is a one-way relationship? As you work toward developing leadership qualities in yourself, don’t forget to look to your fellow members for feedback and inspiration.

- Pay attention to the things that have been effective in the past and always be on the lookout for new ways to inspire, motivate, and reward your members.
- Be willing to delegate responsibility – use the talents of others!
- Always instill a climate of goodwill.
- Be respectful. Remember those all-important “shout outs” to deserving members and certainly the two most important words – thank you.
- Do you care about your members and strive to help build leadership capacity in them?

Be Confident: Be aware of the way and manner which you present yourself. Bearing is everything! Be confident and decisive in your decision-making. Members will pick up on your approach to leadership and find reassurance, clear direction, and security when a leader portrays confidence and positive demeanor.

Act Professionally: As a leader, you should be cordial to all of your members. You should also recognize the importance of dressing appropriately, showing up for meetings on time, and communicating in a professional manner. Your goals and expectations should be clear from the beginning. Members will be more motivated and less confused. Ask for input. Tell them that their perspective is crucial to your success.

EDUCATION

February 2022

Through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion and support of education beyond high school, ALA members build brand loyalty and awareness of the ALA's mission (Goal 5) through their education-related community service projects. The Education Committee's purpose is to promote quality education for children and adults through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion, and support of education beyond high school, especially for military children.

*Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow
belongs to those who prepare for it today. ~ Malcom X*

We need to inform guidance counselors, students, parents, and members of the availability of our scholarships, and to apply. Please contact your local school district high school guidance counselor's office and announce the availability of these scholarships. Attach copies of the applications or share the link. <https://www.ala.org>. Ensure that all your Post American Legion Family Members are aware of the Department and National Scholarships as well as any Unit scholarship. Double and triple check deadlines, where to send their application and that the application is complete. An incomplete application and missed deadlines will result in disqualification.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are in need help in answering any questions regarding scholarships.

Anita Ritter
Education Chair
Department of Arizona
Ritmar@cox.net
602-679-1785



American Legion Auxiliary
Arizona
Girls State

Girls State Update.....January 2022

American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State packets were emailed to Arizona High Schools **January 22 to January 25**. Unit Girls State Chairman or President, please contact assigned school/s and make sure the email was sent to the proper person as there were changes this year and we did not have names for everyone. **DEADLINE FOR ALL DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE cards to be turned into me is March 1, 2022**. Delegate and Alternate cards will be mailed to Unit Girls State Chairman's address. Did you return your address to Barbara?. Please encourage your schools to use alternate cards. As you know, we always need replacements at the last minute. Same information **is required** of alternates as of delegates. The alternate **does not** pay \$100 unless she is taken as a delegate and not filling a bed already assigned. Units do not lose money when Alternate cards are available and complete for replacements. **Samsung Scholarship** information and **Medical Card** is sent directly to the delegate in April and May. If you need extra delegate/alternate cards just ask. We reside in a dorm that does not have the bed capacity for all the schools and cards assigned. **Late cards will be subjected to availability of beds**. Don't wait until the last minute and remember schools are out for **Spring Break** in March.

We ask girls to furnish a 2½" x 1½" school picture (passport size) to be included with the delegate/alternate card. We also need their **size for t-shirts** along with questionnaire and signed policy on bullying and media. The fee per girl is \$400.00 total...(\$300.00 Unit/Contributor and \$100.00 from the delegate if possible). One Unit check for all girls attending really helps with accounting. Remember selection of delegates/alternates is the Units responsibility whenever possible but this does present a problem this year and schools will be doing the selection.. Please review the information in the Girls State packet from Fall Conference and use the checklist. It is a **privilege** to attend Girls State **not a right**. If a girl does not have the \$100, be creative or contact me. Money should not be a reason for a girl that is qualified not to be able to attend.

Girls State is privately funded by the American Legion Auxiliary who sponsors the program. Others donating or helping with funds are contributors.

The following is a **SUGGESTED** American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State Delegate Interview if you can get into a school or choose to hold one.. It can be modified to meet the needs of each individual Unit. The interview is a way to get answers to important questions. **The Girls State Questionnaire sheet sent to each school must be returned with all (both delegates and alternates) cards even though you may use your own questionnaire form.**

SUGGESTED GIRLS STATE DELEGATE INTERVIEW

Before the Interview

1. Read the Girls State pamphlet provided to familiarize yourself with the program.
2. Contact school personnel and set up meeting date, time and place.
3. Ask for copies of questionnaire form for each girl to be interview.
4. Contact interview committee with date, time, questionnaire information and place of interview. **During the Interview...**

5. **BE ON TIME...**Have notes to use during the interview taken from the questionnaire. Make sure you are **dressed appropriately**. You are representing the American Legion Auxiliary.
6. **Stand** when the girl enters the room. **Introduce** yourself and make both her and you feel comfortable.
7. Ask if she is familiar with the American Legion Auxiliary and the Girl State program.
8. You can give a brief summary of the American Legion Auxiliary. Use fact sheet in Fall Conference packet. Preamble... For God and Country. Americanism and Children and Youth Programs if she is not familiar with the Auxiliary.
9. Tell her about the Girls State Program...75 years at the University of Arizona, **structured, fast paced, learning by doing experience**. One week long. Arizona Girls State has cities, counties and 2 Political Parties. All Staff members are trained volunteers.
10. Ask girl to tell you about herself. **Make notes!** Why does **SHE** want to attend (Mother, Looks Good on Resume-Pressure)?
11. During questions and conversation, ask girl if she understands all the requirements for attending Girls State.
Would she be able to participate fully in all phases of the program? **How does she feel about participating in flag ceremonies? Would she have a problem saluting the flag and Pledging Allegiance?** Would she have a problem staying all week (conflict of activities)? Would she have a problem with participating in non-denominational prayers? How does she feel about following directives from adults? Does she have problem with long days and walks in the heat? Does she mind sharing a room with someone else? Could she do without a cell phone/texting all the time? Have girl tell you in her own words, why she would be a good delegate for Girls State: What would she bring back to her school and community? **After the Interview...**
12. **Stand...Thank her** for her participation and interest in the program. **MAKE ONE POSITIVE POINT ABOUT HER PERSONALLY...**The interview is completed.

Another form of Unit involvement is to have the girls write essays or speak on a selected topic. You can also use the question forms provided in the Unit packet at Fall Conference. Please establish a good working relationship with school personnel. **Remember...THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY SPONORS GIRLS STATE and IT'S THE UNIT'S HARD WORK THAT PAYS THE FEES FOR THE GIRLS TO ATTEND!** If a girl has a problem with saluting and pledging, maybe this program is not for her. **Be very careful with your questions, comments and reactions to girls' answers.** Don't discuss answers or debate with girls during the interview. Discuss in private with your notes. The teacher, counselor or other school personnel should not be present during your discussion. We don't want to defend ourselves with a lawsuit. Please make sure I have names of anyone making extra contributions. We want to make sure they are properly thanked. Girls State is unable to **meet everyone's special needs and requests** when selecting to attend, please keep this in mind. If the delegate does not have the \$100 fee please, if possible, work with what amount she can pay rather than turning her down.

The Girls State website is www.azgirlsstate.com.

If I can be of any assistance, please let me know. Until next time.....

Penny Maklary, Director
American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State

Legislative

February 2022

Greetings,

I hope this finds all of you in good health and spirits. The Governor gave his last State of the State Address on January 11th. This was also the first day of the 55th Regular Session of the State Legislature. Also, keep an eye out for the President's first State of the Union Address in March.

Mid Term elections are just around the corner. Remember to get your members and members of the community to get out and vote. The ticket for Governor is very long, on both parties. This will be an interesting primary.

The Spring American Legion National Legislative and National Security Conference in DC this year has been cancelled again for all of the Department Legislative Chairmen to attend in person. National Commander Dillard will attend himself to address Congress on behalf of the American Legion, however members of Department delegations will not be able to talk to Congressmen in person on local issues. It is imperative as Units to be reaching out to your elected officials this year, because we cannot see them in person on your behalf. This is very unfortunate, but they are required by national statute to at least meet with the National Commander.

Your End of the Year Reports are due into the Department Chairman by May 1, 2022. Reports must include a narrative with a cover sheet to be considered for an award.

In closing, please stay healthy and positive. Remember, we are all in this together. Please remember, to be kind and patient with one another. I miss you all and care deeply about you and hope to see you soon. If there is anything you need to talk about, call or email me. I am but a few clicks away.

For God and Country,

Stephanie M. McMullen

Chairman

16575 W. Moreland St.

Goodyear, AZ 85338

(623)910-4716, stephaniemcmullenala62az@gmail.com

Reaching for the Goal!

February 2022

This Chairman likes to call February "Love a Vet" month. What a great time to check in with your veterans, see how they are doing, what can you do for them. Eventually, the subject of membership will come up.

Does your Unit have all their family members, who are eligible, signed up for the ALA?

Four Units have reached 100% or more! Let's give Units 16, 28, 76, 84 a round of applause. There are several Units that are very very close to 100%

Keep up the good work with renewing, retaining and rejoining members! We can't do it without you!

It's not too early to start thinking about year end reports and narratives. Who doesn't want to brag about what your Unit accomplished to retain and recruit Membership!

Membership is the life blood of our organization. Without YOU we can't support our veterans, military, community, and youth.

Reminder – Please submit membership on a weekly basis, even if it is only one. And, write "Membership" on the outside of the envelope.

Until next month

Barbara White
Department Vice President
602-908-2980
Barbarawhite99@gmail.com



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona

**“Education and Awareness of Our Veterans With PTSD”
MUSIC REPORT**

FEBRUARY 2022

Greetings Melomanos (“music lovers”),

It’s been a busy and exciting for this Music Chair. I do hope you have enjoyed working your Music program within your Unit. Convention is approaching and I’ve been researching ideas for music for the Memorial Service. If you missed the opportunity to lend your talents at Fall Conference, you will have an opportunity at Convention in 2022. I’m looking forward to seeing your beaming faces singing your hearts out at Convention, as well as the Legion and Sons of the American Legion members. Please encourage your Post and Unit members to attend and participate as well. The choir at Fall Conference was amazing for a small group. They produced such an amazing and glorious sound. Imagine how wonderful a larger group would be!

In an effort to promote the Auxiliary Music Program, I had the pleasure of providing music for a party at the Phoenix Veteran Home. I was pleased that a couple ladies from Unit 29 joined me as well as my grandson. We enjoyed the opportunity and home we are invited again.

Reminder: Year End reports are due May 1, 2022. I’m looking forward to reading about the wonderful things your Unit have done.

“Music can change the world.” Beethoven

With a song in your heart.

For God and Country,

Alma Mattingly, Department Music Chairman

16575 W. Moreland Street, Goodyear, AZ 85338
amblonde01@gmail.com
602.999.4054 cell

National Security

Embracing Resources for Comfort and Service

Purpose: The National Security Program maintains and promotes a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting military service members and their families.

2021-2022 National Security Program Awards Deadlines and Submission Requirements

Thank you for taking the time to share a favorite story about the positive impact you or someone you know has had on our mission! Your story may inspire another member into service. It also helps us tell the world who we are, what we do, and why we matter.

Here are the national awards for this committee:

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit National Security Program (per division)

- Deadline June 1
- All department entries must be sent by the department chairman to their national division chairman postmarked by 5 p.m. EST on the deadline listed above. Members should follow instructions from their department.

Salute to Servicemembers Award

- Deadline June 1
- All department entries must be sent by the department chairman to their national division chairman postmarked by 5 p.m. EST on the deadline listed above. Members should follow instructions from their department.

Please note – when applicable, unit and department deadlines differ.

Just follow these simple steps to submit your award entry:

1. Fill out the form on the next page as completely as possible
2. Send your form to the appropriate division chairman for the National Security program found at the [Red Book](#) link on this committee page by June 1. Please email a copy to National Security Chairman Diana Sirovina at dsirovina@icloud.com and include any photos that aid in your storytelling.

If you have questions, please contact Patricia Lugo, Department Chairman @plugo1@cox.net or 602-475-0208 or NationalSecurity@ALAforVeterans.org.

New Units/Unit Development & Revitalization

February 2022

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Each year Unit Membership Chairmen spend hours promoting and enrolling new enthusiastic members. Then after a year or two, these members often drop their membership due to lackluster meetings, seasoned members not inviting newer members to participate in volunteer projects and events, the same officers serving year after year, or perhaps the unit is unwilling to change the way they do things.

For the auxiliary to be successful, the revolving door must stop. Many of the issues plaguing our Units today can be resolved through Conflict Resolution.

So where do you begin? First, call a special meeting and ask each attendee to respond to the following question. *“If you had the power to make two major changes in this Unit, what would those two be?”*

Each response should be written on a flipchart or chalkboard. Once everyone has responded, categorize the list into workable groupings, based on the number of attendees. If you have four groupings, then have the attendees count off: 1,2,3, 4: 1,2,3,4.

Next, ask each number group to go to a different area of the room to begin discussing the issues assigned to their group. Each group should also have one group member to take notes. This person will also read the notes later in the meeting. The groups should have 10-15 minutes to discuss their assigned issues.

When the allotted time has elapsed. Everyone should come back together, and the person responsible for the notes in each discussion group reports their group's solutions. After each report, ask for additional comments from the floor, and then go on to the next group's report, etc.

So often when individuals or a group of members have problems, they call on others to solve their dilemmas for them. However, since the majority of disagreements stem from individual differences, it is important for Unit members to understand how necessary it is to try to solve their own problems.

The key to conflict resolution is giving EVERY member a voice. Once the voices are heard, however it is to the leaders and all members to work together to take the steps necessary to implement the changes.

Jan Cushing
New Units/UD&R
gcushing@cox.net
623-544-0797



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY PAST PRESIDENT PARLEY

FEBRUARY 2022

Happy Valentines Day!!! Thanks to all the Units/Districts who are inviting me to your PPP event. Do you want your Unit or District to be recognized? If so, I need your information!!!! Send me what you do and how you celebrate the Past President's Parley program.

I am recognizing Unit 27 in Apache Junction for their PPP program held on January 9th. Chairman and past president, Ellie Zacko had a wonderful hot meal prepared, and trivia games ready for our Women Veterans and past unit presidents, Cindy Queen, Linda Ruyle and Monica Stein. Lots of laughter, and we all learned more about our country. The afternoon ended with cutting of the cake, and pictures taken, enjoy them below.

I look forward to hearing from your Unit and sharing your stories about your PPP program!!!!

Until next month with more news!!

Cindy Queen

Past President Parley Chairwoman

cynqueen53@cox.net

602-316-7647



PUBLIC RELATIONS

This month has several upcoming holidays!! We have Valentine's Day and of course Presidents Day. Be sure to publicize any up coming events you have for these wonderful holidays.

Reach out to your local newspaper and of course get on those social media pages. When reaching out to your local media remember the 5 W's for the best information.

Who • What • When • Where

This will help your local media to ensure that your submission gets into the correct journalists hands.

When you are putting information on your Social media pages for these events be sure to let them know exact dates and even a website link to your Post, Unit and SAL website if you have one. That way they can get the special event information but also more information about your Legion Family.

We are less than 5 months out for our Department Convention. I hope you are all saving up those wonderful articles, social media posts and such for your Unit's AMAZING Press Book. Please do remember this is not a scrapbook per say. You may have small embellishments but please be sure that you have the required pieces for each page such as:

- Articles need to have headline and date and folio or front page logo from paper
- If you are doing a social media submission please be sure to screen shot the entire post like below:



Also keep in mind that you can use flyers, posters and such as well as long as they are distributed to members and the public.

Please remember to email or send in your articles for our Wonderful department Presidents Press Book as well so she has great memories of her year as Department President.

Remember to practice the social distancing with your events and stay safe!

Happy Valentine's Day to all!

Shannon Mead, PR Chairman
8938 W. Hilton Ave., Tolleson, AZ 85353
623-521-1263 • shannonmead@live.com

SCRAPBOOK

February 2022 Bulletin

Do you have pictures of the Department President's Official visits? Do you have pictures of your District and Unit functions? These are all of the pictures we are looking for! Together, we can highlight all of the amazing work that is being done. These memories will showcase what is not always seen.

Social Media is a great tool for posting your hard work. We are seeing the great efforts put out by each and every one of you. If you have pictures you would like us to add to Madam President's scrapbook, be sure to send those our way! Remember, every picture tells a story. So be sure to capture every memorable moment and send them in!

Be sure you also maintain your own Unit books so you always have something to look back on. If you ever need any assistance, feel free to reach out.

Sandra Solis, Scrapbook Chairperson – Sandra_211@live.com

Jacqueline Solis, Assistant Scrapbook Chairperson – Jacquelinesolis24@gmail.com

VA&R
FEBUARY 2022

This Auxiliary year is flying by, before we know it we will have to be sending in our report forms and narratives. It is never to early to start filing the forms out. Did you send money in for Gift Shop?? Put it on your report form. Stand Down? Write it down.

Report forms were sent out in last months packet, make copies so if you lose one you have an extra.

ALL REPORTS ARE DUE TO THE CHAIRMAN ON MAY 1ST.

We have to get our reports to the National Chairman by May 15th. So we are in a bit of a time crunch.

Please remember to send me photos and a short synopsis of what your Unit has done for Veterans and I will forward them to Western Division and National.

For God and Country
Rose Ficklin

SERVICE TO VETERANS

It's hard to believe that February is already here and the June will be here before we know it! Volunteer hours reporting is very minimal, and I am hoping to hear from more units soon. I have been sending the report form every month to the Unit Presidents.

It's hard to believe that it is February already, and the Convention in June will be Using this report form is not mandatory, it is only a guide. Members can report their hours individually, or a total unit report. Again, you can email or text me at the numbers listed below. If you phone me please leave a message. Due to robo calls and spam I do not answer calls I do not recognize.

The forms for unit awards will be available soon with instructions how to submit your report. A narrative is required listing your activities for the year along with a year- end report of your volunteer hours.

Thank you all for your support of our Veterans and their families, active and reserve military and their families!

For God and Country

Nancy Berg, Chairman

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VA&R REPORT
TUCSON VA MEDICAL CENTER
12-31-21

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

Moderna vaccine has arrived and all staff who desired vaccination have been vaccinated. All Veterans and caregivers have been offered the two dose vaccine. Current numbers are rising rapidly according to Director. This may cause changes to the visitation policies at the hospital. Booster shots are also now available.

Southwest Blind Rehabilitation Center is now opening back up. There is limited visitation at SAVAHCS. Monetary donations are being accepted at this time. Unit 73 sponsored Thanksgiving meals for Veteran patients at SWBRC.

There is a new program in start-up process to assist Veterans patients with food insecurities. A separate food pantry is filling this need. The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Arizona donated gift cards valued at \$1,150 towards this program.

The grand total of monetary donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 is \$8,278.47.

The grand total of material and activity donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 is \$19,441.67. Thank you Unit 7, Unit 24, Unit 30, Unit 66, Unit 73, Unit 109, Unit 131 and Unit 132 for your generous donations to support our programs.

Four registered hospital volunteers donated time which was credited to the American Legion Auxiliary. The grand total of registered volunteer hours May 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 is 1,314. **S AVAHCS is in the process of bringing back volunteers. Volunteers will be phased in as needed and the process will be closely monitored by the Director. Volunteers will be contacted by the Voluntary Service office as their services are needed. One more Auxiliary volunteer has been called back.**

This chairman has volunteered 162.5 hours and logged 1,740 miles this year in service to the Tucson VA Medical Center as of December 31, 2021. This chairman has now logged over 4,000 hours in service to SAVAHCS. This chairman was re-elected to be the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the VAVS Executive Committee at the meeting on October 12, 2021. This chairman has been elected to fill a three year term on the VAVS Executive Committee. This chairman has attended every Executive Committee meeting and every VAVS meeting this year. This chairman worked with all Units to provide beverages and snacks for staff, patients and volunteers who were manning the COVID-19 vaccination sites. This chairman is working with the Homeless Program to ensure that our Homeless Veterans and those in Transitional Housing have the food and beverages that they need during this time of enormous stress on all community resources. This chairman is working with the Recreation departments to purchase needed supplies for the National Veterans Creative Arts Program and other recreational activities. Annual Joint Review was completed November 16, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Szakonyi, VAVS Representative

STATE VETERANS HOME PHOENIX
PAT STANASKI CHAIRMAN

WELL FINALLY WE HAD A SUCCESSFUL MONTH OF DECEMBER. WE WERE ABLE TO GO TO THE VETERANS HOME AND HAVE A SING ALONG.FOR CHRISTMAS.

ALMA MATTINGLY OUR WONDERFUL MUSIC CHAIRMAN DID A WONDERFUL JOB. SHE HAD HELP FROM HER GRANDSON T J MC MULLEN. HE IS A SAL MEMBER WHO LOVES TO HELP WHEN HE CAN. THEY WENT ALL OVER THE PATIO LOOKING FOR SINGERS, AND THEY FOUND A FEW. THEY HAD A GREAT TIME.

THE VETERANS CLUB AT ENCANTERRA CAME WITH TRUCK LOADS OF GIFTS FOR OUR VETERANS.

THE HOSPITAL FURNISHED, THE BRUNCH . IT WAS REALLY GOOD AND TASTY.

I WANTED TO THANK BRITTANY TASHNER THE NEW RECREATION THERAPY MANAGER FOR THE HOSPITAL, FOR CONTACTING ME TO DO THIS. WOULD NOT HAVE WORKED WITHOUT OUR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP ALMA.

I WAS SO SORRY I COULDN'T ATTEND. I HAD A REALLY BAD THAT DAY AND WAS TO GO HOME. I UNDERSTOOD. I SOUNDED REALLY BAD. BUT I WAS FINE JUST A COUGH.

WE WANT TO DO THIS AGAIN.

PAT STANASKI
ARIZONS STATE HOME CHAIRMAN PHOENIX