

Serving Those Behind The Badge

February 2021

THE OFFICE IS OPEN, PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT BEFORE YOU COME TO DEPARTMENT OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE...THIS IS DUE TO CORVID-19.

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S OFFICAL VISIT... President Patricia will be rescheduling her missed visits for this year. Check with her about rescheduling. If you want her to revisit go ahead and ask.

PSP SHIRTS...we have them here in the office for sale. RED and BLUE tee shirts and polos wicking material...Get yours TODAY.

GIRLS STATE...It's happening...watch for details from the DIRECTOR

DIRECTORY ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS...

Dist 2...Secretary...Ruth Taylor...520-668-4318...taylor1985@comcast.net

Dist 6...President...Kathleen Chamberlain...kathyham50@gmail.com

EXTRA... EXTRA ... "RED TICKET" ...if you have received a red ticket since last Fall Conference please contact Department again so that we can mail out your prize asap.

MEMBERSHIP... "MEMBERSHIP PATROL Part 2". Membership is everyone's job. Legion Act has opened the window of eligibility from 12-7-1941 thru now. Be a life saver and get a renewal and a rejoin. ARIZONA is at 62.2%...need to work on that...**WE CAN DO IT!!** Check out the standings we have several Units that do not have the minimum of 10 members to maintain their charter. National has already asked if these Units are CANCELLING THIER CHARTERS. Question is are they?

Applications MUST BE LEGIBLE AND COMPLETE

- The original application is sent to DEPARTMENT not copies of them.
- Be eligible & USE BLUE INK, SEND ORIGINAL APPLICATION and COMPLETE INFO.
- Unit number
- Name of Veteran related to and only 1
- NEW "ANYTIME AFTER" Veteran Served...MUST IDENTITY CONFLICT...CHECK ALL THAT APPLY
- DIRECT DESCENDANT... No longer on NEW application
- Only 1 relationship and do not add any
- Now you have spouse in place of wife, you have to identify female or male spouse
- Must be signed by a Post Officer unless it is woman veterans joining on herself
- Half sheet transmittal both white and yellow copies
- Do not pay for paid online and PUFL members on your transmittals...They are already paid for.
- NO NEW women veterans special offer for 2021.
- USE THE FORMS PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT FOR MEMBERSHIP PROCESSING.
- DO NOT RECREATE THE FORMS.

Women Veterans Trailblazer Award...check out the information. Do you know one these extraordinary women veterans? Did you nominate anyone? Let Department know who.

Please say a little prayer

or wish that all are safe.



Barbara Matteson
Dept Secretary/Treasurer
secretary@aladeptaz.org

Pat Stanaski
Dept Membership Processor
membership@aladeptaz.org

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

February 2021

“Serving Those Behind the Badge”

I want to express my appreciation to the Districts and Units that have adapted to the times. If events couldn't happen in person, you have still worked the ALA mission in different and unique ways.

It is great to see and hear about the events being planned to support the various programs. As a reminder always be sure to be branded in ALA attire for photo/video opportunities. Show your pride for the organization! Being branded can include a range of items such as shirts, hats and banners.

The President's Special Project still has shirts available. You can contact the department office for more information. Thank you for the support you have given to the project.

Don't forget the ALA Academy, is full of free courses on subjects like, enhancing leadership skills, why branding matters, fundraising tips, and more. Check it out!

As of the January 15, 2021 Membership stands at 62.06%. Let's keep our membership “Stayin Alive” by sending in your membership on a regular basis. I will remind you that May 25, 2021 is the Target date for 100%. Let's help our membership chairman keep our membership numbers growing.

As we all face our own set of unique challenges, we must keep in mind that our fellow American Legion Auxiliary members need us now more than ever because overcoming challenges is what defines us.

Wishing everyone a

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!

Patricia Lugo, President

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND

FEBRUARY 2021

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.

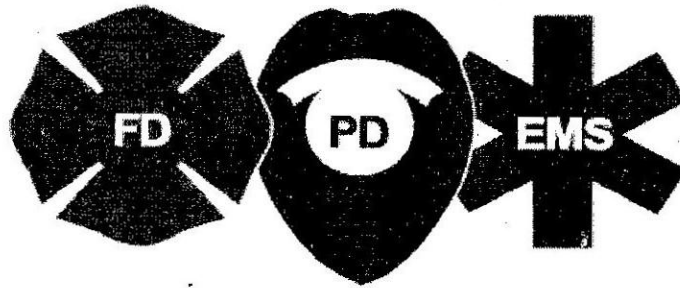
Unit awards for Department listed below...

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

Jessica Matteson – Chairman

602-573-8681

jessica.ann.matteson@gmail.com



"Serving Those Behind the Badge"
Cavalcade of Memories
February 2021

Ladies: This Chairman is still looking for **your pictures and Bios** to put in the Past Department President Memory Book. Still **MIA** in the Book are Debbie Collins, Doris Theiss, Jane Shoemaker. You served; wouldn't you like to be honored? Once upon a time you wore a badge that said Department President. Be recognized in the Centennial Celebration of 100 yrs. 1920 -2020 thru 2021.

I will be adding to the books the Past National Presidents that you served with. The Past National President's picture will be added. Your Department Commander name will be added that you also served with. It will start with 1920 – 2021 and after. This Chairman has found some pictures of you that will be put in the book if you want a nicer picture send it to me. OR what you see is what you get.

This Chairman is trying to see about getting National Honorary Jr. Presidents Names and the years they served with our Honorary Department Jr. and I need you to have them to send me their picture and bio if you know the Jr. President that served with you as department president. We do have a book we are working on for the Jr.s and whatever we have will be displayed at Convention next year.

Department Cavalcade of Memories Chairman

Paula Burgess



Chaplain

February 2021

Greetings American Legion Auxiliary members,

I hope this bulletin finds you all healthy and safe. If you have prayers to send me for Madam President's Prayer Book I'd love to start receiving them. As always, if you would like me to send a card to someone, my contact information is listed below. Please send me an e-mail or text message and I'll get a card sent out right away. I'd be happy to send any kind of card – get well, condolences, thinking of you, motivational, encouragement, great job, etc.

Dear Heavenly Father,

Enlighten our minds with truth;

Enflame our hearts with love;

Inspire our will with courage;

Enrich our lives with service.

Sanctify what we are; order what we shall be and thine shall be the glory and eternal salvation through our Heavenly Father.

Amen.

Stacey Mayberry

Department of Arizona Chaplain

9139 W Harmony Lane

Peoria, AZ 85382

Cell Phone: 702-403-4903

Email: Mayberry.stacey@gmail.com

Community Service

February 2021

Hello ALA Members,

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?”

~Martin Luther King, Jr

This month I’d like to talk about the benefits of volunteering and hope you share it with your members.

What kind of impact does community service and volunteering have on you as a person? It has been shown that volunteering is good for your mind and body.

Volunteering can provide a healthy boost to your self-confidence, self-esteem, and life satisfaction. As you do good for others and the community, you gain a natural sense of accomplishment. Volunteering can also give you a sense of pride and identity. And the better you feel about yourself, the more likely you are to have a positive view of your life and future goals.

Studies have shown that volunteers have a lower mortality rate than those that don’t. Volunteering has also been shown to lessen symptoms of chronic pain and heart disease.

So if for no other reason, volunteer for your Health & Wellbeing!

I want to personally thank all those who reached out to myself and my family.

Thank you for your kind words, it’s very much appreciated.

Sara C. Decker
Community Service Chairman



Education February 2021



As we all know, college is very expensive, and all of our high school students should be taking advantage of any and all scholarships available to them. Units and departments are responsible for promoting American Legion Auxiliary scholarships and making sure the schools have them in ample time for students to apply. The American Legion Auxiliary offers four scholarship opportunities to students:

1. **Children of Warriors National Presidents Scholarship:** Scholarship is awarded to children of veterans who served in the armed forces during eligibility dates for The American Legion. Three \$5,000 scholarships will be awarded in each division. Fifteen outstanding students will be awarded a total of \$75,000 to further their education. The applicant must complete 50 hours of community service during their high school years to be eligible for one of these scholarships. Applicants must present the completed application to the local American Legion Auxiliary Unit President on or before March 1, 2021 to be forwarded to the **Department Secretary by March 15, 2021.**
2. **The Non-Traditional Student Scholarship:** One scholarship in the amount of \$2,000 will be awarded in each American Legion Auxiliary division. Applicant must be a member of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion and shall have paid dues for the two preceding years and for the calendar year in which the application is made. Applicant must present the completed application to the American Legion Auxiliary unit president on or before March 1, 2021 to be forwarded to the **Department Secretary by March 15, 2021.**
3. **Spirit of Youth Scholarship:** One Junior member in each division will receive a scholarship valued at \$5,000. The applicant must have held membership in the American Legion Auxiliary for the immediate past three years, hold a current membership card and continue her membership in the American Legion Auxiliary during the four-year scholarship period. Applicant must present the completed application to the American Legion Auxiliary unit president on or before March 1, 2021 to be forwarded to the **Department Secretary by March 15, 2021.**
4. **Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship:** American Legion Auxiliary Junior members are the future of our organization. To reward those who retain their membership into adulthood, the American Legion Auxiliary offers the Junior Member Loyalty Scholarship to current college students. Ten scholarships, in the amount of \$2,500 each, will be awarded to a current college student for 2020. Two scholarships will be awarded in each division of the American Legion Auxiliary. The scholarship is a grant; not a loan. Applicant must present the completed application to the American Legion Auxiliary unit president on or before March 1, 2021 to be forwarded to the **Department Secretary by March 15, 2021.**

Please promote these American Legion Auxiliary scholarships to enable our children of veterans to apply and receive funds the American Legion Auxiliary has so graciously provided. Applications are available online at www.ALAforVeterans.org/Scholarships.

In the Spirit of Service, not for self,
For Veterans, God and Country,

Julie Vietri

Education Chairman
Department of Arizona

jvietri@msn.com
480-495-1558

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

JUNIOR PROGRAM

February-2021

Serving Those Behind the Badge”

I thought these Resources might help in getting ideas:

- Publications available for free download by logging in to the Members Only section at www.ALAforVeterans.org:
- Junior Activities Programs Action Plan and Annual Supplement
- ALA Academy – Juniors E-Learning Course
- ALA Department Operations Guide
- Unit Guidebook
- Brochures in the PR/Marketing Resources section of the website
- ALA Branding Game for Juniors
- ALA Unit Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules Resources available for purchase from Emblem Sales at www.emblem.legion.org:
- Robert’s Rules of Order
- Flag Education DVD • Indivisible: The Story of Our Flag
- Knowledge in a Nutshell: America Facebook
- Connect with the Auxiliary through our social media pages:
- American Legion Auxiliary Juniors
- American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters
- American Legion Auxiliary Girls State
- American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation
- American Legion Auxiliary National President
- Individual American Legion Auxiliary Program Facebook groups (i.e., National Security, Americanism, Poppy, etc.)

Don’t forget, February is Valentines Day. I am sure our Veterans would appreciate a Valentine for our Juniors!

Lexis Escudero, Chairman

(623)298-9086

EscuderoLexis@yahoo.com

Legislative

February 2021

Greetings,

I hope this finds all of you in good health and spirits. This is a very trying time for all of us. Many may feel lost or not quite knowing how we all fit right now. Many are struggling with finances. I really don't know what to say.

First off, I would like to apologize for not having a bulletin last month. Right before Christmas and over Christmas I was very ill with bilateral pneumonia. Fortunately, it wasn't COVID. I am feeling much better now and back to work. On that note, I hope everyone had a great and healthy holiday season and happy new year!

As many of you know the Governor and President, are still giving daily briefings on the COVID-19 pandemic. Arizona is spiking again very rapidly. There are two vaccines approved by the FDA, by Pfizer and Moderna. Johnson and Johnson are also jumping aboard and working on getting a one dose vaccine approved by the FDA, as opposed to the two dose ones available now.

Your Mid-Year Reports were due to me by December 1st. I only received two reports from Units 1 and 66. I did complete my report to National with the information I was given. I believe the lack of reporting is due to the COVID pandemic.

The Presidential Inauguration of Joe Biden was held on January 20th. Washington DC as well as State Capitols including ours has been the site of demonstrations, some turning violent as our Nation's Capitol was stormed. Five people died, including two US Capitol Police Officers in the DC incident. Fortunately, the activities at our State Capitol as of the writing of this bulletin have not turned violent. This is coming from an in person view. Arizona Department of Public Safety has deployed more Troopers to Capitol as well as the Department of Administration erecting two fences encompassing the entire block the Capitol Complex sits on. More demonstrations are expected during the Presidential transition period. The good news is that arrests have been made. On January 3rd, the 117th Congress was convened. On January 11th, the State Legislature convened. On January 13th, the US House of Representatives voted on a second impeachment of President Donald Trump. The vote passed. Senate President Mike Pence stated that he would not go forth on a second impeachment.

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

15239 W. Taylor St.

Goodyear, AZ 85338

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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

MEMBERSHIP

FEBRUARY 2021

GREETINGS TO ALL OUR MEMBERSHIP PATROLS!!!! I HOPE THIS FINDS YOU IN GREAT SPIRITS AND A FEELING OF POSITIVE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE. WE HAVE DONE WELL IN OUR EFFORTS TO INCREASE OUR MEMBERSHIP. LET'S KEEP GOING FOR GREAT. WE ARE CURRENTLY AT 69.06 %.

I WANT TO ENCOURAGE YOU ALL TO REACH OUT TO OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS BY PHONE OR LETTER TO LET THEM KNOW EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE NOT IN PHYSICAL PRESENCE THEY ARE STILL IN OUR THOUGHTS AND HEARTS.

HOPEFULLY WE CAN SEE THE BEGINNING OF SOME NEW AND POSITIVE CHANGES COMING UP THIS COMING YEAR. WE GOT SOME BOOSTS WITH THE CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA AND THEN WE WERE STOPPED SHORT BY THE PANDEMIC. EVEN THROUGH ALL THIS YOU STILL ACCOMPLISHED AND REACHED HIGH GOALS. ASK YOURSELVES WHY DO WE PUSH SO MUCH FOR MEMBERSHIP? IT IS BECAUSE MEMBERSHIP GIVES US STRENGTH, UNITY AND POWER TO DO WHAT WE MUST DO FOR OUR VETERANS, CHILDREN AND COMMUNITY. IF YOU HAVE ANY DOUBTS OF WHAT ONE SINGLE PERSON CAN DO, CONSIDER MY FAVORITE MOVIE OF ALL TIME ***'IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE'***.

ON THIS NOTE, I LEAVE YOU WITH WARM THOUGHTS AND LOOKING FORWARD I HOPE TO BE SEEING YOU AT CONVENTION IN JUNE.

GOD BLESS YOU, GOD BLESS AMERICA AND KEEP "STAYING ALIVE, STAYING ALIVE, STAYING ALIIIIIE.

JENNIE MOLINA

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

DEPT OF AZ VICE-PRESIDENT

(520) 220-8460

truelepa@gmail.com

P.O box 448 Douglas, Az. 85608

Music
February 2021

Greetings Members,

I hope everyone had a pleasant holiday season. With social distancing and the flu season we are still home bound trying to keep Covid-19 and flu at bay. I appreciate the Mid-year music reports I received and was pleased to hear so many Units are continuing with their music programs despite the challenges from Covid-19.

I've had the opportunity to speak with some units and would like to visit and hear what the Units have in mind for music opportunities. If you would like assistance with ideas or music, I'm here to assist you. Some units are including a patriotic song during their meetings. Other Units' juniors have sung "The National Anthem" at their functions. It's wonderful to include these young voices, they are our future.

It might be early, but I've been looking at possible choices for Convention Memorial Service. I have a few selections in mind, but if you have a suggestion I would welcome your suggestions. I would like to add new music choices to the mix.

"Sometimes music is the only medicine the heart and soul need." Tiny Budda

With a song in your heart
For God and Country,

Alma Mattingly

Chairman

15239 W. Taylor Street
Goodyear, AZ 85338

amblonde01@gmail.com

602-999-4054

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
NATIONAL SECURITY

FEBRUARY 2021

Hello ladies of the great state of Arizona!!!

It's not too early to think about awards that are available to all Units.

Steffen Memorial Plaque for Units with membership of 150 and under
Speth Plaque for Units with membership of 151 and over

Any Unit in the Department of Arizona may receive one of these awards in their membership classification. Entry must be in narrative typewritten form not to exceed 1,000 words and included with Department report by deadline date.

BASIS FOR AWARDS ARE: 1. All around National Security program as outlined by the National Plan of Works for current year: 50%. 2. Unit participation in Welcome Home for Troops: 5%. 3. Unit contribution to USO: 5%. 4. Unit participation: Military Family Readiness Groups: 5%. 5. Unit participation: Operation Homefront: 5%. 6. Unit activities: POW/MIA program: 5%. 7. Unit participation: Yellow Ribbon program: 5%. 8. Unit participation: National Security/Children and Youth Conference: 5%. 9. Unit participation: Blue Star/Gold Star Banner Program: 5%. 10. Unit participation: Operation Comfort Warriors: 5%. 11. Unit Support of ROTC/JROTC: 5%.

Helen Johnson Bone / Civil Preparedness (CERT) Plaque

This plaque will be a traveling award to be passed on each year.

Entries must include the award cover sheet.

For the Unit having the highest percentage of members participating in Civil Preparedness: 40%

Entry narrative report or spread sheet of members' CERT training dates, number of participants registering for the program, and number of participants completing the program: 50%

Number of Junior participation: 10%

Until next month with more news!!

Cindy Queen
National Security Chairman
2019-2021
cynqueen53@cox.net
602-316-7647 (cell)

New Units/Unit Development & Revitalization

FEBRUARY 2021

How do you mentor a new member or a member wishing to become active in the Unit?
--

- Sit with the member during meetings, get to know the new member and explain acronyms as they are used during the meeting.
- Offer to carpool to meetings, if feasible.
- Introduce new member to other members, particularly committee chairmen of any committees in which they have an interest in.
- Encourage new member participation in unit activities.
- Answer any questions new member may have about procedures.
- Answer any questions new member may have about programming.
- Follow up with a phone call or letter if new member misses a meeting. Let member know that they were missed and send any handouts or notes from the meetings.
- Stay in touch. Call new member and send cards for occasions such as a birthday, get well or thinking of you.
- Socialize with new member.
- Invite new member to attend district meetings and department workshops.

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

American Legion Auxiliary Past Presidents Parley

February 2021

Hello Arizona! A shout out to your continuing participation in all the ALA work that you do within your Unit. With the numerous challenges encountered during the past year please keep in mind that the ALA has a huge responsibility to carry on, to mentor, to educate and help member learn about our organization.

Does your Unit honor Dual Legion/Auxiliary members? If so, please provide details? Do you honor Active Duty Personnel? In honoring these important members, does the honor include family?

Do you need information on Past Presidents Nurses Scholarship and Past Presidents Healthcare Occupations Scholarships? It is not too early to inform members in your Post as to the availability of these funds. Are you working on Nursing and Medical Scholarship applications? Let's get the word out! Please feel free to contact me with questions

MEMBER OF THE YEAR SEARCH

This Department Chairman is searching for Past Members of the Year. Can your Unit help me find Past Arizona Members of the Year, say from 2000 thru 2019? Both our National PPP Chairman Carlen Ashworth and I want to hear where they are? Are they still involved in your Unit? Did the honor inspire them to reach new heights in their Auxiliary activities? We want to hear your story.

Please contact me if you have questions about this program.

**Yolanda Bonilla
Past Presidents Parley Chairman
602-989-3321
yodobo@msn.com**

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT
SERVING THOSE BEHIND THE BADGE**

February 2021

**On behalf of The American Legion Auxiliary Department of
Arizona President Patricia Lugo.**

The 100 CLUB of Arizona supports city, county,
state, federal, and tribal public safety agencies. This
includes fire services, probation, corrections, parole
in the state of Arizona.

**Thank you to everyone for your continued support
of our First Responders!**

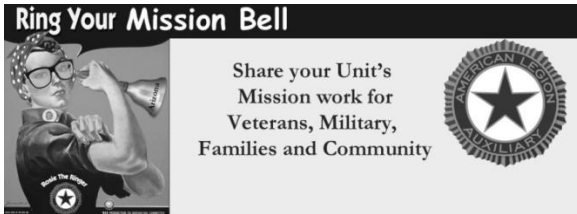
Josephine Herrera — Chairman

Jherrera268@aol.com

623-340-5936

Linda Welch – Co-Chairman – Tucson

520-851-5161



An effective public relations program can bring in new members, new resources and new volunteers. To be its most effective, it needs certain attributes which I am calling the 7 C's, which we will explore over the coming months.

So far, we've learned about Commitment, Consistency and Creativity. This month, let's look at:

Communication

There is no such thing as too much communication! In a world where we all have so many competing messages coming at us, getting the message of who **WE** are, what **WE** do and why **WE** matter is a worthwhile, challenging and repetitive task.

Who needs to hear from you:

- **Your volunteers**- Sometimes we get so caught up in accomplishing a task, we forget to celebrate it! If someone contributes something to an effort, they may not even be there to see the final event/project. Make sure they know they matter!
- **Your members**- You worked hard to get the members you have—**DON'T LET THEM SLIP AWAY!** Members join for a number of reasons, but no matter what brought them in, knowing they are making a difference in the lives of those we serve can keep them. Help them see, even if they don't volunteer, that their membership matters! Do what you can to make sure they know about the *mission work* your unit accomplishes—this can be in meetings, e-newsletters, social media sites, websites, newspapers, posters and conversations in the social quarters!
- **Your Post Family**- A lot of members have family in the American Legion. Getting the whole family excited about your Auxiliary will create momentum! When it is renewal time, we want everyone to renew—not wonder about each group's value.
- **Your neighbors**- There is a lot of support for what you do in your community. But do they know what you do? Church bulletins, business displays, communication with you community's political leaders-- again and again and again will engage your community. There are resources out there—get some!

Future topics: Credibility, Cooperation, Collaboration

I welcome your thoughts and questions!

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

February 2021

Valentine's Day upon us. Will you be making Valentine Cards to take to a VA Home or a VAMC? Or handing our cards to the veterans in your Post home? Your Juniors will be able to help with this project.

The COVID-19 vaccine is no being distributed. Phase 1B is open, this includes people who are 75 or older. Do you have veterans or ALA members who need assistance with making on line appointments? This can be challenging for some people.

Please check with your members and veterans, do they need a ride to their appointment? Follow-up with them to ensure they have made their second appointment at the same place.

Thank you for all you do for our veterans!

Construction of on both VA Homes is coming along. Are you following the progress on Facebook?

Facebook Pages: Arizona State Veteran Home – Flagstaff
Arizona State Veteran Home – Yuma (To be completed Summer 2021!)

Reminder: I'm still waiting PLEASE send me your accomplishments/what you are doing throughout the year. I would love to read what your Unit/Post Family is doing for our veterans.

Until next month

Barbara White
Department 2nd Vice President
VA&R Chairman
602-908-2980
Barbarawhite99@gmail.com

VA&R REPORT
TUCSON VA MEDICAL CENTER
121-31-20

All events are suspended until further notice. Thank you volunteers for your help!

Southwest Bind Rehabilitation Center is now accepting a limited number of new patients. They have requested that service organizations provide delivery of in house meals. There will be no volunteers at these meals. There is NO visitation at SAVAHCS. Monetary donations are being accepted at this time. American Legion Auxiliary Gift Shop will have to be done differently this year. The hospital is asking for lists from nursing staff of items needed by Veteran patients. They have requested that all service organizations work together to fill these needs with no duplication. American Legion Auxiliary Christmas Gift Shop donated \$4,000.00 worth of gift cards in support this effort.

The grand total of monetary donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 is \$800.

The grand total of material and activity donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for February 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 is \$37,984.33. This amount includes the Christmas Gift Shop donation for 2019. Thank you Unit 7, Unit 24, Unit 66, Unit 68 and Unit 132 for your generous donations to support our programs.

Four registered hospital volunteers donated time which was credited to the American Legion Auxiliary. The grand total of registered volunteer hours May 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 is 386.5. **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 effort is on hold due to spike in COVID-19 cases in recent weeks.**

This chairman has volunteered 95 hours and logged 1,380 miles this year in service to the Tucson VA Medical Center as of December 31, 2020. This chairman has now logged over 4,000 hours in service to SAVAHCS. This chairman was elected to be the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the VAVS Executive Committee at the meeting on October 8, 2020. The audit of the books was completed. This chairman is working with the Homeless Program to ensure that our Homeless Veterans and those in Transitional Housing have the food and beverages that they need during this time of enormous stress on all community resources. This chairman is working with the Recreation departments to purchase needed supplies for the National Veterans Creative Arts Program and other recreational activities. Annual Joint Review was completed November 10, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Szakonyi, VAVS Representative