

# **Making a Brighter World for Our Veterans**

September 2021

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

**ARIZONA WAS THE HOST DEPARTMENT FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION IN PHOENIX last month...Did you go?**

**NEW UNITS...Yes...let's get some. Look in the Reaching for the Goal book and you will see National is giving a cash award at Emblem Sales to the new units chartered.**

**DIRECTORY ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS...non this month.**

**EXTRA... EXTRA ... "RED TICKET" ... Did you get one? If you get one send Department an email to let us know and the reward will be sent out asap...YEA.**

**MEMBERSHIP... "REACHING FOR THE GOAL".** 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. Membership goal for 2022 is printed in the 2022 Directory. I think you will be pleased because it is as easy goal for everyone. The Department Goal this year 14,282, last year it was 15,925...see they did lower it.

Membership standing in this packet has no numbers. Please verify President's name and let us know if it is correct. Did you see the 2022 membership goal.

**RENEW MEMBERSHIP BY PHONE...**Call National Headquarters at **(317) 569-4570** with your member ID and debit or credit card ready. If you would like to pay multiple members' dues at the same time, please call them, as this is the easiest way to accomplish this task.

**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.
- USE THE FORMS PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT FOR MEMBERSHIP PROCESSING.
- DO NOT RECREATE THE FORMS.

Please say a little prayer or wish that all are safe.



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

Pat Stanaski  
Dept Membership Processor  
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# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### MAKING A BRIGHTER WORLD FOR OUR VETERANS

SEPTEMBER 2021

WHAT A TEAM WE HAVE!. I WAS VERY PROUD OF THE GROUP OF PARTICIPANTS WE HAD WHO ATTENDED OUR OFFICER /CHAIRMAN WORKSHOP. IT IS THIS WRITER'S OPINION THAT THIS TEAM WILL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH MANY THINGS THIS YEAR. AT THIS FIRST MEETING IDEAS WERE SHARED ON HOW OUR MONTHLY BULLETINS ARE A GREAT SOURCE OF SHARING INFORMATION ABOUT THINGS WE HAVE DONE AND THINGS WE HOPE TO DO. IN OTHER WORDS, **COMMUNICATION**. WE ALSO HAD A BRIEF SESSION ON CULTURAL AWARENESS. THIS IS SO IMPORTANT AS A WAY OF UNDERSTANDING OTHERS AND HAVING AN OPEN MIND AND NOT JUDGING OTHERS BY OUR STANDARDS. ALL THIS AND SOME WONDERFUL FOOD AND PRIZES. I WOULD LIKE TO MENTION EACH ONE THAT BROUGHT FOOD, DESSERTS OR HELPED OUT IN ANY WAY BUT FEEL I MIGHT MISS SOMEONE SO FOR THIS REASON

**THANK YOU ALL!!!!!!**

WE ALSO GOT A START ON MY SPECIAL PROJECT OF BUILDING EDUCATION AND AWARENESS ON PTSD. THIS PRESENTATION WILL ALSO BE PRESENTED TO YOU AT FALL CONFERENCE AND WILL HELP OUR VETERANS RECEIVE HELP AND CARETAKERS A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT PTSD IS AND HOW THEIR LOVED ONES ARE AFFECTED.

I HAVE RECEIVED A NUMBER OF INVITATIONS AND WILL TRY TO ACCEPT AS MANY AS POSSIBLE. ALREADY I HAVE HAD TO CONFLICTING INVITES AND HAD TO DECLINE. PLEASE GIVE ME AMPLE NOTICE AND I WILL TRY TO ACCOMMODATE.

AGAIN THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO AND KEEP THE LIGHT CANDLE GLOWING AND THE LIGHT BRIGHT FOR OUR VETERANS. GOD BLESS YOU AND GOD BLESS AMERICA.

JENNIEMOLINA

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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

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DEPT OF AZ, PRESIDENT

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# Americanism in September

This is an exciting month and time of year. So many changes are in the air with school starting, football season starting, gardens have bounties of fruits and vegetables. And a time to do a road trip to visit one historic site of your choosing. It's also a time to remember our Veterans and active-duty persons.

This is also Suicide Prevention Month. A time to remember others. A time to show concern for others by calling, visiting or texting those we think of. Keeping in touch with others is a great way to alleviate feelings of loneliness and/or thoughts of suicide.

Listening is important, even if the story is a repeat. Listening is the door to understanding others. Understanding helps to get through difficult times. Friendships are a way of supporting one another.

September is suicide prevention month, a leading cause of death. Maintaining communication with veterans and others, lets everyone know they are not alone. Give a shout out and check on those Veterans. Public awareness, education and treatment are vital. Trauma and combat are events difficult to manage. Support them with Trust and encouraging the seeking help requires moral courage and strength.

Suicide signs to watch for are:

- Phone calls , particular to say goodbye
- Visits to graveyards
- Cleaning of a souvenir weapon
- Disconnecting from communication and the world
- Gifts given to remember a person
- Stopping medication
- Need to guard the house while members sleep
- Being overprotective of the family
- Sleeping more especially to withdraw from others
- Talking about how honorable it is to be a soldier

In short remember our Veterans and their families. Be there for them.

Linda Lopez – Chairman      llopez10@cableone.net      928-322-7655



Chaplain  
September 2021

American Legion Auxiliary Members:

By the time you read this bulletin, our Officers/Committee meeting and National Convention will be over. Now it's time for us to work together as we prepare to look forward to Fall Conference in Nov.

I would like to ask **each unit Chaplain** to send me one prayer for our Madam President's Prayer Book, as I recall there are 89 units in the state, this will be a great start for her prayer book. As I mentioned before, please send prayers by email, text, snail mail, or a picture for our Madam President's Prayer Book. Ask your unit members, family members or friends to also send prayers, also would like to have your junior members send me prayers as well.

Please feel free to contact me, if you know of anyone that you wish for me to send a card too, I would be more than happy to send, just need a name and address. Thank you

"Each new year brings us new opportunities to know him, to walk in faith, and grow by his grace. May your year be blessed in the Lord."

Keep the flame burning for a brighter world for our veterans

Dolores Chavez  
Department of Arizona-Chaplain  
P.O. Box 1517  
Benson, AZ 85602  
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**American Legion Auxiliary  
Children & Youth  
September 2021**

I am constantly seeing new reports about kids that have done some amazing act of heroism.

Do you know about the **Good Deed Award**?

The Good Deed award is presented to youth under age 18, who have performed heroic acts of physical valor. AND did you know you know...they do NOT have to be a member of the American Legion Family?!

Do you know someone that has performed a heroic act? Tell us about it. Share their story. Complete the award nomination form. Let's give them the recognition they deserve.

[www.legion-aux.org/Youth-Hero-Good-Deed-Awards](http://www.legion-aux.org/Youth-Hero-Good-Deed-Awards)

*Sara Ward*

520-840-4585

**Children & Youth Chairman**

[saraelizabethward@hotmail.com](mailto:saraelizabethward@hotmail.com)

*Ashley Cashin*

928-250-4500

**Committee Member**

[ashley.cashin180@gmail.com](mailto:ashley.cashin180@gmail.com)

**Coming Soon..**

It's never too early to start thinking about Mid Year Reporting. Be sure you're tracking your Children & Youth activities so you can have it ready. The updated reporting form will be available soon.

# **CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

**SEPTEMBER 2021**

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF REVIEWING YOUR GOVERNING DOCUMENTS**

Remember The American Legion's mandated eligibility changes that occurred at the 2019 National Convention (1: "wives" to "spouses" and 2: Legion eligibility for veterans extended to all service since World War II) unless you have a provision in your bylaws that automatically amends them to be consistent with the national bylaws, your unit or department has to vote the changes into your governing documents.

## **LET'S LOOK AT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE LEVELS OF THE ORGANIZATION**

Units should have their own governing documents, elect their own officers, and make their decisions independently. Does that mean a unit can do whatever it wants? Well not exactly. the support of veterans and their families is the purpose of the American Legion Auxiliary. So, any change to the purpose in a unit's governing documents would be null and void.

A department cannot dictate to the unit that all units will have Taco Tuesdays. Or meet on Thursdays. Or wear only purple shirts. Units are independent affiliates, and their members vote to make those decisions themselves.

The national organization is not the grandparent, the department is not the parent, and the unit is not the child. Think of our relationships in the ALA as what we all are – friends with a common mission – to help our nation's heroes: its veterans and their families.

### **Department Chairman**

Josephine Herrera  
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### **Co Chairman**

Linda Herrera  
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Brownoilgrl7@aol.com

I have provided my contact information above. I would ask that if you have a question to please direct your question to my email and I will get back to you as soon as possible with a response. Thank you!

# **EDUCATION**

## **SEPTEMBER 2021**

The purpose of the Education Committee is to promote quality education for every child and supports students through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion, and support of education beyond high school, with special emphasis on children of military and veterans. The education of American's children is essential for the future of our nation; therefore, investing time and money to educate our youth is of great importance. What we learn today makes tomorrow better.

I believe most students are well into the new school year. Kudos to the Units that have already provided back packs and/or supplies to students in your communities. Other ways we can assist our schools and students are by donating the following items:

- Three-ring binders
- Composition/Spiral Notebooks
- Pocket Folders
- No. 2 Pencils, color pencils, pens, highlighters
- Low Odor Dry erasers
- Pink Pearl erasers
- Pencil boxes
- Rulers
- Scissors
- Disappearing Purple washable glue sticks
- Tissue/paper towels
- Sanitizer/Disinfecting wipes

Contact schools in your community as some needs will vary. Cash donations might be helpful to some schools needing equipment or other items too costly for their budget.

Information on programs and awards will be provided in future bulletins and at Fall Conference

I look forward to hearing how your Units and Members are promoting our Education Program. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions and/or comments.

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



**SEPTEMBER 2021**  
**DEPARTMENT FINANCE**

THE FOLLOWING 3 WORDS WILL CONTINUE TO BE OUR WATCH WORDS” for this year – **RELIABILITY-HONESTY-INTEGRITY.**—reliability-good in quality, honesty,truthful-integrity--being honest. **GUESS WHAT?** We Auxiliary members are already into a **NEW YEAR** and with the help of **ALL UNITS & MEMBERS** this will be another banner year for **ARIZONA** with the help of our members, Chairmen & **OFFICERS**.

When the Bulletin is received, go thru it and heed what is expected, then pass it on to your members to be used and worked on. **YOU ARE NOW ON YOUR WAY TO A SUCCESSFUL YEAR.**

Last month I expressed to you **MY** thanks to 2 very important officers. It's time to let all the other members know **YOU** are also **VIP's** because without you **ALL** what would we do—**THANK YOU ARIZONA** members—keep up your good work for our **VETERANS, THEIR FAMILIES** and our **COMMUNITIES**.

**PAY YOUR DUES** and sign up some new new members. We welcome the new members who have transferred into Unit 7 and urge all to attend the Unit meetings.

**Finance Committee**

**Helen Stout** Chairman, **Penny Maklary**, **Helen Griffin** ,**Jennie Molina** president, **Patricia Luego**, **NEC**,**Barbara Matteson**, **Secy-Treas**, no vote

## Legislative

### September 2021

Greetings Members,

We are beginning to kick off this year, working hard to accomplish our goals within our programs and Madame President Molina's Special Project, PTSD.

Not a whole lot is happening in our State Legislature right now, as they have adjourned for this session.

Fall Conference is fast approaching. I look forward to serving with you, this coming year as the Department Legislative Chairman. This program encompasses a lot of legislative issues for our active duty military and veterans.

There will be more to come in and around Fall Conference; as packets will be provided explaining the program in depth. We will also have Mid-Term Elections coming up. Get your word out to get your members and community to vote. Be active in legislative issues in your community.

In conclusion, these are trying and challenging times for our nation. We are coming back together as a society, but it takes time and patience. I have learned so much as a person and ALA member in the last few months. Please be kind to one another. We are all here for the same thing, helping veterans. **ALSO, MID-YEAR REPORTS ARE DUE DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2021. PLEASE GET YOUR REPORTS INTO THE CHAIRMEN ON OR BEFORE THIS DATE. DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN MUST REPORT TO NATIONAL THE HARD WORK THE UNITS HAVE BEEN DOING WORKING THE PROGRAMS.**

For God and Country,

Stephanie M. McMullen - Chairman

15239 W. Taylor St.

Goodyear, AZ 85338

(623)910-4716, [stephaniemcmullenala62az@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniemcmullenala62az@gmail.com)

## Reaching for the Goal!

### Septembers 2021

September is right around the corner; many Units will be ramping up the 2021-2022 year this month. In our planning meetings don't forget to schedule a membership drive.

Did you read the article in the *American Legion Auxiliary* – Membership Retainment: Back to the Basics. Retainment is difficult for all of us. There is excellent information on how to retain members.

**District Presidents** – Please get with the Vice President for them to reach out to the Units in the Districts to see how they can help the Units with retention of members.

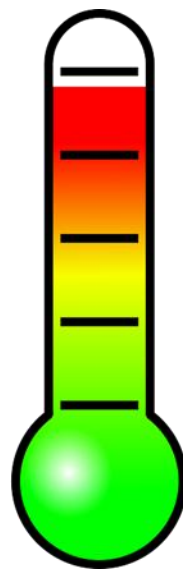
Membership goals have been set for 2022. Unit goals have been increased by seven for each Unit. Recruiting one or two legionnaires, you could meet the extra seven members. WE CAN DO IT! If you have any questions regarding your Units' 2022 goal, please reach out to me.

Those who reach 100% membership by October 11 will have a special prize waiting for them at Fall Conference.

National will be mailing the first renewal notices in November. Members do not need to wait to receive their renewal notice to pay their dues, dues can be paid anytime. Dues can be paid online, calling National Headquarters, or paying the Unit.

Until next month . . . .

Barbara White  
Department Vice President  
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## **Mission Training August 2021**

It was wonderful to see so many of you attending convention in June. Really amazing to see what we can do under difficult circumstances. Congratulations to all who received well deserved awards. Actually, everyone deserves awards for doing the very best that you could do.

RENEW your energy, let's get started on a brand new year. Your Unit may hold planning meetings on activities that you want to continue this year. Perhaps you have new ideas that you or your unit could try. One idea would be to schedule a Mission Training for your Unit or District. You will need:

To contact Mission Training Chairman.

10 or more participants and site.

\$10.00 each, paid to Department 10 days prior to event.

(can be a mini session)

Lunch usually served at a small charge.

That is all that needs to be done. I recommend that this training be done early in the year, especially if you have new members, or members that have not taken the training. I promise you that it will be a learning experience, fun, and you will leave with a smile! If I am wrong, then you win a prize!

Here is my contact information: I ask that you text or leave a message and I will return your call.

Email is fine. **KAREN SMITH, Chairman**

**(520) 249-1119**

**ksmith111@cox.net**

Hope to hear from you soon, let's get busy **"Making a Brighter World for our Veterans!"**



## **Arizona Mission Training September 2021**

What a great start to our Auxiliary we are having, a successful National Convention and an awesome Officer/Chairman Workshop! As a Unit your members should be holding planning sessions as to what they want to accomplish this year. As a Department we hope that you will plan a Mission Training workshop for your Unit or District. Your Unit would want to engage your members, new and old in all of your activities. One comment that I always hear from members is that they always do things the same way and some are not willing to try anything new. So, that is your cue to talk about Mission Training. We will work the program and agenda towards the areas that you feel are needed. Please consider this for the 2021-2022 Auxiliary year.

The first step is EASY! Call or e-mail your Mission Training Chairman.

(Info at bottom of page)

Please text or leave message on my phone as I don't usually answer unknown #'s.

# **I HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU!!**

There are several members who have obtained Leadership cards. There should not be a problem in planning your event. **THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!**

Karen Smith

(520) 249 – 1119

ksmith111@cox.net



American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Arizona

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

**September 2021**

Greetings Melomanos (“music lovers”),

Another great year is upon us with our new Madam President, Jennie Molina and her Special Project. I’m looking forward to working with her and supporting her Special Project. If you haven’t had to opportunity to speak with her, please do. She is an extraordinary person and loves veterans.

The American Legion Auxiliary Music program is a program to encourage and promote music within the Unit and Post. Thereby, incorporating some type of music in their meetings and other functions in the form of patriotic songs or hymns. September is “Music” month. Music brings people together, it’s an expression of our love and faith. Please give me the opportunity to assist you with your music program within your Unit. I will try to visit as many units as possible during this month. Looking forward to seeing you,

Fall Conference is approaching, so if you missed the opportunity to lend your talents at Convention you will have an opportunity at Fall Conference. I’m looking forward to seeing your beaming faces singing your heart out at Conference. I’m doing some research for possible song selections for Conference. If you have a “favorite”, please let me know.

“Music is God’s little reminder that there’s something else besides us in this universe; a harmonic connection between all living beings everywhere, even the stars.”

Robin Williams

With a song in your heart.

For God and Country,

Alma Mattingly, Department Music Chairman

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# NATIONAL SECURITY

September 2021

## Unit Ideas

- Get involved in the Citizen Corps Council ([www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)) to ensure citizens are prepared to respond to natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes, blizzards and manmade disasters and emergencies. o Junior members can get involved in and/or start a Youth Preparedness Program in their community.
- Collect supplies for emergency preparedness kits and distribute them in your community.
  - o Remember: new military families in your community may not be familiar with the types of emergencies that affect your area. As needed, help them update their emergency preparedness kit and plan.
- Encourage members to complete Community Emergency Response Training (CERT). Refer to *How to Train for FEMA's Community Emergency Response Teams* for information and specific steps.
- Have a training exercise in your post home to give training in first aid, CPR, or other types of emergency skills.
- Join with your Legion post to host a POW/MIA ceremony on National POW/MIA Recognition Day, commemorated annually on the third Friday of September. This year it will be celebrated 09/17/2021
- Follow the Legion's POW/MIA Empty Chair Resolution 288 for designating a POW/MIA Empty Chair at all official meetings.
- Host a remembrance event for any MIA servicemembers who have been identified from your area.
- Work with Legion posts to honor ROTC and JROTC cadets by having dinners and recognizing their accomplishments.

Patricia Lugo, Chairman  
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## New Units/Unit Development & Revitalization

September 2021

### HOW TO BE A UNIT MENTOR

Mentoring is an invaluable service we give our new members and our successors in the American legion auxiliary. What is mentoring? Mentoring is the art of teaching, counseling, listening to and advising others so they can be successful. A mentor is a knowledgeable person who is willing to give their time to explain the programs of the Auxiliary. A mentor provides encouragement and guidance and is enthusiastic about teaching others. A mentor is patient and understands that a new member may be hesitant and unsure of their selves.

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

- Sit with the Unit member during meetings and get to know them.
- Offer to car-pool together to meetings and volunteer events, if feasible.
- Introduce them to others, particularly to the chairman of any committees in which they have an interest.
- Encourage them to participate in unit activities and projects.
- Answer any questions they may have about procedures.
- Answer their questions about the Auxiliary mission, programs and volunteer opportunities.
- Follow up if they miss a meeting or an event. Let them know that they were missed. *Remember-* some members may not enjoy meetings but would *love* to use their time and talent to serve veterans and their families.
- Invite them to attend a District meeting, Department workshop and other Auxiliary events.

Jan Cushing  
New units/UD&R Chairman  
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623-544-0797



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
PAST PRESIDENT PARLEY  
SEPTEMBER 2021

Happy Fall of 2021!! As your PPP chairwoman, I am excited to be sharing those Units and Districts that have an active PPP program.

This month I am highlighting the PPP program regarding Apache, Unit 27. They host a PPP luncheon in the month of January each year. Invited are all Unit past presidents and women Veterans in the area.

Last year forty-eight women Veterans and five past presidents attended their annual luncheon held at Post 27. These ladies are served a hot meal (their favorite “broasted chicken”) and each is given a ticket upon arrival. During the luncheon, fifteen tickets are drawn at various times allowing the women Veterans to win a door prize.

While waiting for lunch the microphone is passed to each Veteran for them to tell their story, for example: branch of service, how long they were in the military, where they were located and what position they held. What an honor to host an event showing the respect these women Veterans justly deserve.

Many of these Veterans arrive either in wheelchairs or on walkers, so Unit 27 presidents are more than happy to make a plate for them, as lunch is served buffet style.

At the end of the social gathering, all attendees are asked to gather at the wall flag for a group picture.

As stated last month, please let me know if your Unit or District hosts a PPP program, so you too can be recognized.

Each month I will remind you of the awards available to your Unit.

*The AAPP (Arizona’s Active Past Presidents Plaque)*  
*Cora Grigg Past Presidents Parley Plaque*  
*Unit Member of the Year*  
*Jarvis Plaque (Auxiliary Member of the Year)*  
*National Salute to Women Veterans*

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

Until next month with more news!!

Cindy Queen  
Past President Parley Chairwoman  
[cynqueen53@cox.net](mailto:cynqueen53@cox.net)  
602-316-7647



## THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

### Poppy Report

September 2021

#### \* Happy September!! \*

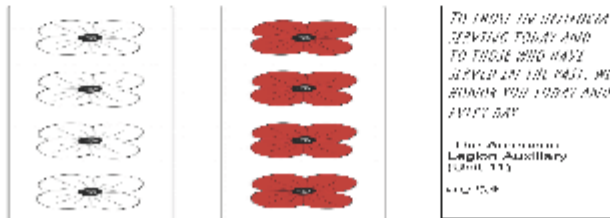
I hope you're all doing well. As stated in my last report, I will be planning activities to create either on your own, with your juniors, or as a unit. *(If you work with kids, you can also make this a project to create with them).* September is suicide prevention month and I would like to supply veterans with personalized gifts to know they are not alone and to learn about the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary (this could be a way to sign-up new members!).

We will be creating bookmarks and donating them to the VA hospital in Phoenix or your local VA (depending on where you are located). Please include a drawing of a poppy on the front and on the back write a personal note, prayer, or quote for the veterans who receive them to read. I have provided an example of what the front and back should look like, *it does not have to be exact.*

I would also like to try and donate books for them to read while they receive treatment and wait. These books can be of any genre that you feel would be interesting for them to read. You can put your bookmarks inside the books you would like to donate. *\*(The books can be used or new)\**

Please either send them to my address, **9026 W Palo Verde Ave, Peoria, AZ, 85345**, or email/text/call me to meet up with your donations. If you choose to donate them on your own, please email me photos of what you created. If you mail them, please contact me when you send them so I can be on the lookout for them. I will be accepting donations until the end of October.

#### \* bookmark example \*



#### Jessica Vaupel (Unit 11)- Poppy Chair

jessicavaupel23@hotmail.com

623.764.0369

## PRESIDENTS CORNER



### **"Making a Brighter World for Our Veterans"**

I would like to discuss the basic fundamentals of everyday public relations that we use as an Auxiliary member.

1. The primary goal of any ALA public relations is to create positive publicity for Events, and Programs, of our stated Mission.
2. When producing a fund-raising event, it is especially important to let the Public know where all the money donated will go.
3. Let your potential donor know that we are a non-profit organization and if requested by the donor provide them with appropriate tax receipts.
4. Be sure to have all available membership and organizational information available to the public.
5. Be aware of where you are taking your pictures. You do not want to post pictures with beer bottles, alcohol, and beer signs. We do not want to leave the Community with a bad impression of what we represent, and we would be giving the liquor companies free advertising that they would normally pay thousands of dollars for in promoting their product. There is an easy solution for this, do not take any pictures in the bar area that you are planning to post. You can save those kinds of pictures on your private web site. Keep in mind that anything you post on an authorized American Legion Auxiliary site will reflect directly on our membership and the reputation of our organization.

6. To make this easier, try to ask people before you take a picture. Then you can move them to an acceptable background.

Please remember that posting on our website Ring your Bell is not your personnel website. Make sure that your pictures are respectable and tell the story that you want to express.

We are a proud organization. Let us represent our Auxiliary with dignity and convey our message, SERVICE NOT SELF.

**Christel Romero: ALA PUBLIC RELATIONS/ TALMA PHOTOJOURNALIST**

**[aladeptazprromero@gmail.com](mailto:aladeptazprromero@gmail.com)**

**(602) 647-5086**

## **SERVICE TO VETERANS**

**AUGUST 2021**

You all know what this program is, and it is our mission to serve all veterans, their families, and active duty military.

The pandemic most definitely had an impact on our service, but many units continued to reach out on a limited basis.

I would like to ask the District Presidents to remind their units to report volunteer hours monthly, and to share the monthly bulletin with their unit.

I am working on a new report form to make it easier to report your hours. I would also like to revive the volunteer pins and bars. Many members enjoy adding bars to their pins, and newer members enjoy receiving their pin. It's nice to be noticed for what we love to do!

There will be more information at Fall Conference in November. There were only 22 units that reported volunteer hours last year, we are hoping to triple that amount this year. Can we do it? Yes we can!

Nancy Berg, Chairman

520/678-1027

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Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

VA & R

September 2021

I hope this finds everyone well and healthy. Those of you who attended National Convention I hope you had a wonderful time.

Did you know that there are two new Arizona State Veterans homes being built??

One in Yuma and the other is in Flagstaff. You can follow their progress on Facebook.

Facebook Pages: Arizona State Veteran Home – Flagstaff

Arizona State Veteran Home – Yuma

**POPPY ORDERS ARE DUE TO DEPARTMENT BY SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>.**

Remember to be eligible for awards at convention you must order a minimum of 100 poppies (by September 30) and turn in your 10% net income from poppies to Department 30 before convention, otherwise you cannot win a beautiful plaque for anything you have accomplished

Poppy/Welfare/VA&R monies may be used for donating to the President's Special Project, PTSD Foundation of America.

For God and Country

Rose Ficklin

Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

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VA&R REPORT  
TUCSON VA MEDICAL CENTER  
7-31-21

**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 encouraging according to Director.**

**Southwest Blind Rehabilitation Center is now opening back up. There is limited visitation at SAVAHCS. Monetary donations are being accepted at this time.**

**There is a new program in start-up process to assist Veterans patients with food insecurities. Once implemented, a separate food pantry will fill this need.**

There are not yet any monetary donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2021 to July 31, 2021.

The grand total of material and activity donations for the American Legion Auxiliary for May 1, 2021 to July 31, 2021 is \$1,692.00. Thank you Unit 7, Unit 24, Unit 66, 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 July 31, 2021 is 551. **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 67 hours and logged 660 miles this year in service to the Tucson VA Medical Center as of July 31, 2021. 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. 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 10, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Szakonyi, VAVS Representative