



BULK MAILING FOR FEBRUARY 2017

To: Unit Presidents
 District Chairmen
 Department Chairmen

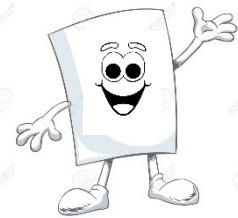
Department Executive Committee
 Hospital Representatives & Deputies
 Past Department Presidents

VERY IMPORTANT MAILING!!!

PLEASE OPEN AND READ THRU THIS MAILING. IT CONTAINS IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS. This mailing contains valuable information regarding **Department Junior Convention & Poppy Shop** as well as, the **Unit End of Year Report Kit and Unit Data Forms**. Please share with all members:

- **President's Message – All members**
- **Membership (salmon) – Membership Chairman and All Members**
- **SOS Public Relations (ivory) – All members**
- **Americanism (gray) –Americanism Chairman**
- **Education (blue) – Education Chairman**
- **Call To Department Junior Convention (white):**
 - Tentative Schedule
 - Rules and Order of Business
 - Awards Information
 - **Housing Information is included in the Poppy Packet**
 - Registration Form
 - Delegate & Alternate Forms
- **Jr. Activities(goldenrod) – Jr. Activities Chairman**
- **Leadership (yellow) – All Members**
- **Legislative (buff) – Legislative Chairman**
- **Poppy Program & Poppy Shop Information(cherry) – All Members**
 - Little Miss Poppy Application
 - Tour Information
 - **Housing for Poppy Shop & Jr. Convention**
- **VA&R (white) – VA&R Chairman**
- **Jr. President's Homecoming(white)**
- **Announced Candidate For Department Office Form**
- **Poppy Order Form**
- **UNIT DATA FORM (ivory) Unit Membership or Treasurer-Deadline April 1st, 2017**
 This is a mandatory form that must be completed annually so we have the correct information on your Dues Renewal
- **KIT OF REPORTS: END OF YEAR REPORTS (green) *Unit Chairmen and President-*
Deadline: April 15th
 - **Citation of Merit Requirements**
 - **Consolidated Unit Year End Impact Numbers Report-Needed to report Statistics to Congress**
 - **Programs Reports****

Don't Toss Me Away!!
 Housing for Poppy Shop & Jr. Conv. & KIT OF REPORTS are included in me!





Denise Conrad
Department President
1108 Erie Ct.
Woodville, Oh 43469
dconrad0609@gmail.com



February Bulk Mail

Dear Unit Members,

It is time to take a look at the deadlines for the various programs and see what you have accomplished this year and what you need to do yet. Some of the things coming up are:

- Feb 23—Housing deadline at Great Wolf Lodge for Poppy Shop/Jr. Convention
- March 1—BGS application request deadline (fee goes up after this deadline)
- April 1—Junior Convention, Spring DEC meeting, Spring Finance Meeting at Post 83 in Sandusky, Oh
- April 2—Poppy Shop at Ohio Veterans Home

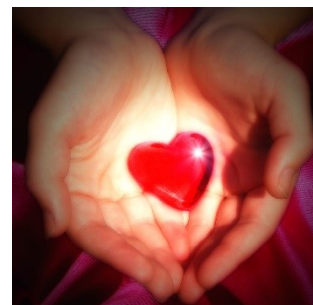
Please make sure you are checking your Plan of Actions for deadline dates, reservation deadlines for upcoming events, and ideas that can still be implemented this year.

There is still time to have a fundraiser for the Military Family Assistance Fund. Our donations are not keeping pace with the needs of those being referred to us for help. Please consider private donations, Unit, District, local businesses, other veteran service organizations, Lions Clubs, Exchange Clubs, etc. No donation is too small.

It is time to assess what we need to do to become a goal Unit, a goal District and a goal Department. Membership is *everyone's* responsibility. As of January 31, any member not paid is now considered delinquent by National. (Even if the Unit has received the payment of dues and the member has received her card, the member is not in good standing until the Unit sends the dues to Department.) Please make that important phone call or visit that member who has not yet renewed. There is nothing like the personal touch. And as always, please be humble and kind as you make these contacts.

Hugs to All,

Denise



MEMBERSHIP

Shirley Maurer, Chairman

Mid-Winter Conference is over and we are starting on the downward hill of our Auxiliary year. If you did not attend Mid-Winter, you missed a really good time. There was a lot of valuable information given out along with the infamous membership skit and the presentation of the Friendship Quarters to our Department President. We had nineteen (19) units that turned in membership for a total of 641 renewals. Good job ladies.

Membership incentives were given out at Mid-Conference and the winners were as follows:

- Incentive #1 - \$200 to the first district to have all their unit officers members paid – this went to **Paula Christman – District 12**
- Incentive #2 - \$50 to two (2) units that have all their unit officers' membership dues paid by December 31, 2016 – **District 3 – Buckeye Unit 174, North Star and District 5, Unit 659 Berlin Heights**. Two surprise incentives were given out for this with **District 2, Minster Unit 387 and also another unit which I did not get written down. Both of these units received 2 dozen Buckeyes** for them having their officers paid.
- Incentive #5 – This was another surprise incentive - \$50 to another goal unit – **District 6, Johnstown Unit 254**
- Incentive #8 - \$50 to the unit bringing in the most Membership at Mid-Winter – **District 7, Ross County Unit 062, Chillicothe**. They brought in 96 senior renewals and 1 junior renewal for a total of 97 renewals.

Congratulations to all the winners.

I can't stress enough our membership. We are over 1500 renewals down from last year at this time. We have to realize that our membership is our life blood if we want to continue with our programs. Without our membership, our programs are going to suffer and I really don't want to see that happen. We do such good things for our veterans and they desire our support. Just think what it would be like if our veterans did not protect our country. Things would be completely different today.

As of February 8, 2017, we have 17 units that are goal. Let's see how many more we can have by the end of the year. At Department Convention, a drawing will be held for all goal units. Three units will be drawn with the first drawn receiving \$100; second one drawn receiving \$50 and the third one drawn receiving \$25.

Department and National have given us many tools to help us increase our membership. Katie has sent these tools to you for your use. If you have not received information on this, contact Katie at Department and I am sure she will be happy to send them out to you again. If there is anything that us as Department Officers or Past Department Presidents can do to help you, please do not hesitate to give us a call. This is what we are here for – to help you – this is YOUR organization.

IMPORTANT – NEW ONLINE DUES PAYMENTS PROCESS – Beginning February 1, 2017, all online dues payments we receive from National via your members will be processed, a receipt will be issued where the Unit will be credited the amount of the Unit's portion. Because of the positive response and the increase of members paying their dues online, the Department finds itself issuing a much larger amount of checks. Some checks are in the amount of \$3.00 or less. This has increased the cost of processing at the Department. Therefore, the Unit will now see a credit on their receipt with the name and the amount that was credited to their account. Very similar to how it has been conducted previously, the only difference is that the Unit will not receive a check; instead they will receive a credit. Credits can be used at any time for membership payment. If the Unit wishes to have a credit check issued we will do so during the month of June 2017. We must have received your credit request by June 30th. There will be a Unit Check Request Form for you to fill out to receive a check. Any questions can be directed to Heather Wilson at Department.

So for this coming month, let's try to pull ourselves out of the negative and into the positive by getting your unpaid members to pay. The second dues notice from National went out on January 15th.



THE SOS



Serving Our Soldiers

Sharing Our Stories

Together We Can Do IT

Editor: Kathy Heichel

WOW! Here we are into February already, where has the time gone? I know that your Units have been very busy over the year, in just a few short weeks it will be time to report all you have done. Think about getting started now and collecting together those hours and information to put into that report. Most reports are due by April 15th, check those Plan of Actions for dates and instructions for each report.

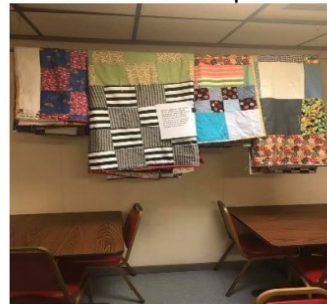
How about This:

From District 1 Unit #45 donated \$500 to the Buddy Bench Program which was spearheaded by Christopher and Jennifer Ostrowski and their children Ela and Aleksander. Thanks to their efforts and support from the community, 9 benches were installed: This photo shows President, Jane Ridenour presenting their check



And this:

Unit #71 District 11 sent me this article about handmade quilts made by two churches in their area wanting to donate to the Chillicothe VA Hospital.



From District 9 Unit # 214 sent this to me from Christmas, a dessert party for 55 veterans who live in The Veterans Resource Center for the Homeless. VA&R chairman Martha raised \$1700 to purchase items and gifts for them. Looks as though they all had a fun time.



Then I found this:

Posted on social media, (face book) about our Juniors. The Honorary Junior President Samantha Ferreira's service project was gathering blankets for our veterans and homeless. With the help of all supporting her "Special" project over 200 plus blankets were donated. Great job!!



THE SOS



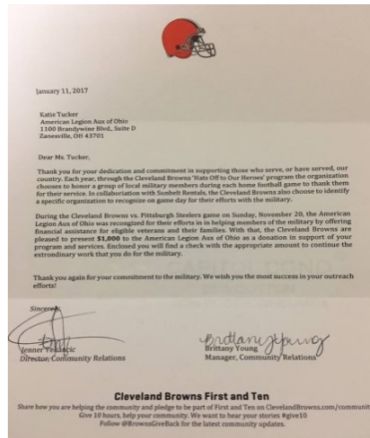
Serving Our Soldiers

Sharing Our Stories
Editor: Kathy Heichel

Together We Can Do IT!



AND THIS FROM American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Ohio WONDERFUL NEWS!!
Thanks to the Cleveland Browns, the Department of Ohio, American Legion Auxiliary received a donation of \$1000.00 for its Military Family Assistance Fund. This is part of the Hats Off to Our Heroes' Program where they honor local military members. During the November 20th game against Pittsburgh the American Legion Auxiliary of Ohio was recognized for its efforts in helping members of the military by offer financial assistance for eligible veterans and their families. Thank You, So Much to the Browns Give Back Program.



IMPORTANT WORDS

The 6 most important words,
"I admit I made a Mistake"
The 5 most important words,
"I am proud of you"
The 4 most important words,
"What is your Opinion"
The 3 most important words,
"If you please"
The 2 most important words,
"Thank you"
The 1 most important word,
"WE"
And the least important word is. "I"

UPCOMING DATES:

February

- 14th: Valentine's Day
- 19th: Unit 214 Annual Chinese Auction, for info contact Martha Setlock
- 20th: President's Day
- 25th-1st March: Washington Conference
- March
- 12th: Daylight Savings Time begins.
- 15th: Bulk Mail due
- 17th: St. Patrick's Day
- April
- 1st: Department Junior Conference – Sandusky
- 2nd: Poppy Shop Open House – Sandusky
- 14th: Good Friday
- 15th: REPORT deadlines
- 15th: Bulk Mail due (taxes too)
- 16th: Easter

Send your happenings too!! & Report dkheichel@aol.com, Kathy Heichel - 513 Ross Road, Bellville, Ohio, 44813

AMERICANISM

February is Americanism month and I hope your Unit and/or District planned activities to promote it. Americanism is “our allegiance to the patriotic traditions of our Nation.” It is so important that we always dedicate ourselves to support our love for the USA and our willingness to defend the principles upon which it was founded. Some additional ideas to consider in promoting Americanism:

- Reach out to a Girl or Boy Scout troop or 4-H club and provide a flag etiquette lesson
- Work with your City Hall to help organize patriotic holiday celebrations
- Present American flags to local businesses
- With spring just around the corner, baseball will soon be starting; support an American Legion baseball team (sponsor the team, help with statistics, work in their concession booth, drive the team to games, etc).

Let me remind you that the Americanism essay deadline will soon be here! They must be postmarked no later than April 1st. The Unit selects their winner and forwards it to me. The winner(s) will then be forwarded to the Central Division Americanism Chairman. Again, this year’s theme is “How does learning about government and our America help you become a future guardian of the liberties of our country? This is for grades 3 through 12. All the details can be found in the Plan of Action.

In addition to our Department year-end awards, I hope your Unit is considering applying for the *Dorothy Pearl Most Outstanding Americanism Program Award*. This is a national award for the most outstanding Americanism program that is targeted to children and youth. It is mailed directly to the Sue Britton, National Americanism Chairman and received no later than May 15th. They MUST include the national award cover sheet. Sue’s address is:

Sue Britton
P.O. Box 114
Rensselaerville, NY 12147

email: Sue MB13@aol.com

As our National Chairman, Sue Britton stated “be a shining example of our patriotic values, morals and citizenship.” That certainly describes the membership of the Department of Ohio.

We are a big part of what keeps American strong. Keep up the good work ladies.

For God & Country,
Carole Sowards, Dept. Americanism Chairman



EDUCATION

Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.

John Dewey

We have come to that time of the year, when it is time to get your report in order and ready for delivery to me by April 15th 2017.

Did anyone in your unit participate in the Give 10 to Education program. Don't forget to report those numbers. Your unit can print certificates from ALAforveterans.org.

Did your unit support a Veteran to visit your local schools and share his or experiences? Report those numbers.

Did your unit support Veterans pursuing higher education? Report those numbers.

Did your unit assist and support Military children with educational opportunities? Report those numbers?

Don't forget to promote all of the Scholarships available. There are 3 National Scholarships available. PLEASE, make sure they are complete including signatures.

We have 2 Department awards to be given at Department Convention in Dayton Ohio on July 6 - 9 2017. Agnes Merritt Plaques, presented to the Unit Education Chairman with the Most Outstanding Overall Education Program.

The second is The Betty Robaszkievicz Plaque, presented to the Unit contributing the largest monetary donation to The Department of Ohio Education Fund.

Send all the questions you have to docadacca@aol.com or call me at (513) 289-2220.

Debbie Monroe
Department Education Chairman



American Legion Auxiliary
JUNIORS



Department of Ohio Junior Convention

April 1, 2017

Commodore Denig American Legion Post

3615 Hayes, Ave, Sandusky, Ohio 44870

The 65th Department Junior Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Ohio, will be held at Commodore Denig American Legion Post 83 on April 1st, 2017. Honorary Department Junior President, Samantha Ferreira will preside.

PURPOSE: To elect the 2017-2018 Honorary Department Junior President and the Honorary Department Junior Vice President; to install the newly elected Honorary Department Junior Officers and Honorary District Junior Presidents; to present awards; and to conduct any other necessary business.

Activities Include:

Friday Evening March 31st, 2017 (optional)

Join us at the Great Wolf Lodge where we'll be swimming and participating in Lodge activities. (See Housing for more information)

Saturday April 1st, 2017

(Dress Slacks or Skirts/Dresses are encouraged for the Convention)

Program Workshop
District Pre-Convention Caucus
Installation of Honorary Department Junior Officers
&
Honorary Junior District Presidents
Special Guest Speaker
Crafts and Recreation

Registration Form due to Department HQs by March 3rd.
Cost is 6.00 per Person

See Department Website for Hyperlinks to Forms and Housing Information
www.alaohio.org



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



DEPARTMENT JUNIOR CONVENTION
Commodore Denig American Legion Post 83
3615 Hayes Ave
Sandusky, Ohio 44870

SCHEDULE

Friday, March 31, 2017

Join us at the Great Wolf Lodge for Swimming and Lodge Activities
(Optional)

Saturday, April 1, 2017

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 9:00 - 10:00 am | Registration |
| 10:00 - 10:30 am | Doughnuts, Juice, Milk |
| 10:30 - 10:45 am | Welcome & Instructions Dept Jr. Chair Allison Zornes |
| 10:45 - 11:30 am | District Caucuses |
| 11:30 - 12:00 pm | Nominations & Elections |
| 12:00 - 12:45 pm | BREAK - LUNCH |
| 12:45 - 1:15 pm | Installation of New Dept Jr Officers |
| 1:15 - 1:45 pm | Presentation of Some Jr Activities Awards -Dept Jr
Activity Committee |
| 1:45 - 2:45 pm | Special Guest/Breakout Sessions |
| 2:45 pm | End Remarks & Benediction |
| 3:00pm | Possible Recreational Activities |



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Ohio, Inc.
PO Box 2760
Zanesville, Ohio 43702-2760
(740) 452-8245

Juniors

DEPARTMENT JUNIOR CONVENTION RULES AND ORDER OF BUSINESS April 1, 2017

The Convention meetings shall be called to order at the designated time.

The Chair may deviate from the printed program when necessary.

The audience shall remain seated during the business of the Convention, unless participating in the program. No one shall be permitted to enter or leave the Convention hall during the presentation of awards, when a speaker has the floor, or during voting.

A member wishing to address the Convention shall rise, address the Chair and, when recognized, shall give her name, Unit, and District number before stating her business.

Only registered Delegates, or authorized Alternates acting as Delegates, seated in the assigned location, are eligible to vote.

An alternate replacing a delegate unable to attend the convention shall have her senior advisor notify the third member of the Department Junior Activities Committee, who is in charge of the registration committee.

All Junior and Senior members shall observe appropriate conduct and dress during Department Junior Convention.

The District Junior Activities Chairman or the Senior District President shall be the adult advisor for the District Delegation.

The Credentials Committee shall report at such times as directed by the Chair.

Each District Junior President shall poll her delegation and announce the voting strength upon District Roll Call prior to voting. This number cannot be more than that reported by the Credentials Committee.

No one will be permitted to enter or leave the Convention Hall during voting time. Delegates must remain in their District, not leaving the section in which their District is located, except for dire emergency. Delegates will lose their vote if not in the proper voting section when voting by ballot occurs.

Nominations for Honorary Junior Officers shall be made from the floor by her District's Honorary Junior President.

The current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised" shall be the parliamentary authority on all points not covered by these rules.

American Legion Auxiliary
Department Junior Convention
April 1, 2017
Awards Information Form

_____ Unit Number

_____ District Number

2017 _____ Membership – number of paid Juniors as of February 28,

_____ Date sent Junior Activities Unit Report to District Chair

_____ Number of Juniors from your Unit attending the 2017
Department Junior Convention

home _____ Round-trip mileage – number of miles traveled from Post
to Department Junior Convention multiplied by 2

Check the following American Legion Auxiliary programs your Junior Unit participated in this year – May 2016 through March 2017.

_____ Americanism

_____ Children & Youth

_____ Community Service

_____ Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Senior Advisor Verification:

Name:

Phone:

Email:

**2017 DEPARTMENT AND DISTRICT JUNIOR CONVENTION
DELEGATE/ALTERNATE CERTIFICATION FORM**

District # _____ **Unit #** _____ **Unit Name** _____

Advisor Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone Number _____ **Junior Membership Currently** _____

The number of delegates is based on Junior membership as of the District Jr. Convention Date or February 28th, whichever date occurs first. Unit Junior groups with ten (10) or less members are entitled to a maximum of three (3) delegates. Unit Junior groups with more than ten (10) members are entitled to three (3) delegates for the first ten (10) members plus one (1) additional delegate for each additional five (5) members. Delegates must be at least 6 years of age. Department Junior President, Vice President, and District Junior Presidents are Delegates At Large.

DELEGATE AT LARGE NAME	BIRTH DATE	AGE
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1.			
2.			

DELEGATE NAME	BIRTH DATE	AGE
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1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			

ALTERNATE NAME	BIRTH DATE	AGE
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1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			

I, _____, Unit Junior Activities Advisor, certify that the above Juniors are in good standing and are duly selected to be delegates to the 2017 Department and District Conventions.

Send one copy to Allison Zornes, by March 15, 2017 and one copy to your District Chairman (see Plan of Action) one week prior to District Convention. Please keep a copy for your record.



Junior Activities – Junior Patch Program

Cindy Masowick, Chairman

As we know the Department Junior Convention will be Saturday, April 1, along with Poppy Shop on Sunday. Let's get our Juniors working on the Poppy program and at the same time earn their Poppy patch at the same time.

Youngest Juniors get signed up for Miss Poppy. Participate in the Poppy Poster Contest.

Older Juniors, wear a Poppy during Poppy week. Learn fact about the Poppy. Along with an adult, have your friends help with distributing poppies and tell the Flanders Field poem during Poppy days and or at a local event in your city. Learn where and how poppies are made.

Not long ago, our National ALA Poppy Chairman, Kathy Daudistel had posted a challenge on Facebook. 1st Challenge – Corsages. Kathy has challenged everyone to make your best corsage, snap a picture and post it on the Facebook ALA Poppy Program Group. Kathy will be giving out a prize for the best corsage. Why not enter your corsage and try to win that prize and work on your patch at the same time.

Good Luck to all Juniors on achieving the Poppy Patch!





Pam Bates, Department of Ohio Leadership
Chairman
2122 Willow Run Circle; Enon, OH 45323; 937-
2316



974-

pamelabates9@gmail.com (preferred
communication)

TALK THE TALK...WALK THE WALK

Over the next few months these Bulk Mails will contain information provided to every Leadership Chairman in our National American Legion Auxiliary. The details can be found in the National Leadership Program of Action in the section called “How To Sheets” at www.alaforveterans.org. The Ohio Program of Action for Leadership can be found at www.alaohio.org. At both websites, you will find many tools to help seasoned and new members understand “**WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO**”. Please take the time to research and read this information. If you are not computer savvy...go to your local library, ask a friend or relative to help you download information.

HOW TO COMPLETE A REPORT & WRITE A NARRATIVE STORY

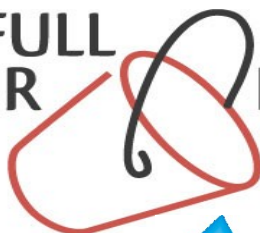
Mid-Year and End Year Reports

- Review & read the OHIO Programs Action Plan (formerly Plan of Action) for your program to determine objectives to accomplish during the year. They were mailed to the Unit President to distribute to the Unit Chairman or you can find them online at www.alaohio.org or you can request an email copy from the Department Chairman. To locate this information go to the Programs Action Plan – What Can You Do? – Ideas for the member and the unit.
- It is **IMPORTANT** to read thoroughly and completely as each program has different criteria. Some require dollar values; number of volunteers; number of veterans served (be specific - “many” is not numerical); impact reports some require totally different information. One size does not fit all.
- Compile data, total numbers, activities from your members and treasurer and then determine where the information fits the Ohio Programs Action Plan objectives.
- If an activity crosses several Programs, decide to use the numbers on one or distribute them across the Programs that are involved.
- Write the narrative, and forward it by deadline to the individual who is to receive the report. This is listed in the Programs Action Plan.
- If we as department chairmen do not receive information from our units, we cannot report “What Ohio Does” for the programs.

WRITING YOUR UNIT NARRATIVE STORY

- The word narrative often panics people. Don't let it! You are really writing a story about what your unit did or if it's a member specific award, what they did for the program.
- Think of a member you have not seen for a long time. Here's your chance to tell that member what has been happening in the unit for the year.
- Review and read the OHIO Programs Action Plan awards...there will be two types you can submit – National and Department. Each has different criteria. Some require impact reports in order to be considered. **READ CAREFULLY!**
- Where to start:
 - Plan ahead - check the Programs Action Plan and decide what the unit would like to accomplish and what goals the unit needs to accomplish to achieve any awards. Remember most units cannot do all the programs. Pick and choose what your unit does best.
 - Try and keep a journal of what your unit and members have done through the year.
 - Go to the Programs Action Plan – What Can You Do? – Ideas for the member and the unit.
 - When you find the “What Can You Do” section, you will see there are subtitles on what to accomplish...go to the ideas for members and unit under that subtitle. Then decide if the unit has accomplished any of those activities.
 - Once you have gone through all the subtitles and determine the activities the unit has accomplished start writing...who, what, when, where and how.
 - Be very specific in your writing. Try to write in the 3rd person...not my or I, but the unit, chairman or member. If the award is member specific, you will have to mention the name.
 - Keep in mind that the Department Chairman, are looking for the criteria specific to their program. If in doubt what to write, contract the Department Chairman and ask for advice.
 - Trust me...you will not get it right on the first writing...it may take 3 or more times...start early...write then walk away...come back reread and rewrite...suggest you put a Revision on each copy just in case you removed something and now you want it back.

HOW FULL IS YOUR LEADERSHIP BUCKET?



*“The Pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity
The Optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty”*

HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY

Winston Churchill



Congress
Senate
House of Representatives
Budgets, Economics, Statistics
Library of Congress

LEGISLATIVE 2017

You can make a difference by having contact at the local offices of your congressman and senators there isn't a photo op for this but you will be surprised how you can make a difference and have influence by being in contact with the local offices of your Congressman.

It is Important to remember several things when contacting your elected officials. ALWAYS be polite and respectful! It is essential you let them know we are intelligent caring people, and if you say you are talking to them as an American Legion Auxiliary member discuss only items that pertain to veterans and active duty military and our agenda PLEASE!

A Good working relationship with your elected officials really can make a difference for our veterans and active duty military!

One state Senator told me several years ago that for every intelligent person who contacts him, he feels there are 25 constituents who feel the same way who have not contacted him. So yes take the time to contact your elected officials. It does make a difference!

Hope you have encouraged your unit to order ALA Legislative Advocacy Guide or download it.

Subscribe to e newsletters from your State and National elected officials, especially those that are on Veterans committees. When they sponsor or vote for the Veterans issues we support.... Thank them it takes just a few minutes to email them, call or write a note.

Remember if you meet them you are putting a face on veteran's and military legislative topics, our agenda.

Work with your Legion and SAL counterparts when possible. It will make more of an impact when elected official see you all want the same thing. The American Legion has just released Their legislative agenda for the 115th congress. I have copies of this on each of the tables for you. This will guide you when contacting your US Congressman.

site <https://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/files/legion/publications/13LEG0117-Legislative-Agenda.pdf>

Please take the time to read the Plan of Action and take advantage of the many resources available.

As we all know in this electronic age there are some easy ways to contact our elected Federal and State Officials so please take the time.

Ohio Units have been busy promoting the legislative programs of the American Legion Auxiliary and the American Legion. They have given members contact information on who to contact and what they should say. In the fall Letters were sent on HR 2133. Several units have invited Representatives to events as well as one unit to a meeting.

There was an issue with the Ohio Veterans Home and Unit 12 emailed Senator Browns office, they did receive an acknowledgement to the email, they tried to make a difference!

Many units were involved in get out the vote activities.

Many Units are actively working to inform members through their unit and post newsletters and email chains on who to contact and the issues that are important to the American Legion and our Veterans.

CURRENT ACTION ALERTS

Congress:

- [American Legion on Bonuses: 'We stand with the soldiers of the Guard'](#)
- [House Votes This Week On Appeals Modernization](#)
- [Reform VA's Broken Disability Benefits Appeals Process](#)
- [VA funding vote next week in Senate](#)
- [Fully Repeal Disabled Veterans' Tax](#)

To have a great legislative program in your unit it is important to advocate for the legislative agenda of The American Legion.

Keep your members informed by subscribing to the Legion's *Legislative Action Alerts*, and contacting elected officials when requested.,

Working together we can do so much more.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen K Phillips

POPPY PROGRAM



Lest We Forget.

Ladies, thank you for your support and participation at Department Mid-Winter. We collected \$181 in the Poppy Usage Contest. For the 50/50 - \$249, and the winner received \$124.50. All proceeds – National Creative Arts Festival.

Poppy Usage Contest. There were 11 entries: D2/96, D2/210 two items, D2/387, D5/181, D5/257, D6/85, D7/471, D9/214, D11/641, and D12/532. Winners: 1st pl – Willoughby Unit 214 (entry – American Eagle); 2nd pl – William Paul Gallagher Unit 96 (entry – red/white/blue ALA lighted wreath). Tie for 3rd pl – Russell D. Williams Unit 471 (entry – well wishes for Veterans) and Levi Philips Unit 85 (entry – Ohio Flags of Honor). Fourth pl – Minster Unit 387. Tie for 5th pl – Celina Unit 210 and Belle Valley Unit 641. Congratulations to all. All participants will receive certificates, and the winners will receive a prize. **Note:** Two entries were left at Mid-Winter, and they will be available at the Poppy Shop Open House to be displayed, and picked up. We hope to see all the Poppy creations on display at the Poppy Shop Open House. So please ladies, don't forget to bring them.

1st pl – Poppy Usage Contest



Submitted by - Louise Cichon , District 9 - Willoughby Unit 214

DEADLINE DATES TO REMEMBER

April 2, 2017	Poppy Shop Open House (please see attachments)
April 15, 2017	Unit Poppy Chairman Award
May 1, 2017	Annual Report
May 15, 2017	Poppy Poster Contest
May 15, 2017	National Miss Poppy Contest
May 15, 2017	The Shelley Riggs Plaque (<i>Best Scrapbook</i>)

PLEASE FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS IN THE POPPY PLAN OF ACTION, AND PLEASE MEET THE DEADLINE!

Patricia Taylor – Department Poppy Chairman

Come and Enjoy The Poppy Shop!!

**Poppy Shop Open House
Ohio Veterans Home
Sandusky, Ohio
Sunday, April 2, 2017**



The Poppy Shop Open House is open to all American Legion family members and friends including The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, and to all 40&8 and 8&40 members, families and friends. You may tour the Poppy Shop where Veterans fabricate Ohio's Poppies.

The Miss, Master, Mrs. and Mr. Poppy participants will parade in their poppy attire during the program. Please complete the application and return to Patricia Taylor by Deadline of March 25th, 2017.

Registration will open at 8:30 am, tours begin at 9:00 and the Poppy Program will begin at 10:30 am. Come join the fun as we honor our veterans.

Hotel accommodations may be made through the

Great Wolf Lodge

4600 Milan Rd

Sandusky, Ohio 44870

For Reservations

419-609-6000

Use Group CODE: #1703AMER.

\$109.99 to \$129.00 per night for Family Suites

Cut off for Reservations is February 23rd, 2017



POPPY SHOP OPEN HOUSE APPLICATION

For

Miss Poppy, Master Poppy, Mr. & Mrs. Poppy



Lest We Forget.

POPPY SHOP OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY APRIL 2, 2017
Ohio Veterans' Home – Sandusky



This application must be completed and mailed to:

Patricia Taylor, Department Poppy Chairman
23 Odlin Ave.
Dayton, OH 45405

DEADLINE

March 25, 2017

▶ **Please remember that Poppy attire is to be worn by all participants** ◀

Name: _____

Sponsoring Unit, Post, SAL: _____

School, grade & age: _____
(if participant is a child)

Parents: _____
(if participant is a child)

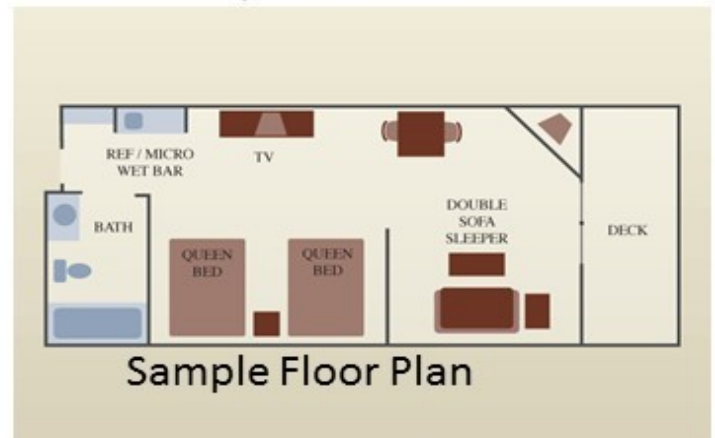
Hobbies, extracurricular activities, sports or accomplishments:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this application. It helps in preparation of the program and ensures that each participant receives proper recognition.



Poppy Shop & Jr. Convention
Housing Information
Friday, March 31st & Saturday
April 1st, 2017
Housing In Sandusky

4600 Milan Road,
Sandusky, Ohio 44870



Family Suite Rooms \$109.00 plus tax for Fri & Sat Night Stay
Family Suite Rooms \$109.00 plus tax for Fri Night only Stay
Family Suite Rooms \$129.99 plus tax for Sat. Night Only Stay
Each room includes 4 waterpark passes for \$19.99 per room per day

Cut Off for Room Reservations is **February 23th, 2017**
For Reservations

1-866-965-9653

**Group Block Code:
#1703AMER**

Check them out on the web
<https://www.greatwolf.com/sandusky>



Cancellation Fees May Apply, Check with Hotel Directly



Veteran's Affairs and Rehabilitation



Happy Valentines Day to you and especially all of our hospitalized veterans! The Veterans Administration has designated February 12th-18th as a time to celebrate our hospitalized veterans. (I know time is short). Ask your hospital representative how you can enhance their celebration. Some ideas suggested are; hold a party (ice cream social), have a dinner at your post, buy a piece of recreational equipment (to help with boredom), send “thinking of you” or “thank you” cards (Valentine cards made by children), pass out candy or flowers, just let them know much we appreciate them and their service. Keep Serving our Soldiers and their families. Have a Loving Valentines Week with your family and our military service members, and their families. They are always on our minds and in our hearts.

The House of Representatives has a new Wounded Warrior Employment (Fellowship) Program Director. Mac Tolar is the new director and he is looking for wounded, injured and disabled warriors for employment in Congressional offices on Capital Hill or in District offices across the nation. He can be reached at MacTolar@mail.house.gov

Please consider holding fundraisers for President Denise's Special project the **Ohio Military Family Assistance Fund**. Go to www.alaohio.org for all the resources needed to implement this project. You will find a brochure, an application, and letters to request funds as well as a thank you letter.

The Regional Inter-service Family Assistance Committee is where you will find out about the service members in your area, who they are and what they need. Get more information at: <http://homefront.ohio.gov/RISFAC>

At The Military and Veteran Caregiver Network you will find training and peer support services to help you through your caregiving journey. Take a look at their website. <https://milvetcaregivernetwork.org/resource-topics>
<https://milvetcaregivernetwork.org/connect-online> register for events, apply to become a peer mentor, group facilitator or on-line moderator or to connect with peers in a secure, customized caregiver platform. Use this information for yourself or pass it on to anyone who is a caregiver.

Contact me for more information.

Attention all Units! Our National President is looking for special, unique, or successful programs and projects that she can promote or showcase on the National

website. If you are doing any thing that you would like to share, in any program, please notify your department chairman so we can pass it on. It would be great to see a unit from Ohio recognized on the national website for their work with veterans military service members and their families.

Continue to report your Service to Veteran's hours to Louise, and remember to send your year end report to your district chairman by April 15th.

For God and Country,

Carole Ebersole

cdebersole@gmail.com

614-783-6790(c)

614-428-7088(h)



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
HONORARY DEPARTMENT JUNIOR PRESIDENT
SAMANTHA CLOUSER-FERREIRA
HOMEcoming

PLEASE JOIN THE 14TH DISTRICT AND LEE-BISHOP UNIT 464
CELEBRATE SAMANTHA'S YEAR.

DATE: MARCH 5, 2017
TIME: 3:00 PM
PLACE: STREETSBORO AMERICAN LEGION
10001 AURORA HUDSON RD.
STREETSBORO, OHIO 44241

THE 14TH DISTRICT JUNIORS WILL BE HAVING THEIR DISTRICT
CONFERENCE PRIOR TO THE HOMEcoming AT 1:00 PM. YOU ARE
WELCOME TO ATTEND BOTH EVENTS

RESERVATIONS BY MARCH 1, 2017 TO:

GAIL RODDY
160 RAVENNA ST.
HUDSON, OHIO 44236
330-653-8928

THERE IS NO COST TO THIS EVENT BUT PLEASE MAKE A
RESERVATION FOR PLANNING PURPOSES



AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY

Serving veterans, their families and their communities

From the Office of:

Katie Tucker

Secretary/Ex. Director

Department of Ohio, Inc.

TO: Unit Presidents

FROM: Katie Tucker, Department Secretary

DATE: **February 15, 2017**

SUBJECT: CANDIDATES FOR 2017-2018 DEPARTMENT OFFICES

A Member wishing to be an announced candidate for Department Office must complete and return this form along with their Letter of Intent, to Department Headquarters by April 1st of the year of elections. Unit Presidents are asked to share this information and make this form available to all members upon request.

Announced Candidate for the Office of: _____

Name of Candidate: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Unit Name _____ Unit # _____ District # _____

Endorsed by Unit? Yes _____ Date: _____ No _____

Endorsed by District? Yes _____ Date: _____ No _____

Signature of Candidate _____ Date _____

Return to Department Headquarters by **April 1, 2017:**

American Legion Auxiliary
PO Box 2760
Zanesville OH 43702

Please see Policy regarding Candidates for Department Office on reverse.

POLICY REGARDING CANDIDATES FOR DEPARTMENT OFFICE

CANDIDATES FOR DEPARTMENT OFFICE-Paragraph 13 of 2016-2017 Department Policy

- a. Any Unit member in good standing is eligible to hold a Department Office.
- b. All candidates seeking a Department Office must submit a Letter of Intent to Department Headquarters by April 1st of the year of elections.
- c. Each District may endorse no more than one candidate for a Department Office. A letter of endorsement may be submitted to the Department Headquarters by April 1st of the year of elections to be published in the May, June, July issue of the Buckeye Messenger.
- d. A candidate seeking a District's endorsement for a Department Office may only be endorsed by a majority vote of delegates attending a District Summer Convention.
- e. A Candidate may use either a letter or flyer (not both) to announce her candidacy to the Units. The reproduction of this announcement shall be at the candidate's expense. The candidate shall send her announcement to Department Headquarters no later than April 30th for inclusion in the May Bulk Mailing to Unit Presidents.
- f. The candidate may have one poster, not to exceed 22" x 28", announcing her candidacy. This poster may have a picture of any size and may be placed at the entrance of the Convention Hall **or Registration. It should be removed after the Session is closed.** Requests and payment for display easels must be into Department Headquarters at least two (2) weeks prior to Department Convention.
- g. All Department Officer candidates may visit each District caucus as a group or as deemed appropriate with the schedule.
- h. There will be no campaign material or campaigning allowed in the convention center or hall. Pages will be instructed to ask individuals to remove the material as they enter or will be asked to leave the Convention Hall.
- i. **Campaign materials are permissible during a Joint Reception, if one is held, or placed in convention bags and must be coordinated with the Department Secretary/Executive Director for hotel logistics and Registration Committee if needed.**
- j. All Department Officer candidates may have a Joint Reception to be coordinated by Department Headquarters held at a time that does not conflict with any Auxiliary convention activities including the Joint Session. Light refreshments may be provided by the candidates.
- k. Candidates for any office shall be nominated by a Delegate of their choosing other than any member of the Department Executive Committee (Department President, Department First Vice President, Department Second Vice President, Department Secretary/Executive Director, National Executive Committeewoman, or District President.)
- l. The Presiding Officer will ask for further nominations prior to presenting all candidates to the delegation before the election.
- m. Each candidate may address the Department Convention for two (2) minutes when introduced.



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of Ohio, Inc.**

2016-2017 Poppy Order Form

PRICES: Small Poppies - \$20.00 per 100 plus Shipping & Handling (Minimum order 300 Poppies)
 Large Poppies - \$1.00 each plus Shipping & Handling (Minimum order 30 Poppies)

**NOTE: ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED IN DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS BY
 DECEMBER 31, 2016 TO QUALIFY FOR THE DEPARTMENT CITATION OF MERIT !!!**

1. Small Poppies must be ordered and paid for by December 31, 2016 to qualify for a Citation of Merit.

PLEASE MAIL FORM AND SEPARATE CHECK PAYABLE TO:

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
 DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, INC.
 PO BOX 2760
 ZANESVILLE OH 43702-2760
 (740) 452-8245

PLEASE ALLOW 6-8 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY!

Unit Name _____ Unit # _____ District # _____

Enclosed is check # _____ for the following poppy order:

Ordering: _____ 2016 Poppies (If using **before** November 1, 2016)

Check One _____ 2017 Poppies (If using **after** November 1, 2016)

	Quantity	Amount	S & H *	Total
Small Poppies @ 20.00 per 100 (minimum 300)				
Large Poppies @ \$1.00 each (minimum 30)				
Total Enclosed				\$ _____

Send Poppies To:

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone Number _____

* Shipping & Handling Table	
Small Poppies:	
300 - 1000	\$8.00
1050 - 1500	\$9.00
1550 - 2000	\$10.00
2050 - 2500	\$11.00
2550 - 3000	\$12.00
3050 - 3500	\$13.00
3550 - 4000	\$14.00
Large Poppies:	
30 - 100	\$7.00
100 - 200	\$8.00

Order # _____ _____ (For Department Use Only)



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

**Department of Ohio, Inc.
PO Box 2760
Zanesville, Ohio 43702-2760
(740) 452-8245**

UNIT DATA FORM - - DIRECT BILLING

MANDTORY!!! MUST BE COMPLETED WITH OR WITHOUT CHANGES

(Please type or print using blue or black ink. Total Dues amount should be the total amount paid by each member and will be reflected on the Renewal notice.)

“I understand that the dues amount listed below will be printed on the 2018 Membership Renewal Notices mailed to each senior member of our Unit by our National organization. The name and address below will be printed on each Membership Renewal Notice designating where members are to mail their dues.”

“It is also understood that any change in the amount of dues made after April 1st, 2017 will not be reflected in 2018 Membership Renewal Notice.”

Unit # _____ District # _____

2018 Senior Member Unit Dues

Unit Portion \$ _____
Department Portion \$ 8.00
National Portion \$ 9.00

Total Senior Member Unit Dues: \$ _____ (renewal notice)

2018 Junior Member Unit Dues \$ _____ (renewal notice)

*there was no change to the National Jr. Dues

(Name of individual to receive membership dues) (Member ID #)

(Address where membership dues are to be sent)

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

(Telephone Number) (Unit Email if Available)

(Signature) (Title) (Date)

**Return completed form by April 1st, 2017 to:
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
PO BOX 2760
ZANESVILLE, OHIO 43702-2760**

**SEE OTHER
ATTACHMENT FOR
THE**

**KIT OF REPORT
FORMS**