





Kristen Little  
Department President  
17324 Independence Ct.  
Brook Park, OH 44142  
[KLL721@yahoo.com](mailto:KLL721@yahoo.com)  
216-265-9611 (home)  
440-781-1327 (cell)



Greeting Auxiliary Members,

As we begin the Centennial Year we will continue to focus on our mission of serving our veterans, their children and families, our military and communities.

My theme this year is R.A.C.E. for Veterans - Respect, Advocate, Care and Education. These 4 simple words are woven throughout all of our programs in some way. Look to see what your Unit can do to support this in the coming year and send me a note telling me how you supported the R.A.C.E.

Included in this mailing is this year's Plan of Actions, please make sure that they are passed out to the appropriate chairman so they can begin to work the programs. As always if they have questions, they can go to the District Chairman, District Presidents or Department Chairman for further assistance and clarification. The Department Chairman have worked hard on updating these for this year and are eager to see and hear what Units are doing, so please don't forget to send them periodic updates. Also attached is the Annual Impact Report that will be needed for end of year reporting. This is vital to the organization as this is how we let Congress know annually what our volunteers are doing and how we are serving our veterans. Watch for information and updates from the chairman in the upcoming bulk mailings.

We want to be The American Legion Family promoting "Service Not Self". This year Ohio will R.A.C.E. for Veterans and cross the finish line in 1<sup>st</sup> Place!

Looking forward to a wonderful year,

*Kristen*

# Homecoming



*Kristen Little*

Department of Ohio

American Legion Auxiliary President

**Saturday, October 26, 2019**

5:30 to 6:30 Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres

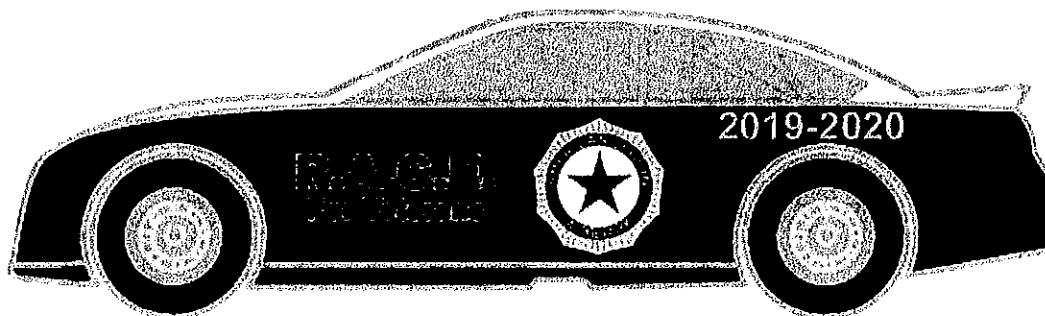
6:30-7:30 Dinner

7:30 Program

Location:

Old Oak Bible Church

7575 Old Oak Blvd. Middleburg Hts., OH 44130



## ‘THE CENTENNIAL ADVOCATE’



### “RACE through OHIO for VETERANS”

While

### “Celebrating a Century of Service”

Public Relations promotes who we are, what we do, and why we matter. Both internally to all our members, to potential members, and to the General Public.

Our members use Public Relations each and every day. In the check-out line at your local market, at a sporting event while you are wearing your ALA Brand and communicating on social media.

**COMMUNICATION** is the key to a successful program. Public Relations is just one program. As the Department Chairman speak at School of Instructions, they are promoting their specific program and use the tools they speak of to make it a successful program. While using these tools, remember to use these practices in your Public Relations reports. You can get all the tools for every program on the [alaforveterans.org](http://alaforveterans.org) website.

This year the American Legion Auxiliary will be “Celebrating a Century of Service”. How are you or your Units going to celebrate? Have you set up goals for the next 25 years, 50 years, 100 years? Maybe a time capsule? I would like to highlight these events in the next bulk mailings.

Let’s start our engines.

Get Set for the 2019-2020 season.

Start the **R** (Respect) **A** (Advocate) **C** (Care) **E** (Educate) for our Veterans by using Public Relations. Pick your TEAM!

Remember no YELLOW Flags. Have a good race.

Finish Line is April 15, 2020. GOOD LUCK!

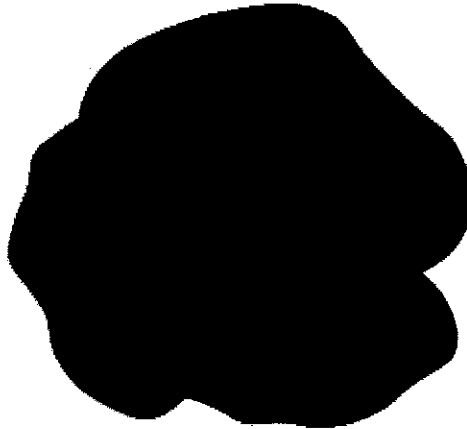
## *Wreath for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier*

*\*Please provide any unused poppies, (the year does not matter)*

*\*At School of Instructions and at Mid-Winter we will be making a wreath to lay at the tomb*

*\*Bring your poppies to School of Instructions and/or Mid-Winter or get them to your District President or to your Americanism Chairman to bring them in September or in January*

*\*The wreath will be laid during the Americanism and Government Trip, Washington D.C.*



*Americanism, 2019-2020*

*Renee Kohl, Chairman*

*13 W Prospect St., Hudson, OH 44236*

*330-802-2845*

*330-650-1967*

*[rckohl@aol.com](mailto:rckohl@aol.com)*

## A.L.A Buckeye Girls State - News

The success of Buckeye Girls State depends on many people preparing and staying on top of things to make sure processes are followed and that deadlines are met. This month opportunities will be made available so that each Unit can get the information they need for a successful year. Information points and highlights will be shared at School of Instruction and packets will come out containing the Plan of Action as well as other important information. Read the instructions thoroughly and PLEASE take note of all deadline dates!

Things you should be doing in October –

- ✓ Contacting your schools.
  - Use the sample letter to introduce yourself and our program.
  - Ask if you can have an opportunity to speak to the Junior girls. If not, give the school printed information that can be given out.
  - Be sure the school knows that **all** Junior girls are eligible and that **your Unit will interview them and make the selection(s).**
  - Make sure your name and contact number is on all information that you leave at the schools.
  - Make sure that the school administrator or counselor you are working with also has your name and contact number.
  
- ✓ Does your Unit need financial assistance from co-contributors?
  - Now is the time to check to see who in your community may be able to help. For example - this could be local businesses and/or other organizations. There is a sample letter that you can use.
  - Reach out to them explaining the program and how they can help. Be sure to give them a brochure and make sure your contact information is on everything you give out.
  - See if you can visit them in person, or if it is an organization see if you can attend a meeting.
  - Make sure they understand that the **Auxiliary Unit will be making the selection of delegates.**

# Centennial Countdown

Colleen K Phillips editor

“This past year I was honored with Riley County being named after me. The girls of the county presented me with a scrapbook of their activities. I was Proud to accept it!”

“I continue to serve the Auxiliary as Treasurer of my Unit and the past two years as 6<sup>th</sup> District Children and Youth Chairman. And yes, I will be 90 this July!!

“I have many more delightful memories but that is for another time.”

We thank Pat Riley for sharing some special memories!

The Words of Cyndi Underwood Department President 2008-2009 Theme was W.O.W. Wonderful Ohio Women; Special Project: Homeless Shelter s for Veterans and Teens

My years as an American Legion Auxiliary My years as an American Legion Auxiliary member began at a very early age, a Junior member in fact, that proceeded to my being selected as a Buckeye Girls State delegate in 1974. And the story continued for years to come.

Each step of the way from unit officers, to County President, District chairman and President became the most memorable. That is, until the next moment appeared to me. I would become inspired, breathless, and again ready to move forward with a vision.

Serving as District President for the 14<sup>th</sup> was an aspiration to my life and my beliefs. I had met a match in life to sisters that respected and honored the same programs I believed in. I had friends, friends I never realized that I had before. I was totally inspired from a young age to become a district president, by Past Department President Marilyn Warner.

My many department chairmanships were annual commitments to the organization, and to the new President for the year. I enjoyed every chairmanship and challenged myself to be unique and to get someone new involved. I would have to say that they were all my favorites, but for different reasons. It taught me to be respectful, entertaining, and selfless.

I truly enjoyed my years as an officer for the Wonderful Department of Ohio. I was pleased to represent (at that time) 52,000 patriotic women. I worshipped the Government Trip with students and Commander Bob Kimball, wife Marsha and my sister Kelly. However, my most memorable moment and lasting memory, is that of placing the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This is Priceless!!

I am just as fond of the memories, precious moments, meetings and hilarious driving expeditions that included my long time friend through my Auxiliary years, Elsie M Teets. I highly advise, a travelling partner to each of you. Those moments will last forever.

As Department President, with the help of members and Mary Ann Michel the department collected a large cash flow for Homeless Veterans. This began huge collections to follow year after year for Presidents Funds.

Balancing life as an Auxiliary member and or officer was the most difficult challenge in my Auxiliary career. I want to always do my best and show my true colors of selflessness, however, always remember that we are a military organization and family comes first!

Cyndi Underwood

# CHAPLAIN

Carol T. Robinson

937-602-9365

Congratulations on your election or appointment as Chaplain of your Unit. Serving as Chaplain can be such a source of joy and deep satisfaction. One very important thing to keep in mind is that the American Legion Auxiliary does not promote any one religion. And therefore, we must not offend anyone by promoting our own religion.

## Duties of the Chaplain

- 1) Attend all meetings and have an opening and closing prayer.
- 2) Report names of members who are ill or shut-in at meetings.
- 3) Send sympathy cards to the family who has lost someone and if possible, visit the funeral home; ask if the family would like an Auxiliary service or dinner. It is the Unit Chaplains responsibility to have a resolution of respect available for the family of a deceased Unit member. The Chaplain will coordinate with the Unit Membership Chairman to ensure a membership data form is completed and sent to the Department.
- 4) Be in charge of religious services for your Unit, such as draping the charter or performing Memorial Services.
- 5) Visit members and veterans who may be shut-in or in nursing homes/hospital – make a simple prayer bookmark or card they can keep to comfort them.
- 6) Keep in touch with Gold Star mothers; remember them during the holidays.
- 7) Send cards to members and their families in the case of illness, loss, or hard times.
- 8) Make a Prayer or Devotional Book to use and encourage all members to send prayers for Department President Kristen's Book.
- 9) Encourage Junior members to make Prayer Books and to send prayers.
- 10) Incorporate music into the Chaplain's program whenever possible.

Check out the chaplain Facebook page at Department of Ohio American Legion Auxiliary Chaplain's Page. This Facebook page is designed for devotional thoughts, prayers, and positive religious thoughts. I ask that you **do not** post fundraiser and unit/post activities on this page.

### DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN SPECIAL AWARDS:

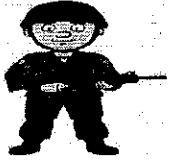
- Certificate to the Unit Chaplain/Member who submits the most prayers for President Kristen prayer book.
- Certificate to the Unit Chaplain/Member who submits a prayer or devotional thought to be used in the monthly bulk mailing.

### Prayer:

Dear Lord, as we begin the new administrative year of The American Legion Family, we thank You for America, our government leaders, and our veterans who gave so much. Help us always to remember we are here to serve God and Country. Thank You for our men and women serving in the military, and please keep them in Your care. Help there to be peace soon. May all that we do glorify Your name.

Amen.





## **SUPPORT YOUR VETERAN'S HOSPITALS**

As your new Hospital Director, I am writing to inform you that many of the donations to our V A Hospitals have gone down. Because the donations received last year are less than the previous year, many of the V A Hospitals' Reps will be receiving less money this year to perform their weekly activities. This means that the veteran's activities at these hospitals across Ohio will be fewer in number or less in the amount spent on BINGO parties, birthday parties, Christmas handouts, etc.

Our veterans rely on the generosity of the members of the American Legion Auxiliary and the American Legion Family to make their stay at these hospitals more comfortable and brighter. Each member of each District has a duty to at least support the facility in their District. This means through volunteering and using your Unit funds to improve the lives of these veterans. Please help our President and our veterans by increasing your donations to any or all of these VA Hospitals and Outpatient Centers.

Please write all checks to the American Legion Auxiliary Dept. of Ohio, and earmark which VA facility you would like your donation to support. These donations can be taken from your restricted funds (poppy money) and donations can be made from the itemized donation sheet or just a note to Department Headquarters letting them know which facility and what your donation is to be used for. Department will then make sure each Chief Rep and Deputy Rep are informed of your donation and will see to it that the money is placed into their accounts for usage.

If you have any questions, please contact me at Ph. 419-989-1180 or by email at [lindaaclose@gmail.com](mailto:lindaaclose@gmail.com). I would like to thank you in advance for your generosity and support this year. Let's work together to enhance the lives of our veterans! Thank you.

Linda Close, Hospital Director  
American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of Ohio



# American Legion Auxiliary

*In the Spirit of Service Not Self for Veterans, God and Country*



RACE FOR LEADERSHIP SUCCESS

SEPTEMBER 2019



## LEADERSHIP

PAM BATES, DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN

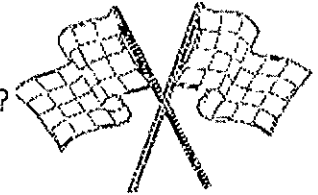
[pamelabates9@gmail.com](mailto:pamelabates9@gmail.com)

937-974-2316

This year's bulletins for Leadership Bulk Mail will be addressing some basic "house cleaning" activities. The goal is to hit the finish line with the proper knowledge of using Leadership to make your Unit a SUCCESS.

### THE STARTING LINE:

1. Your Officers have been elected and Chairmen have been appointed?
2. Your Unit Governing Documents have been reviewed by members?
  - a. Unit Constitution
  - b. Unit Bylaws
  - c. Unit Standing Rules
  - d. Unit Policies and Procedures
3. Your Unit Budget has been approved by the membership?
4. Your Unit Bonding Fee paid to Department?
5. Your Unit has the 2019 Auxiliary Handbook (new)
6. Your Unit Assessments to your District or County Council have been paid? (if you have those)
7. Your Officers and Chairmen know their duties and responsibilities?
8. Your Chairmen has been given the Department Plan of Action?
9. Your Chairmen have been encouraged to develop a Unit plan for their program and promote their program by presenting a plan to the membership of fundraisers; activities to promote; and how to accomplish the plan.
10. Your Chairmen and members have been encouraged to sign up for eBulletins & e-News.





## VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION (VA & R)

VA & R and the Juniors are joining together for a project for Homeless Women Veterans and as a way to celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. At Mid-Winter Conference we will be racing toward the finish line and will need assistance from you to help us put 100 bags of personal items together for them.

BUT FIRST – we need items to put in the bags. Items such as:

GIFT CARDS (Dollar Tree, Dollar General, Target, Walmart)

DEODORANT

TOOTHPASTE-TOOTHBRUSH

LOTION

BATH GEL

FEMININE PRODUCTS

MAKE UP-LIPSTICK-NAIL POLISH

NYLONS

COMB, HAIR BRUSH, HAIR SPRAY

SHAMPOO, CONDITIONER

OTHER PERSONAL COMFORT ITEMS

Please bring/send to Mid-Winter Conference. If you donate money, send check to Department and mark for VA & R program. Please send early enough that we can go buy items that we need.

This project supports the Juniors (Samantha's) special project of: **READY, SET, GO!**

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

Martha Setlock

Dept. VA & R Chairperson

Mwalunissetlock41@gmail.com

VA & R Vice Chair Susan Schofield Fratino  
Service To Veterans

Service to Veterans recognizes those volunteers who provide service to veterans, service members and their families outside of a VA Medical Center.

Each volunteer will be responsible for maintaining their records, including the following information; date of activity, hours worked/ volunteered, volunteer activity and location, and cost if any. The form to be used is included in the packet. In the future, an Excel Spreadsheet will be available to anyone who would like to keep track of their hours on the computer.

Also included in the POA is the Service to Our Veterans Pin. This form is to be used for those volunteers who will be receiving a pin for the first time.

Listed are some ideas to help volunteers earn a pin or service bars:

Transport a veteran to a medical appointment

Transport a veteran to the grocery store or shop for him or her.

Help assist the veteran with maintenance around the home, clean yard work, etc.

Sewing quilts, crocheting lap blankets for a veteran..

Send a veteran a birthday, holiday or thinking of you card

Please refer to the POA for suggestions on volunteer opportunities.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the Service to Veterans Excel Spreadsheet please contact me at [sscoey17@gmail.com](mailto:sscoey17@gmail.com).

