

Department of
Mississippi

Magnolia



News



AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY

Serving veterans, their families and their communities

Monthly
Newsletter

Jan. 2015

GREETINGS FROM THE DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT



*“Beep Beep,” On the Road
for our Veterans!*

“BEEP BEEP” and a new beginning! We had a very busy 2014, and it is already time for 2015. We are getting geared up for our plans for this coming year. We are trying to add some things for Mid-Winter to make the meetings more interesting to all of you.

We are planning some new leadership programs and hope-

fully touching on the subjects that you want. Auxiliary Members, we want to give you the information you want, and we want a much better communication between us.

We really need to hear from you, what can we do to better serve you? Please contact us, either by e-mail, phone, etc. We are prepared to give you specific information and directions on how to achieve some of your goals.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Very Happy New Year. One of the most rewarding gifts we give ourselves is our Service not Self that we give our veterans and the

community. We have several programs to work on and just doing them brings us positive feelings and a sense of wellbeing. We wish for each of you the rewarding feeling you are blessed with when you help others.

Belonging to the American Legion Auxiliary gives you the opportunity to bring a lot of positive into your life.

Our membership remains on our minds at all times. It seems like there is always a reason why we are struggling to meet our membership goals.

I know that our membership chairman and committee are working hard and doing a great job. I would just like

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2015 Mid-Winter Conference
Jan. 23-25
Natchez Grand Hotel

to remind you that it is important to ask the people you know if they are eligible to become members and then see if we can sign them up along with other family members.

Do not forget we are an American Legion Family—The American Legion, Auxiliary, Auxiliary Juniors, Sons of the Legion and Legion Riders.

*Don't stop reading—I
have more to say on
Page 5*

1ST VICE PRESIDENT-PROGRAMS COORDINATOR



Hope you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The 2015 Mid - Winter Conference will soon be here—Jan. 23, in Natchez. Hope you are planning to attend, as a lot of new things are being planned, and it will be a fun time.

Our Program Chairmen and Committee members who accepted those positions have done a wonderful job showing their dedication. Thank you for a job WELL DONE thus far in the year.

When you take a committee appointment or whatever of your choosing, PLEASE do not commit if you are not going to fulfill your obligation to our American Legion Auxiliary.

Yes, we are all VOLUNTEERS, but it is a JOB we get paid for by how we feel within our hearts.

If anyone would like to be on a department committee, please contact me for I will be needing all of you in the coming year. I know we have a lot of new members and maybe others that are not aware of the opportunities to serve on committees. We need YOU!

Dept. Program Chairmen:

A reminder for Mid-Winter Conference—remember you will only be given 5 minutes for your platform report! Let me know if I can help you prepare! Let's make this good for our members who are eager to hear your good news.

For God and Country,

Anita McAllister

2ND VICE PRESIDENT-VA&R CHAIRMAN



As the new year begins, let's take advantage of the opportunity to visit the nursing homes and sick shut-in Veterans. Take him/her out in the fresh air. Listen to the stories they are willing to share, tell of the places they have traveled, and most of all the find personal satisfaction in the smile on their face.

While we are visiting with Veterans, let us start thinking about the 2nd half

of this administrative year. We must give serious thought to their needs and also the children. I am asking each Unit to help our Veterans (if you can). The funds are low and the need is high. Please help make everyday special for our veterans.

I am also asking you to let me know what each nursing home activity is scheduled in advance if you can. Presently, the schedules are overlapping on the same day for some places. "Beep! Beep! On the road again."

Please keep in mind our homeless Veterans (female and male). There are far too many families without jobs. These

Veterans risked their lives for all of us, now is our time to reach out to help them get back on the "road again."

I look forward to seeing all of you at Mid-Winter Conference. Your personal attendance is very important to all us, your department leaders. It would simply be no fun without you.

Thank you for all you do. All about love for our veterans and country.

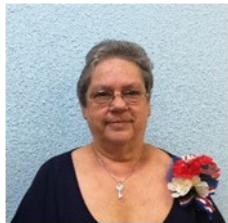
Eva Ford

2nd Vice President

Email: evil39183@yahoo.com

Telephone: 601-638-3086

FOR THE RECORD – DEPT. HISTORIAN



Hi Ladies,

Hope you are well. The area meetings went well, and Unit 71 survived our first annual fall harvest bazaar on Nov. 22. I think we did very well!! Of course you learn something new with each event.

Remember we learn from yesterday to live for today! District 8 also had their workshop on Nov. 15. We had a great time visiting with new and old members and uniting our district efforts has always been a blessing. I have gotten all the names for the "Roadrunner" theme, and I absolutely love them! As always you have been very creative. Wish everyone a great time on your project, BUT, of course,

District 8 will win, HANDS DOWN, so be "Beep Prepared" for your new title of ROADKILL. LOL.

Christmas has come and gone. I hope a new friend, veteran, was at your beautiful table on this special day of the year. Remember the New Year and make your new year's resolution involve veterans in some way.

Days to remember in February: Ground Hog Day, Constitution Day, and of course Valentine's Day, Presidents' Day and Flag Day.

Hope to see you in Natchez.

For God and Country,

Jackie Baughman, Dept. Historian

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER – DEPT. CHAPLAIN



For this edition, I'm borrowing words from last year's Dept. Chaplain, Jackie Baughman, regarding a special upcoming activity each Unit Chaplain should implement for January or February's meetings.

Do you know the story of the Four Chaplains aboard the "Dorchester," that gave their lives for their fellow comrades? After being torpedoed by a German submarine on Feb. 3, 1943, four Army chaplains brought calm and hope to the young soldiers. These men of different faiths were united in their love of God and Country.

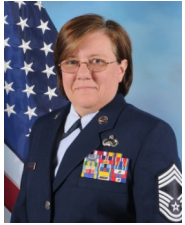
The country boy, the city boy, the slum kid, and the parson's son, these four remained the calmest on board a ship in total confusion, giving up their own life jackets to the youngest soldiers and telling them to jump. The chaplains were last seen on the slanted deck praying the Lord's Prayer. **Google their story and present a program about these brave Chaplains.**

Can we stand united in our love of God and Country? Do we have the courage to stand up for our beliefs and give the ultimate sacrifice?

Tina Hurst

thurst@wildblue.net

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND



HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!! I hope 2014 was good and 2015 will be even better for you and your families.

What a great organization to belong to. Just think not everyone can be a member of this great organization. I feel blessed to be a part of it and friends with such great ladies.

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) is a national grant assistance program that provides temporary emergency help to eligible members of the American Legion Auxiliary who have suffered a significant financial setback as the result of an act of nature or other personal crisis.

For those that have benefited from this program you know how important it is, so please help me spread the word.

I will see everyone at Mid-Winter.....until then continue helping our Veterans and “Beep” up the good work.

Email: angela.m.baughman.mil@mail.mil or chiefangie2013@gmail.com Mailing address: 956 CR 17, Bay Springs, MS 39422.

For GOD and Country,

Angie Baughman, Chairman

LEADERSHIP—BETTER KNOWN AS MEMBER EDUCATION



Happy New Year to one and all! As we begin 2015, let's keep education on our minds. Learning is a lifelong commitment, and your Leadership Team is committed to assisting you become a more well-informed Auxiliary member!

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE SPECIAL WORKSHOP!

When: Friday morning, 10 a.m.

Where: Auxiliary Meeting Room

For Who: YOU and all members of The American Legion Family!

Yes, we are planning a workshop geared for all members of the Legion Family. We taking a novel approach to this workshop as we want to re-educate our Legionnaires and SAL members—Riders, too—about Who We Are, What We Do, and Why We Matter.

The workshop will only last one hour, but we need our Auxiliary members attending Mid-Winter Conference to make sure you are there, AND that you bring your special Legionnaire with you.

So many times, we hear that our Legionnaires are not aware of the many wonderful programs that we support nor do they know how WE can help THEM in our Post homes. Well, this workshop will hopefully enlighten all who attend on our very special organization—the American Legion Auxiliary.

This is our opportunity to join together as a Legion Family and learn how we can support each other better in our respective Posts.

However, our success with this new concept depends on YOU! We need each of you to help us bring in our Legionnaires for the meeting. Yes, we'll have some coffee, perhaps some eats and treats—a little bribery never hurt anyone, right? So, we look forward to seeing you Friday morning, Jan. 23, at 10 a.m. in Natchez—mark your calendar!

Thank you so much from your leadership Team!

For God and Country,

Angela Kilcrease, Leadership Chairman

**"If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously.
If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously.
And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.**

M.E.M.B.E.R.S.H.I.P.



Happy New Year! It's 2015 and are your dues paid???? If not, you are not in good standing in the most wonderful, fulfilling organization in the world!

I'm happy to see our new year has brought Mississippi back up to #6 in the Nation, according to the Jan. 7, 2015, National Membership Report. For that, I thank those units who have turned in membership over the holidays.

However, our new campaign is in full swing—85% by Valentines Day—PUT YOUR HEART INTO IT!

Now, since we are having a drawing for \$100 at Mid-Winter Conference, you may want to do a little extra hustling between now and then to make sure your unit is eligible for a chance at this chunk of change for your unit treasury.

Each unit that reaches 85% by Mid-Winter Conference will get one entry. Additionally, if your unit reaches 100% or more by Mid-Winter Conference, you'll get a 2nd entry in the pot. How about that?!

Also at Mid-Winter, we'll have a special guest during the Membership program on Saturday afternoon that you won't want to miss! Just sayin'...

I look forward to seeing you all soon and burning some rubber on our ROAD TO THE TOP—we can do this TOGETHER!

We all will be saying, **BEEP, BEEP, OUTTA THE WAY, MISSISSIPPI COMIN' THRU!!**

For God and Country,

Angela Kilcrease, Chairman



JUNIOR ACTIVITIES



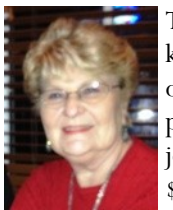
Mid-Winter Conference is upon us, and we hope you plan to bring your Junior members to Natchez. We're planning a fun, yet education, Saturday for our junior members. The Department Leadership Team will be presenting a workshop at 9:15 a.m., to start our day, for our juniors on how to run a meeting and duties of junior officers.

Please help make this meeting successful by bringing your juniors to Mid-Winter Conference. See you there!

For God and Country,

Maggie Caldwell, Chairman

EDUCATION



The Holidays are behind us, and a New Year has begun. It's time to start thinking about our Scholarships. Did you know that the Samsung American Legion National Selection Committee selected nine students to receive scholarships of \$20,000 for undergraduate studies? The Samsung Scholarship application is available for high school juniors who participate in Boys State or Girls State and are direct descendants (or legally adopted children) of Veterans eligible to join the Legion. This past year on the state level, The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary awarded \$48,000 in scholarships at Magnolia Girls State. On the National level, we have the Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship, the Non-Traditional Student Scholarship and the Spirit of Youth Scholarship. Applications for the scholarships are available on the Department web site www.missala.com.

I know on the state level, we have a nursing scholarship that is awarded through the Past President's Parley program and probably some more that I've missed. We all know that we need to get some younger members--what better way than getting the children involved. Please start working now getting this information to the newspapers and school counselors.

Excited about seeing everyone at Mid-Winter Conference...see you soon.

For God and Country,

June Laws, Chairman

DEPARTMENT SUPPORT FUND



Since the printing of the last newsletter, I have had several requests from units to extend the District Fundraising for the Department Support Fund. Several units still have fundraisers going on. So I am now announcing that I am extending the deadline for the units. The new deadline is June 15. With the new deadline change, the winning districts will be announced at July Convention and NOT AT MID-WINTER CONFERENCE. **The districts are still encouraged to make a display showing their fundraising efforts, however they will be displayed at JULY CONVENTION instead.**

I hope that everyone understands this decision. I want to do what is right for the Department and by extending the deadline this gives all units a chance to participate and reach our goal.

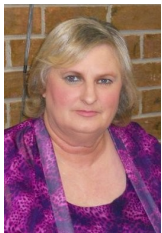
We will still be participating in the "Country Hoe Down" on Saturday night in partnership with Melissa Seward, President's Special Project Chairman. The Department Support Fund will have a Jail-N-Bail, a 50/50 drawing, the drawing for the Patriotic Wreath, and a few other things to keep you busy. I hope to see all of you there and bring your greenbacks!

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or e-mail me at 662-231-4497/edbelue19@hotmail.com.

For God and Country,

Diane Belue, Chairman

PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT



Don't forget to bring your **\$Dollars\$** to Mid-Winter Conference. We will be selling tickets for the "Happy Hour Cooler" and also on Saturday night, we will be having our "HO-DOWN"! Tickets will be available for that at the door that night.

I need some help here, ladies: for refreshments for the Saturday night fundraiser, I ask you all to bring either some cheese, cheese balls, and crackers for snacking. Thank you in advance for helping support this event by your generous donations of food!

I look forward to seeing everyone there and also helping raise money for Special Projects this year. Everyone please come out and participate, and let's make it a fun Mid-Winter Conference, and let's make some money.

For God and Country,

Melissa Seward Chairman

Continued Cover message from Madam President Mary Barrett

We hope all of you have bought one of the American Legion Family shirts. It is so important to let our communities know who we are. We will have what we have on hand at Mid-Winter Conference, and we will take orders if we do not have your size.



For God and Country,
Mary Barrett
 Department President



2015 MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

Saturday, January 24, 7 p.m., Auxiliary Meeting Room

“Country Hoe Down”



shutterstock · 129814118

President’s Special Project

Music

Dancing

Cash Bar

Cooler Raffle

Department Support Fund



Jail-N-Bail

Where’s the Joker 50/50

Patriotic Wreath Raffle



DEPARTMENT OF MISSISSIPPI

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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY MISSISSIPPI

ALSO JOIN: ALA SOUTHERN DIVISION



FROM THE DEPT. SECRETARY



I'm back from vacation and hitting the ground running! Keep that membership coming in! Please be reminded that National will be pulling unpaid members on January 15 to send renewals out. Make a special effort to get those 2015 dues in before the unpaid members are pulled. It really confuses our members who have paid after January 15 when they get a renewal notice.

We are preparing for Mid-Winter Conference for the next two weeks. We have some surprises for you. Be prepared to learn and have fun at the same time (Beep Beep). Don't forget that our Southern Division National Vice President, Sue Heil, will be visiting with us. We think you will like her. Please make her welcome to our "Sunshine" State.

Hope all of you remembered to file your tax reports to the IRS. Please don't lose your non-profit status from forgetfulness. There are a few of you left who have not paid your 2014 Assessments. You really need to get them in. Also, we are ordering poppies this month. If you haven't placed your order, we are only ordering what has been requested (orders of the Finance Committee).

We have been told that the Natchez Grand is sold out of rooms for Mid-Winter; however, there are several motels close. You only have a little over two weeks to book! Hope to see you there!

In closing, thank you for being patient and allowing this ole girl to have some vacation time. I'm rested and ready to go to work. Send me some membership!!!!

Lovin' you all and my country,

Nancy Sanders, Dept. Secretary/Treasurer

OUR SPECIAL GUEST AT MID-WINTER CONFERENCE!

Southern Division National Vice President

Sue Heil

from the Dept. of Oklahoma

*Let's make her feel extra special as we
welcome her to our
great State of Mississippi!*

